

CORPORATE INVESTMENTS

ANNUAL REPORT

ON PARTNERSHIPS ESTABLISHED WITH DISABILITY
ORGANIZATIONS TO PROMOTE YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT

2021/22 FY



NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
OUR YOUTH. OUR FUTURE.



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Annual Report on partnerships established
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youth development

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1. Introduction to the National Youth Development Agency

The NYDA is a South African based agency established primarily to tackle challenges that the nation's youth are faced with. The NYDA derives its mandate from the legislative frameworks, including the NYDA Act (54 of 2008), the National Youth Policy (2009–2014) and the draft Integrated Youth Development Strategy as adopted by the Youth Convention of 2006. The NYDA activities could be summarized as follows:

- Lobby and advocate for integration and mainstreaming of youth development in all spheres of government, private sector, and civil society.
- Initiate, implement, facilitate, and coordinate youth development programmes;
- Monitor and evaluate youth development intervention across the board and mobilise youth for active participation in civil society engagements; and
- Develop the integrated national youth strategy.

The institution was established to be a single, unitary structure, to address youth development issues at National, Provincial and Local government level. The existence of the NYDA should be located within the broad context of South Africa's development dynamics. Similar to many developing countries, South Africa has a large population of youth, those between the ages 14–35; represent 42% of the total population. Given the youthful nature of the South African population much of the socio-economic challenges faced by the nation, i.e. poverty, inequality and joblessness, poor health etc., are borne by the youth.

The gravity of challenges South Africa is faced with, require multi – pronged efforts, that simultaneously promote the development of sustainable livelihoods, reduce poverty, inequality and prioritise the development of policies which create an enabling environment for youth development.

The NYDA plays a leading role in ensuring that all major stakeholder's, i.e. government, private sector, and civil society, prioritise youth development and contribute towards identifying and implementing lasting solutions which address youth development challenges. Furthermore, the NYDA designs and implements programmes aimed at improving lives and opportunities available to youth. These programmes are clustered as follows: At an individual level (Micro level), the NYDA provides direct services to youth in the form of information provision, career guidance services, mentorship, skills development and training, entrepreneurial development and support, health awareness programmes and involvement in sport.

At a Community level (Meso Level), the NYDA encourages young people to be catalysts for change in their communities through involvement in community development activities, social cohesion activities, national youth service programmes and dialogue. At a Provincial and National level (Macro Level), through its policy development, partnerships, and research programmes, the NYDA facilitates the participation of youth in developing key policy inputs which shape the socio-economic landscape of South Africa.

**NYDA's Vision:**

A credible, capable, and activist development agency that is responsive to the plight of South Africa's youth.

NYDA 's Mission:

- To mainstream youth issues into society
- To facilitate youth development with all sectors of society

NYDA's Values:

- Integrity and honesty
- Excellence
- Respect and humility
- Professionalism
- Accessibility

2. The NYDA Disability strategy

Persons with disabilities constitute the world's largest minority which continues to experience barriers to participation in all aspects of life including the economy. These barriers take a variety of forms, including those relating to the physical environment or to information and communications technology (ICT), or those resulting from legislation or policy, or from societal attitudes and discrimination. The result is that persons with disabilities do not have equal access to socio-economic rights and services, including education, employment, health care, transportation, political and economic participation, or justice. The UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities use an encompassing definition of persons with disabilities, who are defined in Article 1 as including "those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others." This UN definition is applicable in this strategic approach.

Youth with disabilities are an integral part of the South African society. Therefore, youth programmes must speak to their needs to correctly fulfil the principle of economic justice when dealing with opportunities that are intended to benefit young people across South Africa. It is critically that NYDA create an environment that will pursue reasonable accommodation for the youth with disabilities in all sectors within the society. The 2016 Community Survey data also show that the disability prevalence in South Africa has increased slightly from 7,5% to 7,7% from 2011 to 2016.



NYDA must initiate catalytic programmes designed to benefit youth from disadvantaged backgrounds (primarily youth from rural areas, youth with disabilities, and young women) co-ordinate youth focused programmes across all sectors of government and industries to align resource allocation. The strategy, while emphasising the development of all youth, acknowledges the reality of limitation of resources and as a result prioritises those efforts and interventions should give second

chance to the most marginalised and excluded youth groups. Of the stated categories, this strategy argues that immediate attention should be given to the youth with disabilities and NYDA is committed in making sure that this specific cohort find expression in the strategic planning.

The issues pertained to disabilities are complex and sensitive to address. It is probably for the latter reason that several organisations such as Public and Private tend to side-line the disability issue to the periphery of their Programmes of Actions (PoAs). Chapter 2 of the constitution of the Republic of South Africa (RSA) is in fact drawn from the United Nation Convention on the Rights of Person with Disabilities. Thus, NYDA, as the youth representative agency should not be found faltering this line of much. It dares not fail in these inalienable rights for persons with disabilities. The purpose of this strategy is therefore to address this gap and encourage the National Youth Development Agency to streamline its youth development programmes to encompasses youth with disabilities as dictated by laws of the country.

Therefore, the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) could therefore not find itself acting outside of this government mandate. In other words, disability matters should also constitute the vision and mission of the NYDA. This calls for all NYDA divisions to ascertain that youth with disabilities find expressions in the divisional roles and responsibilities. Young people with disabilities are struggling to access economic opportunities because of lack of support from the relevant stakeholders. It is important that youth with disabilities are prioritised in tender opportunities through set-asides for young people. Although legislation makes provision for business opportunities for people with disabilities, there are no tangible outcomes from government business opportunities set aside for persons with disabilities. In most institutions there are no business opportunities set aside for persons with disabilities.



3. Background

In June 2019, the Department of Women was renamed the Department of Women, Youth and Persons living with Disabilities (DWYPD). In line with the National Development Plan, the White Paper on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (WPRPD) reiterates that the primary responsibility for disability equity lies with national, provincial, local government and other sectors of society but also allocates responsibilities to persons living with disabilities and their families. The vision of the WPRPD is "the creation of free and just society inclusive of all persons living with disabilities

as equal citizens." Moreover, the NYDA strategy on youth with disability must be guided by the fundamental principles enunciated by United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) of 2006. It is therefore imperative that the youth with disability strategy must find expressions in CRPD. It should not contradict such noble ethos on myriad of youth with disabilities.

People with disabilities aged 20 years and above are over three times as likely to have no education (24,6%) compared to the general population. Among persons who achieved Grade 12, the proportion of persons with no disability was almost three times that of persons with disabilities (11,7% compared to 30%). In the context of the National Youth Policy's references to disability, the agency aims to promote the interest of the youth, particularly young people with disabilities. With the NYDA being a reporting entity of the DWYPD also strives to further create an environment that is inclusive of persons living with disabilities. It is therefore against this background as a Public Entity that the NYDA has compiled a project risk register.



Young people with disabilities are not homogenous as there are different disabilities that require different interventions. The sector representing youth with disabilities proposes the establishment of a disability unit at the NYDA to undertake to facilitate of all programmes aimed at transforming the lives of youth with disabilities. Key strategic points for consideration Discrimination and stigmatisation of people with disabilities. o Limited economic opportunities for people with disability. Access to is education limited and where there is access, it is inadequate. There is also a tendency to lump people with disabilities together despite their different needs.

Theoretically, the organisation's strategy must also analyse the external environment so that the organisation must have a background understanding about who it is dealing with externally. In other words, the NYDA should consider establishing a well thought strategic partnerships with disability youth organisations.

The following disability youth organisations may be considered, namely: -

- Disabled Youth South Africa (DYSA)
- Deaf Youth South Africa
- Epilepsy SA Youth Ambassadors
- South African Deaf Youth development Project (SADYDP)
- South African Blind Youth Organisation (SABYO).



4. Partnerships established with Disability organizations to promote youth development

4.1 2021/22 Financial Year Summary

- The NYDA Disability strategy approved
- Database of disability organisations created and updated regularly
- Internal Disability strat implementation committee established
- Collating all the disability activities by various units/department internally
- Signed MOU with South African Blind Youth Organisation (National)
- Draft MOU with Albinism renaissance forum (GP)
- Rzwimisani Special school (Limpopo) –MOU being drafted
- Fulufhelo special School-Limpopo (MOU drafted)
- Disability Rights Matter (MOU Drafted-WC)
- Discussions underway Vukuhambe Special School-EC, EL)
- Dialogue with SABYO, Blind SA
- Webinar to commemorate disability day
- Disability sector participated in the international events (BRICS, IBSA, SA-Nigeria Dialogue, UNESCO etc)

4.1 South African Blind Youth Organisation (SABYO-National)

4.1.1 Objectives of the partnership

Establish a framework for collaborative work between the Parties in the Republic of South Africa for work towards promoting the interest of youth, particularly young people with living with Blindness:

- To create an enabling environment that would promote the full participation of youth with living with blindness in the NYDA programmes.
- To develop mechanisms and capacities that would facilitate the integration of youth living with blindness to participate in community programmes.
- To identify and eliminate barriers to participation and development in economic opportunities

4.2 The Albinism Renaissance Forum (Gauteng)

4.2.1 Objectives of the partnership

Establish a framework for collaborative work between the Parties in the Republic of South Africa for work towards promoting the interest of youth, particularly young people living with albinism:

- To create an enabling environment that would promote the full participation of youth with living with albinism in NYDA programmes;
- To develop mechanisms and capacities that would facilitate the integration of youth living with albinism in community programmes;
- To identify and eliminate barriers to participation and development in economic opportunities.

4.3 Rzwimisani Special school (Limpopo)

4.3.1 Objectives of the partnership

The overall purpose of the partnership is the development of mutual co-operation in the provision of assistance to young people living with disabilities in the areas of entrepreneurship and enterprise development, and overall skills development. The duration of the agreement is 36 Months (3 Years).

4.4 Fulufhelo Special School (Limpopo)

An MOU has also been drafted with Fulufhelo Special School in Limpopo. The Mou will be concluded in the first quarter of 2022 financial year. The overall purpose of the partnership is the development of mutual co-operation in the provision of assistance to young people living with disabilities in the areas of entrepreneurship and enterprise development, and overall skills development.

4.5 Disability Rights Matter (MOU Drafted-WC)

An MOU has also been drafted with Fulufhelo Special School in Limpopo. The Mou will be concluded in the first quarter of 2022 financial year. The overall purpose of the partnership is the development of mutual co-operation in the provision of assistance to young people living with disabilities in the areas of entrepreneurship and enterprise development, and overall skills development.

5. Possible Partnerships Discussions

Discussions have been held with the Disabled Youth South Africa (DYSA), Deaf Youth South Africa, Epilepsy SA Youth Ambassadors, South African Deaf Youth development Project (SADYDP) and Vukuhambe Special School based in the East London, Eastern Cape. An agreement was reached that MOUs will be development will all the listed organisations. The overall purpose of the partnership is the development of mutual co-operation in the provision of assistance to young people living with disabilities in the areas of entrepreneurship and enterprise development, and overall skills development in their sector of operation.



6. International Day of Disabled Persons 2021

The NYDA commemorated the International Day of Disabled Persons on the 03rd December 2021 under the theme “Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world.” Various organisations were invited to participate, and the event was successful and had full participation.

7. Dialogue with Blind SA and SABYO

The NYDA participated and presented the disability strategy as well as products and services in dialogues organized by Blind SA and SABYO. The Blind SA 75th Anniversary Conference and Exhibition was held in 11-12 November 2021. The South African Blind Youth Organization (SABYO) will be hosting a webinar on the 11th of April 2022. The topic of the webinar will be “Starting and Improving your own business.” The NYDA will participate and make a presentation during the webinar.

8. Participation in International activities/events

Organisations in the disability sector are also invited to participate in international events/activities. In 2021/22 FY, the disability sector formed part of the delegation that represented South Africa in the BRICS Youth Summit, IBSA Youth Summit and SA-Nigeria Dialogue. The sector will continue to form a part of the activities.

9. NYDA Sponsorship

Further to the development and conclusion of MOUs, organisations will be encouraged to apply for sponsorship in accordance with the NYDA sponsorship policy.

10. Conclusion

The NYDA will continue to make inroads in the disability sector in accordance with the disability strategy.



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