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INTRODUCTION

A new year follows a time of reflection, when we all resolve to be more productive, exercise, eat healthily and overall, strive to be better than we were the previous year in the journey of personal continuous improvement.

For EWSETA, 2019 will be a year of building on the successes we recorded during 2018 and take advantage of the opportunities that lie ahead. These milestones achieved in 2017/18 financial period were shared with our valued stakeholders, colleagues and friends in the sector during the annual general meeting in November, the culmination of a great year and the celebration of advancements in skills development across all our programmes and projects.

We hit the skills development road sprinting as we went into 2018/19. A look at our quarterly reports shows that we are ahead in some of our targets and in others we need to make up lost ground, but what is clearly visible is that, as a SETA, we are moving from strength to strength and making ourselves more visible and valuable to all our constituents.

Something we can look forward is the finalisation of a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Energy to train 1 200 learners in installation of solar geysers, which will be of great benefit in the country’s energy-saving drive, and the early achievement of targets for TVET student placement and completions.

In addition, to date, we have achieved 75% of the annual target for unemployed learners completing learnerships and 64% for university student placements.

These figures bode well for our year-end results.

At present, our team members are studiously validating applications from prospective learners and beneficiaries of our artisan, learnership and candidacy programmes, after which training and development will start in earnest.

Although the year is young, our team has entered into the spirit of 2019 by giving their all from the outset, launching themselves into the tasks that will breathe news skills life into the water and energy sector and give new hope to those seeking skills and professional advancement.

I’m looking forward to an exciting year, not only for our sector, but for South Africa. May we all prosper and grow. And, it being an election year, may we all elect to do the best we can no matter what 2019 throws our way.

Mpho Mookapele

Message from the Acting CEO
A new year, a new beginning and, hopefully soon, a new and permanent home for EWSETA at Cape House. But until then, we all have to roll up our sleeves and continue with the very important job in hand: skilling the nation.

Last year was extremely busy and demanding for the whole team, but we came through it with a smile and a sense of satisfaction, having achieved much of what we set out to. This year promises no let-up in activity, as we head closer to the culmination of the tenure of the SETAs as we know them. We have to build on the commendable progress made last year in the improvement of our annual performance, so that we can close the current skills development book with a sound launchpad for the next phase, whatever shape that takes.

The Corporate Services department is ready to pull out all the stops to support the skills development effort of its fellow departments and to carry on communicating the EWSETA message near and far.

We are midway through our annual SDF capacitation roadshow, which provides important updates on our mandatory grant processes and SETA activities, and the process is unfolding well, with stakeholders showing great interest in attending. Please view the SDF roadshow schedule on page 28 should you also be interested in attending the sessions still to take place.

We have already achieved our year’s target for participation in careers events, but we will not rest on our laurels, rather taking every new opportunity that presents itself to promote the sector to youngsters seeking a rewarding career. Please keep an eye on our website and other social media platforms for posts on our EWSETA Rural2Rural career guidance roadshow in Mpumalanga, North West and Limpopo between February and March 2019.

We also look forward to bringing you all the latest sector news in Chronicle, which is now in its seventh issue and has definitely hit the mark with readers, both staff and stakeholders. We are extremely proud of the publication and welcome your views and suggestions. Please send these to newsletter@eseta.org.za.

Looking at 2019 from a more macro perspective, it looks like more of the same for South Africa, with politics inevitably, given the upcoming elections, hogging the headlines. However, tarot card reader Denise Rigotti offers this: ‘I see a well-intentioned, prominent person making a decision of importance that spells out a very positive and uplifting option for us all.’ Vague yes, but rather intriguing. Let’s wait and see.

Until next time, keep the EWSETA name top of mind out there.

Candice
Chairperson Frans Baleni revved up proceedings with a look at the highlights of the 2017/18 reporting period, with the most notable being a boost in performance by around 15% to 60%. This marks a decisive EWSETA claw back after a couple of extremely difficult years.

The SETA, said Frans, has been successful in embedding a culture of results orientation driven by key performance indicators and a performance management system directly aligned to individual performance. The organisation has embraced compliance with governance principles and best practice in its operational culture, he explained.

An unqualified audit report from the Auditor-General of South Africa was another 2017/18 achievement well worth celebrating.

Going ahead and building on the revival that clearly has well and truly begun, the SETA must remain conscious of the task at hand and not lose sight of its goals, said the chairperson. ‘We must constantly review our performance improvement measures, and strive for continuous improvement, as our achievements will create a sustainable tomorrow, today.’

**ACEO sets the scene**

Acting CEO, Mpho Mookapele set the scene relating to the environment in which the SETA operates, one in which energy and water are critical millennial development goals and key enablers of growth and development.

Keeping the lights on to power the economy requires the correct skills, as does management of the world’s limited water resources, she said. EWSETA, naturally, plays a pivotal role in facilitating those skills.

She shared with guests the results of the year in striking heatmaps.
COMMITMENTS PER PROVINCE

IN THE NEWS

COMMITMENTS PER PROVINCE

Provincial footprint widens our reach and contributes to effective and meaningful collaboration with stakeholders and enables us to reach the unreached.

APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMMES

Plans to widen presence in provinces to respond to provincial skills needs 2017/18 provincial allocations were informed by, inter alia:

- skills needs
- availability of trade centres
- availability of workplaces for work integrated training
- qualifications offering in TVET and private colleges.

LEARNERSHIP PROGRAMMES

Highlights

Mpho highlighted the success of the energyDRIVE truck project launched with Durban University of Technology in 2016, which educates entrepreneurs, unemployed youth, prospective students and scholars in renewable energy sources and technologies.

During 2017/18, she said, the initiative reached 27 schools in 33 communities in eight provinces.

In another of the year’s successes, qualifications were developed in:

- Nuclear energy/radiation control
- Water quality
- Concentrated solar power plant
- Electrical installation

Much progress was made in TVET capacitation and support, she added, particularly in student placement, lecturer development programmes and establishment of centres of specialisation.

EWSETA’s overall performance improvement of 15% compared to the prior year can be attributed, Mpho explained, to SMART planning, robust monitoring and evaluation of projects, and an effective performance management system.
Right on the money

Acting Chief Financial Officer, Robyn Vilakazi, presented the all-important figures for the year, noting that income from skills development levies increased to R 284 854 due to a rise in levy base (by comparison, levy income was 281 723 in 2016/17).

The annual audit revealed that during the year, the SETA achieved improvements in several key areas, including oversight by those charged with governance, leadership culture, recordkeeping and processing. There was also progress in reconciling of controls, implementation of policies and procedures and the IT environment.

Everything according to plan

Chief Operations Officer, Ineeleng Molete, extracted the salient points from the annual performance and strategic plans, the blueprints for each year’s activities and achievements.
The road to 2019/20 is paved with ambitious targets, Ineeleng told guests.

**Initiative** | **2019/20 target** *
--- | ---
Unemployed entering learnerships | 900
Unemployed entering bursaries | 330
Unemployed entering skills programmes | 330
Workers entering learnerships | 150
Workers entering bursaries | 20
Workers entering skills programmes | 500
Candidacy programmes entered | 30
Unemployed entering internships | 300
Artisans entered | 300
Artisans completed | 300
Adult education and training programmes entered | 1 700
Recognition of prior learning | 100
TVET student placement | 60
HET student placement | 30
Number of SETA/TVET college partnerships | 10
Number of SETA/universities partnerships | 3
Number of SETA/employer partnerships | 15
Number of SETA/CETC partnerships | 2
Number of TVET lecturer development programmes entered | 30
Number of SETA offices opened in TVET colleges | 2
Number of strategic partnerships in the sector | 20
Number of cooperatives supported | 20
Number of small and medium-sized businesses supported | 20
Number of not-for-profit companies supported | 10
Number of trade unions supported | 3
Number of provincial and rural projects planned | 15
Number of career guides distributed | 12 000
Number of career initiatives held | 20

* These targets are yet to be approved by the Department of Higher Education and Training and some may vary in the final approved Strategic Plan and Annual Performance Plan from the version presented at the AGM in November 2018.
EWSETA firmly believes that support to our SMMEs should go beyond just training interventions. Whenever EWSETA participates in an event we make a point of seeing how we can invite some of our sector SMMEs to participate in, contribute to or network at these events. For our AGM we identified one particular SMME that stood head and shoulders above the rest at the Green Youth Indaba 2018, mainly through its innovative, locally produced product but also through its young enthusiasm, female-led ownership and positive energy. Guests at the AGM were treated to a fine example of good old South African innovation in the PowerSaki Tech solar-powered backpack presented to each attendee and they were a definite hit.

The bag charges smart devices using the country’s most abundant resource.

PowerSaki Tech, which focuses on multipurpose bags, believes that, while most of the education focus is on high schools, empowering primary school students with a solution to charge their tablets will increase their source of knowledge, helping to give them a sounder education basis during the foundational learning phase.

‘Imported solar bags are expensive and out of reach of the everyday user,’ says Rumbi. ‘Our product is proudly and cost-effectively South African.’

The backpack, which also helps to address the country’s energy crisis, dovetails perfectly with the Department of Education’s rollout of smart devices in Gauteng to promote e-learning, says PowerSaki Tech’s co-founder Rumbi Zindi. The product will also find favour with corporates that are adopting a green approach and even in the hiking and leisure market.

‘Imported solar bags are expensive and out of reach of the everyday user,’ says Rumbi. ‘Our product is proudly and cost-effectively South African.’

For those companies wishing to support PowerSaki Tech on their entrepreneurial journey please contact Rumbi Zindi at rumbi@powersakitech.com
Among the delegates who attended our AGM in November were many with questioning minds and thought-provoking words. This was a very good thing since the question and answer session is an important part of the proceedings and probably the year’s best chance for us to help our stakeholders to get to grips with the work and services of the SETA and respond to those nagging questions face to face.

Not all questions could be answered on the spot, but, as promised, we compiled responses to all questions and communicated these to all registered attendees to the AGM on 30 November via the email addresses provided.

Here, we share with you a selection of the interesting topics that were raised.

Q: How do we address the difficulty in placing of students for in-service training or workplace exposure?
A: In every collaboration agreement, partners commit themselves to opening workplaces for EWSETA learners. Our discretionary grant process also ensures that providers indicate workplaces committed to taking on learners.

Q: Has EWSETA considered how it can perhaps change the attitude and expectations of students towards in-service training or workplace exposure?
A: We have intensified our process of learner inductions for all approved projects. At our inductions, a very detailed presentation is made to learners on what the learning intervention entails and what is expected from them to successfully complete the programme.

The importance of both the theoretical and practical components of a learning programme is stressed so as to ensure learners understand the importance of workplace experience in achieving their qualification.

Q: Without memoranda of understanding, how are organisations in the sector to develop employees in support functions, as these are not pivot training needs?
A: Organisations in our sector should submit Workplace Skills Plans (WSPs) to EWSETA in which all their training needs are captured. Should the submission be approved, the mandatory grant can be used to fund the training needs as per the WSP. EWSETA also has an obligation to enter into memoranda of understanding with other SETAs to ensure that quality assurance provision matters are addressed adequately.

Q: Workplace experience is a major challenge for our rural learners. What are your plans and incentives to alleviate this problem?
A: EWSETA has reviewed its funding policy to include an allowance for rural learners to acquire all the training requirements associated with the qualification they’re doing. This will include travel to areas where they can access workplaces to gain practical experience.

Q: What were the key issues around the 36% non-achievement of targets in the annual performance report?
A: Planning shortcomings delayed some projects, thus we were not able to report many completions. We have now improved our planning cycle. Another factor was the non-participation of employers in hosting learners for workplace experience. This is being addressed currently by making sure that letters of workplace experience commitments are submitted together with the discretionary grant application.

Q: How do you measure impact after learners are reported as completed, to ensure that you are making a contribution in the fight against unemployment?
A: A tracer study and an impact study are currently underway, which we hope to complete by 31 March 2019. In the meantime, we invite any employers or service providers with a good story to tell about learner success to contact our researcher, Mxolisi Gugushe, on mxolisi@gushe.eseta.org.za

Q: Innovation presents a viable solution to merge skills and employment. What is the organisational plan on innovative solutions in South Africa in the water sector?
A: The EWSETA Sector Skills Plan identifies some skills innovation stakeholders in the sector. Priority 2 has a high-level skills and innovation focus and we aim to achieve the following over the next five years:
• Innovation projects supported.
• Candidacy programmes established that enable qualified engineers and other graduates to gain professional registration.
• Well-structured work experience and obtain professional registration.
• Innovation projects supported.

Q: Why are SETA certificates not taken seriously after an internship or learnership when these learners start looking for a job?
A: EWSETA qualifications are reputable and recognised as their development is done in line with qualification principles and rules set by the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations and the South African Qualifications Authority. The impact study currently underway will also highlight learners who have gone through an EWSETA qualification/intervention and have been absorbed by the sector after qualifying. Therefore, in our opinion, SETA certificates are indeed taken seriously.
energyDRIVE
IN TOP GEAR AS AWARDS SPEED IN

When EWSETA partnered with the Durban University of Technology (DUT) in 2016 to launch the revolutionary energyDRIVE initiative, both knew they were onto a good thing.

But perhaps neither could have predicted just how good. In fact, ‘good’ is far from a fitting description: great, grand, groundbreaking are probably closer to the mark.

ergieDRIVE is a custom-made truck container equipped with renewable energy technologies comprising photovoltaic panels mounted on the roof top, a 600W wind turbine that extends hydraulically and a biodigester. The truck moves around rural schools and communities in the form of a roadshow, educating people about the importance of renewable energy.

As this issue went to print, Professor Ian Lazarus, the passionate head of the Industrial Energy Efficient Training and Resource (IEETR) Centre at DUT, was heading to Iran to attend the World EnergyGlobe awards, where energyDRIVE has been named among the top three nominees in its category. This means that even in the worst case, South Africa will be on the podium. To put things in perspective, it was up against 180 other countries.

This follows the EnergyGlobe national award that was presented to energyDRIVE in October last year and that sealed the project’s position in the international finals.

EnergyGlobe jury chairperson Maneka Ghandi describes the awards thus: ‘EnergyGlobe is a global forum for ecological change with the goal of employing global dialogue to create awareness about the good sense of sustainable action.’

Clearly, energyDRIVE is in highly esteemed company and it is small wonder that Ian is bursting with pride. EWSETA too.

Also last year, the IEETR Centre received the South African National Energy Education Award for its community-based work in educating young learners about energy through lectures, demonstrations and training via the energyDRIVE project. The award was presented at the Military Museum in Saxonwold, Johannesburg.

There was also the ‘best show award’ for innovation, creativity, concept and design, awarded at Africa Utility Week in Cape Town during 2017, putting the truck with green street cred ahead of more than 300 local and international exhibitors.

energyDRIVE has wowed influential groups far and wide, so much so that Ian will soon be finding it difficult to find space for another plaque on his office wall.

In his motivation to the EnergyGlobe judging panel, Ian mentioned energyDRIVE’s attractive and eye-catching exterior design that draws massive attention from communities, complemented by impeccably designed marketing materials that showcase the project and provide great information on the importance of renewable energy.

The truck, proudly sporting the distinctive EWSETA logo for all to see, started its outreach in February 2017 and has, to date, visited around 35 rural schools and targeted more than 8 000 scholars.

‘The project is certainly making waves, as it travels the country, receiving accolades and compliments from all who encounter it,’ says Executive: Corporate Services, Candice Moodley. ‘It is still gathering momentum as it touches the lives of South Africans everywhere. And that’s the way we like our projects.’
EWSETA’s association with the Technology Innovation Agency (TIA), an entity of the Department of Science and Technology, dates back several years, forged on shared ideals of a world-class business community founded on skills and innovation.

The TIA does sterling work in bridging the innovation gap between research and development from institutions and the private sector, and product commercialisation.

Its focus is on technology development and funding — from proof of concept to pre-commercialisation. The Innovation Skills Development (ISD) unit complements this work by providing non-financial entrepreneur development and market support, under the expert guidance of ISD head, Senisha Moonsamy.

EWSETA — in line with its commitment to assisting small businesses to grow, prosper and potentially provide employment — pumps more than R3 million a year into the TIA's internship programme, which follows a three-pronged approach to provide: workplace experience to learners and graduates, allowing them practical exposure to their academic training, thus enhancing employability; critical thinking skills to create innovation awareness and stimulate creativity and innovation; and basic life, work readiness and business skills supported by mentorship.

Interns are placed in R&D projects, TIA platforms, the organisation’s incubators, technology transfer offices and companies in the sector.

‘Essentially, we make our interns more employable, thus increasing their chances of absorption into the workstream,’ says Senisha.

The success of the EWSETA TIA partnership can be judged on statistics. In 2014/15, 60 interns benefited. Within a year, the number had grown to 136, 110 of whom were funded by EWSETA. In 2016/17, the SETA funded a further 100 candidates. Interns are placed with start-up companies that have been nurtured to sustainability by the TIA. The EWSETA interns work on a variety of projects, from smart grid and energy efficiency, fibre optics technologies and bioprocessing to intellectual property, information technology and knowledge management.

**Smart success**

Figures may be a good yardstick, but a better indication of the initiative’s impact is to be found in the stories of host companies such as Smart Grid Training, which took in four EWSETA-funded interns, with super-charged results. While the youngsters were on board, explains owner Dr Leon Chetty, the company was able to pioneer several innovations, including the design and manufacture of Africa’s first lithium automotive battery. ‘Our lithium automotive battery is the only one of its kind that uses lithium pouch cell technology and we have managed to make it fire-proof,’ says Leon.

‘We expect to retail the product at R12 000, whereas the nearest competitor, Porsche, sells its equivalent battery for R50 000. This gives us a wonderful opportunity to compete globally.’

Now that’s what you could call turbo-charged intern output.
**Cleantech celebration**

With great excitement, EWSETA’s Acting Executive: Collaboration and Stakeholder Engagement, Tsholofelo Mokotedi, and Executive: Corporate Services, Candice Moodley headed recently to Cape Town for the TIA’s Global Cleantech Innovation Programme of South Africa (GCIP-SA) awards ceremony (see media release alongside and on page 14).

They were, in Candice’s words, ‘blown away’ by what they witnessed. ‘The 21 finalists are taking South Africa forward on a global platform with their cleantech innovations,” she says. ‘It was a fabulously inspiring experience to bear witness to the groundbreaking work TIA is doing with the country’s up-and-coming innovators and it will be thrilling to see these products take the world market by storm in the not-too-distant future.’

**Expanded e-waste effort**

There is another arrow to the EWSETA TIA bow that, equally, is hitting its target – the rollout of the new e-waste qualification developed with a consortium of universities countrywide.

The newly accredited qualification will equip learners and entrepreneurs with the skills to transport, store, dismantle, recycle and refurbish e-waste products. The project will encourage the local beneficiation of e-waste and contribute towards a clean, healthy and safe environment, as well as the creation of jobs, SMMEs and spinoff businesses. A formal agreement with TIA to take this initiative forward is imminent, says Candice.

That EWSETA is a valued partner to TIA is in no doubt. Says Senisha: ‘It really is our honour as a government agency to be associated with EWSETA. On behalf of TIA and its stakeholders, I thank the CEO, management and staff for collaborating with government, industry and academia to optimise on successful delivery of skills development in our country.’

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**The official word**

The media release below captures the essence of the GCIP-SA Awards and shares the views of those who took the honours, which makes for inspiring reading. Many of the EWSETA-funded interns have been placed with finalist companies, particularly in the bioprocessing industry. We thank TIA for permission to reproduce that statement as it was written.

**TIA hosts GCIP-SA Awards**

Innovative entrepreneurs took centre stage when the winners of the 2018 Technology Innovation Agency’s Global Cleantech Innovation Programme of South Africa (GCIP-SA) were announced at a gala event at the Cape Town International Convention Centre on 11 January 2019.

Twenty-one finalists in the fields of clean technology, bioprocessing and medical devices had one final chance to showcase their innovations as part of the GCIP-SA – a global initiative that aims to identify and support SMEs and start-ups with innovative solutions – before the winners were announced. Nine finalists competed for top honours in the clean-technology sector, while six innovators competed in the bioprocessing and six in the medical-device sectors.

In the bioprocessing sector, the overall winner was Afro bodies, with Lactease and Get2Natural as the runners-up. The most promising youth-led team was Lactease and Afro bodies was named the best women-led team. The prize for the innovation with the highest social impact also went to Lactease.

In the clean-technology sector, the overall winner was Inseco, with iWater and Cane Trash Burner as the runners-up. The most promising youth-led team was Inseco and the best women-led team was iWater. The social-impact award went to Lusec Sanitation Solutions.

Continues on next page
In the medical devices sector, the overall winner was Impulse Biomedical for the Easy Squeezy. Impulse Biomedical was also announced as one of the two runner-up teams for the Zibipen, with Genetic Research & Innovative Diagnostics as the other. Impulse Biomedical also picked up the award for the most promising youth-led team for the Easy Squeezy, and the best women-led team was SA Rebuilders. The social-impact award went to PRD Logical Solutions.

Each of the three overall winners received a cash prize of R120 000, as well as an overseas trip to explore markets for their products. The runners-up each received R60 000 in cash and an overseas trip. The special-category winners (best women-led team, most promising youth-led team and innovation for social impact) received R30 000 each. The finalists who did not receive any of these awards received R20 000 each. The business accelerator programme ran over four months, with 44 participants being coached and mentored to finetune their products and services and get them investment-ready. The value of the investment in each participant is estimated at R140 000.

For many of the participants, the programme was just what they needed to push their innovations in the right direction. ‘The whole experience has empowered me and given me confidence to stand up and tell the world boldly about the difference our product will make,’ says Benedicta Mahlangu of Afrobodies. ‘The GCIP-SA and TIA have been amazing and winning means we charge forward with even more enthusiasm and validation. It will help with the current phase of production, thus bringing us closer to the much-needed investment of R25 million.’

GianCarlo Beukes of Impulse Biotechnology is equally pleased with his win.

‘The TIA GCIP-SA programme helped our team to develop a validated and well-thought-through business plan that will potentially help us secure future investment, as well as build a successful and impactful business,’ he says. ‘Our business is now better equipped with the tools, networks and support to execute our vision of making healthcare more accessible and affordable to all.

‘We are truly grateful for the opportunity and experience. This programme goes beyond other programmes as it coaches you through understanding your business better, which is rare in the accelerator space. This programme should be renamed to “The Game Changer”.’

Jack Chennells of Inseco says GCIP-SA has taken his team on an amazing journey of critiquing, contemplating and discovering more about its business and how it operates from both a personal and business perspective.

‘The mentorship and guidance provided, and the ideas suggested, have allowed us the confidence, understanding and self-belief as we go into our next phase of business growth,’ he says. ‘Above this, we’ve been linked with incredible people and organisations, which gives us immense confidence in the business environment surrounding Inseco as we take on the next phase of our entrepreneurial journey.’
It looks to hold much. There were inklings of this during 2018, particularly on the political stage. But we don’t want to bother about politics here. There is a great deal more to the rainbow life. So when the pace starts to pick up and you start to question your life’s journey and purpose all over again, we want to remind you of why being a South African is the best calling you can have.

On the sports front, we have Banyana Banyana and our very own ‘special one’ in coach Desiree Ellis, whose CAF women’s national team coach of the year award earlier this month had many sports fans jumping for joy, and, later, forgiving of the team’s 2-1 defeat to Netherlands. We also have Brad Binder, who’s always FTW on his KTM (for those over 25, that’s ‘for the win’).

Music is the universal language and some recent viral sensations have certainly struck a chord with those who recognise a good vibe, whether or not they can hold a note themselves.

You’d have to be made of stone to watch the video of Ndlovu Choir accompanied by master saxophonist Wouter Kellerman taking on Ed Sheeran at his own game and winning, feet down, without wanting to climb into the screen and fall into step with the exuberance of it all while joining in full-throatedly with the chorus. If you watched it and didn’t tap even one foot, you must be in a plaster cast from head to toe.

And how about that tribute to national treasure, Johnny Clegg, by one of the most talented and star-packed ensembles of South African artists — and a scattering of old friends of the country such as Peter Gabriel and Mike Rutherford of Genesis fame and Dave Matthews, who is South African, but only on a technicality — ever assembled on one stage? Their rendition of The Crossing

Now that we’ve given a whole new meaning to load shedding with feverish festive season spending, and our bank balances and wallets are crying for a Rand resuscitation, we can all get down to the business of concentrating on 2019 and making the most of the promise it holds.
IN THE NEWS

captured in six melodious minutes the South Africa we all seek. That may just be Africanacity.

It certainly had the Youtubers ululating and the tweeters chirping. ‘I am crying because this is the South Africa I desperately want,’ commented one Tendi Thabela under the video. ‘This is the beauty that is South Africa’ echoed a fan named Shanil Patel.

Another with tears in his eyes was Pieter Coetzee, who summed things up as only a South African could: ‘Hoender vleis … love it’.

Now, where else in the world would you get an attack of hoender vleis? Or catch a skrik? Or wander around in a dwaal? Or meet a friend at a kiff new venue? Or do the sakkie sakkie in Bela Bela? Or load your friends into a skedonk and chow down on a sarmie from a spaza as you cruise kasi?

In a move that is enough to leave purists lost for words, but fills us with proudly South African pride, all of the italicised words, incidentally, now appear in the Oxford Dictionary.

Tweebuffelsmeteenskootmorsdoodgeskietfontein doesn’t but it’s well worth a mention anyway.

Let’s face it, we’re a tough bunch. No wonder it is generally accepted that Africa is not for sissies. In South Africa, it’s said, we used to drive on the left of the road, now we drive on what’s left of the road.

We see the irony and the funny side of situations in a way that more prim and proper populations would think totally inappropriate.

We are also known to scoff at other countries for their peculiar traditions, preferring to keep it local and lekker, yet we don’t need a second invitation to don a Freddy Krueger mask, grab a hollowed out pumpkin as a goodie bag and hit the streets to trick or treat.

And we count the days, the hours, the minutes to Black Friday, when we can arm ourselves with knuckledusters and other weapons of mass shopping to buy everything we didn’t want yesterday at less 10%, then sell it tomorrow for 10% of what we paid. Simply, South Africans just love a party, even a good, old fashioned mall ruck. Any excuse will do.

**Our fauna, flora and scenery are without equal.**

Ours is the third most biodiverse country in the world. We have the longest and most spectacular wine route and the most scenic (and largest) cycle race.

And, of course, we boast one of the seven wonders of nature, in Table Mountain.. Only one? Seriously? As we say down south, the judges need to catch a wake up!

Perhaps the most apt description of this wonder came from Patricia de Lille, who said:

‘[It’s] a symbol of permanence in a world that is full of change. It is a symbol of the heritage that we are privileged to have. And it is a symbol that reminds us that we are privileged enough to live in an incredible country with incredible assets, giving us hope for the future.’

**South Africa has a heart – a moerse one that arrives, sometime unexpectedly, but in bakkieloads. Most times you don’t need to look very far to find it.**
It’s in Godfrey Makhubela, driver of the e-Toll truck, who put his own safety on the backburner when he stopped behind the car of Kat Stott and her daughter, who had broken down in the middle lane of the N1 and were watching, terrified, as trucks flew by and potentially deadly pile ups were narrowly avoided around them. Godfrey directed the traffic until the tow truck arrived.

It’s in Prosper Sebata, a petrol attendant in Rivonia, who calmed Alzheimer’s sufferer Annatjie Moolman and bought her coffee with his own money when she was lost miles from home.

It’s in Kurt Minnaar, former hip hop dancer turned grade eight Eben Dongs High School in Kraaifontein teacher who uses his moves and rap beats daily to drum times tables into his pupils’ heads.

It’s in ‘Matrick’ Mbhele, who during a Durban storm, swam through floodwaters to rescue a woman trapped in her car.

And, albeit in Namibia, it’s in Tulonga Nepula, who rushed to a car in spite of the possibility that it may burst into flames to save eight-month old Dex Heger, who had been flung from the car. Little Dex was the only survivor of the horrific head-on collision that killed his grandfather and the four occupants of the other car.

There are many such stories. In this brief extract from a five-year-old address that recently underwent a viral revival, Professor Jonathan Jansen shares his thoughts … ‘My South Africa is the working-class man who called from the airport to return my wallet without a cent missing. It is the white woman who put all three of her domestic worker’s children through the same school that her own child attended.

‘It is the politician in one of our rural provinces, Mpumalanga, who returned his salary to the government as a statement that standing with the poor had to be more than just a few words. It is the teacher who worked after school hours every day during the public sector strike to ensure her children did not miss out on learning.

‘It is the politician in one of our rural provinces, Mpumalanga, who returned his salary to the government as a statement that standing with the poor had to be more than just a few words. It is the teacher who worked after school hours every day during the public sector strike to ensure her children did not miss out on learning.

‘My South Africa is the first-year university student in Bloemfontein who took all the gifts she received for her birthday and donated them – with the permission of the givers – to a home for children in an Aids village.’

It’s no wonder we have so many fans.

‘I love South Africa,’ chef Heston Blumenthal has commented. ‘I’m always inspired when I come here.’ Coming from the inventor of the ever-so-English bacon and egg ice-cream, that’s high praise indeed. Heston has now put his menu where his mouth is, adding rooibos cocktails and boerewors burgers to his repertoire.

Singer Jared Leto had this to say: ‘It’s one of the great inspiring places, a magical place.’

Tennis supremo Roger Federer has always stated that his heart is in South Africa. Of course, his money is in Swiss bank account, but we won’t go there.

Will Smith has said that ‘it feels like God visits everywhere else, but lives in Africa’. Aw!

So adored are we that we roll our eyes when another celebrity arrives on our shores, bows down on the tarmac and declares, as Jesse Jackson, Oprah Winfrey, Naomi Campbell and others have, words to the effect of ‘I am home’. But secretly we love it because we know its OUR home and they’re claiming a piece of it as a drowning man may clutch at a straw only because they have to return to the freezing winters and cold shoulders of their countries.

Of course, Naomi Campbell visits so often she’s almost part of the meubels, like your ‘aunty in the furniture business. We found it kind of endearing when she raised her fist at last year’s Global Citizens concert and uttered a triumphant ‘Amandala’. Perhaps the pronunciation needs some work, but we appreciated the symbolism.

Why should we worry if Paris Hilton is a little geographically challenged? ‘I love Africa in general, South Africa and West Africa, they are both great countries,’ she quipped once.

And who cares if Trump sees us as the latrine of the world and ‘a total mess’. We have the highest natural bungee jump in the world in Bloukans Bridge; he has the largest rubber band ball. We have Chantel Dartnall, the best female chef on the planet; he has the world’s longest pizza.

This is so easy, let’s continue a little …

The States has one of the nine most boring cities in the world, in Atlanta, according to SmarterTravel. It has the highest incarceration rate in the world – 737 prisoners for every 100 000 residents. It’s the only country in the world not to have ratified the Paris climate change accord. We have the most beautiful city on earth in Cape Town, one of the globe’s most imposing natural wonders in The Mountain, and a game park the size of New Jersey.

You may like to say, Mr President: ‘America is going to be great, it’s going to be fantastic, the best ever’, but we’re sorry to have to point this out, we beat you to it. Finish and klaar!
Exciting, inspiring and critically important. These are some of the words used by Chairperson, Frans Baleni, in his foreword to the EWSETA annual report to describe the War on Leaks programme. ‘Any initiative to prevent wastage and spillage while at the same time empowering individuals is critically important,’ he says.

With that responsibility attached to its name, the programme needs top-calibre individuals to drive it and ensure results. And that’s exactly what it has. In this issue, we get to know the men and women who devote every waking minute to plugging the leaks that exacerbate South Africa’s water woes.

Ziyanda a proud public servant

War on Leaks Project Manager, Ziyanda Mtshotshisa, wears her public servant status with pride and a great big smile. She knows that she is making a contribution to the country through skills development, which can put a dent in poverty and a boost in economic growth.

Originally from Eastern Cape, Ziyanda completed her school education in Johannesburg, where she went on to study advanced project management and business management at University of Johannesburg.

Much of her grounding in projects was obtained at Services SETA, where she was the constituent assessor and moderator manager and later a project manager for special projects.

Having headed the War on Leaks team since July 2016, she has had plenty of time to form a united team around a common goal. ‘I love my team,’ she enthuses. ‘The spirit is amazing, which is necessary given the magnitude of the task we are involved in. The team understands deadlines, is always keen to impart knowledge and is willing to assist other departments when the pressure is on.’

War on Leaks is a perfect place to be if, like Ziyanda, you want to make a remarkable difference in people’s lives. ‘To live a happy and fulfilling life, you need to identify your purpose in life and live it to the fullest,’ she says.

The War on Leaks day usually starts in the kitchen, where jokes and laughter are shared over coffee, before the serious business of the day – meeting deliverables – starts.

At the end of a hectic week of leak intervention, Ziyanda likes nothing more than to get behind the wheel and drive, while singing along to her favourite tunes, which currently include ‘Best days of my life’ by Zonke Dikana.

With an impending marriage to loving and caring Mthokozisi Ndlela, and the joy of two growing boys – Lulutho (Biscuit) aged 14 and 4-year old Luyolo (Mumu) –
there are undoubtedly the best days of her life. If the four are not relaxing at home watching their favourite television programmes (which for Ziyanda is Cindy Kruger’s ‘Spirit’, as it gives her a broader understanding of the spiritual world), they are travelling and taking in the magnificent sights that South Africa has to offer.

**Hard work and risks for no-nonsense Nqobile**

A combination of working hard, taking risks and embracing new adventures is what Pietermaritzburg-born and -bred Nqobile Mgoza is all about.

War on Leaks encapsulates all three of those, making Administrator Nqobile a happy teamster. Having completed a degree in environmental planning and development in KwaZulu-Natal, her appointment to the team in November 2017 was a breakthrough since the project is aligned to her qualification.

She is in a great space, she adds, enjoying the bond, respect and great work relationship the team members share, while feeling part of the whole EWSETA family, which she describes as ‘social, knowledgeable and caring’. ‘I am learning all the time from the best people,’ she states.

Nqobile actually joined EWSETA back in 2016, starting as a water sector intern with varied administrative duties. ‘When my contract ended I moved to the Corporate Services department as a temporary front desk receptionist and then I was invited to an interview for the Operations department as a War on Leaks administrator,’ she explains.

‘I am a product of this organisation. I have gained a vast understanding of SETA skills development, and planning regulations and requirements, and have acquired all the essential computer skills that are the tools of my trade.’

Nqobile has a simple and straightforward approach to life. ‘The world owes you nothing, earn your stripes,’ she insists.

That belief sustains her during the challenging times when stakeholders’ requests take weeks to fulfil amid already packed weekly schedules.

When the week closes, you’ll find Nqobile playing cards, singing with her parents and four siblings, watching movies, hiking or running. Or reading ‘Born a crime’ by Trevor Noah or perhaps even impersonating a potato on the couch while watching Trending SA.

On occasion, she may be listening to Shekinah sing ‘Different’. ‘This song speaks to me,’ she says. ‘I’m different in my own way. I don’t live according to society’s expectations, but to what I believe.’

What awaits Nqobile in the future? ‘A couple of children, a PhD in environmental law and a company bearing my name,’ she says with conviction.

**Peggy pegs her success on hard work**

Many a SETA has benefited from the office and project management skills of Peggy Mashiane – including merSETA, where she completed her internship and was a chamber administrator – but none is more grateful than EWSETA, where Peggy has been part of the War on Leaks team since 2016.

Although she admits to not enjoying working with people who are disorganised, what she lacks in patience she more than makes up for in other attributes. ‘I am very hardworking, determined and career driven, and love learning new things,’ she says.

Currently, she is learning new information technology things through BTech IT in Business Applications studies, which she hopes to complete next year.
Although she doesn’t like being influenced by society, preferring to run her own race, Peggy really enjoys working in a team and sharing knowledge with her colleagues.

Outside work, she has various interests, foremost among them family and fitness. ‘I have a very loving and supportive husband, Khomotso, a six-year-old son, Remoneile, who is a budding DJ, musician and dancer, and 10-month-old daughter Refiloe (Rere),’ says Peggy, who is determined to show the youngsters responsibility, accountability, courage and care for others through her own example.

Peggy is a firm fan of what the food networks serve up, but also watches ‘My 600lb life’ as a reminder that balance is everything. ‘I was a very active child growing up and still try to be active through road running and hiking,’ she explains.

Books also figure strongly in her daily routine, with her everyday inspiration being ‘The power of a praying wife’ by Stormie Omartian, and other firm favourites ‘The monk who sold his Ferrari’ by Robin Sharma and ‘Multipliers’ by Liz Wiseman.

Perpetual positivity and a passion for public relations sum up Vuyiswa

After matric, Vuyiswa (affectionately known to all as Vuyo) Williams indulged her passion by studying public relations and media, but life had a different course planned. Having to move from Durban back to her home province, Eastern Cape, she found herself brushing up her skills in public administration before completing 18 months of in-service training with the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, where, stationed ultimately in the Economic Project Management department, she had her first taste of projects.

In 2016, she moved to Johannesburg to do a learnership with a division of Bidvest, where she worked as a sales administrator. But project management beckoned and she moved over to EWSETA in November 2017, where War on Leaks has been a great experience. ‘The project brings so much challenge and requires one’s best effort at all times,’ she explains. ‘Every day is a learning curve for me and I’m very eager to get to work each day, to be around the great bunch that is the EWSETA team.’

It’s been a meaningful five years for Vuyo, who says she has grown as a person, spiritually and career wise. ‘I have achieved many things,’ she elaborates. ‘Being part of this presidential project and being able to get myself a car have been major highlights. Yet, I know this is just the start.’

Her tendency to always look on the bright side will, undoubtedly, see to that. As a free-spirited, positive and bubbly person, she shuns anything negative, pushing it aside to make way for growth and learning opportunities.

‘If I want it, I will make it happen,’ she insists. ‘If I cannot make it happen it means I have set the bar too low and a bigger prize awaits.’

Probably her biggest prize of all has been fiancé Simphiwe, who popped the question mere weeks ago and now looks forward to a lifetime of dancing, singing and family togetherness with his soon-to-be wife. When the happy couple have children, Vuyo plans to build an empire for them, whatever form that may take, and instil in them good principles and a belief in the importance of a healthy mindset.

Helping to keep her mind focused on all that is good, Vuyo reads and shares Ziyanda’s enthusiasm for Cindy Kruger and her television programme. ‘She has me glued to the screen,’ she says. ‘It is so interesting and helps me to understand life on a spiritual level rather than the physical only.’

No cutting corners for this sir

In the Spotlight
Vuyo Jantjies is a War on Leaks ‘old timer’, having joined the team in 2015. He has been happily helping out learners and offering them solutions to their problems ever since. Being exposed to various functions at the SETA, Vuyo says he has gained much knowledge about the sector.

As a former student of electrical engineering at Vuselela TVET College (then known as Potchefstroom Technical College), who is currently studying for a degree in human resource development with University of North West, Vuyo lectured for seven years in the electrical, mechanical and instrumentation departments of Vuselela before hanging up his lecturer’s flipchart in 2010 to work for the Development Bank of South Africa as junior programme manager for artisan development. He then moved to the Municipal Infrastructure Support Agency as training officer.

Not surprisingly for a former ‘Sir’ in an educational institution, Vuyo places communication top of the list of skills he brings to the War on Leaks party, backed by technical competence, flexibility and wholehearted collaboration with colleagues.

Dealing with learners is a little more of a challenge, he says, but only because they need – and deserve – answers to their queries promptly, not matter how many wars on leaks he is fighting at a given time.

Vuyo is very clear about what he expects of himself personally and professionally. ‘Letting go of the little things is vital even though it is often difficult, particularly during spells when you don’t like yourself much.

‘Secondly, I am in control of my own happiness. It is not my parents’ job, my friend’s job or my dog’s job to bring me the happiness I seek. Only I can understand what it will take to make me truly happy and only I can find it.

‘I also believe that power does not make you smart, but merely exposes your experience.’

While he exercises his mind with books such ‘Leader without a title’ by Robin Sharma and ‘The art of war’ by Sun Tzu and the news channels, his body obtains its nourishment from frequent trips to the gym. ‘I’m always there,’ he says.

It’s doubtful that anyone could accuse Vuyo of cutting corners in his work or home life and this is a quality that he would like to leave the world. ‘I also want to be known as someone who always looked for an opportunity to do good in life, to help others without expecting anything in return.’

**Pheladi paints a promising picture of her future**

From explosives to fine arts – no-one can accuse Administrator Pheladi Kgaladi of a boring life. After school, she explains, she found work as a Machine – Operator at African Explosives and when her contract there ended, she enrolled at University of Witwatersrand for a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

Although she doesn’t necessarily need an appreciation of the arts to be part of the War on Leaks effort, her understanding of the importance of the art of conversation definitely counts in her favour, as do her honesty, discipline and ability to work well in a team. ‘My colleagues are more than just colleagues,’ she says. ‘The obstacles we have overcome have moulded us into a great family within the family that is EWSETA, with its togetherness, learning culture and willingness to help each other out.’

That said, she can work equally effectively individually, in which case she is adept at handling sensitive matters and maintains confidentiality where needed.

As for all War on Leaks administrators, tackling emergency queries piles on a little pressure, but it’s nothing she can’t handle. Her approach that every day is a day of discovery keeps her feeling alive and helps her to cope during stressful times.

She shares her personal philosophy with us, as she knows it’s one worth sharing. ‘Be wise enough to know your worth, what drives you to prosper and what defines you,’ she states. ‘Summon that power and show the world what you are made of.’

Family means a great deal. The fourth of five children, Pheladi loves to spend time organising picnics and weekend getaways with her sisters. Wherever the clan goes, there is much laughter and joking around.

Pheladi has a clear idea of where she’s going in life and she will use her ‘unique talent of blending things together, concocting a recipe of prosperity’ to get there.

‘In the next five years, I intend to work in social development, implementing much-needed projects in disadvantaged communities.’
There’s never a dull moment for our Learning Programmes Practitioner, Nokwazi Zwane. Life is just too short for dull moments, she believes.

Besides, her work at EWSETA keeps her too busy for that, not to mention interested and inspired. Nokwazi says her promotion from artisan development administrator to her current position has been the biggest achievement of her life to date.

As a girl growing up with her grandparents in a small village called KwaNongoma in KwaZulu-Natal, the bright lights and buzz of Johannesburg beckoned, until, after she’d matriculated, she was able to answer their call. She enrolled at Ekurhuleni West College, where she obtained a National Certificate in Information Technology in 2012.

She joined EWSETA the following year as an intern and, five years later, is as happy as can be. ‘It was the best decision I have ever made,’ she explains. ‘At the SETA, you are given an opportunity to grow and improve yourself.’

And improving herself she certainly is, being busy at present with her second year of study for a Bachelor’s in Human Resource Development.

‘I am a hard worker,’ she says. ‘I relax when I have time, watching TV and listening to music, and I have fun when I go out with my friends. But when I work, I work, and I give my best.’

She will pass this ethos on to her children when the time comes, but for now she’s content to remain single, nourish her mind with study and serve the sector she has come to love.

Community support initiatives are an important part of EWSETA life, as any help we can offer the less advantaged, however small, makes a real difference in someone’s life. And our contribution is always met with genuine and heartfelt appreciation so rare in the hustle that characterises the modern business world.

Last year, we held a Nelson Mandela Day charity initiative that encouraged staff to donate non-perishable groceries for the less fortunate, and we were thrilled that our target of 100 items (given that 2018 was Madiba’s centenary) was well and truly met.

While our efforts are not done for the recognition, it is wonderful when our beneficiaries take the time to pen us a few words. Recently, we received this lovely letter from the Salvation Army’s Captain Bongi Zulu after we officially handed over all the collected items from staff to the Ethembeni Children’s Home...

‘On behalf of Ethembeni Children’s Home, and all of us here, we would like to thank you for your very kind and generous food donation to our home.

Please be assured that your gifts will be used for the children and the home.

We thank God for people like you who care.

And may God continue to bless you in your giving.’

Management would like to thank EWSETA staff for their generosity in supporting those less fortunate and we look forward to continuing with the spirit of giving in 2019.
It was an energy-star-studded event at Emperors Palace in November, when the 13th annual Southern African Energy Efficiency Confederation (SAEEC) Conference was staged, a highlight of which was the presentation of the prestigious SAEEC Energy Awards.

Naturally, EWSETA was there, as a sponsor of the exciting conference eagerly awaited each year by everyone who’s anyone in the energy field.

This is an important energy event for the sector, as it encompasses all that is new and happening in energy. It is the one truly comprehensive forum where delegates access new technologies, regulatory developments and industry trends to shape the crucial decisions for South Africa’s energy and economic future.

Says EWSETA Executive: Corporate Services, Candice Moodley: ‘The future of South Africa’s sustainable economic development lies in energy security. World-class skills development will produce a competent workforce that can build the economy.

‘It is against this backdrop that our Energy Sector department, supported by marketing, chose the SAEEC conference as the perfect platform to put the spotlight on pivotal and hard-to-fill vacancies in the energy sector and promote some of our key strategic focus areas in the energy efficiency industry.’

Participating in the event as an exhibitor gave EWSETA valuable opportunities for networking with local and international delegates, particularly on skills development interventions geared to assist the government to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

A major drawcard of the event was the awards component, which has become well known for showcasing the important work being done in energy in South Africa. The 2018 awards were no exception.

Apart from the personal awards earned by professionals, both male and female, innovation was a major winner, with Two Dam Sustainable Partnership picking up the prize for most innovative project, for its Net Zero Carbon certification, focus on renewable energy, improved water supply and use, alien clearing projects and waste management practices.

Commercial energy project of the year went to Netcare Hospitals for its 63 energy-saving projects that have reduced the carbon footprint of the group’s 55 hospitals by more than 16 000 tons of carbon dioxide a year.

Apart from its participation in the exhibition, a high point of the event for EWSETA was the certificate of recognition awarded it. ‘It acknowledged our contribution to the energy efficiency industry and we are honoured and humbled by the gesture,’ Candice concludes.
EWSETA

STATIONERY
BOOST FOR YOUTH
ON THE MOVE

Not much can match the energy of a classroom full of young, enthusiastic future South African leaders, but EWSETA gave it a good go recently when it supported Kgalagatsane Primary School in Koster, North West with an effort to enrich the children’s educational experience with a host of branded learning accessories.

Kgalagatsane is a haven for scores of happy pupils, offering service, support and care daily. It is an institution that can wear its school badge with pride, as it has everything a youngster could need to make learning a fun and fulfilling journey. The tally includes a remedial centre, library, computer lab, and science and multimedia lab. Add to that a team of highly skilled teachers committed to understanding each child and recognising and overcoming any barriers to learning.

The school has a gem in library assistant Ofentse Seake, who helps pupils learn the best ways to access and use quality information and resources, helps them to enhance their study and research skills and guides them in how to use the latest technologies to enhance their learning.

It was Ofentse who first reached out to EWSETA, when the school was about to celebrate its academic achievement awards in October 2018. The SETA, whose core business is, naturally, education, did not hesitate. ‘We are proud to be associated with Kgalagatsane, as it is a beacon of educational hope in the small township of Reagile,’ says Executive: Corporate Services, Candice Moodley, whose team organised a range of products such as backpacks, rulers, pencil cases, notebooks, pencils and other stationery. ‘Our products were presented to the top-performing pupils who have been using the library facilities consistently. These children are the future of our country and we are privileged to help them out and encourage them on their school career.

‘Who knows... perhaps some will go on to become stars in energy and water in the years to come.’

AIDING
THE ANTI-AIDS DRIVE

Notwithstanding tremendous strides made in heightening awareness of HIV and Aids in South Africa, the HIV prevalence rate increased last year, by 13.1%, according to figures released mid-2018 by South Africa’s Statistician-General Risenga Maluleke.

World Aids Day continues to be a significant event, with activations across provinces around 1 December. Last year’s event urged citizens to know their status and EWSETA took part in events in King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality, Eastern Cape, and in KwaZulu-Natal’s Mndoni Local Municipality, the areas with the highest HIV infection rate in the country.

The EWSETA campaign, part of a municipality initiative, had a strong career guidance component and targeted grades 10, 11, 12 learners, students in TVET colleges, unemployed youths with the theme ‘Zero new infections start with me’.

More than 1 000 young people attended over four days, and EWSETA was granted time to present on sector career opportunities and push the importance of taking responsibility for one’s life.

For the rural communities, this was a rare opportunity to engage with EWSETA, says the SETA’s Marketing Practitioner, Nonhlanhla Mazibuko. ‘The impact of the events on young lives is immeasurable,’ she adds.

That impact is perhaps reflected best in the consistent decline of Aids-related deaths — from 276 921 in 2007 to 115 167 in 2018.

HIV/AIDS remains a critical transformation imperative and EWSETA will continue to educate, capacitate and support the youth.
It wouldn’t be impossible to host a meaningful skills event without the participation of as many SETAs as possible, but it would be very difficult. Thus, EWSETA was very much a part of the BRICS 2018 Future Skills Challenge and Expo held at Gallagher Estate in October 2018 organised by the Department of Higher Education and Training, the Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Seta and the BRICS Business Council.

The event focused on smart factories, with the key theme being Industry 4.0. Participants from Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa were given specific tasks and deadlines in which to complete them. Participants are judged by panels of specialists from participating countries.

Areas in the spotlight included the digital world, manufacturing and engineering, and transport.

‘As EWSETA, we have adopted the slogan “Creating a sustainable tomorrow – today” and, in so doing, we need to ensure that our training is not only relevant to our local labour market needs, but that our learners/employees are trained to hold their own on an international stage,’ says Executive: Corporate Services, Candice Moodley. ‘We need to train for their futures and it is common knowledge that Industry 4.0 will require a different set of skills. The “skills revolution” is now, and by learning from and competing against our BRICS comrades, we are able to gauge just how our skills compare, which allows us to pinpoint weak areas that require different interventions. At EWSETA, we are already considering these “disruptive” skills interventions and look forward to making more waves around them in the not-too-distant future.’

The “skills revolution” is now, and by learning from and competing against our BRICS comrades, we are able to gauge just how our skills compare

Students visiting exhibitor stands

Stakeholders engaging with EWSETA at the event
Closing date has been extended to 4 February 2019

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The NSA is a statutory advisory body established in 1999 in terms of Chapter 2 of the Skills Development Act (SDA) No 97 of 1998. The primary functions of the NSA are to advise the Minister of Higher Education and Training on matters of skills development in accordance with section 5 of the Skills Development Act.
Sadly, we have to bid farewell to our Supply Chain Manager, Ernest Hlongwane, who had recently joined EWSETA and we are preparing to also say goodbye to Timothy Mokgalaka.

**POINT OF ORDER**

It’s well known in publishing circles that gremlins live among us and occasionally jump onto a page to stir up a bit of mischief. In the provincial administrators feature in Chronicle Issue 6, the photos of Tshiamo Masilo and Keboshetse Dipale were swapped. In the Matric Intervention Programme article, we titled Prof Professor Jacob Selesho Head of Department: Postgraduate Studies in Education at Central University of Technology, Free State. This was Prof Selesho’s former position, but he has since joined JENN Training and Consultancy. We apologise to all three for the mishap. The gremlin has been sent to the naughty corner.
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We value your feedback and welcome your contributions for the next EWSETA Newsletter.
Kindly send all correspondence and inputs to newsletter@eseta.org.za