

20  
22



# Annual Status Report

THE VUSA RUGBY & LEARNING ACADEMY



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# ORGANISATION DETAILS

## TRUSTEES

Tony Reeler (Chairman)  
Brendan Fogarty (Director)  
Simon Peile  
Greg Brown  
Richard Evans  
Delene Mark  
Charmaine Cheminais  
Sean King  
Mak Kahla  
Stuart Abbott  
Kay Lala-Sides  
Nosipho Poswa

## CONTACT DETAILS

### Director

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bfogarty@bishops.org.za

### Chief Operating Officer

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### Postal Address:

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Trust No: IT 296/2019 (C)  
NPO No: 229-180 NPO  
PBO No: 930066707  
BEEE : Procurement Level 1

## SECTION 18A

VUSA IS A REGISTERED  
PBO & CAN ISSUE A  
CERTIFICATE FOR ALL  
BONAFIDE DONATIONS

## LEVEL 1

BBEEE  
CERTIFICATION



# Chairman's Report

ANTONY REELER



This year has been a wonderful year for the VUSA Rugby Academy as Covid restrictions lifted and a semblance of normality returned to the programme. My grateful thanks go to the coaches and staff for their patience during the pandemic and the “can-do” attitude they showed in making sure that the children were able to thrive as best they could in often very difficult circumstances.

The education programme was the one that developed most this past year with a number of activities taking place that focused on the academic development of the children. This included a full second year of the “tuk tuk” mobile reading vehicle that provided much joy to so many through the books it took to the community. The partnership with Coronation, Atlas and the Digibus initiative had its first full year of operation and while initial teething problems had to be overcome, the bus is proving to be a wonderful asset, reaching many children with its innovative way of mobile teaching.

The rugby programme continued to do well and a highlight of the year was the participation of VUSA in the U13 Independent Schools Festival, hosted by Bishops. The team was superb, winning all of their games against some tough opposition, again highlighting that the talent that exists in our country only needs opportunity in order to shine through. The physical well-being of the players continues to be a priority and the partnership with the SPW programme at Bishops is highly valued.

VUSA is not just about rugby and the classroom. A number of outings and activities took place that tried to give each child a broad exposure to different skills. This included a very successful entrepreneurship programme, supported by Capitec, that ended in a Market Day that exposed the children to the real world of commerce, albeit in a protected space.

The VUSA programme continues to be supported by Bishops and our grateful thanks goes to the school community for all they do. The Prep PA continues to raise funds for VUSA and encourages boys from Bishops Prep and VUSA to work together in various areas. The College provided many opportunities for training from the 1st XV and also held a very successful Cyclethon where over R500 000 was raised by the Bishops community over 24 hours. Our grateful thanks go to Bishops for not only this support but also the administrative support they give by providing the necessary oversight and financial acumen.

The Board of Trustees is to be thanked for their ongoing support and we thank Geoff Brownell in particular who has supported Vusa as a Trustee since its inception in 2019. Geoff steps down from the Board and we welcome Ms Nosipho Poswa, Ms Kay Lala-Sides and Mr Stuart Abbott to the Board as new Trustees. We are certain that they will provide the expertise to continue to grow the programme.

I conclude by extending my very grateful thanks to our generous sponsors who give so much to VUSA. Words cannot truly express our thanks but a short visit to see the children in action goes a long way to explain the impact VUSA has on the children of Langa. My thanks go to the coaching staff and support staff of VUSA who always go the extra mile and to the three people who drive VUSA, Nikki Matthews, Brendan Fogarty and Mak Kahla – more passionate people would be hard to find and they are greatly appreciated.

We wish all our supporters well for the next year. Spread the word about VUSA and let us make this a model to emulate so that the extraordinary talent that exists in our communities can develop and grow.

# New to the Team in 2022

## Trustees



Stuart Abbott



Kay Lala-Sides



Nosipho Poswa

## Staff



Hilton Brink



Lebohang Mokoena



Thabo Tyantsi

## Interns - Ort-SA



Milisa Nqolobo



Athie Ncwadi



Nomvuyo Nqayi



Amanda Mju

# 2022 ECD Programme Overview

## ECD Programme

Our partnership with Dalukhanyo, Nomonde and Gege's Creche continues to grow with VUSA's intervention introducing an English as a Second Language (ESL) programme focusing on numeracy and literacy development. In December 2021, 8 VUSA facilitators participated in a training course with Project Playgrounds language specialist, Mercedes Artigue, who developed this structured ESL programme piloted at St Anthony's Pre-School in Langa.

This programme has successfully been implemented at each of the three VUSA ECD centers this year, with year-end assessments demonstrating successful development in all topics covered. The programme introduces a weekly theme, consolidated through the daily play programme. VUSA has also piloted the Breteau Foundations, One Billion OneTab programme. This robust offline device teaches numeracy and literacy at the child's level.



## Mobile Library

Not in our wildest dreams could we have imagined the joy this little vehicle would bring to 191 children in Langa every day. When Tata Lungile arrives at the creches, the children squeal with delight and more than once, we witness tears as he drives away. Lungile reads 2-3 stories to each centre daily, ensuring that he translates and often acts out the stories, capturing the children's imaginations and instilling a love for reading and books.



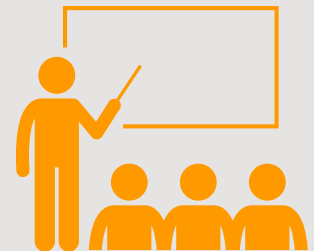
**1200**  
STORIES READ



**4**  
NUMERACY & LITERACY  
PROGRAMMES



**194**  
BENEFITTED



**8**  
FACILITATORS EMPLOYED  
FROM THE COMMUNITY

# 2022 After-School Programme

## Rugby

There is little doubt that rugby is the drawcard to the after-school programme. Out of 108 children surveyed, 92% cited rugby and safety as their primary reasons for attendance. The children love and trust their coaches and are motivated as this programme gives them access to competitive sports through the WP Schools league and 7's tournaments. One of 2022's highlights was hosting our first 7s tournament in Langa which we hope to include as an annual fixture on our calendar. These games, provide our children with the opportunity to meet new people at different schools and clubs each week. A highlight of the year was an invitation to the U13s to the Independent School's Rugby Festival, hosted by Bishops Diocesan Prep in July. Our children won all their matches. Whilst this speaks volumes about the standard of coaching, the most significant impact of this event was the confidence it gave our children. Our VUSA players know that their socio-economic background differs from most of their opponents but they also now believe this does not limit their abilities. We continue to grow the number of female players. Young girls are the community's most vulnerable members, and rugby empowers them on and off the field. It also demonstrates their strength to their male counterparts and provides teachable moments about gender equality and respect.



## Academic Programme

The after-school academic programme, in partnership with Edunova, offers lessons in English and Maths using digital platforms that follow the CAPS curriculum (CAMI and Matiific). Programme-based assessments have indicated that 63% of children have seen an improvement in their academic progress this year. Whilst this could be attributed to more than after-school lessons, additional benefits of the programme are that children are safe and supervised, classes take place in smaller groups with a greater pupil-teacher ratio, and each child receives a hot, nutritious meal at the end of the day.



226

ENGAGED PARTICIPANTS



63

FEMALE PARTICIPANTS



63%

IMPROVED ON BASELINE ASSESSMENTS



76%

U9'S HAD A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF MATHS CONTENT AFTER USING THE ONEB BILLION ONETAB

# 2022 After-School Programme continued

## Pop-Up Library

Every Friday afternoon, the pop-up library is set up at Ikhaya le Langa for children to take home a book. Books include English and isiXhosa books. Whilst the children love to take out books, 98% of those surveyed said they would prefer someone to read the book with them. A 2016 Progress in International Reading Literacy (PIRLS) study, which tested the reading comprehension of learners in Grade 4 found that 78% of South African pupils at this level could not read for meaning. It is imperative that more of our resources are directed to assisting with reading, both in the mother-tongue and English.




## Food

Poor nutrition in childhood can result in cognitive, physical, social and emotional developmental delays. Thanks to Shoprite and Checkers (We Act for Change) and the Lunchbox Fund, each child who attends the after-school programme is offered a hot, nutritious daily meal.



**47460**  
MEALS SERVED



**1200**  
LIBRARY BOOKS (ISIXHOSA  
& ENGLISH)



**1**  
MOBILE LIBRARY



# 2022 Recreational Programme Overview

## Recreational Outings

The recreational programme creates new experiences for our children. Most outings planned are in partnership with Bishops Prep and see the boys experiencing new places whilst meeting children from different races, religions and socio-economic groups. This year's expeditions included a morning at Fish Hoek Beach, an Easter Egg hunt and Easter craft morning at Bishops Prep, two outings to the Norval Foundation (thanks to Culture Connect and Coronation Fund Managers), an excursion to Green Point stadium with mentors and role-models (the Ubumbo Legends and the Stormers) and a day trip around Cape Town on the red bus, for our Under 13s as part of the Independent Schools Rugby Festival.



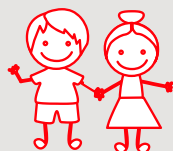
## Christmas Party

Our annual Christmas party hosted by the Bishops Gr6 & Gr7 families and supported by Shoprite Checkers was another magical, fun-filled afternoon with VUSA and Bishops children playing and interacting, delicious food and beautiful Christmas gift packs filled with amazing gifts!



6

EXCURSIONS



266

CHILDREN HAD A NEW EXPERIENCE



160

CHILDREN TREATED TO CHRISTMAS PARTY

# 2022 Atlas Digibus Overview



## The Atlas Digibus

It was with great excitement that we launched the unique Atlas Digibus project at the beginning of 2022. This mobile classroom, fitted with solar panels, 37 laptops and two teaching stations, was donated to VUSA by the Atlas Foundation.

The morning programmes, funded by Coronation Fund Managers, address the transition from mother-tongue learning to English for Grade 4 learners at the five schools in Langa. The afternoon programme uses the Matific programme to support learners with Maths using this engaging platform.

The project has been challenging, but the programme has had some pleasing results despite this.

Each of the 14 class averages has improved by a minimum of 20% since the start of the year. The baseline tests covered content taught in the English and Maths CAPS curriculum.

Fine motor skills proved to be a challenge for children using computers (some for the first time). Scrolling on the mouse and clicking on individual keys was difficult for some learners. Teaching basic computer skills also hindered the development of teaching language and mathematical concepts. To address this, in 2023, the programme will extend to include a coding programme for Grade 3 learners. This will mean that when they reach Grade 4, they will already be comfortable using the laptops and the teachers can focus on the core subjects.

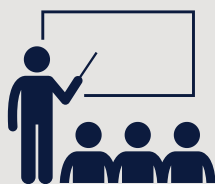
Programme Highlights:

- Significant improvement in internal assessments.
- Transfer of skills to interns and school teachers to be used in the classroom
- Children love using digital programmes to learn - seeing children so excited about learning is wonderful.



**804**

CHILDREN BENEFITED FROM THIS MOBILE CLASSROOM



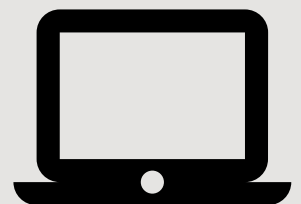
**9**

TEACHERS AND INTERNS UPSKILLED



**100%**

IMPROVEMENT OF CLASS AVERAGES IN ALL ASSESSMENTS



**100%**

OF PARTICIPANTS GAINED DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS

# Young Entrepreneurs

## CAPITEC/ SHOPRITE MARKET DAY



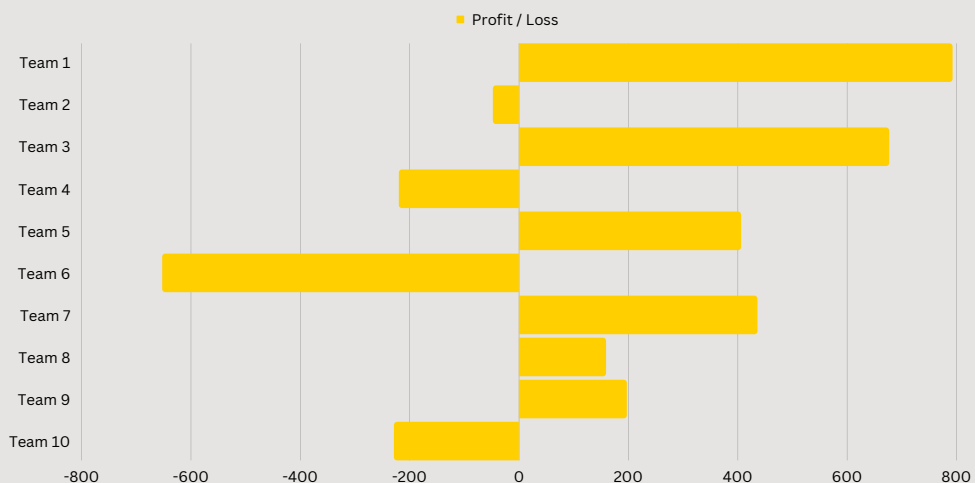
In July and August, 40 U13s attended weekly entrepreneurial workshops with staff from Capitec's retail, marketing and financial education teams. They worked through a series of marketing-related modules. These included creating a business idea and identifying needs and target markets through to financial literacy and marketing a business.

These workshops culminated in a market day, thanks to incredible organizations such as Capitec, Shoprite and Nomu, who "invested" in the children's businesses. The children set up stalls and sold everything from pot plants to pancakes.

Whilst not all teams made a profit, 40 children learnt a lot about starting something from scratch, partnerships, teamwork, budgeting, and marketing.

### Impact:

One of the girls took her profits, purchased doughnuts she sold at School the next week, and doubled her earnings. One team used their profits and set up a bead stall at the Pop-up collective's market at Morganhof.



# Participant Survey

## AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMME

### STATISTICS

We send a questionnaire to participants each year to assess the programme impact and to establish participant challenges and needs.

Sample : 108 Participants

61%

of full-time participants reported safety as their reason for regular attendance.

76%

reported improved results or better understanding of English & Maths since attending VUSA

77%

of participants would be left unattended if not at VUSA each afternoon

#### If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be?

- "My house" 10 years old
- "I would change the evil hearted people who kill animals and humans" 11 years old
- "People smoking drugs" 13 years old
- "I would change kidnappers, rape, robbery" 13 years old
- "I would change GBV" 13 years old
- "I would stop racism in the world" 13 years old
- "People abusing other people" 12 years old
- "I would change my home and my township" 14 years old
- "It would be people killing each other" 12 years old
- "Gangsterism" 13 years old
- "Bullying and abuse" 10 years old
- "Rape" 9 years old
- "Drugs and people killing each other" 10 years old
- "My mother and home" 12 years old
- "I would fix my shoes" 9 years old



# Staff Testimonial

FROM PARTICIPANT TO MENTOR

## Thabo Lennox Tyantsi

I have been involved with VUSA since 2013. First as a participant, then a volunteer and now as an employee. I am passionate about rugby and Vusa made me the player that I am today. The coaches taught me how to play rugby - not just the basics but also how to incorporate the discipline I learnt on the field, into my day to day life.

All youngsters should play for Vusa because they don't just play rugby. They also offer classes to help the children learn and there are outings that allow youngsters to explore many different things. I remember going on an outing to the aquarium in 2015 where I learned about types of ocean species. It was so much fun - I enjoyed that and miss the good old days. Now I'm back at VUSA and get to share what I've learnt with another generation of children (including my little brother.) VUSA has had a great impact on my myself and my family.

#AwakenOpportunities



# Wonderful Volunteers

"THIS IS HOW CHANGE HAPPENS. ONE GESTURE. ONE PERSON. ONE MOMENT AT A TIME." LIBBA BRAY



# 2022 FUNDRAISER

## CYCLE CHALLENGE

Brought to you by



**TOTAL RAISED**

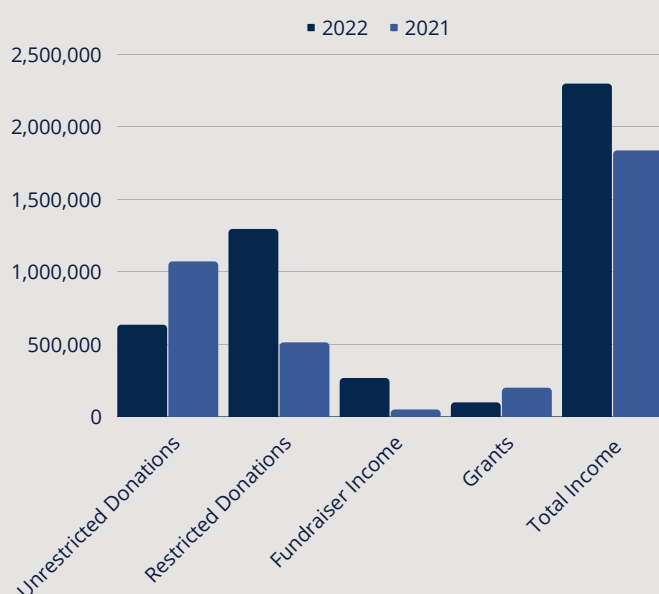
**R535,168**



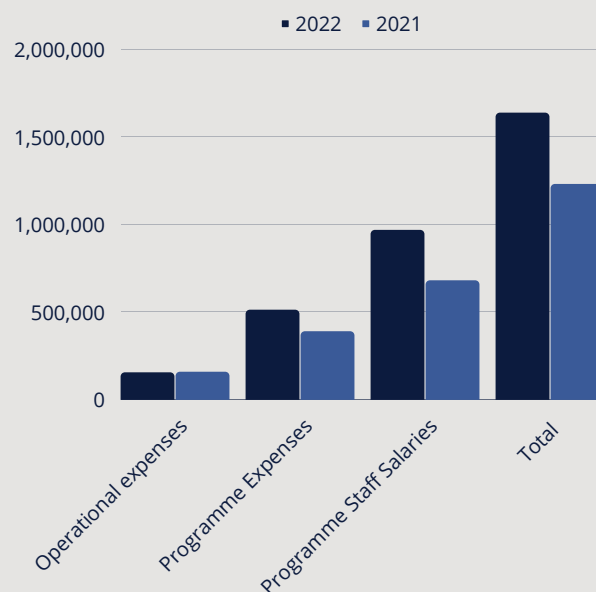
# Financial Summary Report

## SUMMARY OF AUDITED FINACIALS

### Income 2021 & 2022



### Expenses 2021 & 2022



### Summarised Statement of Financial Position as at 28 February 2022

Assets	28 Feb 2022
Bank	1 330 794.82
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b>1 330 794.82</b>
Current Assets	
Total Current Assets	65 121.99
Fixed Assets	
Total Fixed Assets	139 847.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1 535 763.81</b>
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	108 427.56
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>1 427 336.25</b>
Equity	
Current Year Earnings	657 892.18
Retained Earnings	769 444.07
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>1 427 336.25</b>

Please click [HERE](#) to view full audited financials for the year ending 28 February 2022

# What's next

## 2023 GOALS



**Our goals for 2023 are to ensure that we improve and fine-tune the daily delivery of the various aspects of our programme. We keep seeking new opportunities for partnerships and collaboration. These relationships are essential to ensuring that we uplift the standards of education, nutrition, physical health, and emotional well-being. These are fundamental building blocks to growing functional, contributing, and successful adults.**

### **ECD ESL Programme**

With the support of committed volunteers, this programme will ensure that learners remain engaged outside of the times VUSA runs programmes at the ECD centres. Volunteers create structured activity boxes and work with centre staff to deliver the activities thereby ensuring skills transfer and ongoing daily engagement for the children. We also hope to introduce the Early Learning Outcomes Measure (ELOM) which is assessed by external assessors. ELOM Assessments will provide each centre with a report of what stage their children are at developmentally.

### **Atlas Digibus**

A lot of teaching time was taken at the beginning of the year when children were introduced to laptops. The Grade 4 learners had no experience on digital devices and lacked the fine motor skills to navigate the laptop or mouse. As such, in 2023 we will introduce a coding programme for Grade 3 learners so that learners are equipped to learn digitally when they reach Grade 4.

### **Peer Learning**

The recreational programme with Prep School learners has meant children from two very different environments can meet and engage. This year we have worked with College Boys in the Big Ideas programme, who have introduced a volunteer programme which will give College boys the opportunity to go to Langa and coach rugby and assist with tutoring in the after-school programme.

# Thank you

We thank you for your generous support this year.

Thanks to the generosity of donors, organisations, individuals, volunteers, and staff, we have taken considerable strides to achieve our goal of creating sports, educational and recreational opportunities for children in the impoverished Langa community.

Many of our 15 staff members reside in the Langa community and employment at VUSA gives them a chance to gain vital skills and develop as coaches and facilitators whilst giving back to the community that raised them.

The need in South Africa continues to overwhelm us all and it is only through our partnerships that we can continue this work. Sharing time, product, expertise or financial support equates to more significant opportunities for the next generation.

We look forward to discussing this with you in the near future. In the interim, we thank you for your support.



We thank you for your continued support of our programs.

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# Theory of change

## EXTERNAL CHALLENGES

- Gangs and peer pressure
- Social Exclusion
- Poverty
- Lack of safe spaces
- Family dysfunction / Neglect
- High community crime
- Lack of education and service



## INTERNAL CHALLENGES

- Low confidence
- Gang association
- Self-isolating behaviour
- Attention / learning challenges
- Anti-social behaviour
- Sense of isolation
- Low self-esteem
- High risk sexual behaviour

### Activities

exposure to:



## INTERNAL CHANGES

- Improved **self-esteem**
- Instilled sense of **pride**
- **Hope** for the future
- Increased **self-respect**
- Sense of **safety & belonging**
- Improved **self-motivation**



## EXTERNAL CHANGES

- Improved **self-control**
- Improved **self-discipline**
- Improved personal and interpersonal **social skills**
- Improved **school attendance**
- **Interest in sport**
- **Respect** for cultural diversity
- **Respect** for the environment



## IMPACT

Individuals who:

- Are motivated
- Are confident
- Have **self-belief**
- Cope with change
- Have controlled behaviour
- Improved school attendance and academic outcomes
- Have become resilient children and teenagers

# VUSA'S Goals

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



VUSA contributes to the eradication of growing poverty in communities through implementing education & employment opportunities.



As part of the daily programme, beneficiaries receive a warm daily meal.



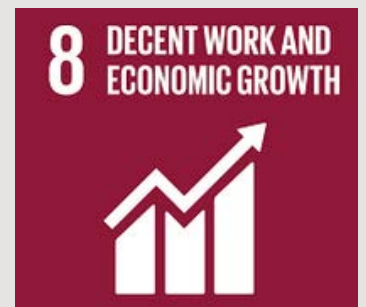
A core focus of the programme is promoting the benefits of exercise, nutrition, education and mental health



VUSA employs residents of the community as mentors and coaches. VUSA offers Maths & English support. and offers an ECD programme.



Young females are the most vulnerable members of the community and rugby empowers players both on and off the field.



VUSA aims to employ coaches and volunteers from Langa and surrounding areas. VUSA employs and upskills 13 staff members.



The peer learning program between Bishops and Vusa bridges inequality gaps. Exposure to various recreational activities provides beneficiaries with access to new opportunities



VUSA implements clean-up days as part of their activities and environmental educational programmes.



It is only through partnerships and collaboration that we are able to do the work we do.

# Partners

IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

