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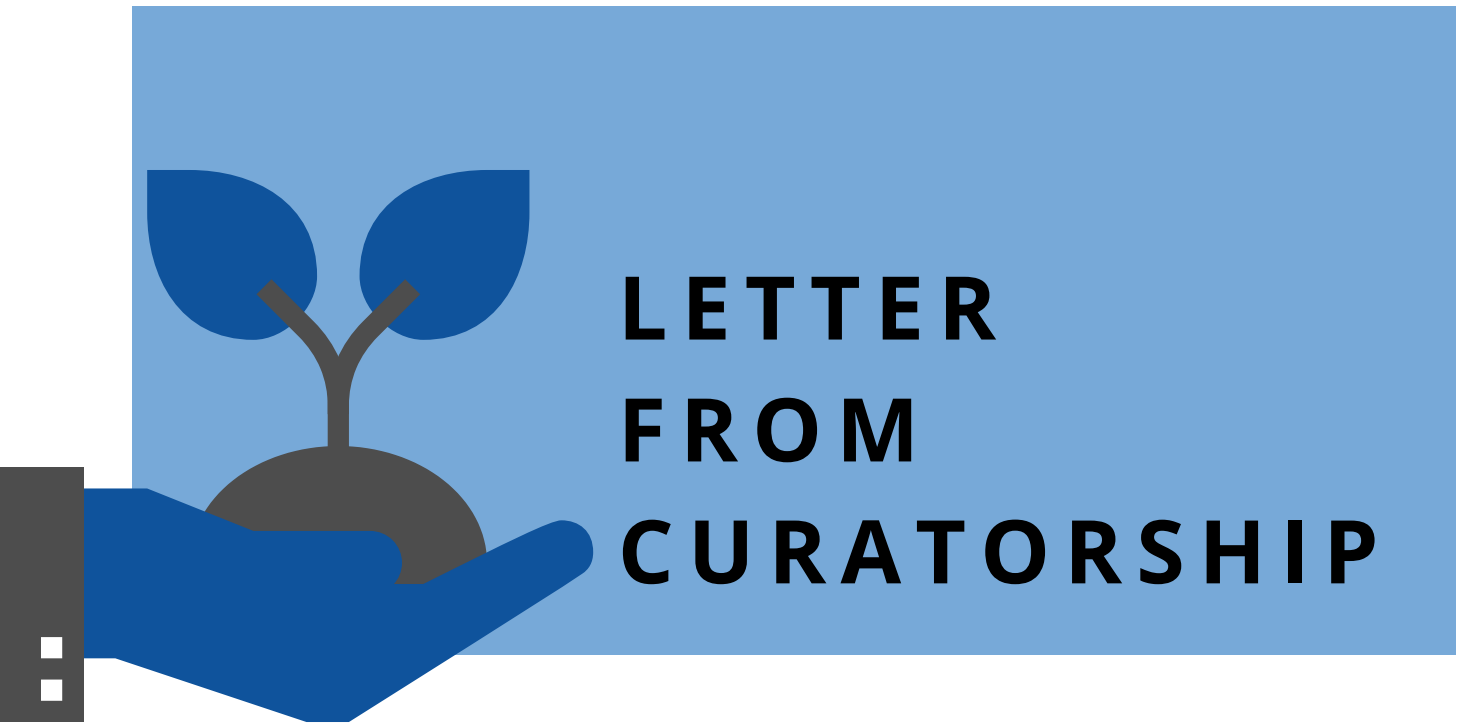


2021 /
2022



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LETTER FROM CURATORSHIP

The 2021/22 term has been characterized by major shifts; both globally and locally. Contending with the continued onslaught of Covid-19 alongside the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the world was once again thrown into uncharted waters and the trickle-down effect of global crises was felt in our own small way.

South Africa, in the last year, has seen youth unemployment soar to a crippling 63.9% while rising costs due to inflation has created an untenable situation for the most vulnerable in our communities. Our term of leadership started on 01 July, and just nine days later, the July Riots would take place in Kwa-Zulu Natal and Gauteng - wiping out R50bn from our economy, adding a further 2 million to the unemployment numbers and leading to the death of over 350 people. Our resolve as a country was further tested following the devastating floods in Kwa-Zulu Natal just a few months later, which resulted in major infrastructure damage to the already ravaged province.

Against the backdrop of limited resources, Covid-19 restrictions and the looming but silent threat of potential global war, we set to work on our Big Hairy Audacious Goals (BHAGs). The world, since the emergence of Covid-19, has been a difficult adjustment. If we are to be honest about our leadership approach in these times, we've worked primarily on the basis of mutual trust, love for community; and indeed; love for one another. This term has taught us many lessons, but chief among them is that community is essential for impact. In organisations, boardrooms and office floors around the world, community has been lost, driving the Great Resignation. Now more than ever, people are searching for human connection, compassion and fellowship. Holding on to a real sense of community is how we emerge stronger, and ready to tackle the plethora of challenges that lay ahead of us.



While our country has barely recovered from the initial effects of the pandemic, we remain eternally optimistic that the long-term projections include economic stability, equality and environmental justice.

To this end, our BHAGs, set over a five year period, determine where we put our efforts to driving meaningful social impact. This focuses our attention to key issues that require true partnerships with government, business and civil society.

Our Hub was founded for a time such as this. We hold space for both the devastation of the reality of life in South Africa for so many people, alongside our eternal optimism that a few good, committed people can truly make a difference.

We hope that in the last year, we've been able to make a difference.

Yours in service,

Curator: Dhiren Govender



Vice-Curator: Cassandra Moodley



Why do we Shape?

Being a Global Shaper starts from a place of service - to our community and the people in it. But why do we Shape? We Shape for our beloved city of Johannesburg and its amazing people. Johannesburg is a city characterised by contradiction, as it is a combination of the world-class African city it is often hailed for, while many in it still suffer from poor basic service delivery.

Youth unemployment, inadequate access to education, and polarising inequality are just some of the issues that cripple the city and serve as an obstacle to it reaching the full potential we know it can reach. We Shape because we believe we can help our communities overcome some of the obstacles we are faced with by being a catalyst for the change we want to see.

2022 is the year of recovery, and we want to ensure that we are part of it.

BHAGs: Our aspirational blueprint for impact

We acknowledge that there are a number of challenges in our community however in the chaos of the pandemic, we felt that there were glaring issues that needed our attention particularly. We believe that by setting these core priorities of impact in our Hub, we can streamline our efforts and capabilities and unite around common goals. Our BHAGs will further enable us to measure our impact and keep us accountable.

Over the next 5 years we aim to:

- Assist in reducing youth unemployment by aligning our projects in order to achieve national outcomes.
- Provide 1 000 people with access to self-sustaining methods of urban farming, using projects such as the vegetable garden to deliver each and train.
- Uplift 10 000 individuals living in Johannesburg out of dire poverty.
- Ensure that we have 20 scholarship holders by 2025 at underfunded and overlooked institutions i.e TVET colleges





BHAGs: Our aspirational blueprint for impact

Our BHAGS are aligned with Sustainable Development Goals, the global indicator framework of the Global Shapers Community, and they are aligned with the ISHAPE impact areas:



I - Build Inclusive Communities

S - Reskill for the future

H - Improve health and wellbeing

A - Deliver basic needs

P - Protect the planet

E - Strengthen civic engagement



Building Our Community

Vegetable Garden | Project Lead: Palesa Vuyolwethu Tshandu | **SDGs targeted:** 1, 2, 4

In 2021, the Global Shapers Johannesburg formed a partnership with Molestane High School, to support the school's initiatives with their Vegetable Garden.

As part of this initiative, in partnership with a local company, Nason Foods, we managed to provide netting for the vegetable garden for the upcoming harvest. Since then, the school has been able to secure other partnerships to assist with the vegetable garden to ensure that the broader community benefits. Through the support of the Johannesburg Hub, Moletsane High School has also participated in various competitions, including the City of Johannesburg's Regional Competition which looked at various sustainability initiatives across under-served communities.

Most public open spaces within the City of Johannesburg (CoJ), especially those in townships are prone to vandalism and misuse rendering them unsustainable for future use. Although the city maintains these spaces, it is often done so with limited community participation and inputs. In circumstances where community members are participative, their efforts are less likely acknowledged.

It is against this background that the Environmental Education Unit, as an educational wing within the Environment Conservation Department, has conceptualised an environmental competition targeting schools and communities in the city of Johannesburg. Targeted participants include Community Based Organisations (CBO) and NGOs as well as school-based environmental clubs. The main purpose of the competition was to explore, acknowledge and reward these institutions for the vital role that they play in the conservation, preservation and protection of public open spaces and to further encourage their active role and participation in managing community-based natural resources including public open spaces. Through the support of our Hub, Molestane students won the High School Regional Champions competition, winning R20 000 for their effort in sustainable initiatives within their Community.



100 Waste Pickers | Project lead: Gift Lubele | SDGs targeted: 1, 8, 10, 12

Informal recyclers play a crucial role in the recycling economy, however with little recognition and reward for their work and contribution to making Johannesburg more sustainable. Informal waste reclaimers are a key feature in our city and are an important proponent of the key aspects of the circular economy. However, they lack the support structures to make a decent livelihood based on the work they are already doing.

The 100 Waste Pickers project aims to provide support and mentorship to 100 informal recyclers to enable them to establish and grow in micro business (buyback centers). The program will do this through workshops on project management, financial literacy, and business development and support by way of counseling, substance abuse, and healthcare.



FinLit4All | Project leads: Penelope Gregoriou, Obakeng Makapane | SDGs targeted: 8

The ability to understand and effectively use sound financial principles in our personal lives is a skill that many women do not have. Currently, there is a substantial gender gap in financial inclusion and financial capability. Poor financial decisions that can lead to poor financial wellbeing can have a detrimental impact on a woman's life for many years, and it is a reality that is all too real today.

Personal financial management plays a significant role in our economic development and mobility, making financial literacy a key skill to have and practice. In acknowledgement of this disparity, this programme aims to equip a select group of high school students in Grades 11 and 12 with practical financial knowledge post high school.

Through the provision of financial literacy material and workshops with the students, we touch on key financial literacy topics such as saving and budgeting, how to manage debt, developing good credit history, how to invest and exploring various investment vehicles, tax planning, and developing multiple sources of income.

The students will also have an open line with the project leads to pose any questions they have outside of the formalised workshop settings so that we can have real-time interaction with them and identify what challenges they are facing, that we might otherwise miss to ensure the programme remains relevant and appropriately applicable to the beneficiaries.



BETTER TOGETHER

Throughout our efforts to navigate through the challenges of our communities, we have been exposed to the many strengths and vulnerabilities of our Hub. We are a passionate and committed group, however we acknowledge that our impact reach can be extended with the right strategic partnerships.

This impact report chronicled our response to the urgent needs we were confronted with, and whilst we made a significant effort that made a difference to the lives of our beneficiaries, we recognise that we can create more opportunities and change when working with the right people.

In our collective quest for undertaking the actions to recover and prepare for our 'new normal', leveraging partnerships to create more meaningful impact has never been more vital.

If you would like to support any of our ongoing projects or if we can support you or your organisation to advance and promote your community impact project, please let us know.

Please feel free to contact our Impact Officer:
Kirra Evans at kirra@globalshapers.joburg

Chat to us on how we can work together and serve our community better.





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Thank You!

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