



Telkom

2026

**TELKOM
FOUNDATION**
Annual Report

We are proud to present our Annual Report for financial year 2026. This report provides our stakeholders with an overview of Telkom Foundation's strategy and performance in changing the lives of South Africans.

About Telkom Foundation

Who we are

Telkom Foundation (the Foundation) is responsible for the corporate social investment (CSI) of Telkom SA SOC Ltd (Telkom or the Group). The Foundation is an autonomous legal entity with an independent Board of Trustees. It is solely funded by Telkom Group and run by a devoted team under the leadership of the Head of Foundation.

Our mandate

The Foundation derives its mandate from its Trust Deed. Its primary objective is to contribute to the transformation of disadvantaged communities through sustainable development programmes. It achieves this by investing in youth education and skills development, and by collaborating with the government, the private sector, and civil society.

Our purpose

The Foundation is Telkom Group's primary vehicle that delivers on its socio-economic development mandate.

Our vision

To enable targeted youth to access future economic opportunities by developing and strengthening their foundation and exposing them to critical future skills while building resilience and grit.

Our mission

To integrate ICT in schools, improve STEM education through technology-enhanced learner and teacher support, primarily through digital literacy, digital skills development, and psycho-social support, thereby improving access to economic opportunities.

Read more about the Foundation at <https://group.telkom.co.za/telkomfoundation/who-we-are.html>

Telkom Foundation aims to develop youth and empower them through innovation and digital transformation in education.



Judy Vilakazi
Head of Foundation



Mpho McNamee
Group Chief Corporate
Affairs Officer



Sam Bhembe
Chairperson

About this report

This report covers the activities of the Telkom Foundation for the year from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 (FY2026). It demonstrates the Foundation's commitment to transparent, responsible, and sustainable practices, offering readers a balanced view of our performance. Matters deemed material to the Foundation and its stakeholders are addressed throughout the report.

The report highlights the Foundation's community development, digital inclusion and education programmes. It summarises the Foundation's contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The report complements Telkom's integrated and sustainability reports, available at <https://group.telkom.co.za/ir/>.

Financial information

The report provides information on the Foundation's financial performance and financial position for the reporting period. The audited financial statements presented on pages 52 to 69 have been prepared in accordance with:

- IFRS® Accounting Standards
- SAICA financial reporting guides
- FRSC reporting pronouncements
- The Trust Property Control Act No.57 of 1988

Compiling the report

The Foundation team, under the leadership of the Head of Foundation, is responsible for compiling the report with assistance from external reporting specialists. Content development draws on internal management information, stakeholder insights, and strategic planning processes and information.

Approval

The Telkom Foundation Board acknowledges its responsibility for the integrity of the Foundation's Annual Report. The Telkom Foundation Board confirms that it has collectively reviewed the contents of the report and is confident that it presents a balanced account of the Foundation's activities and performance. The Foundation Board approves and recommends the Annual Report to the Telkom Group Chief of Corporate Affairs, who serves as the brand and sustainability custodian for the Group.

The Foundation Board approved the Annual Report and Annual Financial Statements on 23 June 2026.

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The Foundation implements sustainable solutions to enhance education and digital skills for continued social impact in our communities.

Share your feedback

We welcome stakeholder feedback to help us improve our Annual Report. Please email comments and suggestions to telkom.foundation@telkom.co.za.

<https://group.telkom.co.za/telkomfoundation/who-we-are.html>

01 OVERVIEW

Performance snapshot

Total investment

FY2026

R72,8 million

FY2025: R69,7 million

FY2024: R71,4 million

FY2023: R64,0 million

R277,9 million

invested FY2023 – FY2026

Invested in education programmes

FY2026

R39,9 million

FY2025: R31,6 million

FY2024: R23,2 million

FY2023: R26,0 million

R120,7 million

invested FY2023 – FY2026

Invested in digital skills

FY2026

R20,9 million

FY2025: R21,1 million

FY2024: R49,6 million

FY2023: R20,0 million

R111,6 million

invested FY2023 – FY2026

Invested in social development

FY2026

R4,3 million

FY2025: R2,8 million

FY2024: R2,6 million

FY2023: R7,0 million

R16,7 million

invested FY2023 – FY2026

Awarded in bursaries

FY2026

R7,4 million

FY2025: R10,5 million

FY2024: R7,4 million

FY2023: R5,2 million

R30,5 million

awarded FY2023 – FY2026

Psycho-social support calls sponsored

FY2026

1 924 846

FY2025: 976 342

FY2024: 631 980

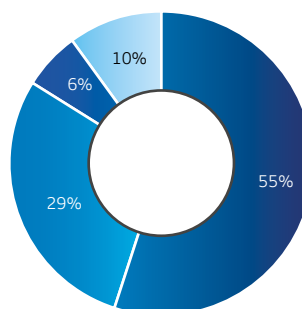
FY2023: 316 524

3 849 692

calls sponsored FY2023 – FY2026

Investment allocation FY2026

- Education programmes (R39,9 million)
- Digital skills (R20,9 million)
- Social development (R4,3 million)
- Bursaries (R7,4 million)



Insights from our Chairperson

FY2026 was characterised by effective programme delivery and a careful review of the Foundation's partnerships, governance, and strategic direction.

Having recently joined the Telkom Foundation Board, I have been greatly encouraged by the way the Foundation is contributing to addressing major capacity shortfalls in South Africa. These concern technology and education, which I regard as essential for inclusive economic development to happen.

The structural impediments that have challenged South African socio-economic development for decades are gradually being addressed. The historical misalignment between educational outcomes, university requirements, and industry needs is being addressed through initiatives such as those of the Telkom Foundation.

I believe in what the Foundation is doing and that its positioning reflects best practice.

The appeal for me is that the Foundation's contribution is both strategic and developmental. This is not about giving handouts.



Sam Bhembe

Telkom Foundation Chairperson

Appointed to the Board in June 2025.

Performance

The Foundation's five-year strategy, running until 2028, encompasses key performance indicators covering ICT access for learners and teachers, online education participation, and academic support, primarily in mathematics, science, and technology.

The Foundation performed well across all metrics, with particularly impressive growth in online participation rates by both teachers and learners. Highlights include an increase in the number of learners and teachers impacted through our online academic support programme, Lightbulb Learn, from 35 571 in FY2025 to 47 860. In addition, we have reached over 1 007 382 people through our psycho-social support programme across the country.

Academic support initiatives have shown measurable impact, with schools participating in our programmes delivering improved pass rates in critical STEM (Science, Technology, English and Mathematics) subjects (see page 28). Teachers have shown increased engagement with available technologies and educational resources, indicating the effectiveness of our capacity-building approach.

In delivering these results, the Foundation continued to contribute to Telkom's digital transformation and community development agenda.

The uptake in online education and access to digital skills training has been particularly impressive.

Insights from our Chairperson continued

Strategic realignment

Telkom recently adopted its new 2030 Sustainability Strategy. The strategy is built on four pillars: Prosperity, Planet, People, and Practice. The Foundation directly supports the People pillar's focus on facilitating South African communities' access to digital services, particularly through its connectivity and digital skills programmes.

Telkom's sustainability strategy contributes to four SDGs. Two of these are directly supported by the Foundation's programmes: SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth). Read more about how the Foundation supports Telkom on page 14.

Telkom's strategic vision is for comprehensive digital transformation partnerships with communities, customers, and the government. The Foundation will play a critical role in helping achieve this ambition by scaling impact within SDG 4 (Quality Education) and by demonstrating tangible community impact.

The Foundation is ready to support Telkom's vision to build the digital backbone to power South Africa's digital future.

As Telkom's business expands into new areas, the Foundation's responsibility and capacity to impact more communities will also grow. This requires the Foundation to evolve away from its incremental impact model to a scale model that reaches more people and better aligns with Telkom's expanding customer base and geographic reach. At the same time, revised key performance indicators will stretch the Foundation beyond current performance levels.

Governance and risk

The Foundation's governance structures provide robust oversight, while regular reporting to the Group Board ensures accountability and strategic alignment. Strategy review processes were enhanced with external expert input, positioning us for potential partnerships with other organisations.

The Foundation operates under a comprehensive enterprise risk management system overseen by our Financial, Audit and Risk Management Committee (FARMC). Primary risks identified are funding concentration, asset security in schools, and executive capacity constraints.

The Foundation is virtually 100% dependent on Telkom Group allocations from net operating profits. Mitigation strategies being pursued include developing strategic partnerships with other organisations to ensure programme delivery, demonstrating enhanced value to Telkom business units, and expanding the payroll giving programme (see page 44) to provide funding stability.

Partnership management

Significant improvements have been implemented in partnership with management, making it more strategic and performance-driven. We undertook a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation of all our programmes and an extensive review of existing contracts, to establish robust performance metrics and intellectual property protections. This demonstrates our commitment to performance excellence.

Improved contracts are yielding tangible benefits through enhanced reporting mechanisms and clearer performance expectations.

By bringing more rigour to governance and partner management, the Foundation is making strides in improving its impact, efficiency, and operational effectiveness.

Stakeholder engagement and value creation

The Foundation maintained active engagement across multiple stakeholder groups. Internally, we worked closely with Telkom business units to demonstrate value propositions and identify synergies. Our collaborations have been particularly successful, with community initiatives facilitating market entry for Telkom's mobile products in previously underserved areas.

External stakeholder relationships with the Department of Basic Education have been strengthened through regular collaboration, including hosting the Gauteng Matric Results Announcements at Telkom headquarters and maintaining working relationships with education officials. School-level engagement remains positive, with teachers particularly appreciating opportunities to develop digital skills.

The appointment of two new Foundation Trustees during the year introduced diverse experience, further strengthening our governance and oversight capabilities.

Insights from our Chairperson continued

Future outlook and strategic priorities

Looking ahead, our strategy focuses on a few key areas. Financial sustainability remains paramount, with active pursuit of partnerships and alternative funding streams to diversify our sources of funding.

We will continue to explore ways to improve our understanding of local contexts and cultural dynamics to optimise intervention effectiveness and build stronger community relationships.

Advanced digital technologies promise to play a vital role in overcoming South Africa's structural educational deficiencies.

In only a few years, artificial intelligence (AI) has had a transformative impact on the world, including in education. AI integration represents a transformative opportunity that the Foundation cannot afford to miss. We are actively learning from AI implementations in the private sector to develop suitable models for underprivileged schools, recognising this as a potential game-changer for educational outcomes.

Other strategic development areas include potential expansion into more holistic child wellness. This includes health interventions for learners with hearing and visual impairments, challenges that significantly affect educational outcomes. These interventions have significant scaling potential, and early indications suggest they could have provincial or national impact if properly resourced and implemented.

Our role in South Africa's digital transformation journey has never been more critical or more promising.

Appreciation

I extend sincere gratitude to Telkom Group for its unwavering support, which underpins all our achievements. I express my appreciation to the Foundation's staff and management, whose commitment to programme delivery and community impact continues to change lives. I am grateful to our implementing partners, without whom the Foundation could do little. Lastly, a word of thanks to my fellow Trustees for your valuable contributions to the Foundation.

Sam Bhembe
Chairperson

The Foundation is well-positioned for continued growth and impact, with strong governance, clear strategic direction, and committed stakeholders.



Perspectives on the Foundation

The work of the Foundation is central to Telkom's sustainability vision, helping to develop the skills and digital transformation opportunities South Africa needs to drive employment and inclusive growth.

In conversation with Mpho McNamee, Group Chief Corporate Affairs Officer: Telkom Group



What role does the Foundation play within Telkom's broader purpose and strategy?

The Foundation's work directly supports Telkom's strategy of connecting people not just to devices, data, and technical resources, but to opportunities. Without appropriate digital skills development, connectivity alone cannot enable meaningful participation in the digital economy. This creates the strategic imperative for the Foundation's educational initiatives. These extend beyond upskilling learners through CSI initiatives to providing a pipeline of skilled talent that is essential to the sustainability of Telkom's business.

The Foundation's work and Telkom's corporate purpose of seamlessly connecting customers to a better life support the country's digital transformation strategy. The Foundation's work through educational initiatives, digital inclusion across South Africa, and connecting young people to opportunities for better lives creates shared value for Telkom and the communities in which we operate. This allows the Foundation to showcase Telkom as an active community participant committed to having a positive impact.



Mpho McNamee

*Group Chief Corporate Affairs Officer: Telkom Group
Telkom Foundation Trustee*

Telkom recently introduced a new sustainability strategy, which recognises the Foundation as the social impact arm of its broader sustainability approach.



Why is collaboration between the public sector, private sector, and civil society so important in education and youth development?

Partnerships are a cornerstone of the Foundation's strategy. This is driven by the recognition that no single organisation can address South Africa's complex social challenges alone. The Foundation has historically partnered with numerous non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to deliver its mandate to communities. Now it is increasingly focusing on partnerships that extend and scale impact.

Within Telkom, partnerships with different business units enable the Foundation to provide comprehensive community support underpinned by the full scope of the Group's infrastructure, network, and data capabilities.

Telkom strongly supports a partnership approach because collaboration with like-minded institutions and organisations can amplify impact far beyond what the Foundation can achieve on its own.

Perspectives on the Foundation continued

Q How does Telkom ensure that the Foundation is well governed and has adequate oversight?

The Foundation has robust governance structures that ensure accountability and strategic alignment. Telkom is represented by four internal members whom it appoints to the Board of Trustees. An external independent Trustee chairs the Board.

The Foundation Board reports to Telkom's Social and Ethics Committee. The committee Chairperson then reports to the Telkom Board. Governance oversight includes detailed reporting on metrics and beneficiary outcomes to demonstrate measurable impact. Any strategic shifts made by the Foundation are aligned with the Telkom Group Exco and the Group CEO before the Board considers them.

The trustee nomination and appointment process involves careful consideration of required skills and expertise. Recent discussions have focused on ensuring appropriate bench strength for the Foundation's evolving focus on AI skills, coding, robotics, and digital transformation.

External trustee appointments follow an independent search process involving the Group CEO, with final approval by trustee voting. Internal trustees are selected to represent various business areas and levels within Telkom, balancing technical skills with knowledge of the Group. This facilitates greater internal collaboration and visibility, thereby enhancing the Foundation's work.

While the Foundation maintains independence as a trust, it receives support and oversight from the Group.

Q How do Telkom and the Foundation collaborate for the benefit of communities?

Telkom and the Telkom Foundation collaborate by combining their expertise, technology, infrastructure and community development resources to deliver sustainable initiatives. The Foundation coordinates these programmes and works closely with key stakeholders, including government departments, schools and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), to identify community needs and support programme implementation. NGOs play an important role in delivering programmes on the ground, engaging with communities and providing specialised support.

The Foundation provides services such as teacher development and psycho-social support, while Telkom business units, including BCX and Openserve, contribute the necessary technology, connectivity and infrastructure.

This coordinated approach ensures that initiatives are supported beyond their initial implementation and continue to benefit communities over the long term. For example, the computer laboratory established at Morutwa Secondary School in rural Limpopo has become a digital-access resource for the wider community. This demonstrates how collaboration between the Foundation, Telkom's business units and implementation partners can extend the benefits of an educational initiative beyond the school itself.

Our interventions often extend impact beyond immediate beneficiaries.

Q How well is the Foundation living up to Telkom's expectations?

The Foundation delivered strongly against Telkom's expectations, extending its reach and connecting more young people to skills, resources and opportunities. Its growing impact reflects strong alignment with Telkom's purpose and demonstrates the value of leveraging Group capabilities to advance digital inclusion and sustainable community development.

Many former beneficiaries now work within Telkom, demonstrating the direct pathway from educational support to career opportunities.

Perspectives on the Foundation continued



How important is Telkom employees' involvement in the Foundation's programmes?

Employee involvement serves multiple strategic purposes for the Foundation and Telkom. For the Group, employee participation enables active expression of our corporate values while providing meaningful opportunities for staff to contribute. This purpose-driven engagement has become increasingly important for attracting and retaining talent. This is particularly true among younger employees who are more likely to choose companies to work for based on their values and community impact.

For the Foundation, employee involvement provides opportunities to showcase its role as a core element in Telkom's strategy while enabling broader participation in corporate citizenship activities. Growing this engagement creates internal ambassadors who promote the Foundation's positive work both within Telkom and in external networks, boosting internal morale and our reputation externally.

Employee participation helps individuals understand their role in Telkom's broader organisational mission.



How does Telkom view the Foundation's role in the future?

The Foundation represents Telkom's commitment to tangible community impact. We believe it will continue to play a central role in South Africa's digital transformation, not merely through skills development but as a catalyst for national economic participation and growth. It will continue to support government priorities, developmental initiatives, and global educational trends.

The Foundation's strategic importance to Telkom extends beyond CSI into business sustainability through talent pipeline development and brand positioning. Through its continued partnerships, scaling strategies, and alignment with national transformation goals, the Foundation will always be an essential part of Telkom's comprehensive approach to connecting citizens, enabling opportunities, and driving inclusive economic growth.

Examples of young people progressing from Foundation programmes to successful business ownership or employment demonstrate that making a difference in individual lives can lead to broader transformation.



02 Learn more ABOUT US



Telkom Foundation is dedicated to improving South Africa's socio-economic landscape by empowering the youth through education.

We invest in education initiatives that impact learners, educators, and unemployed youth, leveraging ICT and imparting ICT skills to contribute to broader social development and economic prosperity in South Africa.

High School Support Programme

We support high school learners in less-resourced public schools in disadvantaged areas and position them for future meaningful participation in the economy.

We focus on learner performance in STEM subjects and the development and support of educators and school leadership to improve the quality of teaching and learning. Our programmes provide supplementary STEM tuition and basic digital skills. This is supported by a holistic psycho-social support programme aimed at ensuring wellness while building learner resilience.

We believe in uplifting communities through education.

Out-of-School Support Programme

We provide bursaries to the best performers from within our high school programmes. We offer workplace exposure and guidance to navigate job opportunities. We support unemployed youth through 12-month learnerships that equip them with future-fit digital skills and employment opportunities.

Beyond the classroom

South African communities face a wide range of psycho-social challenges, many of which stem from historical inequality, poverty, trauma, community conflict, education system pressures, and limited access to mental health services. These challenges affect learners, youth, families, teachers, and communities at large.

The Foundation supports national, zero-rated telephone counselling lines for all community members in partnership with Childline South Africa and LifeLine South Africa. We also work with various other partners on counselling and awareness programmes to provide in-school support.

Mentorship, psycho-social and peer support help to develop life skills, resilience and the will to win, irrespective of social circumstances. Our goal is to produce a generation of strong, ambitious leaders who will, in time, contribute to economic prosperity in our country and beyond.

Our psycho-social initiatives seek to address the emotional and mental barriers to educational and workplace success.

STEM focus

STEM subjects refer to the academic disciplines of:

Science **T**echnology **E**ngineering **M**athematics

STEM subjects are grouped together because they develop analytical thinking, problem-solving abilities, innovation, and the technical skills required for a modern, digital, knowledge-driven economy.

The growth in technological advancement and innovation drives the demand for STEM-related skills. STEM subjects are considered a key tool for unlocking growth in key industries and alleviating unemployment in South Africa and globally.

Through our programmes and initiatives, Telkom Foundation equips youth with the necessary skills and resources to help them access future economic opportunities.

How we make a difference

We want to break the cycle of disadvantage in underprivileged communities by supporting youth through initiatives that improve academic achievement and create opportunities for future economic engagement. The main goals of our interventions are to develop potential and get young people ready to contribute actively and competently to a prosperous society.

Academic support

Our academic programmes provide learners with targeted assistance, additional resources, and personalised guidance. This bridges gaps in understanding and boosts their confidence in challenging subjects such as Maths and Science. The programme is implemented face-to-face and online through various Telkom Foundation partners.

4 861
Face-to-face
learners supported in FY2026

41 624
Online
learners reached in FY2026

ICT integration

Achieving scale in Foundation programmes is premised on leveraging ICT, and the ICT Deployment programme provides access to connectivity and ICT resources. The programme supports schools, out-of-school youth, non-profit organisations, and community centres that provide wider access to communities. The High School Support Programme rolls out ICT resources to less-resourced public schools, providing opportunities to make teaching and learning more fun, efficient, and engaging.

Over 16 446
learners impacted in FY2026

Psycho-social support

The Foundation supports the LifeLine South Africa and Childline South Africa national toll-free telephone and chat lines. The Foundation also provides psycho-social support to learners within its programmes in schools and community centres. Interventions include individual and group-level support for learners facing challenges at home or at school.

846
Face-to-face
beneficiaries assisted in FY2026

1 115 538
Online
beneficiaries assisted in FY2026

Digital skills

We partner with specialist organisations to deliver digital literacy training to high school learners. The skills training prepares them for today's workplace, which is increasingly digitally enabled and data-driven. We support out-of-school youth with accredited ICT training. This equips participants with the skills and tools to unlock economic opportunities in ICT.

Bursaries support

The Foundation awards bursaries to top-achieving learners from the High School Support Programme to attend university. The bursaries are awarded on merit to top performers and are subject to funding availability. The bursaries cover tuition, accommodation, stipends, electronic devices, books and registration fees. We provide recipients with additional support in the areas of wellness, mentorship opportunities, and job shadowing exposure.

Teacher development

We offer teacher development and training to teachers at Telkom-supported and surrounding schools. Our programmes equip teachers with the necessary skills to integrate ICT in and beyond the classroom. Schools are assessed on their digital literacy level and can choose from a catalogue of courses. This ensures their development journey is customised and relevant to each teacher cohort.

Employee volunteering

- Telkom enables its employees to donate their time and resources to support Telkom Foundation's initiatives by providing three days of annual employee volunteering leave.
- The Foundation has a payroll giving programme in which Telkom employees give to non-profit initiatives of their choice. The Foundation matches contributions on a rand-for-rand basis.
- We facilitate the Adopt-a-Project initiative, in which senior executives from Telkom select causes close to their hearts and receive grant funding to support them.

Read more about our goals and aspirations on the first page of the report.

Our stakeholders

We work with internal and external stakeholders to facilitate academic excellence and encourage digital and ICT empowerment in underprivileged schools and communities.

Internal stakeholders

Telkom

We assist Telkom in supporting broader socio-economic development in line with its sustainability objectives. This includes academic support and training initiatives.

Telkom employees

Employees contribute from their salaries through initiatives such as payroll giving. They also participate in our organised volunteering events.

External stakeholders

Partners

Our partners facilitate meaningful learner and community development programmes that improve the lives of disadvantaged communities. We partner with the government, private sector and non-profit organisations (NPOs).

Educators

Building co-operative relationships with teachers is crucial to the Foundation programmes' success, as they play a key role in reaching and enriching learners.

Parents

The Foundation is supported by parents, who consent to their children participating in our programmes.

Regulators

We comply with relevant legislation, including the Non-profit Organisation Act 71 of 1997, the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) Act, and other legislation governing our programmes.

School management teams

We maintain positive relations with the school management teams where we operate. A strong relationship with school leaders enables us to execute our programmes and support teachers and learners.

Learners

Learners have the chance to enhance their education and employability through the Foundation's programmes. They are exposed to ICT as an educational tool and a possible career path.

Communities

We empower local communities through our responsible social investment activities that encourage youth participation in the economy.

Government

The Foundation works closely with the Department of Basic Education, National Treasury, Department of Communications and Digital Technologies, the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA), provincial Departments of Education and district offices.



How the Foundation supports Telkom

Telkom's purpose is to seamlessly connect customers to a better life. The Foundation supports this by advancing community empowerment through education and digital inclusion interventions.

As Telkom's CSI vehicle, the Foundation supports the Group in several areas:

- Focused, professional impact delivery
- Employee engagement
- Future skills pipeline
- Creating social and relationship value and positively impacting lives
- Supporting the Group's strategic priorities
- Ensuring legal and regulatory compliance

Focused, professional impact delivery

As a dedicated structure, the Foundation ensures CSI is undertaken in a strategic and coordinated manner by providing:

- Efficient, well-governed deployment of funds
- Reduced reputational and execution risk
- Measurable social impact
- A clear line of sight between investment and outcomes

Employee engagement

Engaged employees are more motivated and productive. Volunteer initiatives build pride and purpose, increase employees' sense of belonging, and connect day to day work to a broader social mission. The Foundation's employee volunteering programmes create shared value by making a positive impact in society and strengthening Telkom's organisational culture and employee value proposition.

Read more about our employee volunteering programme on page 44.

Future skills pipeline

By investing in STEM education, digital skills, and teacher development, the Foundation is helping build a pipeline of young people with the future skills needed to help fill talent gaps and grow the economy.

Through social investment aligned to Telkom's purpose and sustainability strategy, the Foundation delivers measurable social impact while reinforcing the Group's long-term value creation.

Creating social and relationship value and positively impacting lives

The Foundation adds value to the broader Group by creating social value in a number of ways.

B-BBEE Scorecard	Brand and reputation	Social impact															
The Foundation contributes to Telkom's B-BBEE rating and drives the achievement of the socio-economic development (SED) scorecard target. The Foundation's contribution to SED <table><tr><th></th><th>FY2026</th><th>FY2025</th><th>FY2024</th><th>FY2023</th></tr><tr><td>Telkom</td><td>12</td><td>12</td><td>12</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>BCX</td><td>12</td><td>12</td><td>12</td><td>12</td></tr></table> The maximum score for SED is 12 points.		FY2026	FY2025	FY2024	FY2023	Telkom	12	12	12	12	BCX	12	12	12	12	As the Foundation is representative of and funded by the Group, all its work supports the Group's brand and reputation as a responsible corporate citizen. Beneficiaries and impacted communities associate the meaningful work done by the Foundation with Telkom as a whole.	As a CSI vehicle for the Group, the Foundation delivers the following social value: • Lives impacted – learners, teachers, administrators • Youth with good-quality passes • Learners supported in digital skills • Schools with ICT enablement • Youth with increased chances of economic opportunities
	FY2026	FY2025	FY2024	FY2023													
Telkom	12	12	12	12													
BCX	12	12	12	12													

Supporting the Group's strategic priorities

Telkom executes its corporate strategy, which guides the Group in creating sustainable value for stakeholders and positioning the business for long-term growth in South Africa's evolving digital economy.

Telkom's new 2030 Sustainability Strategy, approved in FY2026, is fully integrated into the PIVOT Strategy. Telkom's new 2030 Sustainability strategy, approved in FY2026, is designed to align the Group with long-term sustainability goals.

Telkom's sustainability vision for 2030 is to harness digital transformation to accelerate sustainable growth and create a positive impact on society and the environment.

The sustainability strategy is designed to create long-term value for the Group and its stakeholders. It is built on four pillars:

Prosperity	Planet	People	Practice
Creating economic value for stakeholders through expanded and new forms of connectivity	Committing to environmentally conscious practices and adopting principles of circularity	Connecting and empowering our stakeholders to thrive in a digital world	Embracing sustainable and innovative ways of working that foster customer trust

Read more about Telkom's 2030 Sustainability Strategy and PIVOT Strategy in the integrated report and sustainability report, available at <https://group.telkom.co.za/ir/>.

The Foundation's mandate directly addresses the Prosperity and People pillars while affirming Planet and Practice in the way it conducts its operations.

Key commitments and targets of the 2030 Sustainability Strategy

- **Environmental stewardship (Planet):** Telkom is committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2035 and reaching net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040.
- **Social impact (People and Prosperity):** The strategy focuses on bridging the digital divide and fostering socio-economic inclusion through flagship initiatives like the Telkom Foundation and the FutureMakers enterprise and supplier development programme.
- **Responsible governance (Practice):** Telkom prioritises ethical leadership and transparency, maintaining a zero-tolerance stance toward unethical behaviour and ensuring robust data privacy and cybersecurity frameworks are in place.

The Foundation supports Telkom's priorities of bridging the digital divide and fostering socio-economic inclusion.

Contribution to the SDGs

Telkom's sustainability strategy is closely aligned with four of the UN SDGs. Two of these are directly supported by the Foundation:

Telkom focus SDGs	Supported by Telkom Foundation
SDG 4 Quality Education	■
SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	■
SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	
SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production	

How the Foundation supports Telkom's SDG focus areas

SDG	Support
SDG 4 Quality Education	
SDG 4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.	We contribute to improving proficiency in STEM subjects at the secondary school level and supporting teacher development in pedagogical methods and subject content.
SDG 4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.	By providing integrated ICT solutions for schools, teachers and learners, we bridge the digital divide and enhance the quality of teaching and learning outcomes.
SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	
SDG 8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.	We provide youth with educational support, training in STEM subjects and ICT skills, learnerships and internships, bursaries, career development and psycho-social support. These interventions equip beneficiaries to succeed in the classroom and the workplace.
SDG 8.6 By 2030, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.	

Read more about the Foundation's programmes in the Impact section on page 22.

Telkom's commitment to connecting and empowering stakeholders to thrive in a digital world is reflected in its target: To reach 231 100 beneficiaries through digital skills and connectivity programmes by 2028.

The team that powers our impact

Our dedicated Telkom Foundation team collaborates with our partners and other stakeholders to empower disadvantaged communities and positively impact lives.



Judy Vilakazi
Head of Foundation



Maanda Rashaka
*Senior Manager:
Corporate Social Investment**



Danny Mathebula
*Project Manager:
ICT Integration*



Tsakani Shipalana
*Manager: Corporate
Social Investment*



Marcia Selebano
Operations Specialist



Gallant Roberts
Operations Specialist



Zizipho Dorana
Project Coordinator: CSI



Millicent Dlamini
Project Coordinator: CSI



Pamela Gollimpi
*Operations Specialist:
B-BBEE*

The Foundation team demonstrated remarkable collaboration and dedication in delivering programmes effectively.

* Joined in June 2026.

03 Our strategic INTENT



We aim to produce resilient learners who are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to secure a bright future for themselves and contribute positively to South Africa's economy.



Why we focus on youth and education

Education accounts for 6,9% of GDP in South Africa, well above the average of 4,7% for OECD countries and partner economies¹.

The most recent Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) found **81% of South African Grade 4 learners could not read for meaning in any language**. This was up from 78% in 2016. South Africa ranked last out of 43 countries and experienced the largest decline among participating countries².

South African learners finished last out of 64 countries in the 2023 Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS). The study measured mathematics and science achievement in the fourth and eighth grades. **South African learners scored well below the global average in maths and science, and lagged several other African countries**³.

8,99% of South Africans aged 25 to 64 in 2024 had a **tertiary qualification** in 2024⁴.

41,55% of South African youth from 15 to 29 years were **not in employment, education or training** in 2024⁵.

Of the approximately 20,8 million young people aged 15 to 34 years, **5,8 million are employed**⁶.

39,5% of South Africans, including youth, **depend on some form of social grant**⁷.

Telkom Foundation prioritises youth and education because these elements sit at the intersection of national need, Telkom's core capabilities, and long-term societal impact.

¹ "Education GPS South Africa." OECD. Accessed 11 May 2026. <https://gpseducation.oecd.org/CountryProfile?primaryCountry=ZAF&treshold=10&topic=EO>.

² "Media Statement: Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) 2021 Results." 2023. South African Human Rights Commission. May 16, 2023. <https://www.sahrc.org.za/index.php/sahrc-media/news-2/item/3589-media-statement-progress-in-international-reading-literacy-study-pirls-2021-results>

³ Dube-Londt, Dorcas. 2025. "A stark reminder that South Africa's education system is at a crossroads." lol. April 26, 2025. Accessed May 11, 2026. <https://iol.co.za/capeargus/opinion/2024-12-18-a-stark-reminder-that-south-africas-education-system-is-at-a-crossroads/>.

⁴ "Population with tertiary education." OECD. Accessed 11 May 2026. <https://www.oecd.org/en/data/indicators/population-with-tertiary-education.html>.

⁵ "Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET)." OECD. Accessed May 11, 2026. <https://www.oecd.org/en/data/indicators/youth-not-in-employment-education-or-training-neet.html>.

⁶ Statistics South Africa. 2026. "Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) – Q4: 2025." Press-release. <https://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P0211/Media%20Release%20QLFS%20Q4%202025.pdf>

Statistics South Africa. 2025. "Mid-Year Population Estimates." https://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P0302/Presentation%20_Mid%20year%20estimates%202025.pdf.

⁷ Statistics South Africa. 2026. "General Household Survey (GHS), 2025." Press-release. <https://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P0318/MEDIA%20RELEASE%20-%20%20GHS%202025%20.pdf>.

Strategy implementation

In FY2026, we continued the implementation of our five-year strategy (2023 – 2028). The strategy focuses on two components that enable us to reach learners:

- An incremental model that seeks to impact more lives by increasing the support we provide to schools.
- A scale model that focuses on amplifying our impact through opportunities to scale. The opportunities we explore through the scale model help us to develop ICT-enabled programmes and enhance ICT capabilities in schools.



Incremental model

Academic support

We give learners academic support and offer teacher development and training to improve the quality of teaching and learning in schools. We help school management teams address structural challenges impacting learners.

Digital skills

We provide learners with future-fit digital skills and introduce them to skills necessary for the rapidly changing world of work, such as coding, robotics and technopreneurship.

Psycho-social support

We support learner resilience and psycho-social well-being by offering counselling, coaching and mentoring. We extend the psycho-social support services to teachers, parents and guardians who are part of the learners' support structure.

Economic opportunities

Our programmes create a pipeline of skilled youth that is ready to enter the ICT sector workplace. The programmes focus on technical and workforce-readiness skills and leadership development for unemployed youth.



Scale model

Education through ICT enablement

This model aims to scale academic support through leveraging ICT by providing ICT hardware, connectivity, and online content aligned to Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements (CAPS) to enable schools, teachers, and learners to improve the quality of education and academic performance.

Future-fit ICT skills

The Foundation partners with digital skills providers and employers to offer opportunities and learning paths for youth and learners to acquire skills towards careers in ICT.

Digitising psycho-social support

The Foundation partners with like-minded organisations to develop online and virtual platforms that deliver psycho-social support to learners and teachers.

Unlocking employment in ICT

We foster partnerships to unlock entrepreneurship and work opportunities in the ICT sector.

We focus on youth and education because it is where Telkom Foundation can make the greatest, most sustainable difference.

How we think about impact

In line with our strategy refresh in 2022, we developed a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation framework. We also developed a monitoring and evaluation theory of change, along with impact statements and annual targets, which guide how we execute our programmes to ensure impact.

If you have

- Learners that under-perform in identified subjects in Grades 8 – 12
- Grade 8 – 12 teachers with inadequate pedagogical knowledge in identified subjects
- Youth with inadequate skills to take up employment and entrepreneurship opportunities
- Learners, teachers, and SMTs with inadequate digital skills
- Learners experiencing psycho-social challenges
- Learners with inadequate knowledge of bridging the gap between high school and post-school studies and other opportunities

and you implement

Sub-programmes

SP1: Academic support to learners in Maths, Science and English in Grades 8 – 12

- Provide additional resources
- Conduct pre- and post-diagnostic assessments
- Train tutors in identified subjects
- Design learner-focused academic programmes
- Conduct face-to-face supplementary teaching support sessions for selected schools

SP1: Online Academic support to learners in Maths, Science and English in Grades 8 – 10

- Provide a platform for online academic content nationally
- Conduct virtual supplementary teaching sessions nationally
- Implement a learn-to-earn programme nationally

SP3: Professional development of teachers and SMTs on ICT integration, subject content and pedagogy

- Train teachers on ICT integration for admin and teaching
- Train teachers on subject content in identified subjects
- Train teachers on pedagogical practice in identified subjects
- Train SMTs on use of ICTs for school admin and management
- Support the use of Telkom Lightbulb educational platform

SP5: Psycho-social support

- Render psycho-social support services such as counselling and awareness programmes
- Partner with platforms and non-profit organisations to deliver psychological development through online channels

SP4: Future-fit skills

- Train learners on basic coding, gaming and robotics
- Train teachers on basic coding, gaming and robotics
- Train learners on future-critical skills
- Train teachers on future-critical skills
- Enable learners by providing them with learning paths towards careers in ICT.

SP6: Deployment of ICT platforms in schools

- Support deployment of connectivity by Telkom Group in allocated schools nationally
- Provide ICT hardware devices for learners and/or teachers in selected schools
- Provide access to online and offline digital content nationally
- Provide access to Telkom Lightbulb educational platform and virtual supplementary teaching sessions nationally

SP4: Career Management for learners

- Profile learners for career guidance
- Provide career guidance
- Support learners in the application process for post-school study opportunities

SP4: Post-school ICT skills for unemployed youth

- Re-skill unemployed youth through the provision of accredited ICT training programmes
- Provide learning paths to guide youth towards careers in ICT fields
- Create linkages with Future-fit skills programme
- Build a pipeline of youth that is ready to enter the ICT sector workplace

SP4: Post-school bursary funding support

- Provision of post-school study bursaries to selected students
- Provision of psycho-social support to bursary recipients

then you will achieve

Outcomes

Short-term outcomes

Improved subject knowledge of learners in identified subjects

Improved ICT use in management and administration by SMTs

Improved teacher subject content knowledge

Improved teacher subject pedagogy knowledge

Improved teacher ICT integration

Improved awareness/behaviour change; Nationwide access to psycho-social support

Improved learner and teacher digital skills and application

Improved access to and use of ICT resources

Improved knowledge of post-school opportunities

Improved access to ICT skills among targeted youth

Medium-term outcomes

Improved learner performance in identified subjects

Improved management and administration in schools

Improved teaching practice in identified subjects

Improved ICT-integrated teaching practice

Improved learner wellness

Improved digital skills of teachers and learners

Improved access to post-school opportunities

Improved digital skills of targeted youth

and then you will have

Improved pass rates in identified subjects

Improved employability prospects

04 Our positive IMPACT



Reflections from the Head of Foundation

It was a year of continued momentum and hard work for the Foundation as we passed the halfway point in implementing our five-year strategy.

Education has a proven multiplier effect, improving lifelong earning potential, reducing intergenerational inequality, and strengthening economic participation, civic engagement, and social cohesion. By supporting youth education, particularly in ICT and digital skills, the Foundation remained focused on ensuring our beneficiaries are equipped with the skills they need to succeed in an increasingly digital economy.

Although South Africa's economy performed slightly better than in previous years, and inflation fell below 4%, life for most South Africans did not improve in 2025. Food prices rose faster than wages, while electricity, water, and housing costs stayed high. Jobs remained scarce, especially for the one-in-three young South Africans aged 15 to 34, with youth unemployment exceeding 40%¹.

South Africa's structural socio-economic challenges underscore the critical importance of the Foundation's work.



Judy Vilakazi

Telkom Foundation: Head of Foundation

Encouraging performance

The Foundation's available funds increased by almost 4% from R69,7 million to R72,8 million in FY2026. This meant we could do more, but it also brought operational pressures that were intensified by the resignation of one of our senior managers. Nevertheless, we made good progress across our programmes. We reached:

4 861
learners through academic
support programmes in
key subjects

1 218
teachers through training
and skills development
programmes

41 624
learners through online
education platforms

1 116 384
youth, teachers and
community members through
our psycho-social support
initiatives

420
unemployed youth
through accredited ICT
learnerships

16
schools with ICT enablement
and computer labs, with
8 590
devices donated

¹ National Energy Regulator Of South Africa, and Eskom Holdings SOC Limited. 2025. "Decision and reasons for decision." https://www.nersa.org.za/files/files/2025/06/EskomRetailTariffApplication_RFD_11March_2025.pdf.
Statistics South Africa. 2025. "Consumer Price Index, November 2025." <https://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P0141/P0141November2025.pdf>.
Statistics South Africa. 2026. "Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) – Q4: 2025." Press-release.
<https://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P0211/Media%20Release%20QLFS%20Q4%202025.pdf>

Reflections from the Head of Foundation continued

Partnerships and engagement

We continued to focus on growing our network of strategic partnerships spanning the government, international, and private sectors. Our exposure was greatly enhanced by Telkom's sponsorship of the G20/B20 Summit hosted in South Africa. We are starting to see a lot of interest from different parties seeking to partner with us. In October 2025, the Foundation partnered with the French Embassy in South Africa to host a coding and robotics hackathon (see page 39).

We strengthened our partnerships with government departments, notably with the Department of Basic Education and the Department of Digital Communication and Digital Technologies. In January, we hosted the Gauteng Department of Education matric results announcement and awards ceremony at our Telkom Park headquarters. This was an opportunity for us to demonstrate Telkom's support for education in a tangible way (see page 33).

Strategic evolution

The tension in our dual-approach strategy between reaching more beneficiaries and providing deeper support to fewer learners has been a recurring consideration in our strategic planning and programme evaluation for some time. Given the aspirations of Telkom's 2030 Sustainability Strategy (see page 15), the Group's vast technical resources and the immense scale of need in South Africa, the Board has resolved that the Foundation's efforts should increasingly focus on pursuing scale through digital channels. As part of the Foundation's own digital transformation journey, we will allocate more resources to continuous monitoring and evaluation of programme performance. Responsible AI implementation is another opportunity that we will need to incorporate into our programmes.

Holistic learner support

The Foundation takes a multi-dimensional approach to supporting young people through our psycho-social and career programmes. But we recognise a need to take a more comprehensive wellness approach. We know, for instance, that a significant number of learners struggle academically because they have an undiagnosed visual or hearing impairment. We are now looking to partner with like-minded organisations to provide these vital screenings and address the underlying problems holding some young people back. This broader approach to wellness will become a growing focus of our strategy in the years ahead.

Teamwork

A defining characteristic of the year has been the immense collaboration among Foundation staff in the face of capacity challenges. I must commend the team for stepping forward to share the work and continue to deliver.

Staff at the Foundation are deeply passionate about the work we are doing.

Thanks

One of the main goals of the Telkom Foundation's activities is bridging the digital divide. Without the ongoing assistance and commitment from Telkom Group, partners and other stakeholders, we could not succeed. We acknowledge and value the important contributions of Telkom employees and top management to our work. I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the Board of Trustees, the Foundation team, and all of you for your invaluable contributions and steadfast support throughout the year.

Judy Vilakazi

Telkom Foundation: Head of Foundation



ICT Integration Programme

To bridge the digital divide, the Foundation leads ICT integration initiatives to give schools access to stable, reliable connectivity and digital devices.

Implementation partners

ICT Integration

Teacher training



Goal

- To enable quality teaching and learning by providing comprehensive ICT solutions that promote access.

Targets

- Reach 14 562 learners and teachers
- Reach 1 800 youth

Our approach combines infrastructure, connectivity, and digital devices with teacher and education manager training. Training is provided in partnership with Intel, Microsoft and the Department of Basic Education. By integrating ICT meaningfully into the curriculum, this ensures technology improves teaching and learning outcomes.

ICT integration framework

ICT

We provide our benefiting partners with the following, in alignment with the framework



Hardware/software

We provide a 50-user ICT lab. Depending on available resources in a school, a workstation may be provided for teachers in the staff room.



Infrastructure

We use existing school infrastructure to minimise costs but provide basic renovations to the allocated space to ensure it is ready for ICT installation.



Connectivity

Connectivity is provided in partnership with Telkom business units, and a suitable solution is provided based on available infrastructure.



Content

We support the Lightbulb Education platform, which offers a learner management system for schools, interactive content and virtual teaching capabilities.

Other components



Support and maintenance



On-site support (champion)



Relevant, continuous training



Well-managed partnerships

The Foundation promotes innovation that prepares learners for the digital economy.

How the Foundation contributed

Infrastructure

16 labs renovated

School ICT lab renovations modernise learning spaces with new hardware (laptops, Wi-Fi, interactive boards), improved infrastructure (ergonomic furniture, air conditioning), and flexible layouts to foster digital literacy and hands-on STEM and career and technical education (CTE) skills.

Hardware/Software

- 8 590 devices donated to 16 labs:
 - 40 desktops/laptops
 - 2 servers
 - 40 LCD screens
 - 2 routers
 - 1 network switch
 - 1 smart (interactive) screen



Connectivity

- Telkom Foundation:** 16 labs
- ICASA licence social obligations:** Providing connectivity to public services institutions (PSIs), including public schools, government hospitals and clinics, and Traditional Authority offices. The following have been connected:

– Health	316
– Libraries	41
– Schools	1 610
– Traditional Authorities	53
– Total	2 020
- Openserve schools fibre programme:** Aimed at closing the broadband connectivity gap in schools across South Africa:

– Schools connected	1 118
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Content

- Lightbulb Learn provides interactive curriculum-aligned support for Grade 8 to 12 learners and has a national reach

– Users	41 624
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Website development for schools and public institutions

Long March to Freedom (LMTF) website development

In celebration of Heritage Month, the Foundation relaunched a completely redesigned LMTF website, replacing the old locally hosted version with a modern, cloud-hosted platform. The new website maintains the original look and feel with enhanced aesthetics and functionality, including Mailchimp integration and a virtual tour. The site launch was accompanied by a Google Ads campaign targeting learners and tourists, supported by ongoing maintenance and search engine optimisation (SEO).

<https://longmarchtofreedom.co.za/>



School website development

Development of 14 individual school websites aimed at enhancing the digital presence of each institution. Each website includes Google My Business integration and chatbot functionality for improved communication and local visibility. The final steps pending are domain registration and site launches, after which the schools will benefit from a modernised, interactive online platform.

- Khwezi Lomso Secondary School
- MH Baloyi Secondary School
- Ndzondelelo Secondary School
- NM Tsuene Secondary School
- Ruabohlale Secondary School
- Seageng Secondary School
- Winterveldt Secondary School
- St Lewis Betrands High School
- Kgola-Thuto Secondary School
- Methula Secondary School
- Qhubulwazi Secondary School
- Tiisetsang Secondary School
- Nyanga High School
- Refilwe Secondary School
- Morutwa Secondary School
- Daliwonga Secondary School

By reaching schools in underserved provinces, the initiative reduced barriers to digital learning.

Teacher development and training

This initiative, undertaken with implementation partner SchoolNet South Africa, focuses on equipping educators with essential digital skills to support 21st-century teaching and learning. This is achieved by offering targeted professional development programmes for leadership development to:

- Ensure senior management teams are aware of strategies to lead ICT integration effectively
- Promote a culture of innovation and collaboration.
- Address resistance to change while fostering a commitment to digital transformation

All training interventions require educators to compile a portfolio of evidence demonstrating practical application of the skills acquired. These portfolios are assessed for South African Council for Educators (SACE) certification.

A total of 1 218 educators and teaching assistants attended the leadership development and support training, and the teacher development workshops.

Teacher development programme

- **Digital administration:** Educators are introduced to computer applications that streamline administrative tasks, such as creating marksheets and exam papers.
- **ICT integration:** Teachers learn to incorporate digital tools into lesson planning, create multimedia content, and develop online assessments.
- **Coding literacy:** Educators explore foundational coding concepts using block-based coding applications and puzzles. They also learn how to apply these concepts within their subject areas.

We work to empower teachers, as they are the drivers of long-term change.

Teacher development in action

Foundation-supported school, Refilwe Secondary School, and two feeder primary schools were invited to participate in the programme to ensure maximum participation.

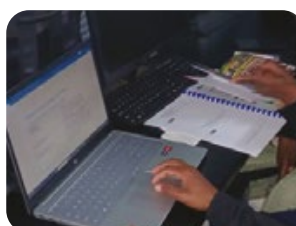
A total of 29 educators and teaching assistants attended the leadership development and support programme, and 27 educators, assistants, and non-teaching staff attended the teacher development workshops.

Indicator	Participants	Getting Started 1	Getting Started 2	Getting Started 3	Designing Multimedia Lessons	Unplugged Coding	AI Education 1	AI Education 2
Refilwe High School	8	5	8	5	8	3	3	3
Metsanangwana Primary School	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Mmakola Primary School	15	14	15	14	13	10	9	9
Total	27	23	27	23	25	17	16	16

"Ke rata go leboga go menagane, go ba Telkom, kere gotšwa go nna morutišigadi, thuto yeo lere fileng yona etloga ere fahlollotše ele ruri. Ke ithutile tše dintši ebile ke motlotlo. Le ka moso le tšoele Pele go sedimoša ba bangwe ka thuto yee e botse. Kea legoga."

(I would like to thank the Telkom Foundation. As a teacher, I enjoyed the teachings that you shared very much. I have learned a lot, and I am very proud of myself. Please continue to help others with such rewarding learning experiences)

Ms Ditiro Bathabile Makujwana,
teacher, Refilwe Secondary School



High School Support Programme

The programme provides learners with targeted assistance, learning materials, and personalised guidance that bridge gaps in understanding and boost their confidence, promoting academic excellence.

Implementation partners



Goal

- To improve outcomes in STEM education through leadership and teacher development, and the provision of learner support in STEM.



Targets

- Improve Maths pass rate to 60%
- Improve Science pass rate to 60%
- Support 3 670 learners

Academic support

The programme supports learners by providing them with the tools they need to achieve academic success, particularly in STEM subjects. The programme is implemented through face-to-face and online engagement through various Telkom Foundation partners.

By the end of FY2026, face-to-face support had reached **4 861** learners, and the online programme had reached **41 624** learners.

Alexandra Education Committee

The Alexandra Education Committee (AEC) works to expand access to quality education and psycho-social support for academically able learners from Alexandra, Johannesburg. The AEC provides bursaries for high school learners and supplementary teaching programmes for primary and high school learners.



Targets

- Improve Maths pass rate to 60%
- Improve Science pass rate to 60%
- Support 3 670 learners

242 learners received AEC support in the 2025 academic year.

Academic performance

Grade 12

In 2025, 48 AEC-supported learners wrote the matric examinations, achieving a 100% Bachelor's Degree pass rate.

Emotional well-being

Being a teenager is challenging, and this can be made worse by unrealistic expectations, excessive chores, lack of a designated study space, noise and the extreme stress residents of Alexandra live under.

AEC's social work team conducts home visits and provides counselling.

Matric class of 2025

The class of 2025 received a total of 105 distinctions. Of the 48 matriculants for 2025, one obtained nine distinctions, two obtained six distinctions, three obtained five distinctions and one obtained four distinctions each.

Using a conservative household multiplier estimate, this programme contributed directly and indirectly to the well-being of approximately 2 500 individuals in 2025.

Grade 11s embarked on a job shadowing programme in the fields of aviation, actuarial sciences, healthcare, law, microbiology and accounting. They also underwent psychometric testing and received feedback. This process helped them choose their best fit for fields of study and careers.



How the Foundation contributed

With the Foundation's support, AEC works with Reflective Learning and GradesMatch to improve learner outcomes. Learners in Grades 5 to 9 engage with the Reflective Learning programme on Saturdays, using tablets donated by Telkom. Matrics actively engage with the GradesMatch career-guidance programme. In 2025, 45 of the 48 Grade 12 learners used the platform.

Read more about GradesMatch on page 31.

"Growing up in the streets of Alexandra, where dreams are seen as a joke, and success is impossible, the AEC came to my rescue and rewrote my future."

"The Saturday school programme strengthened my understanding of key subjects, and built discipline and study habits. These habits carried me into my tertiary education and my professional work."

"I always looked forward to Saturday lessons mainly for the topics covered, relationships formed and career guidance we received."

"The AEC had so much impact on my personal growth. It increased my self-confidence, encouraged goal setting and motivated me to pursue ambitious career paths."

"AEC is not just an NPO but a support structure that is truly invested in the young minds."

"AEC exposed me to what truly is out there through the workshops we had and networking sessions with inspiring people. It made me aware of understanding possibilities, transformed my dreams into reality and inspired me to develop leadership and service-oriented skills."

"The AEC has changed my life for the better. The probabilities that AEC alumni will be successful are significantly high, as discipline, hard work and social awareness are the foundation of AEC."

Ikusasa Lethu

Ikusasa Lethu is an academic support programme that provides academic and social support to learners from Grade 8 to 12 in quintile 1 to 3 high schools in Alexandra and surrounding areas. The programme is delivered in partnership with St Mary's School in Waverley, Johannesburg.

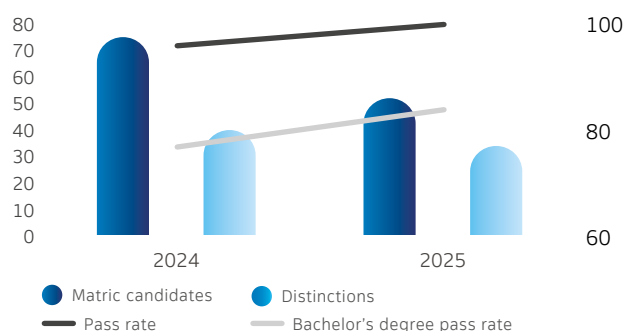
A key challenge faced by beneficiaries is access to quality education.

The programme focuses on improving learner outcomes in key subjects. It strengthens foundational skills in Maths, Science and English, and provides emotional and psycho-social support.

Academic performance

4 Ikusasa Lethu participants were awarded Telkom Foundation bursaries to pursue tertiary studies

Matric results



"The Ikusasa Lethu programme transforms learners' confidence, engagement, and participation beyond the classroom. Many alumni have gone on to complete degrees, with Ikusasa Lethu's support continuing to shape their journeys. Some return as mentors, sharing expertise with current learners."

Kutlwanong Promaths Programme

The Kutlwanong Promaths Programme is implemented across the three Telkom Foundation-funded centres in Bohlakong (Free State), Fernie (Mpumalanga), and Vukuzakhe (Mpumalanga). Promaths is a national STEM initiative designed to uplift academic performance in Mathematics and Physical Sciences. Programme participants are from schools in the poorest communities, requiring the highest level of support.

1 700 learners participated in the programme in FY2026.

The Foundation's investment enables Kutlwanong to deliver a comprehensive, year-round academic support model that includes Saturday and Sunday classes, intensive holiday tuition, targeted remedial interventions, diagnostic analysis, teacher development, and integration of emerging technologies such as learning management systems (LMS) and augmented/virtual reality (AR/VR).

The Telkom Foundation centres have become models for effective STEM interventions, contributing significantly to the national pipeline of STEM-ready learners.

Performance impact

The centres achieved remarkable academic performance outcomes. Matric pass rates across the three centres ranged between 98% and 100% in the first year of programme implementation. The proportion of learners achieving quality passes (60%+) in Mathematics and Physical Sciences was significantly higher than national averages.

Matric results

	2024	2025
Number who wrote matric	310	320
Mathematics		
Pass rate	98%	100%
Subject average	55%	60%
Physical Sciences		
Pass rate	99%	100%
Subject average	56%	60%

From the Vukuzakhe centre, Luyanda Ndhlozi from Elangwane MSTa School was the Top Grade 12 learner from Quintile 1 schools nationally.

Bohlokong centre contributed two learners, Siyabonga Marotholi and Bokamoso Pule Fortune (both from Ntsu Secondary School), to the Free State's Top 100 performers.



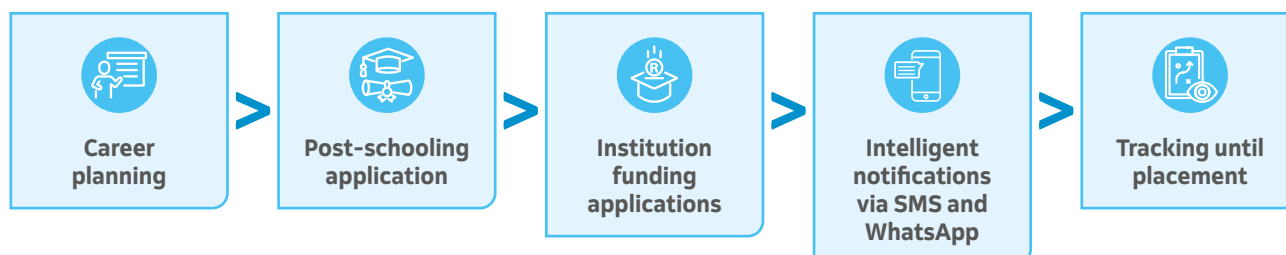
GradesMatch Bridge Programme

Telkom Foundation partners with the GradesMatch Bridge Programme to support youth beyond Grade 12 by providing career guidance as they move from high school to tertiary education. The GradesMatch Bridge Programme is an online platform that assists Grade 11 and Grade 12 learners in transitioning from high school to post-school opportunities. It focuses on career planning and provides training and ongoing guidance to help learners navigate the process of applying for various post-school study and funding opportunities.

Target

- To provide career guidance to 100 Grade 12 learners

The Foundation's partnership with the GradesMatch Bridge Programme reduces dropouts and missed opportunities during a critical transition phase.



Year	2023	2024	2025	2026
Learners supported	125	100	125	100

University applications

Province	University	Number of applications submitted	Number of applications accepted*
Gauteng	University of Johannesburg	34	9
	Wits University	20	9
	University of Pretoria	17	9
Western Cape	University of the Western Cape	23	0
	Stellenbosch University	23	4
	University of Cape Town	23	3
North West	North-West University	17	6
Free State	University of the Free State	17	4
Limpopo	University of Venda	11	11
Total		186	55

* Low acceptance due to Universities' capacity to accept learners in the field of study applied for.

Teacher development

Teacher development workshops were conducted over 168 hours to assist the Department of Basic Education in achieving its goals of improving the quality and efficiency of teaching and students' academic performance.



Target

- Reach 740 teachers through the teacher development programme

Mathematics and Physical Sciences teachers from feeder schools attended training:

163 teachers from Gert Sibande District (Mpumalanga) (two sessions)

522 teachers from Mofutsanyane District (Free State) (four sessions)

1 364 Mathematics and Physical Sciences teachers participated in training.

Programme impact

Although Promaths learners made up only about 1% of those writing national Mathematics and Physical Sciences examinations, they contributed 11,39% of all national Mathematics distinctions and 12,23% of Physical Sciences distinctions.

This significant 'multiplier effect' illustrates the programme's deep influence on the national STEM pipeline, generating high-performing learners who are fully equipped for STEM-related degrees and careers.

"Kutlwanong invests heavily in teacher development, offering extensive annual training hours and exposure to innovative teaching methods, including digital tools and simulations. This continuous upskilling enhances job satisfaction."

"The programme's mission, which is to uplift academic performance in historically disadvantaged communities, creates deep purpose and emotional fulfilment for employees. The staff know they are part of a bigger mission that changes families, communities, and futures."



Celebrating teacher and learner excellence

25th National Teacher Awards



Together with Telkom business units (BCX, Openserve, Telkom Business and Consumer), we sponsored six of the 16 categories, including leadership, special needs schools, and Maths and Science excellence. We sponsored the awards by providing each of the 48 finalists with a device and a data SIM card with 10 + 10GB of data for 12 months. We also developed six websites for schools in our sponsored categories, and BCX provided Alibaba Cloud training for all 48 finalists.

Tshepiso Seshuwane from Thuto-Neo Primary School in Taung was one of the amazing teachers recognised at the awards for Excellence in Teaching Mathematics. He says, "I've seen how ICT transforms the classroom. Learners who once stayed quiet now participate freely. The screen becomes a bridge, not a barrier." He adds, "My hope is that village schools are not left behind in the digital transition. Equal education shouldn't depend on your postal code. A learner in a remote village deserves the same digital tools, teachers, and hope as one in Johannesburg or Cape Town."

National Senior Certificate: Matric Results Announcement – Class of 2025

The annual announcement of the National Senior Certificate examination results is a significant event on the South African school calendar. It is the culmination of 12 years of schooling for learners and serves as a key indicator of the health and effectiveness of the basic education system.

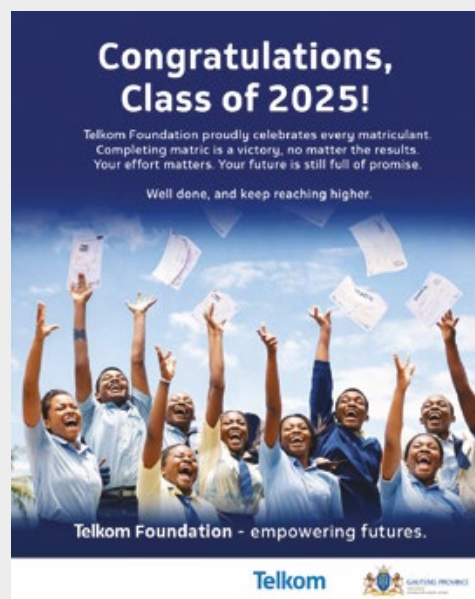
In January 2026, we hosted the Gauteng Matric Results Announcement in partnership with the Gauteng Department of Education to recognise the province's top-performing Grade 12 learners in the National Senior Certificate Examinations.

The 2025 Matric results announcement was hosted at our Telkom head office. The partnership reinforced Telkom's commitment to education and youth empowerment, aligning with its sustainability goals and People and Prosperity initiatives.

The awards aim to reward excellence, promote a culture of merit, and motivate learners as they embark on their higher education journeys. In recognition of their outstanding achievement, top-performing learners received awards and prizes such as bursaries, tablets, connectivity devices and data, smart watches and tech pods.

Highlights

- Telkom also sponsored prizes for top achievers across the nine provinces in partnership with the Department of Basic Education's provincial departments
- One of the top achievers at the National Senior Matric Announcements and Top learner for Mpumalanga, Luyanda Ndlozi, was also a participant in the Telkom Kutlwanong Promaths Programme in Mpumalanga



The Foundation supports multi-faceted interventions that go beyond academic support to strengthen outcomes for learners, particularly those in under-resourced communities.

Online educational content

Lightbulb Learn

Lightbulb Learn is Lightbulb EdTech's online basic education platform. It provides interactive curriculum-aligned support for Grade 8 to 12 learners. The platform uses technology to expand access to quality learning resources and strengthen educational outcomes, particularly in underserved communities. It is mobile-friendly, zero-rated by Telkom and available nationally.

Lightbulb offers online supplementary lessons through live classes, interactive content, Q&A and online support. The platform covers a wide array of subjects, including English, Afrikaans, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Physical Sciences, Geography, History, and Accounting, ensuring comprehensive support for high school learners.

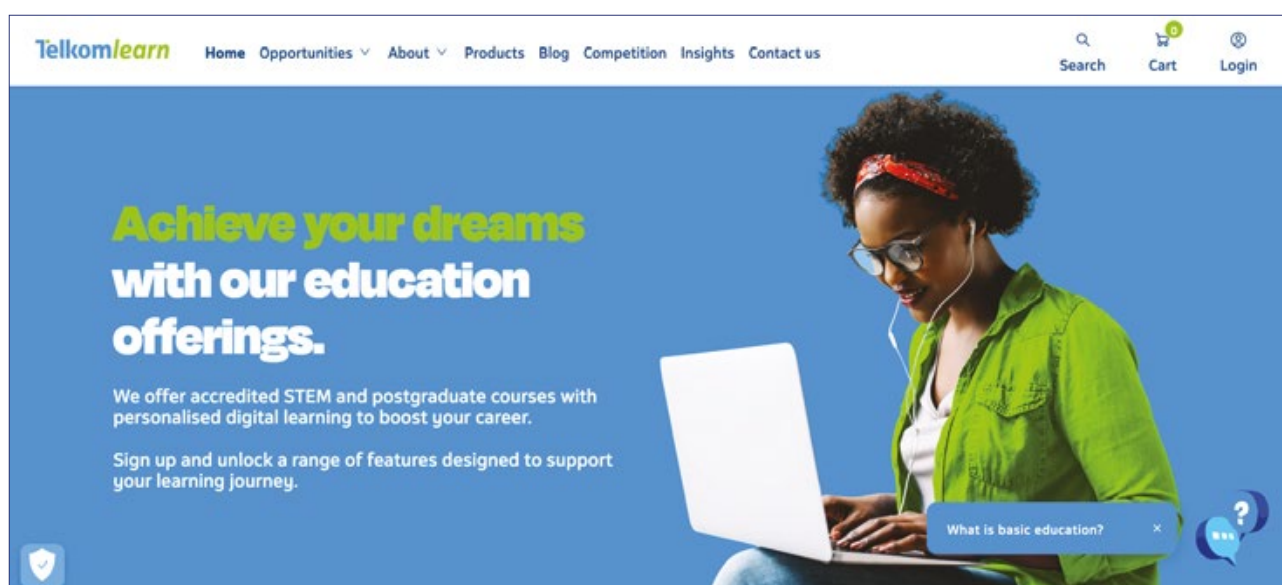
Lightbulb Learn can be accessed via the Telkom Learn platform at <https://www.telkomlearn.co.za/>.



Target

- Reach a cumulative 84 157 learners with, an additional 20 000 learners reached

Lightbulb Learn can be accessed for free nationwide on the Telkom network.



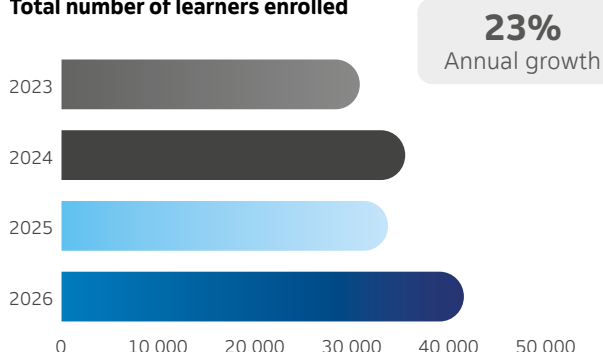
Lightbulb allows learners to learn at their own pace, anywhere, anytime.



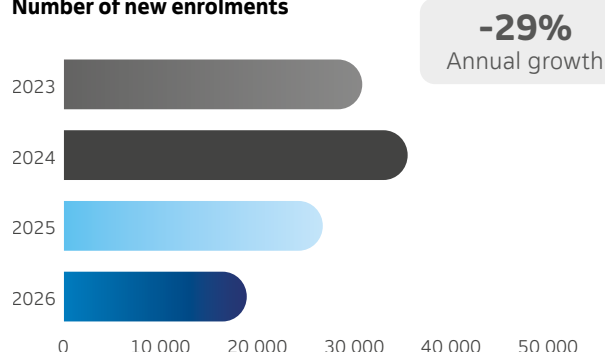
Impact

Lightbulb Learn continued to reach more learners, with notable growth being driven by partner campaigns in Limpopo and the Eastern Cape. Self-registrations driven by active referrals by learners and educators increased enrolment countrywide.

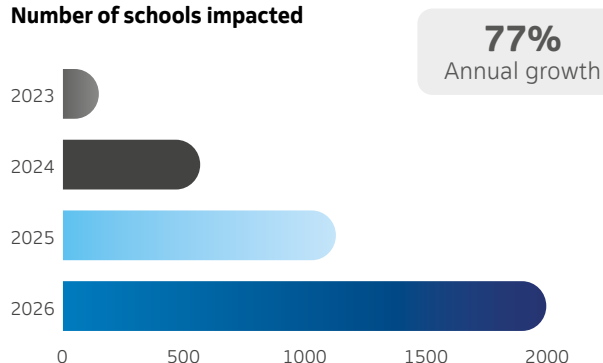
Total number of learners enrolled



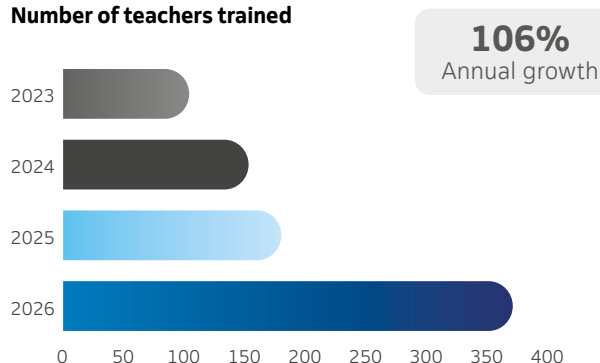
Number of new enrolments



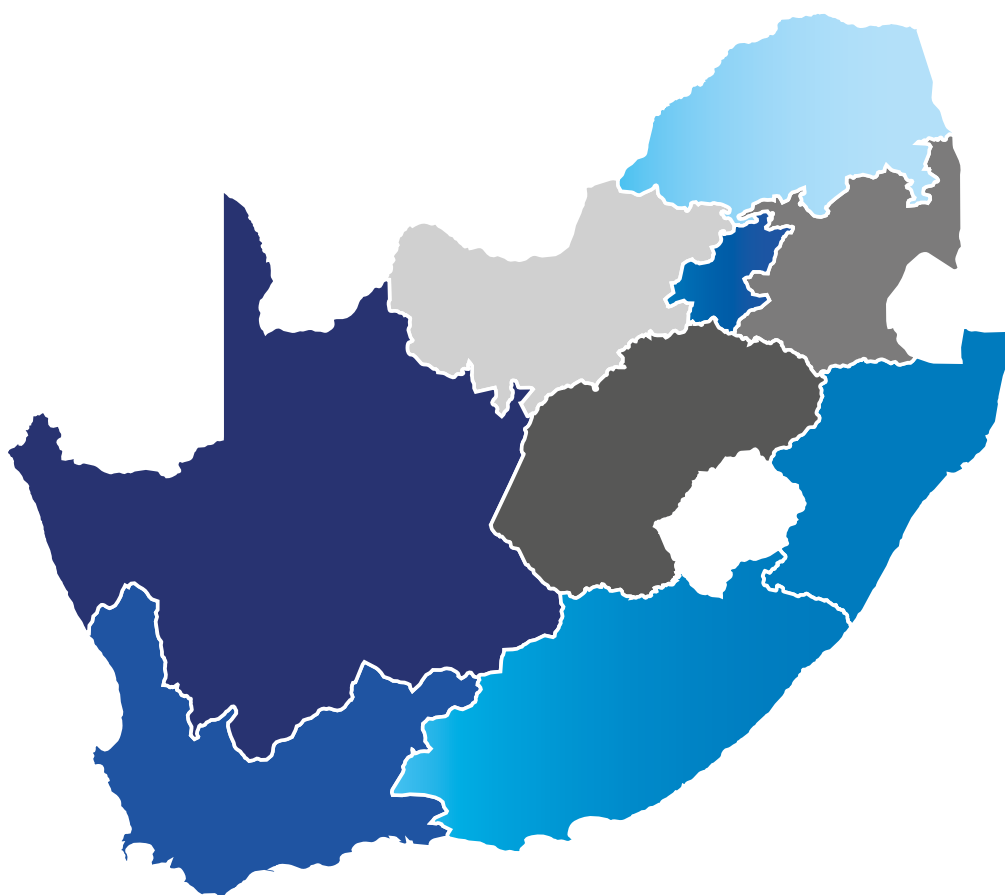
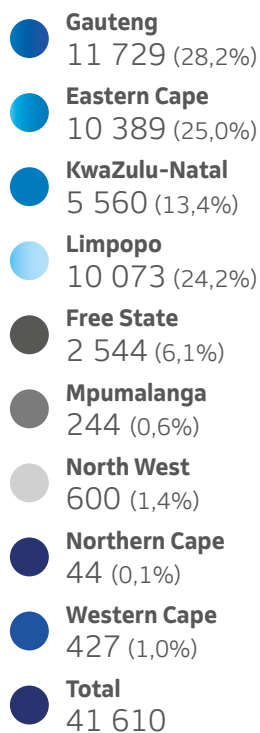
Number of schools impacted



Number of teachers trained



National distribution



Psycho-social support in schools

Psycho-social support services provide learners, teachers and communities with counselling and access to tools that strengthen mental and social resilience.

Implementation partners



Target

- Provide access to 899 000 learners, teachers and community members

Many learners live in highly stressful circumstances. Their challenges are not only academic, but also emotional, social and environmental. These factors directly affect their ability to succeed in education, training, and long-term career development.

We offer psycho-social support to help learners cope with their current problems, and provide career guidance and digital skills training to prepare them for their futures.

We take a holistic approach to supporting our learners and integrate psycho-social support into our programmes to specifically help learners cope with challenges that may affect their well-being and academic performance.

Focus areas:

- 24-hour telephone crisis counselling for children and families
- Prevention and awareness programmes in schools and communities
- Prevention and early intervention programmes
- Increased outreach and prevention
- Increased accessibility

The Foundation supports learners during the critical high school phase, where dropout risk increases and academic gaps often widen.



School-based support

Childline (Mpumalanga)

Since 2024, the Foundation has funded Childline Mpumalanga to support Saturday and holiday school centres based in Fernie, Mpumalanga (Methula Secondary School and surrounding schools) and Volksrust, Mpumalanga (Qhubulwazi Combined School and surrounding schools).

The programme runs alongside our Kutlwanong Promaths Saturday school programme and has to fit in without compromising academic time. Support is also extended to educators to help them manage learners and their related needs. The programme has reached over 528 participants since its inception.

Performance

	Programme target	Fernie learners	Volksrust learners	Total learners
Dialogues at and around Telkom centres (weekends)	50	45	68	113
School visit child abuse prevention and psycho-social support (weekends)	240	158	370	528
Life skills groups for 30 participants (needs-based)	60	75	24	99
Child therapy	30	22	14	36
Referrals to stakeholders	30	6	8	14

Improved learner engagement

By providing a safe space for expression in this Grade 9 Life Skills session, learners are encouraged to engage and express themselves. Their participation and cooperation demonstrate strong interest and trust.



Motjha Ithole (Free State)

The Foundation has been supporting Motjha Ithole, a youth development organisation based in the Eastern Free State, since 2024. The organisation provides psycho-social services to learners at Tiisetsang Secondary School and Kgola-Thuto Secondary School and is aligned with the Telkom academic support centre in Bohlokong. Motjha Ithole intervenes at individual, group and campaign levels to address learners' needs. Support is also provided to educators to help them manage learners and their related needs.

Performance

	Programme target	Bohlokong Centre
Dialogues at and around Telkom centres (weekends)	18	14
School visit child abuse prevention and psycho-social support (weekends)	215	318
Life skills groups for 30 participants (needs-based)	6	5
Child therapy	120	160
Referrals to stakeholders	30	11

Future-fit digital skills

Implementation partners



Goal

- To equip young people with digital literacy and skills to enable participation in economic opportunities.



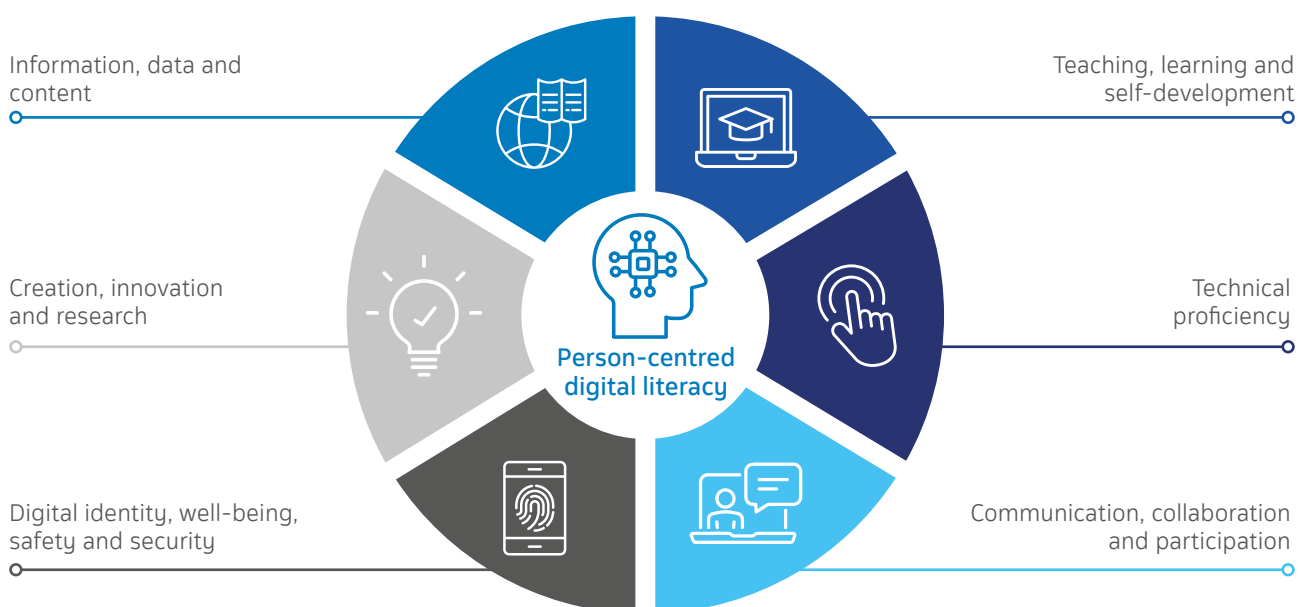
Targets

- Reach 875 learners
- 300 learners certified

Learning, work, and daily life are increasingly shaped by technology. Digital readiness requires learners to have the digital skills they need to take advantage of technology in useful, meaningful, and innovative ways. These skills are important because they enable effective learning, improve future employability, and help young people participate safely and confidently in the digital world:

- Support academic success
- Enable access to higher education
- Improve employability
- Build critical thinking and problem solving skills
- Reduce inequality
- Promote online safety and well-being
- Prepare learners for lifelong learning

Digital literacy framework



Source: JISC Digital Capacity Framework, 2015

Outcomes

Computer fundamentals	Digital citizenship	Thinking skills	Coding and robotics
Basics on how to operate a computer (on and off, keyboarding, touch-typing, using a mouse, saving documents, etc.)	- Online safety - Privacy - Digital footprint - Cyber bullying	- Computational thinking - Critical problem-solving - Critical thinking - Algorithmic thinking	Students plan the development of a prototype using an iterative process that includes the process of modification, noting key features, time and resource constraints, and user needs and expectations.

Coding and robotics

One of Telkom Foundation's strategic commitments is to equip young people with digital literacy and skills to enable them to participate in economic opportunities.

Digital readiness encompasses the digital skills people need to leverage technology in useful, meaningful, and innovative ways. These skills are essential in preparing future generations for the rapidly advancing technological landscape.

Proficiency in these subjects serves not merely as a tool for employment but as a foundational skill for critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity in the digital age.

In FY2023, the Foundation introduced the coding and robotics programme in four schools: Qhubulwazi and Methula Secondary Schools in Mpumalanga and Tiisetsang and Kgola Thuto Secondary Schools in the Free State. The programme was delivered during school holidays over the past three years. The programme targeted 300 learners from the schools, who were immersed in a comprehensive three-year programme certified by IBM and IC3.

Courses completed

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
- Digital literacy - IBM Present with Purpose - IBM delivers quality work using Agility - Career Development in a Digital World - Design Thinking - Scratch - Basic Web Development - Introduction to Robotics	- Digital Literacy (Level 3) - Web Applications Development - Hosting - Git - Robotics - Internet of Things - Cyber Security - Gig Economy - Entrepreneurship and Innovation	- Ionic - Artificial Intelligence with Python - Cloud Computing - Virtual Reality - Technopreneurship - Business in a box

A total of 236 learners (115 in Mpumalanga and 129 in the Free State) completed the programme and were certified in June 2025.



Unlocking potential through partnerships

More than 30 high school learners from Qhubulwazi and Methula Secondary Schools in Mpumalanga took part in a two-day coding and robotics hackathon hosted by the Foundation in partnership with the French Embassy in South Africa.

The learners were paired with the French School of Johannesburg, as part of a cultural and skills exchange programme. The learners worked together to develop digital and sustainable robotics solutions that address SDG challenges.

Looking ahead

Telkom Foundation remains committed to providing quality education in a sustainable manner. Integrating coding and robotics into the school curriculum supports a holistic educational model where learners are not passive recipients of information but active participants in their learning journey.

In partnership with Sifiso Edtech, the Foundation is upgrading the labs at the four schools to enable them to implement coding and robotics programmes. Teachers are also being upskilled in coding and robotics so they can incorporate them into their everyday curriculum, aligned with the Department of Basic Education's coding and robotics rollout strategy.

With the introduction of this model in schools, there's a determined effort to shift the educational paradigm to one more aligned with 21st-century skills. This initiative also aims to bridge the digital divide and foster inclusivity by ensuring that all students, regardless of socioeconomic status, have access to quality education in these crucial fields.

Out-of-School Support Programme

We provide bursary support, psycho-social support and digital skills training to help school leavers as they transition from school to tertiary education, skills training or work.

Implementation partners

ICT skills training National toll-free helplines



Goal

- Enable youth to access economic opportunities through accredited ICT training



Target

- Train and certificate 1 390 youth

Moving from a structured school environment into an unfamiliar new situation can be extremely difficult, especially for young people from under-resourced backgrounds who have had limited exposure to tertiary education options, applying for funding or using digital systems.

*Leaving school does not mean challenges disappear.
Often, it means they increase.*

The Foundation assists in bridging the gap by offering bursaries and providing accredited ICT skills training.

Bursary support

The Foundation awards bursaries to top-achieving learners from Foundation-supported schools. The bursaries cover tuition, accommodation, stipends, devices, books and registration fees. The holistic support includes mentorship opportunities, job shadowing exposure and wellness support.

Out of 51 funded students in 2025, 12 successfully completed their qualifications, and 14 were academically excluded.



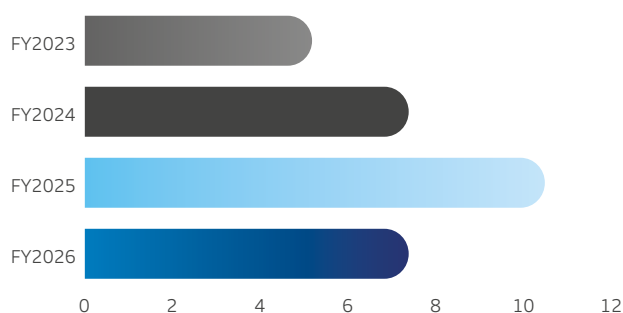
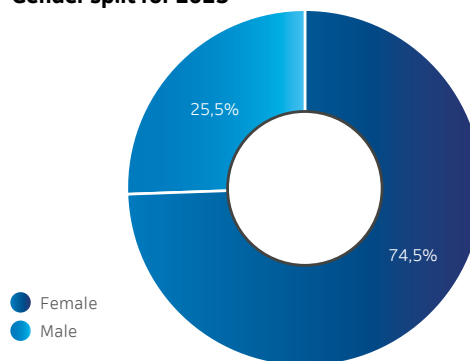
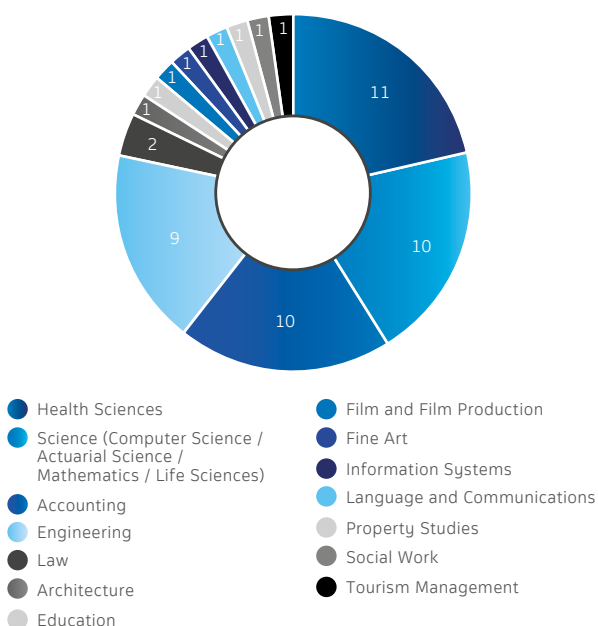
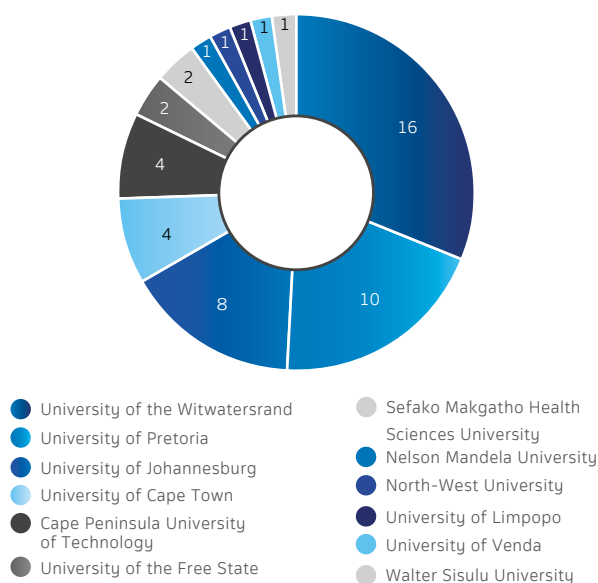
Goal

- To equip youth with skills that enable access to economic opportunities.

We invested R7,4 million in bursaries during FY2026.

Bursary recipients, 2022 – 2025

Year	Total number of students	Attrition	Graduated
2022	20	0	0
2023	35	2	0
2024	38	2	3
2025	51	14	12

Investment in bursaries (R million)**Gender split for 2025****Course of study FY2026****Universities attended****Accredited ICT skills training****Implementation partners**

The Foundation entered a five-year partnership with the TSAFRIKA Foundation in 2021 to upskill 1 050 unemployed youth through MICT-SETA¹-accredited skills development programmes. The initiative aims to increase participants' employability by training them in disciplines such as systems development, business analysis, telecommunications networking, and marketing.

The 12-month learnership programme comprises four months of theory and eight months of on-the-job training. The theory portion is conducted online via the Lightbulb platform. Trainees also receive training in job-readiness, entrepreneurship and personal branding.

**Goal**

- To equip youth with skills that enable access to economic opportunities.

**Target**

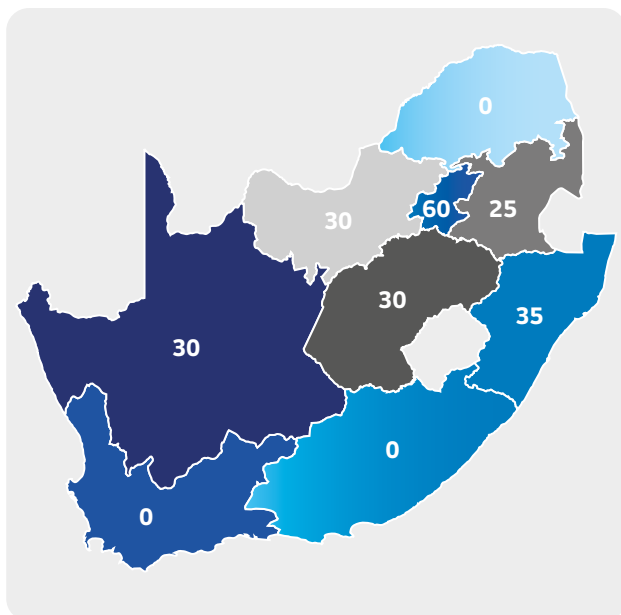
- Train 1 050 unemployed youth

Trainees receive a monthly stipend during the programme as well as data and laptops, which become theirs on completion of the programme.

Host employers include business units within Telkom, private-sector partners, small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) and government departments. 210 unemployed youth participate in the programme annually.

¹ Media, Information and Communication Technologies Sector Education and Training Authority.

2025 intake by province



Performance

Cohort	Year	Intake	Attrition	Graduated
1	2021	240	35	205
2	2022	219	48	171
3	2023	227	25	202
4	2024	210	21	189
5	2025	210	—*	—*
Total		1 106	129	767

* Cohort still in training.

1 106 unemployed youth have
been trained since 2021.

"I had knowledge of IT but no prior work experience. This has given me a step toward furthering my career journey in IT."

"I have learned a lot and am eager to find myself a stable job after this opportunity, as all things are possible through hard work and education."

"Being placed at Telkom Consumer has been a life-changing experience. I have strengthened my ability to code in Java, which has boosted my confidence."

National toll-free helplines

Our partnerships with LifeLine South Africa and Childline South Africa ensure that people in distress can access psycho-social support at no cost via their phones.

Childline

Childline South Africa runs a national, toll-free helpline that operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Services are provided to:

- Children and young people (under 18)
- Adults concerned about a child's safety or well-being

Calls are free from all networks, confidential, and answered by trained counsellors who provide immediate emotional support and guidance.

The helpline provides counselling to callers and, where needed, referrals to social workers and police.



To speak to a counsellor, call the 24-hour toll-free number 116.

Chat now online: www.childlinesa.org.za

LifeLine

LifeLine South Africa provides 24/7 counselling and crisis support via telephone counselling, WhatsApp, and online chat.

Anonymous and confidential conversations with trained counsellors.

LifeLine hosts and manages several targeted support lines, including:

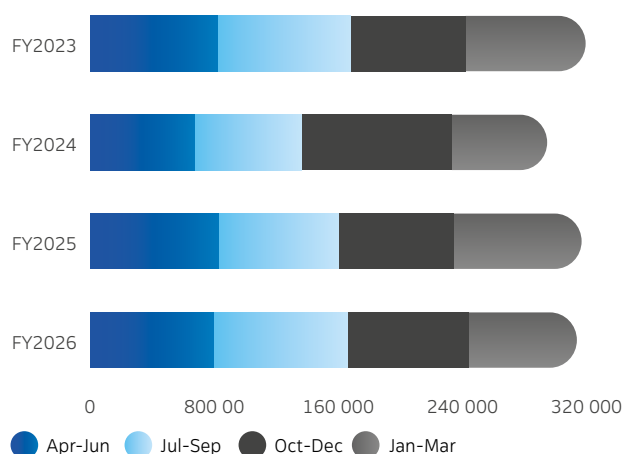
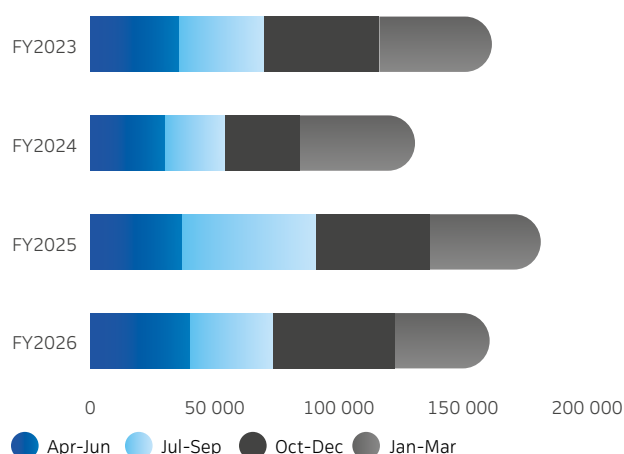
- Stop Gender-Based Violence Helpline (0800 150 150)
- National Counselling Line (0861 322 322)

These lines offer crisis intervention and emotional support during personal emergencies, disasters, or traumatic events.



Contact the toll-free hotline on 0800 012 322 for immediate support.

Chat now on WhatsApp 060 715 4415

Childline number of calls**LifeLine: Number of calls****Looking ahead**

The Out-of-School Support Programme is shifting its delivery model to reach a broader audience while strengthening the technical depth of its offerings. Central to this shift is a digital-first approach, which prioritises online delivery over traditional face-to-face methods to improve accessibility and enable greater scale. At the same time, future programmes will incorporate AI and cybersecurity modules into ICT-accredited courses, ensuring that beneficiaries are equipped with relevant skills for the evolving job market.

A strong emphasis will also be placed on digital inclusion, with plans to expand access for learners with special needs through strategic partnerships.

To enhance programme effectiveness and support long-term economic participation, we are improving monitoring and post-programme support. This includes developing an internal alumni database to track graduates' progress, challenges, and successes, enabling continuous improvement and better alignment with economic opportunities. Furthermore, a tiered recruitment policy is anticipated within the Telkom Group, offering programme beneficiaries preferential access to entry-level employment opportunities.

The Foundation is also reshaping its partnership model by moving away from a heavy reliance on delivery partners toward more strategic and funding collaborations. This approach includes working with organisations that can provide graduates with practical work experience and facilitate job placement, thereby strengthening the pathway from skills development to meaningful employment.

Additional support is planned through career and financial mentorship workshops, particularly for bursary recipients and post-school beneficiaries, with a focus on personal financial and stress management.

Employee Volunteering Programme

Telkom employees make a meaningful contribution to changing the lives of disadvantaged communities across South Africa.

Employee volunteering creates value for employees, organisations and communities at the same time. Telkom's employee volunteer programme enables employees to contribute their time and resources towards various initiatives through paid employee volunteering leave and payroll giving.



Goal

- To motivate and enable employees to effectively serve community needs through volunteer initiatives.

The Employee Volunteering Programme is divided into three sub-programmes:

- Time and skills volunteering, where employees donate time and expertise to various projects organised by the Foundation
- Payroll giving, where employees give to selected non-profit organisations close to their hearts, with the Foundation matching contributions on a rand-for-rand basis
- Adopt-a-Project, where employees select causes close to their hearts and receive grant funding to contribute to those causes



Giving from the Heart

Over R289 510 donated to 10 organisations through payroll giving



ForAfrika



Gift of the Givers
Foundation



HOPE
worldwide
SOUTH AFRICA



Rare
Diseases
South Africa



Just Footprints
Foundation



AACL
Johannesburg



ENDANGERED
WILDLIFE TRUST
Protecting nature. Inspiring.



Adopt-a-Project

Over R637 100 donated through the project

Financial support for causes adopted by Telkom senior executives and Foundation Board members, while they also give their time and other resources



Time and skills

Over 2 024 hours in volunteer initiatives

Telkom Group employees participated in community development projects organised by the Foundation

"On behalf of The Giving Organisation Trust and the many beneficiaries we reach nationwide through our benefiting charities, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Telkom and Telkom Foundation for your generous and ongoing support."

Telkom's Give from the Heart programme makes a profound impact in vulnerable communities across South Africa. Thanks to your contributions, the charities can carry on doing their work in the field, helping those who really need it the most.

We thank you for your unwavering support and efficiency towards making the world a better place."

– Giving Organisation Trust

Adopt-a-Project

The Adopt-a-Project initiative allows senior employees to fund and provide professional support to ICT-related projects of their choice in vulnerable communities. The initiative seeks to address the lack of ICT infrastructure in educational institutions. It also equips learners and teachers with digital skills and knowledge that will enable academic excellence, especially in STEM subjects.

Over the last year, the initiative benefited 6 005 young people through the following projects:

Executive	Project name and organisation	Beneficiaries	Project description	Area	Approved amount
Linda Vilakazi <i>Acting Chairperson of the Foundation Board</i>	Positive Vibrations	• 22 girls	Supporting girl learners with transportation, snacks/ meals, tracksuits, hygiene products and costumes for the production	Benoni, East Rand, Gauteng	R38 000
	Tshireletsa Bana Foundation	• 60 Grade 4 to 7 learners	Supporting artistic children, nourishing their talents, building confidence through various projects and events (spelling bee, public speaking, debate, sip and paint)	Kgubetswana, Clarens, Free State	R62 000
Judy Vilakazi <i>Head of Foundation</i>	Adopt-a-School Foundation	• 500 learners • 22 teachers • 522 total	Supporting learners to: improve participation, boost motivation, enhance learning outcomes, reduce absenteeism and promote equal opportunity in their academic performance	Chislehurst, Gauteng	R100 000
Lunga Siyo <i>CEO: Telkom Consumer and Small Business</i>	Thubalethu Secondary School	• 800 learners • 28 teachers • 828 total	Critical AI literacy, permaculture and mental well-being training for trainers, teachers and learners	Katlehong, East Rand, Gauteng	R100 000
Selby Khuzwayo <i>Chief Regional Officer: Openserve</i>	Mafahleni Junior Secondary School	• 169 learners • 7 teachers • 176 total	Providing specialised digital technology tools to enhance the teaching and learning abilities of deaf students	Katlehong, East Rand, Gauteng	R100 000
Nonku Dlamini <i>Telkom Group Chief Financial Officer</i>	5th Annual uMzimkhulu Youth Empowerment Career Day	• 4 397 learners	Onboarded learners onto the Lightbulb Learn platform and provided 600 calculators to high-school learners	Ginyqhinya High School, Kwalori, Umzimkhulu, KwaZulu-Natal	R100 000
Total					R500 000

Nelson Mandela Day 2025



- 253 volunteers
- Three regions
- 315 beneficiaries



Toys For Good

On 16 July 2025, Telkom Foundation partnered with forgood for an employee volunteer initiative involving 103 volunteers. They rolled up their sleeves to create sustainable educational toys from recycled material. The initiative raised awareness of the importance of early childhood education and stimulation.

We made and donated 231 handmade toys to Thatohatsi and Tshegofatso Day Care Centres in Diepsloot.



Rise Against Hunger

On 18 July 2025, Telkom Foundation partnered with Rise Against Hunger to pack nutritious meals for early childhood development (ECD) centres and schools. 150 employees from Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town joined thousands of corporate volunteers to pack meals for Rise Against Hunger's ECD Connect programme.



Looking ahead

We plan to significantly expand employee participation by raising internal awareness, onboarding a new implementation partner, and increasing participation across all Telkom Group business units. This growth will be supported by a structured marketing plan to boost awareness of payroll giving. Enhanced employee contributions are an important source of revenue for the Foundation, helping to reduce our dependence on the Telkom Group's net operating profit.

The Foundation intends to broaden participation through stronger collaboration across the Group. Following recent engagements with the executive teams of Openserve and BCX, we plan to pilot integrated volunteering initiatives across these business units as part of a unified "One Telkom" approach to social impact.

A further initiative is to develop employees into brand ambassadors who can share the Foundation's impact with their families, friends, and customers, thereby strengthening both internal morale and Telkom's external reputation.

Planned activities, such as Mandela Month projects, will further encourage employee participation



05 Keeping ourselves ACCOUNTABLE



Our Board of Trustees

Our Board of Trustees consists of three external Trustees and four Telkom Trustees. Telkom employees appointed as Trustees do not receive remuneration for their service to the Foundation. Remuneration of independent trustees is detailed on page 66.

The Trustees bring a variety of skills, experience, diversity, insight, and independence of judgement on strategy, performance, resources, and standards of conduct. The Trustees play a crucial role in overseeing the Foundation's strategic direction and ethical conduct.

The roles of the Chairperson and the Foundation Head are separated, and an external independent Trustee chairs the Board. The Board is responsible for risk management, corporate governance, and a sound internal control system.

The Board is expected to act in the best interests of the Foundation and is responsible for timely and transparent reporting. The Board meets at least four times a year and more frequently if necessary.

Board of Trustees

Independent Trustees



Sam Bhembe
Chairperson



Rakesh Garach
Independent Trustee
FARMC Committee Member



Linda Vilakazi
Telkom Foundation Trustee

Internal Trustees



Mpho McNamee
Chief Corporate Affairs
Officer: Telkom Group



Makgosi Mabaso
Chief Commercial Officer:
Openserve



Dr Patrick Sekgoka
Executive: Data Science,
Telkom



Fulu Mavhungu
Executive Finance Business
Partner: BCX



Judy Vilakazi
Executive in Corporate Social
Responsibility: Telkom Group
Head of Telkom Foundation

Board committees

Two committees assist the Board in discharging its duties: The FARMC and the Programme Analysis Strategy and Support (PASS) Committee.

FARMC responsibilities:

- Monitor the integrity of the Foundation's financial statements
- Review the Foundation's internal financial control system and monitor the effectiveness of the controls over the assets of the Foundation
- Monitor and review the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal audit function
- Make recommendations to the Board of Trustees concerning the external auditor's appointment and approve the external auditor's remuneration and terms of engagement following the appointment
- Monitor the effectiveness of the external auditor's performance and their independence and objectivity
- Develop and implement a policy on the external auditors' engagement to supply non-audit services
- Provide oversight of the performance of the internal audit function and the external auditors
- Review financial information and the preparation of accurate financial reporting and statements in compliance with all applicable legal requirements and accounting standards

PASS Committee responsibilities:

- Monitor the implementation of relevant human resources policies
- Make recommendations to the Board in relation to the appointment of the Head of Foundation
- Provide a supporting, facilitative and monitoring role to the overall management of the organisation
- Guide the Head of Foundation in managing the Foundation

The Foundation's Company Secretary attends committee meetings. The external and internal auditors are permanent invitees to the FARMC and have unrestricted access to the committee and its Chairperson.

Meeting attendance

Board

Meeting dates	5 August 2025	10 December 2025	13 February 2026	27 March 2026
Mr R Garach	P	P	P	P
Ms L Vilakazi	P	P	P	P
Ms M Mabaso	P	P	A	A
Ms F Mavhungu	P	P	P	P
Ms M McNamee	P	P	A	P
Dr CP Sekgoka	P	P	P	P
Mr MS Bhembe*	P	P	P	P
Ms JX Vilakazi	P	P	P	P

PASS Committee

Meeting dates	27 June 2025	4 December 2025	27 January 2026	6 March 2026
Ms L Vilakazi	P	A	A	P
Ms MT Mabaso	P	P	P	P
Ms M McNamee*	P	P	P	A
Dr CP Sekgoka	P	P	P	P
Mr MS Bhembe	P	P	P	P
Ms JX Vilakazi	P	P	P	A

FARMC

Meeting dates	21 July 2025	27 November 2025	29 January 2026	9 March 2026
Mr RS Garach	P	P	P	P
Ms F Mavhungu*	P	P	P	P
Ms JX Vilakazi	A	P	P	A

* = Committee Chair

P = Present

A = Apologies

Profiles of our independent trustees

Telkom Foundation's independent trustees as at 31 March 2025.

Sam Bhembe (Chairperson)

Date of appointment	1 June 2025 (First term)
Qualifications	MBA in Finance and Strategy, Postgraduate Diploma in Public Management, BA Honours in Economics
Committees	Board, PASS
Other directorships	African Business News 360 (CNBC Africa & Forbes Africa)
Expertise	Sam Bhembe is a seasoned executive and governance professional with over 25 years of experience in banking, development finance, and strategic advisory. He has held senior roles at Nedbank, including Managing Executive for Nedbank Africa and Head of Corporate Strategy, and served as Executive Vice President at the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC). He brings extensive board experience, having chaired and served on boards across the public and private sectors, including the Nedbank Foundation, National Film and Video Foundation, and African Business News 360 (CNBC Africa and Forbes Africa). Sam holds an MBA in Finance and Strategy, a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Management, and a BA Honours in Economics. He is passionate about inclusive development, ethical governance, and using innovation to drive meaningful social change.

Linda Vilakazi

Date of appointment	12 March 2013 (First term) 1 April 2016 (Second term) 1 April 2019 (Third term) 30 November 2020 (Fourth term)
Qualifications	Human Resource Management Programme, Finance for non-financial managers, B Prim Ed
Committees	Board, PASS
Other directorships	Chairperson of Thebe Foundation Trust, Director at Institute for Social Dialogue (ISD), Director at Khasiane Development Trust
Expertise	Linda has extensive experience in community development, school leadership, project management, and gender development, among others. She has chaired the Thebe Foundation Board since 2011, is a trustee of the Institute for Social Dialogue (ISD), co-founder of the South African Student Solidarity Foundation for Education Wits (SASSFE), and a committee member of the UNESCO Education Committee SA. Linda is an Aspen Global Leadership Network Fellow (ALI South Africa) and a graduate of the Executive National Security Programme. She is a UNIFEM award winner and a past President of the Rotary Club of Johannesburg.

Rakesh Garach

Date of appointment	12 March 2013 (First term) 1 April 2016 (Second term) 1 April 2019 (Third term) 30 November 2020 (Fourth term)
Qualifications	Bachelor of Commerce, Post-graduate Diploma in Accounting, DipAcc, South African Chartered Accountant
Committees	Board, FARMC
Other directorships	The National Empowerment Fund (Chairman)
Expertise	Mr Garach is a qualified Chartered Accountant and a seasoned business executive. He has experience in the banking and financial services industry and has worked for several global organisations. He was appointed Chief Financial Officer at Grindrod Bank Limited in 2019, where he was responsible for finance, governance and operations. Mr Garach was integrally involved in the disposal of the entity to the African Bank Group. He was appointed joint acting CFO for the Group in December 2022. He currently serves as CFO of the Business Banking division at African Bank Group. He is integral to driving the process of listing the group on the JSE.

06 FINANCIALS

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Administration

Trustee

Date appointed/resigned

Mr. S Bhembé (Chairperson)	Appointed on 01 June 2025
Mr. R Garach – External Trustee	
Ms. L Vilakazi – External Trustee	
Ms. M McNamee – Telkom appointed trustee (Telkom group employee)	
Ms. M Mabaso – Telkom appointed trustee (Telkom group employee)	
Dr. P Sekgoka – Telkom appointed trustee (Telkom group employee)	
Ms. F Mavhungu (Chairperson of FARMC) – Telkom appointed trustee (Telkom group employee)	
Ms. J Vilakazi (Head of Foundation – Trustee ex officio)	

Founder	Telkom SA SOC Limited (herein after referred to as Telkom)
Head of the Foundation	J Vilakazi
Nature of Business	Charitable Trust
Secretary	TM Olifant
Auditor	PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc.
Financial Officer	Portia Shadung
Banker	ABSA Bank Limited
Trust Registration Number	IT5262/02
Non-Profit Organisation	130004216
Registration Number	029-558-NPO
Registered Office	The HuB, 61 Oak Avenue, Highveld Park, Centurion, 0157

These financial statements have been prepared by finance staff in accordance with the Trust Property Control Act No.57 of 1988 under the supervision of Azwi Ndou CA(SA) and have been audited by our external auditor, PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc.

Trustee's Responsibility for the Annual Financial Statements

The trustees are responsible for the preparation, integrity, and fair presentation of the annual financial statements and related information included in these annual financial statements. The annual financial statements presented on pages 58 to 69 have been prepared in accordance with IFRS® Accounting Standards of the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) financial reporting guides as issued by the Accounting Practices Committee, Financial Reporting Pronouncements as issued by the Financial Reporting Standards Council and the requirements of the Trust Property Control Act No.57 of 1988.

The trustees consider that in preparing the annual financial statements they have used the most appropriate accounting policies, consistently applied, and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates, and that all International Financial Reporting Standards that they consider to be applicable have been followed. The trustees are satisfied that the information contained in the annual financial statements fairly presents the results of operations for the year and the financial position of the Trust as at 31 March 2026. The trustees have the responsibility for ensuring that accounting records are kept. The accounting records should disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial performance and position of the Trust to enable the trustees to ensure that the annual financial statements comply with the relevant legislation.

For the trustees to discharge their responsibilities, management has developed and continues to maintain a system of internal controls. The trustees have the ultimate responsibility for the system of internal controls and the review of their operation on an ongoing basis.

The internal controls include a risk-based system of accounting and administrative controls designed to provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded and that transactions are executed and recorded in accordance with generally accepted business practices, the IFRSs, and the Trust's policies and procedures.

The trustees have assessed the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern and have no reason to believe that the Trust will not be a going concern in the next financial year.

The external auditor is responsible for independently auditing and reporting on the annual financial statements. The annual financial statements have been examined by the Trust's external auditor and their report is presented on pages 57 to 58.

The annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 as set out on pages 58 to 69 were approved by the trustees on 24 June 2026 and are signed by on their behalf by:



S Bhembe
Chairperson of the Trust



J Vilakazi
Head of Foundation



TM Olifant
Trust Secretary

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2026

Business and Operations

The principal activity of the Telkom Foundation Trust (the Trust or Foundation) is a non-profit making organisation contributing to the upliftment of disadvantaged communities in the Republic of South Africa through sustainable development programmes.

Financial Results

The results of the Trust and the state of its affairs are set out in the attached annual financial statements and do not, in our opinion, require further comments.

Trust Funding

The Trust has no share capital. The operations of the Trust are largely financed by Telkom SA SOC Ltd (Telkom), through donations to the Trust.

Trustees and Secretary

Particulars of the present trustees and secretary are given on page 50 and 51.

In terms of the Trust Deed, the Board of Trustees consists of four Telkom employees and three public trustees.

Use of Surplus Funds

In accordance with the Trust Deed, all surplus funds retained are carried forward for exclusive use by the Trust in the promotion of Trust's mission and objective.

Going Concern

The Trust's ability to continue as a going concern is dependent on the continued support from Telkom. Telkom agreed to continue to support the Trust for the next twelve months. Accordingly, the annual financial statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recoverability and classification of assets, or to the amounts and classification of liabilities that might be necessary if the Trust is unable to continue as a going concern.

Events after the Reporting Period

There were no significant events after the reporting period. Refer to Note 1.15.

Sub-committees

Telkom Foundation Board has two sub-committees, namely the Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee (FARMC) and Programme Analysis Strategy and Support Committee (PASS).

Name	Committee
Mr. R Garach	FARMC & BOARD
Ms. L Vilakazi	PASS & BOARD
Mr S Bhembe (Chairperson of the Board of Trustees)*	PASS & BOARD
Ms. M McNamee**	PASS & BOARD
Dr. P Sekgoka**	PASS & BOARD
Ms. M Mabaso**	PASS & BOARD
Ms. F Mavhungu (Chairperson – FARMC)	FARMC & BOARD
Ms. J Vilakazi (Head of Foundation – Trustee ex officio)	PASS & BOARD & FARMC

* Appointed on 1 June 2025.

** Telkom appointed trustee (Telkom group employee).

The attendance of meetings:

	Board	PASS	FARMC
Mr. R Garach	4/4	N/A	4/4
Ms. L Vilakazi	4/4	2/4	N/A
Mr S Bhembe	4/4	4/4	N/A
Ms. M McNamee	3/4	3/4	N/A
Dr. P Sekgoka	4/4	4/4	N/A
Ms. M Mabaso	2/4	4/4	N/A
Ms. F Mavhungu	4/4	N/A	4/4
Ms. J Vilakazi	4/4	3/4	2/4

Independent auditor's report

To the Trustees of The Telkom Foundation Trust

Our opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Telkom Foundation Trust (the Trust) as at 31 March 2026, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards.

What we have audited

The Telkom Foundation Trust's financial statements set out on pages 59 to 69 comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2026;
- the statement of income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended;
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors' *Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors* (IRBA Code) and other independence requirements applicable to performing audits of financial statements in South Africa. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IRBA Code and in accordance with other ethical requirements applicable to performing audits in South Africa. The IRBA Code is consistent with the corresponding sections of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards)*.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the document(s) titled "The Telkom Foundation Trust Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026". The other information does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Trustees for the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Trust to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Trustees regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc.

PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc.

Director: B Bhoola

Registered Auditor

Johannesburg, South Africa

24 June 2026

Statement of income and expenditure

for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026 R	2025 R
INCOME		73 038 659	74 825 782
Donations income	1.2	71 916 365	73 668 513
Finance income	1.3	1 122 294	1 157 269
EXPENDITURE		(72 958 812)	(68 212 250)
Staff expenses	1.4	(6 640 860)	(6 795 293)
Office and administration expenses	1.11	(1 188 970)	(1 240 661)
Programme expenses	1.12	(65 128 982)	(60 176 296)
Surplus for the year		79 847	6 613 532

The accounting policies on pages 62 to 63 and notes on pages 64 to 69 form an integral part of the annual financial statements.

Statement of financial position

as at 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026 R	2025 R
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	1.5	6 725 151	6 354 282
Trade and other receivables	1.6	16 018 294	12 319 872
Total assets		22 743 445	18 674 154
Reserves			
Programme funds and reserves		18 568 530	18 488 683
Total reserves		18 568 530	18 488 683
Current liabilities			
Other payables	1.13	4 174 915	185 471
Total current liabilities		4 174 915	185 471
Total reserves and liabilities		22 743 445	18 674 154

The accounting policies on pages 62 to 63 and notes on pages 64 to 69 form an integral part of the annual financial statements.

Statement of cash flows

for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026 R	2025 R
Cash flows from operating activities		370 869	4 993 778
Cash generated from operations	1.7	10 082	4 781 855
Interest received	1.3	360 787	211 923
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		370 869	4 993 778
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		6 354 282	1 360 504
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of period	1.5	6 725 151	6 354 282

The accounting policies on pages 62 to 63 and notes on pages 64 to 69 form an integral part of the annual financial statements.

Statement of changes in reserves

as at 31 March 2026

	Programme funds and reserves R
Balance as at 31 March 2024	11 875 151
Surplus for the year	6 613 532
Balance as at 31 March 2025	18 488 683
Surplus for the year	79 847
Balance as at 31 March 2026	18 568 530

The accounting policies on pages 62 to 63 and notes on pages 64 to 69 form an integral part of the annual financial statements.

Notes to the annual financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2026

1.1 Summary of material accounting policies

The principal accounting policies which have been applied in preparing the Telkom Foundation Trust (the Trust or Foundation) annual financial statements are set out below. The accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the previous financial year, unless otherwise stated.

Functional and presentation currency

The Telkom Foundation Trust annual financial statements are presented in South African rand, which is the functional and presentation currency of the Trust.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Trust have been prepared in accordance with the IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) Financial Reporting Guides as issued by the Accounting Practices Committee, Financial Reporting Pronouncements as issued by the Financial Reporting Standards Council and the requirements of the Trust Property Control Act No.57 of 1988. The annual financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The preparation of the annual financial statements is in conformity with IFRS which requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the annual financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period based on management's best knowledge of current events and actions. Actual results ultimately differ from these estimates. During the current year, there are no areas involving a high degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumption and estimates are significant to the financial statements.

1.1.1 New standards and interpretations

There were no new or amended standards applicable to the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2026. Certain new standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards have been published and approved by the Accounting Practice Board that are mandatory for the Trust's accounting years beginning on or after 1 April 2026 but which the Trust has not early adopted. Management has assessed the relevance of the new standards, amendments, and interpretations with respect to the Trust's operations and concluded that they are not relevant to the Trust.

1.1.2 Donations income

Income from donations is recognised at the value of the cash received or receivable.

Donations in the form of goods or services are recognised at the open market value of the goods or services being received. Donations collected are recognised as revenue when the Trust gains control, economic benefits are probable, and the amount of donations can be measured reliably.

1.1.3 Finance income

Interest is recognised on a time proportion basis, taking into account the principal amount outstanding and effective interest rate.

1.1.4 Financial instruments

Financial instruments are initially recognised when the Trust becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. All financial instruments, except trade receivables, are initially recognised at fair value plus or minus, in the case of financial assets and liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL), transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue. The carrying amount of these financial instruments is the approximation of fair value.

1.1 Summary of material accounting policies continued

1.1.4 Financial instruments continued

Financial assets, or a portion of financial assets, are derecognised when the Trust loses control of the contractual rights that comprise the financial asset. The Trust loses such control if it realises the rights to benefits specified in the contract, the rights expire, or if the Trust surrenders those rights.

A financial asset is impaired if its carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount. At each balance sheet date, financial assets are assessed for objective evidence of impairment. If any such evidence exists, the recoverable amount is estimated, and an impairment loss is recognised in accordance with IFRS 9 Financial Instruments.

Subsequent measurement of financial instruments carried on the statement of financial position is on the following basis:

1.1.4.1 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand in banks. These are at amortised cost where fixed maturity dates exist; otherwise, these amounts are measured at cost. For cash flow purposes, cash equivalents consist of cash at bank and on hand and instruments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash.

Twelve-month expected credit losses are calculated for cash and cash equivalents using the general approach. As cash and cash equivalents are current assets, 12-month and lifetime expected losses are the same. For reporting purposes, expected credit losses on cash and cash equivalents will be calculated based on a 12-month period if the bank has low credit risk. Impairment on cash and cash equivalents is calculated at each reporting date. No impairment loss is recognised on cash and cash equivalents where the calculated expected credit loss is not material.

1.1.4.2 Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables arise when Telkom allocates a budget to donate to the Telkom Foundation and this is approved and signed off by Telkom to ensure that the receivable is valid in terms of the right to receive the cash. Trade and other receivables include money market deposits held with financial institutions. These funds are invested by Telkom Group Treasury on behalf of the Trust in accordance with approved Group treasury policies. At initial recognition, the trade and other receivables are recognised at fair value of the amount Telkom has allocated to donate to the Telkom Foundation Trust. This arises when Telkom allocates a budget but does not make an immediate payment to the Telkom Foundation Trust.

Subsequently, the trade and other receivables are measured at amortised cost and derecognised when Telkom makes payments on behalf of the Telkom Foundation Trust. The Trust's trade and other receivables are subject to expected credit loss (ECL).

The amount of ECL is updated at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk of the receivables. The Trust has elected the simplified approach to recognise lifetime expected losses for its trade and other receivables as permitted by IFRS 9. The ECL calculated using the simplified approach is calculated using a provision matrix.

1.1.4.3 Other Payables

Other payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Other payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less (or in the normal operating cycle of the business if longer).

1.1.5 Staff costs

The cost of short-term employee benefits (payments made within 12 months after the service is rendered, such as paid annual leave and sick leave, bonuses, and non-monetary benefits such as medical aid), are recognised in the period in which the service is rendered and are not discounted.

The expected cost of compensated absences is recognised as an expense as employees render services that increase their entitlement or, in the case of non-accumulating absences, when the absence occurs. The expected cost of profit-sharing and bonus payments is recognised as an expense when there is a legal or constructive obligation to make such payments as a result of past performance.

1.2 Donations income

All cash and non-cash donations in the current period, were received from Telkom and its subsidiaries.

	2026 R	2025 R
Donations received from Telkom	35 356 176	31 243 379
Donations received from BCX	12 000 000	12 000 000
Donations received from Gyro	69 910	–
Donations received from Telkom Consumer division	17 425 013	16 595 250
Other donations received*	365 238	6 980 355
In kind		
– Services paid by Telkom	6 640 860	6 795 293
– Use of Telkom facilities office space	59 168	54 237
Total	71 916 365	73 668 513

* Other donations received in the current and prior year include recoveries from the Gauteng City Region Academy (GCRA), donation from South African Reward Association (SARA) and a Telkom executive employee. The decrease in other donations is primarily due to a prior year recovery of R6,7 million. In the 2024 financial year, Telkom paid stipends on behalf of the GCRA and subsequently recovered these costs in the prior year.

1.3 Finance income

	2026 R	2025 R
Interest received on Absa bank account	360 787	211 923
Interest earned on money market accounts	761 506	945 346
Total	1 122 294	1 157 269

Interest is earned on excess funds held in bank accounts. Interest received from the Absa bank account increased due to the increase in cash balance in the current year.

The decrease in interest earned on money market accounts is primarily due to lower average cash balances maintained during the year as well as a reduction in interest rates.

1.4 Staff expenses

	2026 R	2025 R
Full time staff salaries	4 563 866	4 698 301
Allowances	1 339 233	1 343 082
Bonuses	32 106	37 724
Trust contribution	629 015	587 841
Other benefits*	60 293	108 311
Training cost	16 348	20 034
Total	6 640 860	6 795 293

* Comprises of the leave provision and fuel allowance for the Telkom Foundation Trust employees. The leave provision in the statement of income and expenditure is the movement of the leave liability. The decrease in other benefits is mainly due to the decrease in number of employees as a result of a vacant position from August 2025.

The Trust does not employ staff in its own capacity. Staff costs represent the cost of employment of Telkom staff dedicated to the activities of the Trust, the full time staff salaries have decreased mainly due to one management position vacancy from August 2025. All benefits are provided by Telkom and are regarded as donations in kind.

1.5 Cash and cash equivalents

	2026 R	2025 R
Foundation current account	6 725 151	6 354 282

While the cash and cash equivalents are subject to the impairment requirements of IFRS 9, the identified impairment loss was immaterial.

1.6 Trade and other receivables

	2026 R	2025 R
Money market deposits*	15 186 543	6 425 036
Donor debtor	–	5 565 714
VAT receivable	831 751	329 122
Total	16 018 294	12 319 872

* These are funds invested with Telkom Group treasury on cash pool arrangement and earn interest.

Any amount committed by Telkom but not received is included in trade and other receivables. The increase in the money market deposit account is driven by the investment of surplus operational funds with Telkom Group Treasury which occurred close to year-end. While the trade and other receivables are subject to the impairment requirements of IFRS 9, the identified impairment loss was immaterial. Refer to note 1.14 for details. The donor debtor has moved to a credit in the current year, resulting in reclassification to other payables. This other payable amount is payable to Telkom by the Trust.

1.7 Cash generated from operations

	2026 R	2025 R
Surplus for the year	79 847	6 613 532
Interest received*	(1 122 294)	(1 157 269)
Adjustment for non-cash items:		
Non-cash donation received	(59 481 217)	(54 688 159)
Non-cash operating expenses	59 481 217	54 688 159
Working capital movement	1 052 529	(674 409)
Cash generated from operations	10 082	4 781 855
Working capital movement		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(2 936 915)	8 248 315
Increase/(decrease) in other payables	3 989 444	(8 922 724)
Net inflow/(outflow)	1 052 529	(674 408,57)

* Interest received consists of R360 787 received on the Absa bank account and R761 506 earned on the money market account, which is non-cash in nature.

1.8 Related parties

A related party relationship exists between the Telkom Foundation Trust and Telkom. Through representation on the Board of Trustees, Telkom can exercise significant influence over the financial and operating policy decisions of the Telkom Foundation Trust. In terms of the Trust Deed, the Board of Trustees consists of four Telkom trustees and three public trustees.

Related party transactions:

Operations of Telkom Foundation Trust are financed by Telkom, Telkom Consumer, the executives, Gyro and Business Connexion Group (BCX) through donations to the Trust. BCX and Gyro are the wholly owned subsidiaries of Telkom, and Telkom Consumer is a division of Telkom.

1.9 Taxation

No provision has been made for taxation as the Foundation has been approved as a Public Benefit Organisation in terms of Section 30 of the Income Tax Act, and the receipts and accruals are exempted from income tax in terms of Section 10(1) (cN) of the Act.

1.10 Trustees' remuneration

	2026 R	2025 R
Ms. S Isaacs (Chairperson)*	–	133 660
Mr. R Garach	87 197	78 723
Ms. L Vilakazi	78 724	87 471
Mr. S Bhembe (Chairperson)**	139 958	–
Total	305 879	299 854

* Resigned effective 14 December 2024.

** Appointed as chairperson effective 1 June 2025.

The total trustees' remuneration amounts to R305 879, representing costs related to meetings attended.

This remuneration pertains to externally appointed trustees.

1.11 Office and administration expenses

	2026 R	2025 R
External audit fees	98 406	98 000
Trustees' remuneration*	305 879	299 854
Brochure and printing	327 572	431 680
Consulting fees	–	137 940
Subsistence and travel	52 252	94 023
Device costs for Telkom Official Mobile Services (TOMS)	44 359	15 502
Rent expense	59 168	54 237
Marketing expenses	54 979	–
Legal costs	11 426	20 621
Other expenses	234 929	88 805
Total	1 188 970	1 240 661

Brochure, printing, subsistence and travel expenses decreased during the period, reflecting lower overall activity and a reduction in direct expenditure for these line items.

The increase in other expenses was primarily driven by costs incurred for trustee transition functions, which included events hosted for outgoing and newly appointed trustees.

Marketing costs relate to media expenditure incurred to profile the Foundation's various projects across public platforms.

1.12 Programme expenses

	2026 R	2025 R
Digital skills (Unemployment youth)	20 907 414	28 190 735
Education programme	39 900 693	31 511 157
Social development	4 320 875	474 404
Total	65 128 982	60 176 296

The overall increase in programme expenses is primarily driven by the Trust funding the 2025 Gauteng Provincial Government matric results announcement. Additionally, higher project costs were incurred for in-school counselling, career management, wellness days, and the education summit. This increase was partially offset by reduced spending on the youth digital skills and learner digital skills projects.

1.13 Other payables

	2026 R	2025 R
External audit fees	98 406	98 000
Provision (Trustee fees)	–	87 471
Donor payable	4 076 509	–
Total	4 174 915	185 471

1.14 Financial risk factors

Financial risk management objectives and policies

Exposure to continuously changing market conditions has made management aware of financial risks critical for the Trust. Treasury policies, risk limits and control procedures are continuously monitored by the Board of Trustees. Exposure to credit, liquidity, market, and cash flow interest rate risks arises in the normal course of the Trust's business. The Trust deposits its excess funds in Telkom as part of the cash pooling arrangement, for the temporary investment of short-term funds and to manage interest rate risks. In addition, financial instruments, for example trade and other receivables and other payables, arise directly from the Trust's operations. Operations of Telkom Foundation Trust are financed by Telkom, Telkom Consumer, the executives, and Business Connexion Group (BCX) through donations to the Trust. BCX is a wholly owned subsidiary of Telkom, and Telkom Consumer is a division of Telkom.

Capital risk management

The Trust's only debt is other payables to Telkom and the Trust maintains a positive cash balance, which management aims to sustain with the aspiration of servicing current and future debt obligations.

Credit risk management

Credit risk, or the risk of financial loss, is the risk that a counterparty will not meet its contractual obligations as they fall due per the stipulated contractual terms. With respect to credit risk arising from financial assets of the Trust, which comprise of trade and other receivables, the Trust's exposure to credit risk arises from a potential default by counterparts, with a maximum exposure equal to the carrying amount of these instruments.

Management has a credit policy in place and the exposure to credit risk is monitored on an ongoing basis. Credit evaluations are performed on all the counterparts that owe the Trust. The Trust does not require collateral in respect of financial assets.

The Trust's exposure to credit risk is influenced mainly by the individual characteristics of each counterpart.

Trade and other receivables comprise of the Trust's cash in Telkom money market bank account as well as donations pledged by the Telkom Group companies but not yet received. There are no significant concentrations of credit risk within the Trust.

1.14 Financial risk factors continued

Credit risk management continued

The Trust establishes an allowance for impairment that represents its estimate of expected credit losses in respect of trade and other receivables. The collective loss allowance is determined based on historical data of payment statistics for similar financial assets. The Trust only deposits cash with major banks with high quality credit standing and limits exposure to any one counterparty. Given the prior experience, relationships with the counterparts and their high credit ratings, management does not expect any counterparty to fail to meet its obligations. The impact of the economic environment increased the exposure to credit risk, and management uses its policies and procedures to deal with the increased risk. The Trust considered the expected credit loss and concluded that it was immaterial, and no amount was recognised. The carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents and trade and other receivables reflect the maximum exposure to the Trust. There is no collateral held as security against the above-mentioned items.

Cash and cash equivalents

Twelve-month expected credit losses are calculated for cash and cash equivalents using the general approach. Due to the fact that the Trust's cash and cash equivalents are noted as being current assets, the 12-month and expected lifetime expected losses are expected to be equivalent. In addition, given that these amounts are invested with a major South African bank, management expectation is that the impact on the total expected credit loss is negligible. As at the reporting date, the Trust did not recognise any expected credit losses for cash and cash equivalents. This approach will only be reconsidered should there be a future downgrade of the bank in which the amounts are invested.

Liquidity risk management

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Trust will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Trust is exposed to liquidity risk because of uncertain trade receivable related cash flows as well as capital commitments of the Trust. Liquidity risk is managed by the Trust's Finance department in accordance with policies and guidelines formulated by the Trust's Executive Committee.

There were no changes in the exposure to liquidity risk and its objectives, policies and processes for managing and measuring the risk from the previous period. The amounts disclosed in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

Balances due within 12 months equal to their carrying balances as the impact of discounting is not significant.

Contractual maturities of financial liabilities at 31 March 2026

	Notes	Less than 1 year R	1 to 2 Years R	Total R	Carrying amount R
Other payables	1.13	4 174 915	–	4 174 915	4 174 915

Contractual maturities of financial liabilities at 31 March 2025

	Notes	Less than 1 year R	1 to 2 Years R	Total R	Carrying amount R
Other payables	1.13	185 471	–	185 471	185 471

1.14 Financial risk factors continued

Market risk

The directors are of the opinion that the Trust is not exposed to any significant market risks which consist of currency risk, fair value interest rate risk and price risk for the reasons listed below:

(i) Fair value interest rate risk

It is not anticipated that the value of any financial instruments will fluctuate materially as a result of changes in market interest rates.

Cash flow interest rate risk

The directors are of the opinion that the Trust is not exposed to any significant cash flow interest rate risks that are SA denominated. The money market accounts are held with Telkom and yield a steady return. The money market accounts are held at Absa Group Ltd.

1.15 Going concern

The Trust's ability to continue as a going concern is dependent on the continued support mainly from Telkom Group. Telkom Group agreed to continue to support the Trust for the next twelve months. Accordingly, the annual financial statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recoverability and classification of assets, or to the amounts and classification of liabilities that might be necessary if the Trust is unable to continue as a going concern.

1.16 Subsequent events

The trustees are not aware of any other matter or circumstance since the financial year ended 31 March 2026 and the date of this report, or otherwise dealt with in the annual financial statements, which significantly affects the financial position of the trust and the results of its operations.

Acronyms used in this report

AACL	Animal Anti-Cruelty League
AEC	Alexandra Education Committee
AR	augmented reality
B-BBEE	Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment
CAPS	Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement
CSI	corporate social investment
CTE	career and technical education
ECD	early childhood development
ESG	environmental, social and governance
FAMSA	Families South Africa
FARMC	Financial, Audit and Risk Management Committee
FY	financial year
ICASA	Independent Communications Authority of South Africa
ICT	information and communications technology
JAM	Joint Aid Management
LMS	learning management system
MICT SETA	Media, Information and Communication Technologies Sector Education and Training Authority
NGO	non-governmental organisation
NPO	non-profit organisations
NYDA	National Youth Development Agency
PASS	Programme Analysis Strategy and Support (Committee)
PSI	public services institutions
SACE	South African Council for Educators
SDGs	United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
SEO	search engine optimisation
SET	Social Emancipating Transformers
SMME	small, medium and micro enterprises
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths
VR	virtual reality

Corporate information

Telkom Foundation

Head of Foundation: JX Vilakazi

Nature of business: Charitable trust

Trust registration number: IT – 0008325151

Non-profit organisation: 130004216

Company secretary

Tshegofatso Olifant

Financial officer

Portia Shadung

Registered office

The Hub, 61 Oak Avenue, Highveld Park, Centurion, 0157

Private Bag X780 Pretoria 0001 Republic of South Africa

Tel: +27 12 311 2186

Email: telkom.foundation@telkom.co.za

Website: <https://group.telkom.co.za/telkomfoundation/who-we-are.html>

Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers, Inc.

Bankers

Absa Bank Limited

The background is a solid dark blue. It features a series of concentric, slightly irregular circles in a lighter blue shade, creating a ripple effect. On the right side, there is a 3D sphere composed of many small, light blue dots, giving it a textured, digital appearance.

Telkom

www.telkomfoundation.co.za