

Jan/Feb 2022

# Touching Africa Gazette

# TAG

Living the Difference



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# About this

# TAG

The Touching Africa Network can be compared to an organism that grows as it is fed, nurtured, and cared for. The organism consists of people. You and me. Every single one of us plays a very significant role in this network, as every single one of us plays a significant role in the body of Christ under His submission and authority.

This year, we are focusing on nurturing this 'organism' by having workshops in the different focus areas within the network, including education, agriculture, social development, business development, services to the network and professional services on project level. We invite you to read through this TAG and the website to look at the various co-operatives that were developed from these focus areas.

Where do you fit in?

Where can your organisation slot in?



Check out our new Website

# 2022 Co-operative Workshop Dates

## Training and Education Services Workshop

2022/03/10 (Thursday)

Coordination between various educational and training options, service providers, institutions, programs and new development

## Integrated Development Services Workshop

2022/04/07 (Thursday)

Rendering professional services including infrastructure development and housing

## Agricultural Services Workshop

2022/05/06 (Friday)

Agriculture-related services and development

## Big TA Conference

2022/09/15,16 (Thursday, Friday)

A Touching Africa Conference where ALL NETWORK MEMBERS ARE INVITED to join us for a time of networking, sharing ideas and planning for the future.

# Touching Africa Vision and Network



NB! Please check out our [NEW WEBSITE](#) and update your Network Membership Details on the Take Hands page so that we can update everyone's details on the new system.

# The Word became FLESH

Stephan Pretorius

Albert Einstein once said that everything that is truly great and inspiring, is created by the individual who can labour in freedom. We need a sense of freedom in order to create a future for ourselves and our loved ones.

The challenge is that there are so many circumstances and realities that take us into captivity – especially in our minds. This leads to a fear for the future or a sense of inferiority within us, resulting in us becoming ever more dependent on public information and other people’s opinions.

True freedom is only possible if we see a BIGGER picture than the circumstances that keep us captive. Moses saw a bigger picture than the reality of Egypt where he was seen as a son of Pharaoh’s daughter, and “chose to be mistreated with the people of God” (Hebrew 11:25). The Hebrew writer recalls that Moses saw Christ – almost 1500 years prior to the birth of Jesus! (Hebrews 11:26).

This opportunity is also available for us today – more than 2000 years after the cross – to see the BIGGER PICTURE, to partake in the reality of CHRIST, while we



are in the “Egypt” of the times we are living in. The question is: How can I see a BIGGER picture than the circumstances and the current reality around me?

The key to this is to understand that we have the opportunity to SEE the unseen, by being influenced by something that is not part of the physical world around us, but from another reality – the Kingdom of God.

The Kingdom of God originates from GOD. John refers to this domain when he called it the WORD that was with God and was God (John 1:1). The Greek word for “Word” is LOGOS and gives expression to a much broader concept than the English “Word”. Therefore, I want to refer to LOGOS – to give expression to this BIGGER PICTURE of GOD’s reality and His thoughts! This Kingdom is much more than an organisation or movement that wants to conform people to a specific belief-system in order to obtain a right to membership. It is an alternative authority with an institutional right to rule – including over life on this earth!

Jesus proclaimed to the Father that He has given us this LOGOS (John 17:14) and that we are therefore part of a new dispensation. Hebrews calls Jesus the Apostle and High Priest of this new dispensation and refers to it as “our confession” (Hebrews 3:1). The Greek word for confession is homologia: homo (after the kind of) logia (logos). Although we are part of homo sapience (after the kind of wise man), we can become part of homologia (after the kind of LOGOS).

This has a very practical application in our day to day lives. The same way we are influenced and affected as homo-sapience by the physical reality around us, we are also influenced as homologia by the Kingdom of God! This is the BIGGER picture that sets us free from the restrictions that the world around us placed on us – we can SEE the unseen, we can HEAR GOD’s voice, we can experience and live the Kingdom of God.

Jesus prayed for us, the homo-logia, those that received LOGOS, that The Father will “keep us from evil”. Now we can walk in this reality every day: The Father will keep us from evil! It is very interesting to see that the Greek word for evil – poneras – came from the root word penes that refers to a day-to-day toil for survival! Instead of the evil influence that we experience as homo-sapience, as we strive daily for survival, we are called as homo-logia to step into the Kingdom of God and become co-creators of God’s Plan!

The question is, which voice do you allow in your mindset – the voice of LOGOS (God’s Kingdom), or KOSMOS (the physical reality). For me, it was a huge discovery when I realised the KOSMOS was created and is subject to LOGOS (John 1:3 – All things (KOSMOS) were made through him (LOGOS), and without him was not anything made that was made). The choice for us is easy – give attention to the inner Voice of God and the Spirit of God in our midst. Step out and CREATE each day from a position of total TRUST and REST IN CHRIST.

*Give attention to the  
inner voice of God*



# Maktown GENEROSITY

## Back 2 School Program



A big thank you to everyone who contributed towards this initiative:  
Mpumalanga Property Valuers, Redicure, Villager SA, Pst. Simon Lerefolo and Gateway FM.



## The Program OUTCOME

180 children benefited from this program

Parents were sensitised about the importance of keeping their children in school

Children were motivated to stay in school

The community was left uplifted



# More Loving

## Early Learning Centre

Piet Barnard

More Loving Early Learning Centre (ECD), founded by Ntate Silas Matshega, makes a significant contribution to the development of children who might otherwise go without care in Moretele, Mmotla in North West.

Pastor Silas started this school several years ago when he saw children scrounging for food at dump sites. Our impression of him was a man with a father's heart for children and he subsequently succeeded in putting up a sanctuary against all odds.

Due to the financial challenges the Centre has experienced, Saki Tlotleng committed himself to assist the centre in contacting the Department of Social Development for funding. This will be facilitated by the North West Province

Men's Sector. This is a long haul and in the meantime, Pastor Silas and his staff of three need all the help they can get.

Their motto is to love, take care, protect and teach the children, with God first, as the centre is about Love. The 76 children aged 1 to 5 years are fed porridge for breakfast, some odds and ends for lunch and, if possible, a snack.

Their budget for a month is a mere R 3000.00. Water and electricity are R300 a month. The vegetable garden needs a gardener and the usual resources.

If you would like to sponsor a child, please contact René at 078 208 5818 for details. Pastor Silas is also on call at 076 621 9562.



# Water Use Licensing

## *A new service in Kgama Africa*

Louisa Ralepele

Water is one of the most important natural resources. The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is responsible for the regulation of water resources in South Africa; and as such, all water uses should be authorised or licenced by DWS. The process of legal water use authorisation is initiated by a Water Use Licensing Application (WULA).

It is imperative to note that it is not only water abstraction that requires water use licensing. Activities such as building dams, disposal of waste water into water bodies as well as projects that have an impact on water bodies also necessitate the need for a WULA. In fact, there are 11 different water

uses that require authorisation in terms of Section 21 of the National Water Act (NWA), Act 37 of 1998.

However, activities defined as Schedule 1 uses in the NWA do not need to be licensed. These include small scale uses for private or domestic use, rainwater harvesting and watering of livestock in proportion to the property size. The NWA also makes provision for a water use that predates 1999 and was legal at the time of the enactment

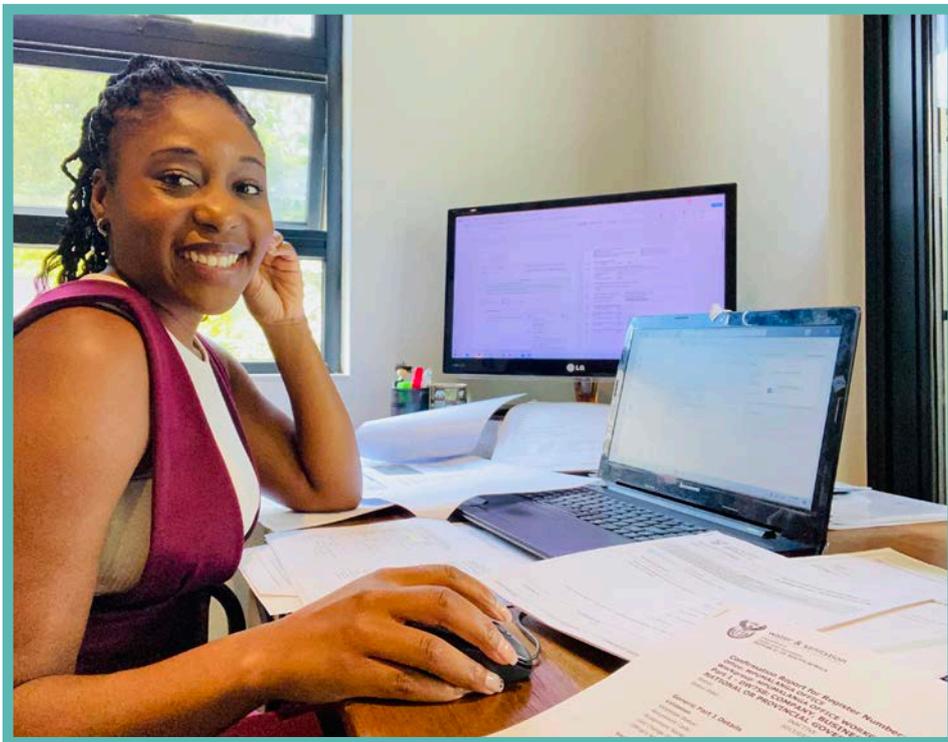


## Touching Africa Projects

of the legislation. These water uses are referred to as Existing Lawful Use (ELU). In some instances, it is possible to do a late authorisation application on these water uses, should the water use be deemed an ELU.

Kgoma Africa is currently involved with and is assisting AGES with several WULAs. Most of the water

uses have been incorrectly captured by the DWS system, and details need to be corrected before repairs to old water related infrastructure can be initiated. While the WULA process is not difficult, it has proven to be administratively demanding. This is where the team from Kgoma Africa adds real value to the technical teams at AGES.



**There are 11 different water uses that require authorisation in terms of Section 21 of the National Water Act (NWA), Act 37 of 1998.**

# BEEP Launch

René Maasz

BEEP 2022 launched on the 11th of February 2022. Professor Japie Kroon presented the session alongside businessperson and entrepreneur, Brad Eyre. Frank Mosidi is directly involved with the attendees and played an enormous role in the marketing process. All parties involved volunteer their time to teach entrepreneurs and prospective entrepreneurs valuable skills.

There will be eight sessions of training where the team will discuss topics such as networking, mentorship, financial

planning, and sustainability in business. Entrepreneurs that attend at least seven of the eight sessions will receive a Certificate of attendance listing the diverse topics. A few pictures of the 2021 graduates can be seen below.

The course is open to anyone who wants to learn personal and professional skills, and takes place at City on a Hill Church, 33 du Plooy Street, Potchefstroom. We would like to thank the church for making their facilities available to us.



# Integrated Development Services

Stephan Potgieter

The network members that render professional services in the development sector are grouped as the Integrated Development Services Co-Operative.

Members include engineers, architects, scientists, town- and regional planners, GIS specialists, project managers, developers, social consultants, and related services.

The intention is to render multi-disciplinary SOLUTIONS with IMPACT to the water, sanitation, mining, energy, real estate, agricultural, building, construction, environment, and natural resources industries.



Co-operative leader: Stephan Potgieter

Projects range from single homes, clinics or schools to townships, municipalities, mines, mega farms, and cross-border water transfer schemes, in both urban and rural settings.

**Imagine... a clean slate in greenfield projects, or an opportunity to rebuild existing development: what will it look like when it's done with like-minded people with a Kingdom vision...to touch Africa...?**

We invite you to the co-operative workshop on Thursday **07 April 2022** at 09:00 in Potchefstroom.

Kindly contact René Maasz, Stephan Potgieter or Stephan Pretorius for more information.



# Community and Social Development Co-operative

Pieter Brits

When we look at society around us, one may feel overwhelmed by the hardship, strife and indifference that are so common in our communities. The despair may choke you up and your own conviction may tempt you to look the other way. You may justify yourself and think of what minute influence you have in comparison to those of authorities and government institutions...after all, you may argue, that this is their duty; it is not your burden to carry or solve.

Yet, we must ask ourselves, is this what we believe our communities should look like and is this, the legacy we are to leave behind? As Christians we have a calling on us to care for each other and to always seek each other's best interest. The brokenness and differences of our communities can never leave us untouched. Although we may feel inadequate and small in ourselves, we must realize that within corporate action,

far greater healing and energy is released than the combined total of our individual efforts.

The Touching Africa (TA) initiative is founded on this; the calling is to be the embodiment of Christ that makes a practical difference in our communities and the workplace. TA's co-op for Community and Social Development creates the perfect opportunity for individuals and businesses to involve like-minded people and projects that seek the development of cohesive, safe, prosperous, and happy communities.

Some of the projects that currently form a part of the co-operative include Ani Vileli, Banna Ba Kae, Women 4 Housing 4 Women, the Bully Project, Touching Zambia Ahavah, Social Cohesion and Moral Regeneration Program, Sisazani, Amelia Care Centre and Yasha Ministry in Kenya.



Co-operative leaders: Pieter Brits and Saki Tlotleng

To me, the realization that this TA co-op was already in place, a well-structured platform to coordinate, empower and support our individual efforts was a light bulb moment. I wish to invite everyone out there to come and join our effort. Let us not put our hand to the plow and look back, the time is now, and the opportunity is here.

# Enterprise Development Co-operative

Frank Mosidi

John 5:17 – But Jesus answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I am working.”

We have an active God who is always at work and Jesus invites us to be active participants in the Business of Heaven to serve and to bring Kingdom as a reality to this world.

Our focus and strategy for 2022 as Touching Africa’s Enterprise Development Co-operative is that we will mainly look at the needs and shortfalls of small and medium enterprises (SME’s) and we will provide tools to help develop them.

We believe that all businesses can be built on the foundation of God, therefore we must firstly seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness in all aspects of our lives.

Our economy is driven by information and knowledge, and we will teach personal and business skills to survive, as well as knowledge to identify opportunities. Our focus is to impact lives, shift mindsets and transform society.

We have started with our first session of BEEP entrepreneurship training on the 11th of February 2022, through the leadership of Prof Japie Kroon and kindly assisted by René Maasz, Sankie Monyane and Frank Mosidi.

We are grateful for Dr Stephan Pretorius for his foresight about Africa, we are Stewards in partnership with God and believe that Touching Africa is at the forefront of making things happen to make a difference in our societies.

Co-operative leader:  
Frank Mosidi



# Training and Education Co-operative

Cobus Sipsma

In Matthew 28:18-20 Jesus in His command, instructed the disciples to go and “teach” (KJV) all nations. This was not His instruction on the Mount of Olives as described in the Gospel of Mark, but on the Mountain in Galilee. Possibly the same mountain of the transfiguration. The following are a few things for us to see as we study this passage and history:

Unto Him belongs the Power of God. This is critical to understand, as authority was given to mankind from the beginning to exercise dominion. John Wesley stated it as follows: “Without God man cannot, but without man God will not.”

It takes a co-operative initiative and cooperation to touch Nations. It was never the task of an individual but always the combined function of a body.

The instruction to teach was a universal instruction for all believers. It does not matter what your color, race, culture, gender, character or personality. It doesn't matter if you think you have or do not have the gift of teaching. It is the command of our King. We are all to “Go” to “Teach” and to “Baptize.” He repeats the instruction in verse 20 that we must teach the nations to observe all the things which He commanded us to do.

Therefore, the TA Education and Training Co-operative is set up in a very unique space. We are there to connect all who are in this space to know who we are, what we do and where we function. It is then secondly critical to the other cooperatives to enable teaching to happen in all of the different market sectors and to equip the sons of God to live out the Kingdom Mandate. It further serves as a vehicle to help set tailor made programs in place to assist all network members that are in need of teaching and training.

The Education and Training Co-operative is seen a vital component in the Kingdom development picture when it comes to the roll-out of the Kingdom Gospel.

Co-operative leader: Cobus Sipsma



# From Vision To Reality

We are very excited to inform you that the Touching Africa Services to the Network will launch in April 2022. What does this mean? It means that people within the Touching Africa network will be able to do business with each other. This enables all of us to get access to a network of people with a Kingdom vision that we know we can trust.

If you are interested to present your services to the network and have a special feature spot on the TA website, please contact René at [rmaasz@touching-africa.com](mailto:rmaasz@touching-africa.com) for more information. Please include your business name and a short description of the services you render in your communication.





Touching Africa

# TOUCHING AFRICA SERVICES TO THE NETWORK



## VISION RELATED SERVICES

- Network Business Branding
- Business Leadership Training
- Office and Administrative support to NPO's
- Internal conflict management and arbitration services
- Effective network communication system

## BUSINESS GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

- Participation in projects and co-operatives
- Marketing opportunities
- Participation in Touching Africa activities and opportunities
- Affiliation to the TA Network as a vision-based group of enterprises

## BUSINESS, INSTITUTIONAL, CORPORATE AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

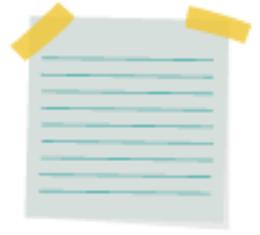


- Strategic and Creative Business development
- Branding services
- Business Implementation and Enterprise development
- Corporate Solutions
- Establishment and structuring of business vehicles
- BBBEE requirements
- Commercial legal services
- Human Resource and labour
- Corporate financial planning and financial management
- Rendering of fiduciary services
- Property related services
- IT and related technology
- Custom Recruitment Automation System





## FUNDING AND RELATED FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT



- Tax-deductible and incentive donations
- Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment compliance requirements (BBBEE).
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Corporate Social Investment (CSI) funding and project development
- Private investment opportunities
- Public funds and private financial grants
- Project finance and loan management
- Assistance to develop projects and structure funding

## CHANNEL FOR THE SERVICES TO THE NETWORK



Primary Co-operative:  
Touching Africa Corporate  
and Business Services  
(TA-C&BS)

Secondary Co-operatives:

- Touching Africa Cooperative Financial Institute (TA-CFI)
- Touching Africa Financial Wealth Management Services
- Touching Africa Co-operative Bank (TACB)

**VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE FOR  
MORE  
INFORMATION**

[www.touching-africa.com/](http://www.touching-africa.com/)

**CONTACT US**



[INFO@TOUCHING-AFRICA.COM](mailto:INFO@TOUCHING-AFRICA.COM)

Touching Africa Network Member

# Certificate



- SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM
- PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY
- UNITY IN VISION
- SMALL BEGINNINGS
- IMPORTANCE OF THE END USER

- ETHICAL CODE
- HOLISTIC APPROACH
- DISCOVERY OF PURPOSE
- CROSS-CULTURAL APPROACH
- TAKE OWNERSHIP

This certificate is awarded to:

**AGES**

*SPD Pretorius*

Signature

December 2021  
Date



Living the Difference

## Contact Details:

Stephan Pretorius: Chair of the Board and Project Overseer

- [spretorius@touching-africa.com](mailto:spretorius@touching-africa.com)
- +27 83 268 2097

Tiaan Liebenberg: Financial Management and Project Developer

- [tliebenberg@touching-africa.com](mailto:tliebenberg@touching-africa.com)
- +27 82 561 8836

René Maasz: Office Manager and Internal Coordinator

- [rmaasz@touching-africa.com](mailto:rmaasz@touching-africa.com)
- +27 78 208 5818

Sankie Monyane: Network Liaison, Project Support and Reception

- [smonyane@touching-africa.com](mailto:smonyane@touching-africa.com)
- Tel +27 18 297 6588

88 MC Roode Street  
Potchefstroom, 2531  
South Africa

## Banking Details:

If you want to support Touching Africa projects that addresses the need in Touching Africa and want to make use of TAX-deductible investments or BBEED points, please contact Tiaan Liebenberg: [tliebenberg@touching-africa.com](mailto:tliebenberg@touching-africa.com) or 082 561 8836.

For once-off or recurring EFT payments, here is the bank details for the Touching Africa Ecclesia account:

**TA Development**  
**FNB 62398936769**  
**Branch code: 250 655**

**Please visit our website: [www.touching-africa.com](http://www.touching-africa.com)**