

THE VUSA RUGBY &  
LEARNING ACADEMY

7 Fir Road,  
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Cape Town  
7700



# ATLAS/VUSA DIGIBUS

DRIVING CHANGE

PROPOSED BY  
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Digibus



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## VUSA Rugby and Learning Academy

VUSA is a structured after school programme for primary school children in the Langa community. The programme currently offers sport (primarily rugby), academic support (English and Maths), recreational outings and a daily hot meal.

VUSA also supports three registered ECD centres in Langa developing numeracy and literacy skills.

## Problem the project is trying to solve

South Africa has an unequal education system with many schools dealing with overcrowded classrooms, staff absenteeism and poor academic outcomes, leading to a high drop-out rate which perpetuates the cycle of poverty. This has been exacerbated by COVID.

## Project approach to solving the problem

The Atlas Foundation will be donating a 42 seater bus, fitted with 40 laptops and 2 teaching stations to VUSA. In collaboration with leading boys school, Bishops Diocesan College, VUSA will be able to extend it's impact in the Langa community and move closer to our goal of delivering excellent education to children in Langa.

## Number of targeted beneficiaries

Current Beneficiaries : 330

Additional beneficiary impact : 1482 beneficiaries.

Weekly Impact: **1812 Children** (post COVID)

## What is required

- The equipped bus will be donated to VUSA by the Atlas Foundation in partnership with Cognizant. VUSA requires a named partner to support project costs of the Atlas Digibus.

## Grant amount requested for 3 year pilot

Total Programme Cost: R2,565,720

Annual Programme Cost: R855,240

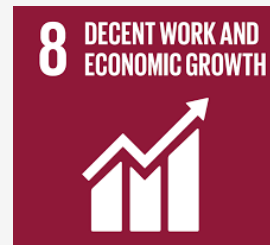
Unfunded Programme Cost: R605,240

## Partner Benefits

- As a registered PBO, donations are receipted with a Section 18A certificate. VUSA holds a Level 1 procurement on its BBEEE scorecard. (Administration and financial governance of all VUSA programmes is managed by Bishops Diocesan College.)
- Branding and marketing exposure across Bishops and Langa communities.

## Impact

A learning centre of this nature will enhance the academic standards of the community. The collaboration with Bishops and access to the internet create a powerful learning platform.



## WHY THIS WILL ADD VALUE

VUSA has become a safe after school space for young children in the Langa community. The closure of all the venues we utilise during lockdown, demonstrated the need for VUSA to have a facility that is accessible to children, not only during times of crisis but ALWAYS.

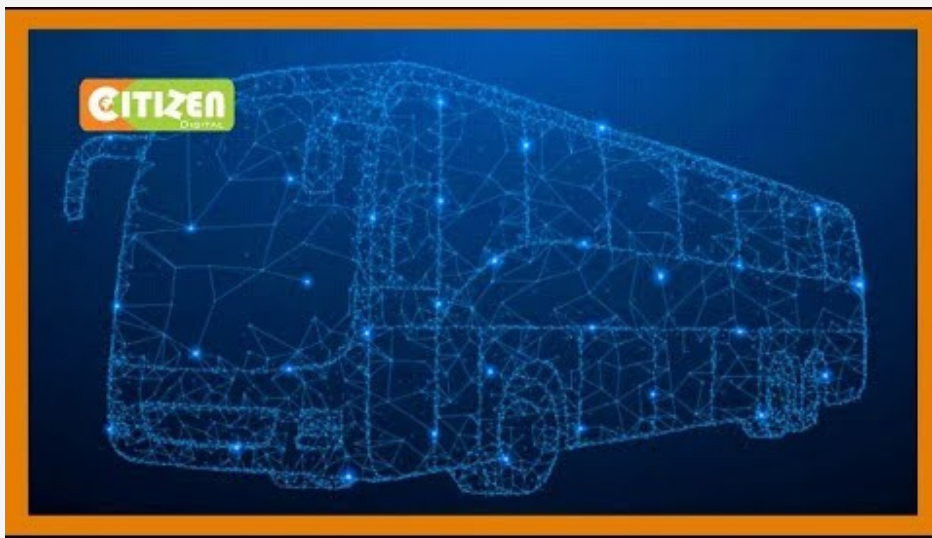
Through our partnership with Bishops Diocesan College, this Digital mobile bus unit would allow us to make a more meaningful impact in Langa making world class resources available to the Langa Community.

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- Attendance records show the number of participants impacted by the programme and frequency of attendance.
- Questionnaires and focus groups will be used to determine need and impact.
- CAMI programme currently tracks each participants progress.
- Base Line Tests will be used to record efficacy of ESL programmes.
- School Reports identify need and show progress.

For more info, please click on links below

[The Atlas Digibus](#)



- VUSA is a registered NPO and PBO and a level 1 BBEEE contributor.
- VUSA is administered by Bishops Diocesan College ensuring excellent governance.
- VUSA has diverse funding streams thereby ensuring it will continue to grow and deliver on its objectives.
- The impact of this programme will be measurable and visible.
- The named partner on this project will receive exposure in all VUSA/Bishops correspondence.
- This initiative is new and has the potential for meaningful impact. It will attract both local and global branding exposure.

For more on VUSA, please click [HERE](#)

### Organisation Details:

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

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**AN OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE AN IMPACTFUL, MEASURABLE, LONG TERM PROGRAMME THAT WILL ENHANCE OUR CHILDREN'S ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND ULTIMATELY THEIR FUTURES AS FULLY FUNCTIONING SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZENS.**

## OVERVIEW

VUSA (The isiXhosa word for awaken) is a registered NPO which offers social upliftment for children in the Langa Community in Cape Town. As the programme has developed, greater needs have been identified. The root cause of the challenges that some of our youth face such as poor mental and physical health, addiction, homelessness, crime and family breakdown are often attributed to deficiencies in early childhood leading to inactive citizens and perpetuating the poverty cycle. The VUSA programme offers children in the Langa community a safe space which provides access to sports, academic support (in Maths and English), recreational outings, a hot daily meal and access to our caring staff (members of the Langa community) who act as teachers, coaches and mentors.

**"IT IS NOT BEYOND  
OUR POWER TO  
CREATE A WORLD IN  
WHICH ALL  
CHILDREN HAVE  
ACCESS TO A GOOD  
EDUCATION..."**

**NELSON MANDELA**

## EXTENDED ACCESSIBILITY

Covid had a significant impact globally but the impact on poorer communities in South Africa has been devastating. Our partner organisation, Bishops Diocesan College was able to quickly adapt to online learning whilst children from the Langa schools lost most of the 2020 academic year (many schools in Langa are still not back full time).

VUSA currently runs programmes utilising school venues and municipal sports fields. When lockdown occurred, we had no space from which to support our children. Whilst our ECD partners provided us with a space to distribute a daily meal and hard copy English and Maths worksheets to provide academic support, it was a stark reminder that if VUSA is to continue to make a significant impact in the community, especially in times of such great need, VUSA needs to extend accessibility to the children we work with, ensuring that we are not 100% reliant on the facilities we utilise to provide the programmes so desperately required in the community - so was born the Atlas Digibus

# THE CHALLENGES

## LEARNING & LANGUAGE BARRIERS

The South African Institute of Race Relations (IRR) has released a new report on whether the current state-run school system aids or stunts the development of South African learners. "The data in this report shows that, among other things, only 33% of Grade 12 candidates 'passed' Maths with a grade of 40% or higher. A 2016 Progress in International Reading Literacy (PIRLS) study which tested reading comprehension of learners in Grade 4 found that 78% of South African pupils at this level could not read for meaning."



One of the contributing factors for this is a language barrier. Children learn in their mother tongue through the foundation phase of schooling and when they reach Grade 4, they convert to learning in English. Whilst this is a global language it will only benefit the child, if they are able to competently read and write in it.

This carries over to all subjects. South Africa's drop-out rate is a staggering 40% of which 17% of pupils site poor academic performance as their primary reason for leaving school.

### Facilities

As we know township schools are already running at full capacity. Staff are overwhelmed with classes of 40+ students. Learners who are experiencing difficulties fall further behind. Whilst teachers would welcome support with morning programmes, most schools do not have available classroom space from which to run these programmes.

### Covid

Whilst VUSA runs academic lessons in the afternoons, COVID has meant that classes run at 50% capacity to adhere to social distancing requirements. This means that we are currently only able to assist 40 children a day with academic support.

## PARTNERSHIPS AND RESOURCES

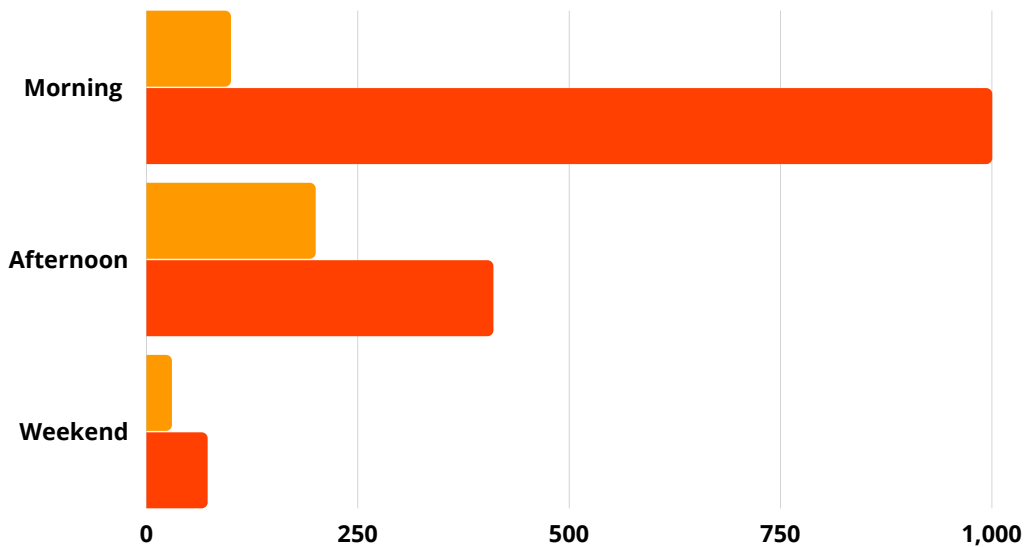
The VUSA project was started by staff of a leading private boys school, Bishops Diocesan College. The programme has provided opportunities for peer learning programmes between Bishops and VUSA children. As the programmes has grown, more Bishops staff have expressed an interest to support the programme (including the Bishops Council and The School Executive). Bishops funds all of the programme's operational expenses and oversees all finance, governance, administrative and HR processes.

VUSA is therefore in a privileged position to have access to some of the countries leading educators, and materials as well as a community of children who desperately require access to an excellent education. VUSA has formed close relationships with schools in the Langa community - All that is missing is an accessible facility from which to operate. With the Digibus - the possibilities are limitless.

# DIGIBUS IMPACT

## HOW WOULD THE DIGIBUS IMPACT THE PROGRAMME

The addition of a bus equipped with computers would ensure that VUSA could extend and provide greater impact to the existing academic programme, utilizing Bishops expertise and materials to provide more children in Langa access to digital learning opportunities. This could open up a space for staff development and shared learning as well as workshops for parents.



- **Current Participant Numbers**
- **Projected Participant Number**



# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## 01 MORNING PROGRAMMES

VUSA would like to pilot a programme introducing an 'English as a Second Language' (ESL) programme for primary school learners. Increasing English vocabulary and reading skills would have a knock on effect on all other subjects. If school time-tables allowed for it we would also offer Maths through the Cami programme - continued research on needs and how best to tackle support interventions would be ongoing.

## 02 AFTERNOON PROGRAMMES

VUSA currently provides English and Maths support for 200 children per week. This could extend to provide additional lessons to participants. The existing programme reinforces concepts taught at school. New programmes could be introduced utilising online Maths and English worksheets from the Bishops curriculum. Other programmes which could be introduced include:

- additional peer learning programmes
- additional skills such as robotics / coding
- basic computer training – an essential skill in today's society and one not all children have access to.

## 03 WEEKEND PROGRAMMES

- This space could also allow for online staff training programmes to upskill our teachers and coaches (who all reside in the community) as well as staff from local schools.
- Parent training programmes – this could provide a space to teach parents tools to support their children with homework.
- **Matric preparations programmes**
- Coding programmes
- Reading and Writing Programmes

## 04 PEER LEARNING PROGRAMMES

Peer learning programmes – this is one of the greatest impacts of the Bishops / VUSA partnership allowing children from both communities to teach and learn from each other. Classes could be set up on Teams or after COVID in person between Bishops children and VUSA children.

# PROGRAMMES

ENGLISH AND MATHS LESSONS - MORNING PROGRAMMES

## School Programme

5 x lessons at 1 school each day (5 primary school's in Langa)

(8am - 2pm)

Staff: 1 x Teacher

1 x Driver and facilitator

Subject: English & Maths

### Planning

Needs assessment from the 5 schools we work with to ascertain the greatest areas of need.

Employment of staff

Wifi

Monthly Cost: R41,400

## After-School Programme

Edunova Maths and English Programme extended to this programme - supported by VUSA Teacher.

Cost: R5,500

## Additional Programmes

Teacher / Staff Training

Programmes to show parents how to support children with homework.

Matric workshops (Matrics in Langa could join online workshops with boys /staff from Bishops to work through old Matric papers.)

Coding Workshops

CV writing and soft skill workshops

Cost dependent on training offered - where possible volunteers would be used.

## Bishops Support

Parking - Bus to be parked on Bishops campus at night, weekends, holiday

IT Support - The IT department have pledged to provide start-up support.

Insurance - Premium significantly less if added to Bishops Fleet.

Volunteer Staff

Access to learning material





# BUDGET

## DIGI BUS BUDGET FOR 2021 / 2022

### PROGRAMME EXPENSES

EXPENSES	ONCE-OFF	MONTHLY	AD-HOC	ANNUAL
DRIVER		10000		120000
TEACHER		20000		240000
TEACHER SUPPORT		5500		66000
SECURITY GUARD		8000		96000
IT SUPPORT		8000		96000
DATA		2000		24000
INVERTER	INCLUDED			0
LITHIUM ION BATTERY	INCLUDED			0
FIRE EXTINGUISHERS			800	800
ADMINISTRATOR		10000		120000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>63500</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>762800</b>
<b>RUNNING COSTS</b>				
FUEL		2000		24000
INSURANCE		2745		32940
SERVICE			7000	7000
ROADWORTHY			1200	1200
TRACKER		400		4800
TYRES			2500	2500
LICENCE			20000	20000
<b>TOTAL RUNNING COSTS</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5145</b>	<b>30700</b>	<b>92440</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>68645</b>	<b>31500</b>	<b>855240</b>

# VUSA'S Goals

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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



Part of the daily programme is a warm meal at 5pm. This amounts to 500 meals served per day by Vusa



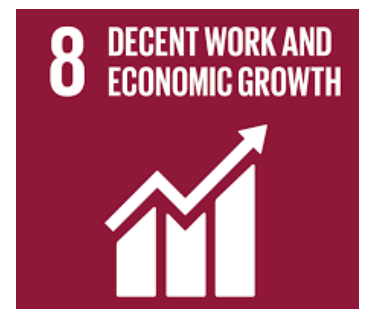
A core focus of the programme is promoting the benefits of exercise, nutrition, education



Vusa employs and trains community locals as mentors and coaches. As a team, Vusa offers Maths & English support. Vusa also offers an ECD Programme.



As a progressive organisation, Vusa aims to have a mixed gender rugby and education programme.



Vusa aims to employ coaches and volunteers from Langa and surrounding areas. Vusa now employed 13 staff members.



The peer learning program between Bishops and Vusa bridges inequality gaps. Exposure to various recreational activities that create future opportunities.



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



Vusa's partnership with Bishops and many other partners have allowed Vusa to have an enormous impact on their students and surrounding communities.

# THEORY OF CHANGE

a description of why and how our activities bring necessary impact to our communities



## CHALLENGES

gang pressure  
poverty  
social exclusion  
lack of safe spaces  
high community crime  
exposure to violence  
family dysfunction/neglect  
lack of educational services

sense of isolation  
low self-esteem & confidence  
self-isolating & anti-social behaviour  
attention challenges  
high-risk of negative sexual behaviour  
risk of substance abuse  
frequent illness  
gang association



## ACTIVITIES

exposure to sports & **rugby**  
access to **caring adults**  
access to a **safe** space  
English & Maths **classes**



attendance of these activities is necessary for the positive impact to occur



## INTERNAL CHANGES

improved **self-esteem**  
instilled **pride**  
**hope** for the future  
increased self-**respect**  
sense of **safety** & belonging



## EXTERNAL CHANGES

improved **self-control**, self-**discipline**, peer **relations**, school attendance and **interest in sport**



## IMPACT

individuals who:  
cope with change  
have controlled behaviour  
improved in school work  
and have become resilient children and teenagers



report done by

the good machine