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Open Terms of Reference issued by

**Tshikululu Social investments**

for the

**Development of a communication booklet articulating key findings  
and implications from the work of the  
*FirstRand Foundation/ National Research Foundation  
Maths and Numeracy Chairs***

**Closing date for proposals:**

Friday, 13 October 2017



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## **DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNICATION BOOKLET ARTICULATING KEY FINDINGS AND IMPLICATIONS FROM WORK OF THE MATHS AND NUMERACY CHAIRS**

### **Background**

The government considers education a key priority for South Africa's national development. The Department of Science and Technology (DST) has therefore set up a number of initiatives to support education, and has established partnerships with the Department of Basic Education (DBE) and the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) to facilitate these initiatives. Furthermore, the DBE's National Strategy for Mathematics, Science and Technology Education (NSMSTE), objectives include increasing the participation and performance of historically disadvantaged learners in Mathematics and Physical Science. To this end, among other initiatives the DST established six research chairs in mathematics and numeracy, also called The Maths Education Chairs Initiative (MECI), which are co-funded with FirstRand Foundation and Anglo American Chairman's Fund.

MECI aims to address challenges of mathematics education in primary and high school level. The programme is administered by the National Research Foundation (NRF) on behalf DST. It is envisaged that the overall goal of this initiative will be achieved by providing training and development for teachers and leadership through academic citizenship and public engagement in national and regional forums in the field of mathematics education.

### **Proposal: Need for a public communication 'learning brief'**

In 2016, at the NRF MECI Community of Practice, there was comment about the lack of a succinct communication of key findings and implications emanating from the Chairs' linked research and development projects for different stakeholder communities. In response, the DST suggested a call to find an individual or organization that could take on the collation of a 'communication booklet' or 'learning brief' based on the mathematics and numeracy education research chairs.

The purpose of the booklet is to communicate the successes of the research chairs and outline their future plans. In this regard, the document among others, should **outline the outputs and outcomes of the chairs particularly in relation to decision support for teachers, teacher educators, subject advisors and policy makers**. The key goals of the mathematics and numeracy Chairs initiative to ensure improved and broadened performance in Mathematics at all levels for improved economic competitiveness and social development, should be outlined in the document.

A further specific 'arm' of this communication emanating from the Chairs was for support with achieving SACE accreditation for the various in-service professional development programmes that have been developed within each of the Chair initiatives.



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### **Specific Terms of Reference**

1. Conduct a desktop study of the research and development outcomes (including findings and materials) of the work of the research chairs, based on their presentations, research and development outputs.
2. Identify the work of research chairs which has a bearing on decision support for teachers, teacher educators, subject advisers and policy makers and for public interest more generally. Properly situate this work within existing country policies/strategies/practices.
3. On the basis of the research chairs work, identify, and update on a two-yearly basis, key proposals, identify their target audiences and situate these within broader strategic goals, for improving teaching and learning in maths and numeracy.
4. A distribution mechanism for the booklet needs to be mapped out with identification of the key stakeholders who will play a role in this regard. It would be crucial that these stakeholders are included in the project ahead of its completion.
5. Support with SACE accreditation through collation of the Chairs' current course offerings, their goals, and evidence of efficacy, and liaison with SACE through the accreditation process.

### **Submission and deadline**

Completed proposals, together with supporting documents, should be sent to Mr. Khaya Tyatya Client Relationship Manager at [KTyatya@tshikululu.org.za](mailto:KTyatya@tshikululu.org.za)

**Please submit all proposals by close of business on Friday, 13 October 2017**

– proposals received after the closing date will not be considered.

Tshikululu reserves the right not to award this contract, in whole or in part.