



REPORT ON SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENT AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SUPPORT

Introduction

The mandate of the NEF is to invest in developing black owned business and black entrepreneurs who would otherwise not have access to business finance due to the institutional socio-economic imbalances of South Africa. Its mandate therefore attempts to address these socio-economic imbalances and to this end is engaged in exploring various sectors of the economy, especially those concerned with the physical environment and renewable energy solutions.

Over and above the mandate, the NEF invests a range of resources in various economic, environmental as well as social initiatives and ventures. This is done with the aim of stimulating and supporting social and economic upliftment by economically empowering the black people in South Africa.

To date the NEF has successfully achieved the following through the triple bottom line approach:

1. Social Responsibility:

1.1. Education:

As a funder with a soul, NEF believes that education needs to be at the centre of our social investment strategy, which aims at creating a globally competitive and entrepreneurial society. It thus implements a range of programmes to help achieve that aim.

- **Kabelo Seitshiro Bursary Fund:** The fund invested R1m to enable a larger pool of the HDI's learners who qualify for tertiary qualifications to focus on becoming chartered accountants.
- **Take a Girl Child to Work Day-**The NEF in conjunction with Standard Chartered Bank South Africa exposed rural learner-girls to their work Environment, provided them with HIV Aids training, career opportunities within Financial Institutions and further took them to the Office of the President to expose them to how the support structure within the office of the President functions. The aim of this initiative was to encourage and motivate them to realise that their future achievements and destiny lie in their own hands
- **Back to School:** NEF contributed R100 000 towards the construction of a school in Limpopo.
- **JIPSA Middle Managers Training:** The programme, conducted in partnership with the French Government, targeted a selection of South African young middle managers who attended a six week training course in France and acquired international knowledge and practical skills.
- **The Internship Programme:** NEF targeted graduates from different tertiary institutions and provided them with on-the-job training for a year with the hope of absorbing them into the system based on vacancies and successful completion of the training programme. Skills and knowledge gained are portable within the industry and opens employment opportunities for these candidates.

- The GIBS BEE module programme: NEF has contributed R1.2million towards the development of a B-BBEE programme module on their MBA programme.

1.2. Community Care Programme:

- The NEF has financially supported a dental procedure for a young female learner from a disadvantaged background. This has assisted in improving the health of the learner as well as her overall confidence and image.
- **Donation of NEF's used furniture to investee clients in rural community:**
 The NEF will contribute used furniture and equipment to rural investee companies. The identified communities will be trained in basic computer skills by the NEF IT department.

1.3. Employee Volunteer Programme:

- The NEF staff believe that giving is an integral part of empowering and developing the people of South Africa. Employees have voluntarily pledged a minimum of a day's annual leave and the monetary equivalent of those days is contributed towards the CSI programme.

2. Environmental responsibility:

- Through our investment, NEF is in a process of adopting a clear strategy of ensuring that most of NEF's investments comply with environmental regulations to reduce our carbon footprint.
- **Mondi NEF Recycling Project:** NEF, in partnership with Mondi, has embarked on a paper recycling project that will ensure that the financial proceeds of the sale of recycled paper is contributed by Mondi on NEF's behalf to a school of NEF's choice.
- **NEF Energy Saving:** Through our facilities department, NEF has installed an energy saving power supply system for the entire building. This means that lights and airconditions will be automatically switched on when necessary.
- **Rain water tanks** will be installed for water conservation. The collected water will be used for sanitation purposes during water cut off periods.

3. Entrepreneurial Support:

3.1. The Business Plan Tool Kit by Pre-Investment:

As from March 2011 to date, 1644 aspiring entrepreneurs have logged in to the NEF's online Business Planner tool.

3.2. Entrepreneurship Development:

- **Shanduka Enterprise Development programme:**
 39 potential entrepreneurs were referred by NEF to the Shanduka incubator programme.
- **Aurik Incubator Pilot:**
 This programme is intended for use as a diagnostic tool by existing investee companies for the identification of gaps in their operations with the objective of providing non-financial support to enhance their business performance.
- **Entrepreneurial Assessment:**
 One Product Advisor and one Investment Associate have attended the Entrepreneurial Aptitude Training at Aurik's offices. The intention is to transfer skills to all other team members.

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- **Endeavour Boot Camp:**
This initiative was completed satisfactorily with positive feedback from the 13 delegates who attended. The full programme consists of eight modules and the delegates completed four modules in the first phase. A second Boot Camp is scheduled for the end of June 2012.
- **Running Business Today:**
The pilot training plan was delivered to South Africa's nine provinces, two regions per province. The training pilots created an opportunity for NEF to re-launch the brand and interact with different SMMEs, development agencies and small business owners and resolve perceived differences / queries they had with NEF. A total of 274 delegates attended the actual training, 70% of which were in rural areas.

3.3. The Mentorship Programme for investee companies by the Post Investment Division:

- The NEF has allocated 25 industry experts who are mentors to 48 different investee companies. All the allocated mentors are appointed and paid by the NEF to provide mentorship support service to investee companies to ensure the sustainability of those businesses as well as safeguard the NEF investment.

3.4. NEF Imbizo:

- **Investor Education Programme:**
The Asset Management Division facilitated 76 seminars across the nine provinces with 17 003 potential black investors participating on the following:
 - Tips on how to invest
 - Personal financial planning
 - Discipline on spending, e.g. buying of approved products, avoiding pyramid schemes; avoid buying on credit, conducting an affordability exercise
 - Types of investments - special purpose vehicles, share bonds; property, cash/ money market.

3.5. ED Fund:

- To date the NEF has raised a sum of R3.2 million from Chrysler and one transaction has benefitted through the ED Fund - Richmond Opkomende Sheep Farming Cooperative in the Northern Cape. The project was allocated an additional soft loan of R615 703 to increase the production capacity of the business. ♪

Performance Highlights - Investor Education

Investor Education campaigns were rolled out in the Eastern Cape, Northern Cape, Free State, Limpopo, Western Cape, North West, KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga and Gauteng with 8 seminars per province. Number of attendees: 17 003

