

Learning together for tomorrow's world

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



A CHILD FRIENDLY VISION

We envisage a **child-friendly South Africa**
where **all children**
are able to **access opportunities**
for **optimal development**

A DEVELOPMENTAL MISSION

We **create opportunities for learning and development** by
empowering change agents for children

We **facilitate connections** between people who share a
commitment of strengthening skills, knowledge and
resources, and actively **build partnerships** that promote a
safe and caring society

We **take responsibility** for our own future by building a
sustainable organisation





A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON

Daryl Braam

ITEC thanks all those who support our mission to build a better South Africa, as we attempt to create conditions for children to be literate, cared for and confident.

Over the past year, we gave attention to our philosophy and how it is reflected practically in our work. Essentially this entailed taking an inventory of how ITEC sees itself, which led to the emergence of a few foundational concepts. Principal among these were advocating children's rights to stimulating learning environments, to physical and emotional care, as well as the building of child-friendly communities.

Working collaboratively with teachers and adults who care for children is fundamental to making these ideas a reality. These principles form the core of ITEC's philosophy and are expressed in a range of contexts including; training workshops, academia, tiers of government, urban and rural early childhood centres.

Advocating a children's rights philosophy is underpinned by the need to provide a haven of hope for our younger generation. Central to the

approach is to work with, and in, local communities with a view to better understand how to develop more capability in the ECD landscape.

With a particular focus on the Eastern Cape, the intention is to synthesise these core ideas and practices to shape a collective response. Shaping such a response also involves the task of assembling strategic partnerships, both provincial-wide and cross national, to further hone ideas and approach. We acknowledge that there is a long road to travel to address problems such as poor nutrition and lack of care for children.

As an Eastern Cape community we need to embark on urgent social action to support our children!





A MESSAGE FROM OUR MANAGING DIRECTOR

Michele Kay



2013/14 has been a year of phenomenal growth and learning for ITEC. We positively impacted on the development of 11, 696 children in the Eastern Cape.

ITEC's advocacy initiatives have effectively framed

programme implementation within the organisation, building from the understanding that implementation cannot take place in a vacuum and that major collaborative efforts are required by stakeholders to ensure that the socio-economic environment is receptive to high quality programmes for children.

Aligned to our strategy, a conscious effort was made to reach children before they enter the formal schooling system, as this age group provides the greatest window of opportunity for rapid developmental gains. We effectively grew our ECD and Literacy programmes with a stronger focus on working with younger children, while strengthening support to teachers, practitioners, home visitors and parents.

Maths, Science and Technology programmes saw a greater emphasis on content based support to teachers, while ICT training continued to serve as a pillar for ITEC's income generation efforts to drive the sustainability of the organisation.

Looking ahead to 2015, the introduction of the ITEC Early Education Hub is geared towards strengthening our support to principals, teachers and practitioners and will offer a purpose-designed facility for training, incorporating a strong emphasis on the practical integration of educational resources and follow up support services.

Effective board leadership and governance, competent and passionate staff, along with committed funders and highly collaborative partners - all contribute towards sustaining and deepening the quality, reach and impact of ITEC's efforts, towards driving societal transformation through child-centred development. Our focus on building the capacity of adult 'change agents for children' to effect this transformation, is aligned to unfolding national and provincial policy & planning processes. This places the organisation in a positive space to continue growing our contribution and impact in 2015.



ADVOCACY FOR A CHILD-FRIENDLY SOUTH AFRICA

Embedded in ITEC's strategy for creating an environment where all children have access to opportunities for optimal development is advocating for and creating an awareness about what children need to develop optimally and the role of various stakeholders in providing this.

Improving the developmental outcomes of children requires multiple inputs from a vast range of role players and ITEC strives to create and participate in various platforms where we are able to raise awareness, encourage collaboration and tangibly impact on the lived reality of children.

The Eastern Cape ECD Forum, which ITEC hosts, has evolved into an increasingly meaningful space for stakeholder engagement and has seen the emergence of various collaborative programmes of action.

Advocacy processes aligned to this strive to strategically target decision makers while simultaneously encouraging greater engagement at community level.

ITEC's active participation in a number of strategic networks has added value to systemically influencing the broader environment towards a child-friendly agenda.

Our advocacy approach is echoed within ITEC's programme implementation where an advocacy and awareness raising thread is integrated into our implementation methodology wherever possible.

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."





EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

ITEC’s ECD programme is geared towards building the capacity of adults who have a profound impact in shaping the lives of young children. In the reporting period parents, home visitors, principals, ECD practitioners and foundation phase teachers accessed both informal and accredited training offered by ITEC.

In 2013/14 we were proud to reach 4,390 children from community based ECD Centres, who were supported through 354 practitioners attending ITEC training programmes. Our aim in working with ECD Centres is to support practitioners in providing a high quality ECD environment that best supports the social, physical and cognitive development of young children.

2013/14 ITEC ECD TRAINING PROGRAMMES	
Accredited Training	NQF Level 1 and 2 ECD Unit Standards Level 4 – National Certificate in ECD
Skills Training	CBO Home Visiting Support Programme Early Identification of Developmental Delays
Workshops	Parenting Programme Advocacy for officials, practitioners & parents Grade R Literacy and Numeracy Teaching Skills Grade R Wordworks Early Learning Programme Effective use of Educational Resources

THE PROFOUND IMPORTANCE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

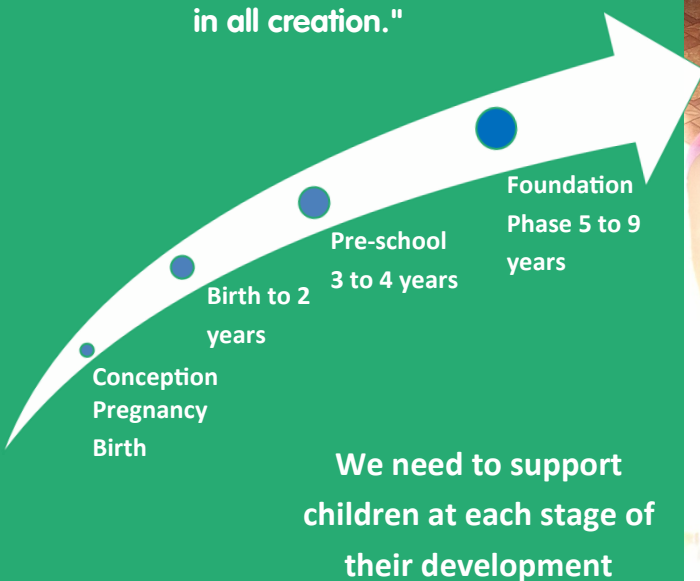
“In the first few years of life, children’s brains develop at an unprecedented rate. This crucial period lays the foundation for the rest of their lives and can set a path towards creating more sustainable societies.”



Despite significant enrolment rates in community ECD Centres, more than half the children in the Eastern Cape do not access any ECD services before commencing formal schooling. To contribute towards up-scaling ECD, ITEC has developed a CBO home visiting support model. To refine this model we partnered with four rural CBOs to offer home visiting services to vulnerable families with young children.

Working with 33 home visitors we reached 552 children in the 2013/14 period. In the same geographical area, we reached a further 250 vulnerable children by building the capacity of 25 ECD practitioners and home visitors to identify developmental delays early, raise awareness in families, and mitigate the effects of disability.

**"The potential possibilities
of any child are the most
intriguing and stimulating
in all creation."**





LIBRARY AND LITERACY

The ITEC library is a vibrant, welcoming, child-friendly space that invites children to explore the joy of reading.

In 2013/14, an average of 75 children from nearby schools visited our library every school day to read, write, do their homework, research, listen to stories, or simply relax around books in a safe environment.

More than half these children were in the Foundation Phase, when their experience of books and reading profoundly affects their future attitudes to learning. Our Read-with-Me Programme, which invites children to read aloud to Volunteers, encourages children to practice reading exciting and interesting texts of their choice.

We take the lessons we learn from our library into the local community as well. Our Adopt-a-Library Programme helps

schools to set up and maintain classroom libraries and, where there is space and staffing, central libraries. During the year, we provided additional book stock to 12 local Adopt-a-Library schools, and block loans to 21 teachers and ECD Practitioners.

In line with the ITEC strategy, and based on the growing worldwide understanding that language and literacy skills are built while children are very young, we are increasingly working with practitioners to set up Reading Areas in their Early Childhood Development Centres, and to advocate for increased family involvement in reading.

"I have always
imagined that paradise
will be a kind of library"





INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

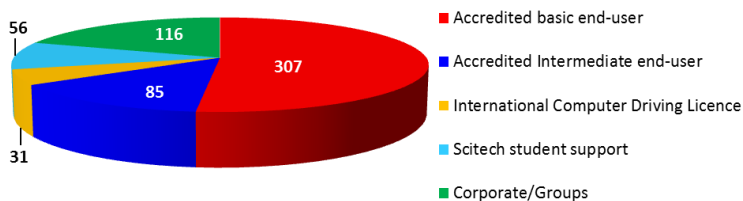
The ITEC Information Communication Technology Department (ICT) was very excited to open our newly-established Internet Café, partly funded by Legal Wise in association with the Eastern Cape NGO Coalition. Members of the public can prepare CVs, do research for school projects, and ITEC clients have a practice facility.

Besides continuing to offer accredited training to individuals, we have focused on increasing our corporate client base in the past year. We have offered specialised and general training programmes to the Eastern Cape

Provincial Department of Education (the development and use of a database to capture the effect of resource provision in schools); Departments of Social Development, Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries; Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality; OXFAM Italia; Feltex and NUMSA in the accredited end user training programmes.

The ICT Department offers affordable accredited and specialised training at convenient times. All proceeds from our computer courses are ploughed back into ITEC's purpose driven programmes.

ICT CLIENTS 2013/14



COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES

ITEC oversaw the implementation of the Community Work Programme in Buffalo City Metro and Nkonkobe Local Municipalities, engaging 2500 community members in socially useful work including support to schools, ECD Centres and vulnerable families.

ITEC also provided training and on-site support to 24 Community Based Organisations in Buffalo City Metro and Ngqushwa Local Municipality with a view to strengthening their governance and management capabilities as recipients of Social Development NPO grant funding.



MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

"Scitech has affected my life so much. It has shown me a way to interact with people. I now know that I have to work hard and have a vision about my life in order to succeed." - Student

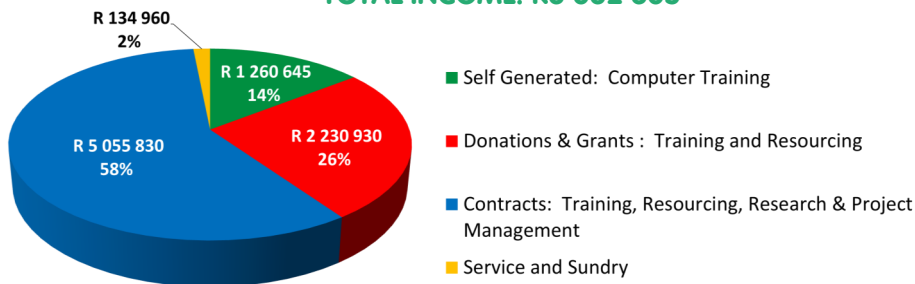
"This is the first seminar I have attended, and already it has made so much sense that I cannot afford to miss any of these seminars." - Teacher

Every year Scitech, ITEC's high school Mathematics and Science project, provides 120 promising high school learners from under-resourced communities with opportunities to achieve better results in Maths and Science.

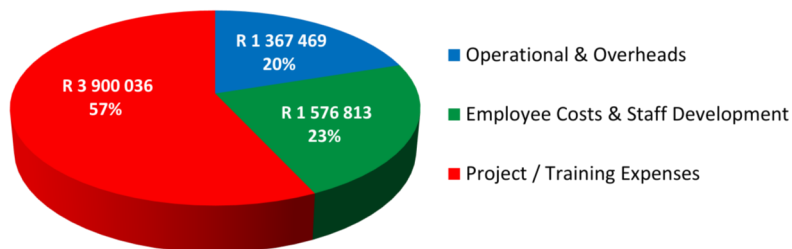
A key aspect of Scitech is a focus on supporting teachers through regular Maths and Science teacher seminars, conducted by subject experts.

ITEC FINANCIAL REPORT 2013/14

TOTAL INCOME: R8 682 365

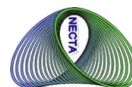


TOTAL EXPENSES: R6 844 318



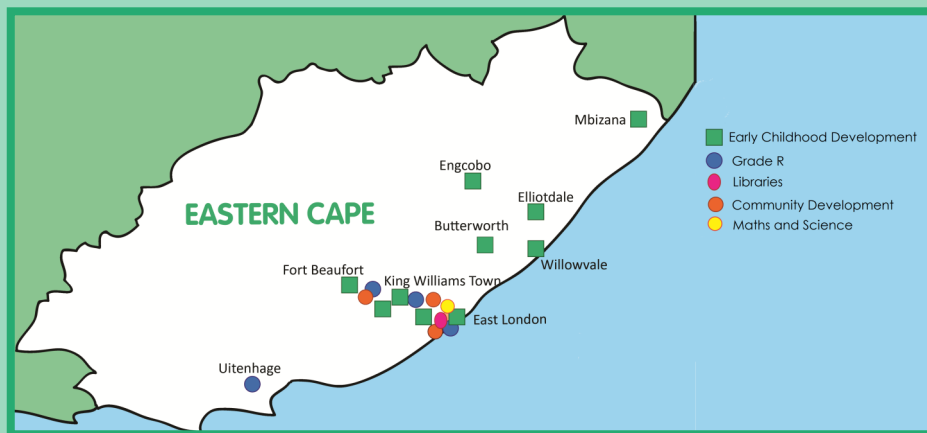


FRIENDS AND FUNDERS



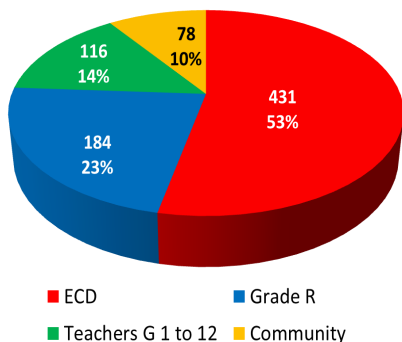


WHERE WE WORK



OUR REACH IN 2013/14

Adult Change Agents



Through our **809** adult Change Agents, we reached **11 291 children**.

In addition, **584** adults and **405** children **benefitted directly** from our programmes and services, while **2 500** adults participated in the Community Work Programme.

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Section 21 Company Registration 2010/120389/08

Non Profit Organisation Registration:003—738 | ITEC has Section 18A Status | Donations are tax deductible

Accreditation: ETDP SETA 0189 | MICT SETA ACC/2011/02/631