



13 June 2022

Installation, Repair & Maintenance Covid-19 Response: Creating Jobs While Saving Lives

The **National Business Initiative (NBI)** is delighted to profile the results of various repair and maintenance interventions under our Economic Inclusion Installation, Repair and Maintenance (IRM) Covid Response work, funded by the German Development Cooperation (GIZ), Swiss Economic Cooperation and Development (SECO).

By procuring local enterprises to deliver the renovation and improvement work required at two clinics in Soweto, small township contractors and youth have been given an opportunity to grow and develop their potential while contributing to increasing the quality of patient care. For the City of Johannesburg, up to eight township contractors have been procured to deliver the renovation and improvement services at two primary health care clinics: Nokuphila and Zondi Clinics. The support provided to these enterprises, to undertake the work, will ensure they are able to navigate through the aftereffects of the pandemic, strengthen their business operations and increase their market opportunities. Simultaneously, this created the opportunity for vital on-the-job training of 40 unemployed youth.

Nokuphila Clinic



Zondi Clinic



At the Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital (CHBAH), the repair and maintenance work focused primarily on medical equipment such as beds, wheelchairs, stretchers and cots, as well as key furniture that has fallen into disrepair, all of which will eventually be auctioned and would have to be replaced at significant cost. Over 1200 pieces of equipment and furniture were repaired over a 6-month period and put back into good use within the hospital. Local mentors were contracted to oversee this work and train 60 unemployed youth on the job. The training facility, which has been built through the joint funding of GIZ and SECO, has already enrolled its next group of 51 unemployed youth and the model will be expanded beyond CHBAH this year, through replication across nine other hospitals in the Gauteng Province.

Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital



In addition, the NBI's IRM programme has been providing support to 43 township plumbing enterprises across Gauteng through a combination of enterprise development support and skills enhancement. The latter includes enabling township plumbers to have their competencies assessed, skills gaps addressed and undergoing a trade test towards the full plumbing trade qualification and registration.

With the support of our member companies, we can make an even bigger differences by expanding our network of clinics, thereby providing key infrastructure support while capacitating enterprises and providing much needed on-the-job training for unemployed youth.

The City of Johannesburg is currently trying to raise the funding to renovate Shanty Clinic, which has a long heritage and would be a significant project for the Soweto community. There would be a strong focus on sustainable building materials and practices, as this is a semi-permanent structure currently, allowing plenty of scope for innovative and resource efficient approaches.

If you would like to find out more about this important work, or to get involved and support the expansion of our IRM work, please contact Anthony Gewer - Programme Manager: Social Transformation (AnthonyG@nbi.org.za)



Copyright © 2022 NBI, All rights reserved.

The National Business Initiative (NBI) is an independent and voluntary coalition of South African and multinational businesses launched in 1995 by the then President, Nelson Mandela.

NBI Website: www.nbi.org.za

Email: info@nbi.org.za

The National Business Initiative (NBI) respects your right to privacy, if you do not wish to receive any further news updates from the NBI, please click [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) and your name will be removed from the mailing list.