

trialogue

2026



BUSINESS IN SOCIETY
CONFERENCE

4, 5 AND 6 MAY 2026



#BIS2026

PURPOSEFUL IMPACT

Empowering People. Unlocking Progress

We are committed to enriching the lives of our people, the planet and our communities. Through strategic investments, we focus on creating economic opportunities that enable the reduction of poverty and inequality. We collaborate with our implementing partners and support their initiatives that don't just address systemic challenges but also create meaningful impact and empower communities.



Focus Areas:

- Quality Education
- Building Thriving & Resilient Communities
- Financial Inclusion & Wellbeing
- Capacity Building

Focus Areas:

- Quality Education
- Agri-Systems
- Climate Change Response
- Gender-Based Violence & Femicide
- Healthcare Value Chain

Focus Areas:

- Cause Related Volunteering
- Skills Based Volunteering
- Volunteering the work of the Foundations

UN SDGs



WELCOME TO THE CONFERENCE

Welcome to the 19th annual Triologue Business in Society Conference. We're excited to have you join us. Under the overarching theme of 'Voices. Values. Vision,' we aim to foster meaningful discussions and connections that help shape the future of social impact in South Africa and beyond.

On Monday 4 May, we will host four masterclasses, and on Tuesday 5 May and Wednesday 6 May, we will host the Triologue Business in Society Conference.

CONFERENCE TOPICS TO INSPIRE GREATER IMPACT

The following eight topics will be unpacked during the conference:

DAY

1

TOPIC 1

Mobilising leadership, employees and partners around a common purpose

Presented with the FirstRand Foundation

TOPIC 2

Building futures: Pathways to economic activity

Presented with Absa

TOPIC 3

Education, investment and the case for catalytic capital

Presented with Wesgro

TOPIC 4

Supporting the ecosystem, not just the programme

Presented with MTN

DAY

2

TOPIC 5

Navigating the new era of CSI

TOPIC 6

Building the foundations: Why ECD infrastructure matters

Presented with the Development Bank of Southern Africa

TOPIC 7

Partnerships that turn digital access into meaningful inclusion

Presented with the Vodacom Foundation

TOPIC 8

Funding for impact: A new playbook for partnerships

These topics will be interspersed with keynote addresses and TRI Talks (our TED Talk equivalents). Keynotes will explore the broader role of business in society and how companies and nonprofits should be supporting socioeconomic development in these times of geopolitical turmoil. TRI Talks will touch on inclusion, narratives around development, ethics and values amongst other relevant themes.

All the sessions over the two conference days will be streamed live to virtual delegates.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our sponsors, expert speakers, exhibitors and, of course, you – our valued delegates – for sharing this event with us.

Our warmest wishes for a memorable and impactful conference.

The Triologue conference team

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

We invite in-person delegates to browse the exhibitions and join us on Tuesday evening for an opportunity to connect and network over drinks and snacks.

All delegates are encouraged to join the conversation on social media using the hashtag #BIS2026. There will be prizes for in-person and virtual delegate engagement, culminating in a grand prize draw at the end of the conference, where one lucky organisation will win a double-page spread in the 2026 Triologue Business in Society Handbook, worth R110 000.

You have a dream worth chasing. We get it.

That's why we empower entrepreneurs at every stage, whether it's aspiring youth who need the skills and knowledge to start or a new business that needs tools and support to thrive. We help them to start today and succeed tomorrow, so they can proudly say, "*I grew it.*"

 Absa Corporate Citizenship

Your story matters



DAY

1

TUESDAY
5 MAY 2026

07:30	WELCOME AND REGISTRATION <i>In partnership with the FirstRand Foundation</i> Maharishi Invincibility Institute choir
08:30	OPENING Nozipho Tshabalala , Conference Chairperson
08:40	WELCOME Cathy Duff , Trialogue
08:45 Opening keynote	When values lead, business follows Shameela Soobramoney , National Business Initiative
09:30 – 10:30 Panel discussion 	Mobilising leadership, employees and partners around a common purpose <i>Presented with the FirstRand Foundation</i> SPONSOR INTRODUCTION: Kone Gugushe , Head of Social Investing, FirstRand Group PANELLISTS: Zibu Nqala , Points of Presence, FNB Elmarie Pereira , Memeza Shout Dr Manthiba Phalane , Civilian Secretariat for Police Service Colleen Magner , Reos Partners
10:30 – 11:00	TEA AND EXHIBITION BREAK
11:00 – 11:30 TRI talk	Inclusion and the business case for vision Hein Wagner , Hein Wagner Academy
11:30 – 12:30 Panel discussion 	Building futures: Pathways to economic activity <i>Presented with Absa</i> SPONSOR INTRODUCTION: Clement Motale , Managing Executive: GMCA Strategic Transformation and Partnerships, Absa PANELLISTS: Nonhlanhla Magagula , Absa Zimkitha Peter , Allan & Gill Gray Philanthropies Dr Edwell Gumbo , Universities South Africa Lerato Tladi , Hunadi Air Conditioning and Refrigeration
12:30 – 13:30	NETWORKING LUNCH
13:30 – 14:30 Panel discussion 	Education, investment and the case for catalytic capital <i>Presented with Wesgro</i> SPONSOR INTRODUCTION PANELLISTS: Wendy Viljoen , Wesgro Elmarie Cronje , UXI Mpowered Jana Du Plooy , Apex Education Tafadzwa Nyagano , African Venture Philanthropy Alliance
14:30 – 14:45 TRI talk	Reframing Africa: Why narratives matter Moky Makura , Africa No Filter
14:45 – 15:45 Panel discussion 	Supporting the ecosystem, not just the programme <i>Presented with MTN</i> SPONSOR INTRODUCTION: Marina Madale , Executive: Sustainability and Shared Value, MTN PANELLISTS: Marina Madale , MTN Omashani Naidoo , SchoolNet Dr Godwin Khosa , NECT Department of Basic Education representative
15:45 – 16:00 TRI talk	Seen, heard, included: What real inclusion looks like for youth Bontle Motatsa , National Strategy to Accelerate Action for Children
16:00 – 16:05 Video	Making rands and sense: How poetry can make maths and accounting more accessible Botshelo Mthomboti , Financial Management graduate, accounting poet and author
16:05 – 16:45 Reflections	REFLECTIONS ON DAY 1
16:45 – 18:00	NETWORKING DRINKS



Turning Infrastructure into Impact

The Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) Corporate Social Investment (CSI) programme ensures that infrastructure-led development translates into real, lived outcomes. Through a systems-based approach, DBSA connects infrastructure to human capability, access, and resilience unlocking sustainable impact in communities across South Africa.

DBSA CSI operates across three integrated focus areas: Early Childhood Development (ECD) builds strong foundations for lifelong learning by combining safe infrastructure with nutrition, health services, and practitioner support. This integrated model enables children to learn, grow, and thrive in safe, supportive environments.

- 140+ ECD centres supported
- 1 million+ meals provided
- 2,000+ health screenings
- 44 practitioners trained on governance and compliance

Access to opportunity expands pathways into education, skills, and economic participation by activating infrastructure as a platform for inclusion. This work demonstrates that opportunity is unlocked when infrastructure is paired with capability and access.

- 950+ individuals reached
- 110+ trained in technical skills
- Local economic value created
- Funded Digital Literacy Infrastructure-related Projects

Community Support strengthens resilience in times of crisis through rapid, targeted interventions for example following the Umthata floods our response included:

- 22 temporary homes delivered
- Water and sanitation infrastructure installed
- 150 affected learners supported with school uniforms
- Essential household assistance provided

These interventions restore dignity and enable communities to stabilise and recover.

Together, these focus areas demonstrate DBSA's role in bridging the gap between infrastructure and impact ensuring that what is built is matched by the human capability to sustain it.

DAY **2** WEDNESDAY
6 MAY 2026

08:30 – 08:40	WELCOME AND OPENING COMMENTARY Nozipho Tshabalala, Conference Chairperson
08:40 – 09:30 Dialogue with Trialogue	Navigating the new era of CSI Nick Rocky, Trialogue Bhekinkosi Moyo, CAPSI Thandeka Nkambule, Sanlam
09:30 – 10:30 Panel discussion 	Building the foundations: Why ECD infrastructure matters <i>Presented with the Development Bank of Southern Africa</i> SPONSOR INTRODUCTION: Chuene Ramphele , Group Executive: Infrastructure delivery, DBSA PANELLISTS: Chuene Ramphele , DBSA Ipeleng Mohlala , Early Care Foundation Tracey Webster , Oppenheimer Memorial Trust Senzo Hlophe , Ilifa Labantwana
10:30 – 11:00	TEA AND EXHIBITION BREAK
11:00 – 11:15 TRI Talk	Power, ethics and accountability in business Athol Williams, Saïd Business School, University of Oxford
11:15 – 12:15 Panel discussion 	Partnerships that turn digital access into meaningful inclusion <i>Presented with the Vodacom Foundation</i> SPONSOR INTRODUCTION: Takalani Netshitenzhe , Vodacom South Africa PANELLISTS: Takalani Netshitenzhe , Vodacom South Africa Louis Taylor , Department of Basic Education Staff Sithole , TechnoGirl Trust Sympathone Shimange , Lemoshanang Centre
12:15 – 12:45 Reflections	REFLECTIONS ON DAY 2
12:45 – 13:45	NETWORKING LUNCH
13:45 – 15:15 Interactive funding session	Funding for impact: A new playbook for partnerships COMPANIES: Mandla Mbuyazi , FirstRand Lunga Schoeman , Development Bank of Southern Africa Lesimola Selepe , MTN Nonhlanhla Magagula , Absa Wendy Viljoen , Wesgro NONPROFITS: Komala Pillay , Citizen Leader Lab Eric Mlambo , Footprints Foundation Cara-Jean Peterson , The Feenix Trust
15:15 – 15:45 Closing keynote	The future we fund is the future we get Lorenzo Davids , CEO, The Development Impact Fund
15:45 – 16:00 Closing	CLOSING PRIZE DRAW AND FAREWELL Lerato Ramoba and Sheldon Morais , Trialogue

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MC AND KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Nozipho Tshabalala

Conference chairperson

Nozipho Tshabalala is CEO of Conversation Strategies, where she moderates global conversations designed to have measurable outcomes. Nozipho has moderated conversations for governments and global bodies including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the International Labor Organization, the United Nations, and the African Union. She is also an award-winning financial markets broadcaster. She holds master's degrees in international studies (SOAS University of London) and development finance (Stellenbosch Business School), respectively. She has been named one of the Top 100 Most Influential South Africans.



Shameela Soobramoney

CEO, National Business Initiative

Shameela Soobramoney is CEO of the National Business Initiative. She previously held the chief sustainability officer role at the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, where she led the JSE's Sustainability and Climate Change Disclosure Guidance initiative, which won a 2022 sustainable investing thought leadership award from Environmental Finance. In addition to chairing the World Federation of Exchanges' Sustainability Working Group and the National Treasury's Sustainable Finance Working Group, Shameela has served on the strategy group of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance. She holds a master's in sustainability leadership from the University of Cambridge and an MBA from GIBS.



Lorenzo Davids

CEO, The Development Impact Fund

Lorenzo Davids is CEO of The Development Impact Fund and The Justice Fund. He is also a director at the AfriGo Capital Group, where he serves as strategy advisor and leadership impact consultant. He spent eight years serving as chief executive officer of Community Chest South Africa prior to this. In his current role, he serves as a consultant to local and international funders on investment decisions. He serves on numerous boards in various countries and has received awards for his civil society work. In January 2022, he was listed by the UK-based leadership and management agency Thinkers50.com as one of the 30 global thinkers to watch for his writings on justice, inclusivity and public engagement.

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TRI TALKS



Hein Wagner
Founder, Hein Wagner Academy

Hein Wagner is a motivational speaker and founder of the Hein Wagner Academy, a nonprofit dedicated to enabling the visually impaired to become economically independent and socially connected through education, training, sports, recreation and the arts. Dubbed 'The blind man with vision', Hein has never allowed his disability to prevent him from achieving his goals. He has run the Antarctica Marathon, sailed the Cape to Rio yacht race, set the world blind land speed record twice and completed the Ironman challenge. He is also the global and local ambassador for several social upliftment and environmental causes.



Moky Makura
Executive director, Africa No Filter

Moky Makura is the executive director of Africa No Filter, an advocacy organisation dedicated to reshaping Africa perceptions. Moky has worked as a TV anchor, actor, producer, author and publisher. She authored Africa's Greatest Entrepreneurs, created mass-market fiction series Nollybooks and was the African anchor for the news show Carte Blanche. She previously served as the African head of communications at the Gates Foundation and led communications at the Tony Elumelu Foundation. She speaks globally about narrative, the creative industries, media, development and the power of storytelling to influence perception, investment and policy across Africa.



Bontle Motatsa
Children and adolescents representative, National Strategy to Accelerate Action for Children

Bontle Motatsa is the South African National Strategy to Accelerate Action for Children representative for children and adolescents. Having served as the representative Council of Learners president for North West in 2024, she has engaged on child rights and wellbeing across national and international platforms, and has written for the Daily Maverick on the importance of meaningful child participation in shaping policies and systems that affect young people. She is currently a student at the North West University.



Athol Williams
Saïd Business School, University of Oxford

Athol Williams is an academic and author. He is currently Senior Fellow of Management Practice in Strategy at the University of Oxford's Saïd Business School. He is also the school's first Poet Laureate. Williams draws on two decades of executive experience in corporate strategy and management consulting to inform his teaching and research. He was one of the brave whistleblowers who risked their lives to expose state capture corruption, and went into exile for his safety. He launched the nonprofit Read to Rise to promote youth literacy in schools in under-resourced communities.



Where Investment, Innovation and Impact meet.

A thriving economy starts in the classroom.

Edu Invest, powered by Wesgro and in partnership with the Western Cape Education Department, is driving **private sector investment into the education sector, with a focus on new school builds.**

Why Invest?

A High-Impact ROI Opportunity

- Strong growth in education sector presents new opportunities for investment.
- Unlock long-term economic growth and talent development.
- Drive new infrastructure investment and enable innovation that changes lives.

How Edu Invest can support you.



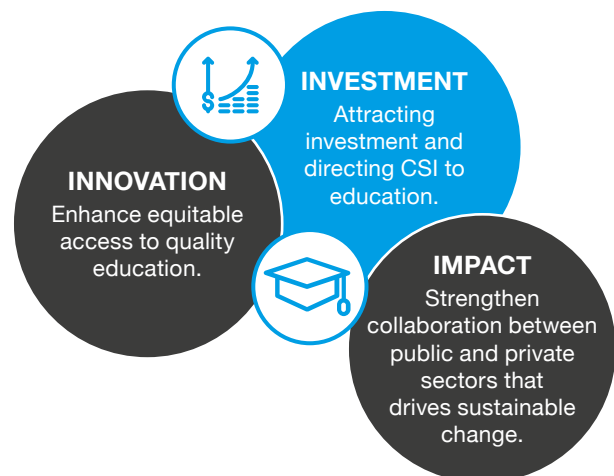
Investment facilitation support for new school builds in the Western Cape.



Unlocking corporate social investment into key education priorities.



Education sector convening to drive innovation and enable collaboration.



EXHIBITORS

EduTech Institute
www.edutechinstitute.co.za



iTMaster
www.itmaster.africa



PrimediaCares
www.primediaplus.com



Raise a Life. Raise a Nation.
www.raisealife.co.za



Seseko Social Impact
www.seseko.co.za



CAPSI – Centre on African Philanthropy and Social Investment
www.capsi.co.za



HANDY RESOURCES TO HELP YOU DRIVE CHANGE

Visit **Triologue’s Knowledge Hub**, the leading resource for social investors in Africa:
<https://trialogueknowledgehub.co.za/>

Help your staff grow and increase the value of your social impact initiatives by signing up for courses on the **Triologue Academy**:
<https://academy.trialogue.co.za/>

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Trialogue is the go-to authority on sustainability and social impact, providing trusted research and resources, influential communication platforms, and expert advisory support.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP PLATFORMS



TRIALOGUE BUSINESS IN SOCIETY HANDBOOK

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SOCIAL IMPACT STORIES



CONSULTING SERVICES

1

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY

We apply our integrated sustainability model to gauge the maturity of sustainability processes and practices across the company. We then develop tailor-made roadmaps to integrate sustainability and provide strategy development and implementation support.

2

SOCIAL IMPACT ADVISORY

We provide an integrated approach to our CSI work to ensure strategic and operational alignment to core business. We offer executive-level presentations on CSI trends, CSI strategy and policy development, and implementation support.

3

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

Trialogue supports clients in developing theory of change and M&E frameworks, conducting project and programme reviews and evaluations, and creating dashboards for analysis and reporting.

4

CORPORATE REPORTING

We offer a full reporting service for integrated, sustainability, social and impact reports, from concept design, information collection, writing and editing, through to design and print management. We bring the latest thinking and advice to ensure enhanced disclosure.

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