



**SIOC
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT TRUST**

MAPPING OUT THE FUTURE

**THE SIOC
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
TRUST WAS
ESTABLISHED
AS A VEHICLE
TO EMPOWER
COMMUNITIES
THROUGH
INVESTMENT IN
LONG-TERM AND
SUSTAINABLE
ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL
INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Sishen Iron Ore Company-Community Development Trust (SIOC-cdt) was established in 2006 by Kumba Iron Ore Limited to invest in the development of the communities in which the company operates. The Trust focuses primarily on beneficiary communities adjacent to the Sishen Iron Ore Company's (SIOC) mining activities in the Northern Cape and Limpopo and has invested significantly in community development projects aimed at ensuring sustainability beyond mining operations.

SIOC-cdt has prioritised education programmes investing more than R550-million in beneficiary communities. The Trust has implemented a number of programmes in partnership with the Department of Basic Education in the two provinces in the following focus areas:

- education infrastructure
- learner support programmes
- teacher development
- bursaries.

THE SIOC COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST'S BURSARY SCHEME

The SIOC-CDT bursary scheme's programme has granted bursaries to deserving young people from beneficiary communities, to study at various higher education institutions across the country. The bursary scheme provides for a full value bursary that is paid directly to the academic institution and service providers of accommodation, books and assistive devices. Furthermore the bursary administrators are giving ongoing support to students to ensure their welfare and the achievement of quality academic performance. This legacy project has seen 223 of the tertiary beneficiaries graduating since its inception, with an additional 42 expected to graduate during 2017.

TEACHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME THROUGH RHODES UNIVERSITY

SIOC-cdt in partnership with the Northern Cape Department of Education invested in the provision of accredited teacher professional development programmes through the Rhodes University programme. The Trust funded bursaries to a group of teachers from the John Taolo Gaetsewe and Francis Baard District to formalise and upgrade their teaching qualifications at Rhodes University for a Bachelor of Education in English, Maths and the foundation phase. Since 2012 a total of 134 teachers participated in the programme and 32 have graduated from the first cohort; another 88 are expected to graduate in early 2018.

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TRAINING OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PRACTITIONERS

SIOC-cdt in partnership with the Waterberg College in Thabazimbi and the Council of Higher Education Accredited Training, provided assistance in formalising qualifications for Early Childhood Development (ECD) teachers in various communities.

A total of 52 practitioners are currently enrolled with Custoda Trust and Waterberg Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College in Tsantsabane and Thabazimbi respectively. They are expected to graduate at various stages with NQF Level 4 and 5 qualifications when they complete the programmes, which will assist greatly with the successful delivery of curriculums to learners.

MATRIC INTERVENTION PROGRAMME IN THABAZIMBI

The Trust funded an intervention for the Matric Class of 2016 in the Thabazimbi and Dwaalboom circuits; six high schools participated at the cost of R371 100. The intervention involved extra preparatory classes for national exams in September and October. Teachers and pupils participated and the main focus was on understanding exam techniques and catching up on lost time. The programme saw a significant improvement in pass rates in all the participating high schools in the circuit. The Trust intends to replicate this model for the 2017 matric class to further improve year-end results and exam techniques.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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