



## INTRODUCING OUR NEW CEO

We're excited to welcome Zandile Nkone as our CEO and anticipate the positive changes she'll bring to Kathu Solar Park.

Zandile's vision for her tenure is clear: to ensure maximum energy capacity is delivered to the national grid and meet business obligations. She's also passionate about making a sustainable impact on local communities through economic development.

Beginning her new role two months ago, Zandile is a qualified Chartered Accountant and is pursuing an LLB Degree at UNISA. She brings experience including having previously served as a CFO in renewable energy and various banking roles.

"I'll collaborate with partners to maximize energy capacity for the national grid and meet our obligations." - Zandile Nkone



## IMPACTFUL ECD EDUCATION

Working in partnership with the Northern Cape Department of Education, Kathu Solar Park's Early Childhood Development (ECD) Programme is working to increase access to quality early learning opportunities for 2,000 young children across 25 ECD centres.

This will also enable employment opportunities and financial security for women in communities within the John Taolo Gaetsewe District.

Interventions include:

- Training 8 ECD facilitators as mentors to support ECD principals and teachers.
- Training ECD practitioners and centre managers in governance and financial management.
- ECD infrastructure upgrades (new construction/renovations).
- Supplying indoor and outdoor education materials.
- Ensuring ECD development complies with laws and regulations.

This funding is part of Kathu Solar Park's Socio-Economic Development strategy, which has a key focus on education and skills development.



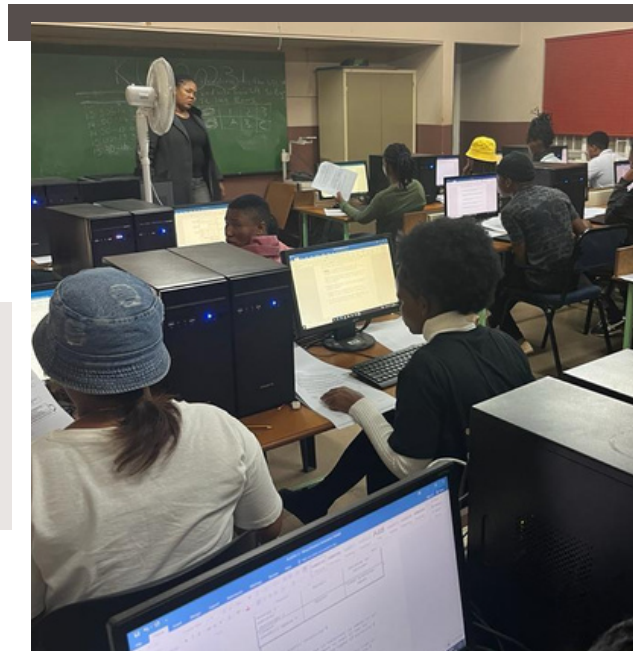


## BOOST FOR RURAL TERTIARY EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY LEARNERS

A funding and development programme is set to improve access to technology that serves 1,000 students each year, as well as to provide study bursaries to 45 students, and infrastructure to assist with power interruptions at the nearby Kuruman TVET College.

“Our research revealed that TVET colleges fulfill an important role in our communities and that the quality of education and students’ learning experiences are being hindered by outdated technology, a lack of access to student funding and the rolling power outages” - Cheryl Persensie, Economic Development Manager, Kathu Solar Park

The bursary funding supports the ‘missing middle students’ - those who don’t qualify for funding from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme.



## TECHNICAL – PANEL WASHING

One of the ways that Kathu Solar Park ensures that it can produce power optimally is through nightly mirror cleaning. This involves the use of two specialized cleaning trucks: one with a high-pressure spray, and the other with brush-and-spray devices. Additionally, manual cleaning with mops and water ensures thorough cleaning, including hard-to-reach areas.

Herbert Dreyer, our Performance Engineer, shares some points:

- Manual mirror cleaning provides local employment with crews varying in size based on the contract's scope.
- Training for mirror cleaning employees is not intensive.
- Kathu Solar Park uses demineralised water for mirror cleaning as other water types are not suitable.
- The mirror cleaning process at Kathu Solar Park aligns with international standards.
- Mirror cleaning via trucks is an ongoing process, aiming to clean the entire solar field in one week (52 complete cleans per year) during nighttime, from sunset to sunrise.



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