

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EWSETA and CHIETA Join Forces to Advance Women and Youth in the Green Hydrogen Economy

Johannesburg, 30 July 2023 - The Energy and Water Sector Education and Training Authority (EWSETA) and the Chemical Industries Education and Training Authority (CHIETA) are proud to announce their partnership to drive skills development, innovation, and inclusive growth in the energy, water, and chemical sectors. This collaboration marks a significant milestone in advancing the role of women and youth in the emerging Green Hydrogen economy.

Under the memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed between EWSETA and CHIETA, both SETAs are committed to fostering collaboration in research and development programmes, skills training initiatives, and the implementation of future-oriented qualifications. The MOU sets a solid foundation for joint efforts in digitisation, innovation, and economic reconstruction, ensuring a just transition to sustainable practices for a hydrogen economy.

As part of this groundbreaking partnership, EWSETA, and CHIETA allocated R10 million to the two-year Green Hydrogen Bursary Fund, a dedicated initiative aimed at providing women and youth, particularly those in rural communities along the Hydrogen corridor, with the necessary skills and opportunities they need to excel in the burgeoning hydrogen economy.

“This initiative is a testament to EWSETA's strategic focus to drive collaboration in promoting gender equality and empowering the next generation of leaders in the energy sector. By focusing on rural communities along the Hydrogen corridor, where talent often goes untapped, this bursary fund aims to break down barriers and create a more equitable and prosperous and inclusive future for all,” says Mpho Mookapele, EWSETA's CEO.

Recognising the historical barriers and lack of opportunities faced by women and youth, EWSETA and CHIETA are steadfast in their commitment to meaningful inclusion and community upliftment.

The Green Hydrogen Bursary Fund will provide financial support for education and training, empowering women and youth with the necessary skills to actively participate in the hydrogen economy. The programme will also offer mentorship and networking opportunities to ensure long-term success and career advancement.

This collaboration between EWSETA and CHIETA is not only about skills development and empowerment; it is about driving innovation, sustainability, and economic growth. By pooling their expertise, resources, and networks, both organizations will contribute to research and development efforts that enhance knowledge, advance technology, and drive competitiveness in the energy and chemical sectors.

EWSETA's commitment to advancing women and youth in the Green Hydrogen economy aligns with the broader national objectives of promoting gender equality, youth empowerment, and sustainable economic development. This partnership with CHIETA signifies a shared vision of creating a just transition and harnessing the potential of hydrogen as a clean, flexible, and sustainable energy carrier.

EWSETA and CHIETA join hands to work together, and unlock the full potential of women and youth, uplift communities, and build a greener, more inclusive South Africa.

ENDS.



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About EWSETA

The Energy and Water Sector Education and Training Authority (EWSETA) is a leading skills development authority dedicated to serving the energy and water sectors. As one of the 21 Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) established in South Africa, our organization operates in accordance with the amended Skills Development Act of 1998. We play a pivotal role in ensuring the effective implementation of the National Skills and Development Strategy within the energy and water sectors.

At EWSETA, our primary focus lies in the areas of energy, renewable energy, gas, and water services sector. These key areas have been identified and determined by the esteemed Minister of Higher Education and Training, as outlined in section 9(2) of the SDA and in conjunction with Government Gazette No 33756, RG 9417, No. R1055 dated 11 November 2010.

Through our comprehensive programs and initiatives, we strive to enhance skills development, promote vocational training, and support the growth and sustainability of the energy and water sectors. By actively engaging with industry stakeholders, educational institutions, and government entities, we foster a collaborative environment aimed at achieving our collective objectives.

EWSETA remains committed to empowering individuals, fostering innovation, and driving progress in the dynamic fields of energy and water. We are dedicated to equipping the workforce with the necessary skills and knowledge to meet the evolving demands of these sectors and contribute to the overall socioeconomic development of South Africa.

<https://ewseta.org.za/>