

NASCEE

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DECEMBER 2024

YEAR-END NEWSLETTER

From the CEO



As 2024 comes to an end, we're proud to reflect on a year filled with growth, collaboration, and meaningful progress. NASCEE has been able to create meaningful value for its members in 2024 and it has been pleasing to see the growth, and positive impact of the association on the sector. NASCEE's partnership with the ETDPA SETA saw **20 organisations** receive training for **65 of their staff members**, the average attendance for online skills training was **25** and the in-person regional events in Johannesburg,

Durban and Cape Town were attended by over **350 people**. NASCEE provided an additional **6 online learning** opportunities on a variety of topics over the year which were all well attended. The strong attendance at these events has been encouraging and is an indicator of the need for quality networking and capacity building in our sector. In 2025 we will endeavour to provide more of these opportunities for our members.

NASCEE has been involved in a number of well established and emerging collaborative partnerships in 2024: with the Teacher Internship Collaboration South Africa (TICZA) as coordinator and convenor of Communities of Practice (CoPs); the Binding Constraints Lab, on an evolving piece of work to understand the Edtech Maths sector, its impact, and what constructive government engagement might be; LEAP Institute to explore collaboration in the Leadership in Schools amongst NGOs.

This exposure has assisted NASCEE to understand the complexities of collaboration and developing models of how to set up and manage these processes. We continue to look for opportunities to partner and learn with others.

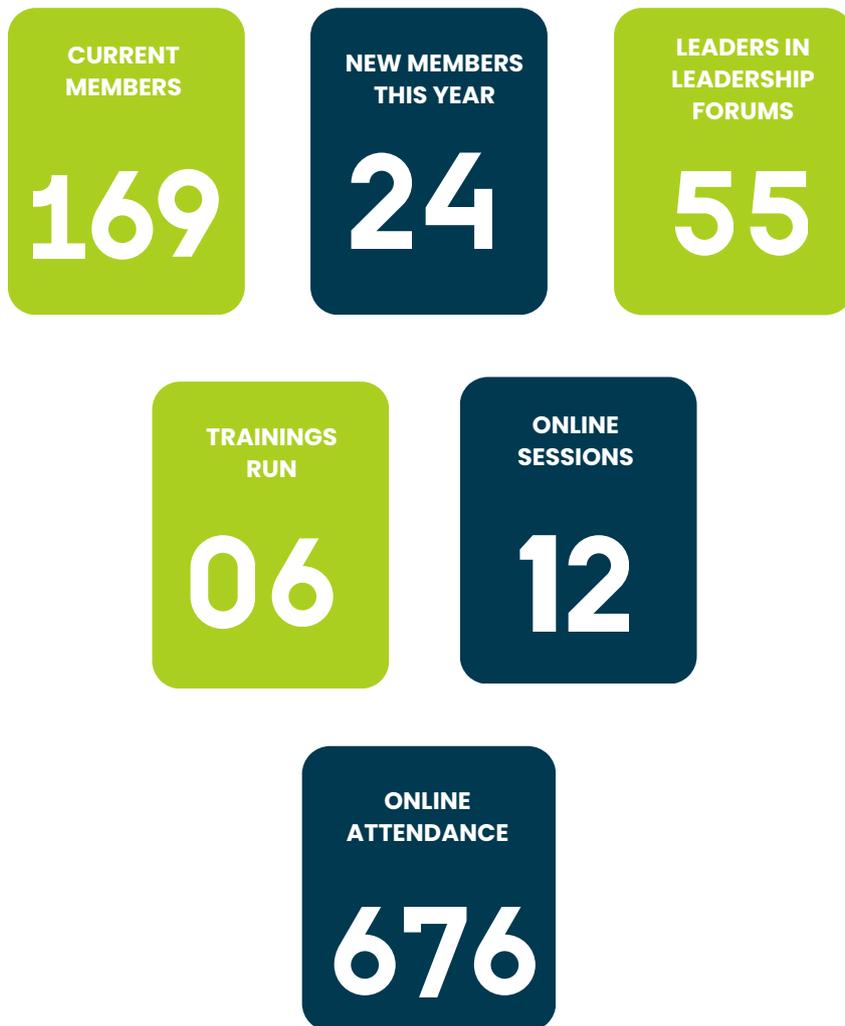
We are also very excited about the launch of the Education NGO Dashboard and its potential for catalyzing real collaboration in the sector. You can access the dashboard [HERE](#).

We held vibrant regional networking events in Joburg, Durban, and Cape Town, where exciting partnerships, with WESGRO (WC), and the Matthew Goniwe School of Leadership and Governance (GP), started to take shape and we are looking forward to expanding these events to additional regions in 2025.

Looking ahead, we've begun laying the foundation for 2025 with strategic planning already underway. I'm encouraged by the energy and ideas we're bringing into the new year, and I look forward to continuing this journey of impact with all of you.

Thank you for your commitment and collaboration. Together, we're making a real difference. Here's to an even more impactful 2025!

Giles Gillett





Capacity Building

Project Management Training

Building Stronger NGOs

In 2024, NASCEE, in partnership with GIBS and supported by ETDP SETA, successfully delivered a project management training programme to **65 delegates** from **20 NPOs**. This initiative built on the skills programme GIBS ran for NASCEE in 2023. The training was delivered in **02 cohorts**, each completing **07 online sessions** with group coaching. Running from March to September 2024. Delegate feedback was positive, with participants highlighting significant growth in their project management skills and a shift towards more innovative approaches. Participants praised the practical insights gained, empowering them to lead with confidence.

“*The training programme with GIBS has taught me new concepts of project management that I have been able to apply to my every day work.*”



A Siemens Stiftung funded Open Education Resources (OER) training programme delivered by Kathryn Kure over a **3 week period** was attended by **29 people** from **17 member organisations** and **3 international delegates**. In Phase 1 of the Zenex funded Bootcamp Programme, **55 delegates** received skills training in Finance and Governance and Monitoring and Evaluation. Phase two will commence in January 2025 with Fundraising and Leadership.

Professional learning groups

“ As a new person in the non-profit sector, I have learned that good governance is not only good for the financial affairs, but, also for the total integrity of the organisation. ”



Financial Forum pilot

In September, NASCEE successfully launched its first Finance Forum. This is a professional learning group focused on finance and governance issues relevant to the NGO sector. There was an average attendance of **40 individuals** across the **03 sessions** run, made up of mostly finance practitioners from NASCEE member organisations. This is a very encouraging result and we intend to launch Human Resource and Monitoring and Evaluation groups in 2025. A sincere thank you to our **Deputy Chairperson Mororiseng Maapola** for leading this initiative.



Leadership Forums

We currently have **07 active leadership forums** attended by **55 leaders**, across Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and one virtual group. The Forums have provided a platform for leaders to meet with peers to exchange ideas and share experiences. Leaders have had an opportunity to engage in facilitated dialogue with a coach, designed to enhance their leadership skills, foster innovation, and address common challenges. The benefits include gaining valuable insights from peers, expanding professional networks, and developing strategies for more effective decision-making and team management, ultimately contributing to their personal growth and organisational success. Feedback on this offering continues to be positive.

“ Thanks for all the support and advice. You made my YEAR!
 - Thea Coetser (District Director Tshwane North, participant in Joburg leadership forum) ”

Speaker Series



We are proud of all our successful Speaker Series contributors for 2024! We had **6 speakers** this year with an average attendance of **74** individuals which included both members and non-members.

Graham Codrington taught us more about the ethical use of AI in education; the **Injini Think Tank** circulated insights distilled from their work conducted with various African EdTech companies; **Este Buchholz** shared a presentation on “Succession Planning for Leadership,” and writer and communications specialist **Tiffany Markham** introduced her Micro-Targeting Methodology, a tool designed to help writers generate fresh approaches, specific to the NGO space.

Our members, **Wordworks**, **Bookdash** and **Nalibali** presented the data from the evaluation of their successful collaboration **Yizani Sifunde**, with their funder Liberty. Those who attended the event got access to valuable lessons learned on how to collaborate for greater impact. The role of the funder in this collaboration was particularly insightful and relevant to what it takes to build successful collaborative models.

Our last webinar, in partnership with **Shine Literacy**, explored organisational legacy preservation, drawing insights from Shine Literacy’s sunsetting process after 23 years of impactful work. In this session which was attended by **49 participants**, NGO leaders and sector professionals were guided through the complexities of winding down while preserving impact. The expert consulting team provided sobering insights on the learnings from the sunsetting of this NGO and shared practical advice on sustainability, succession planning, and leadership transitions, offering invaluable strategies for ensuring long-term impact through thoughtful organisational shifts.

You can access some of the speaker’s sessions recordings [HERE](#)





Collaboration & Partnerships

Tuesdays in the Trenches Series

Tuesdays in the Trenches which ran for six weeks between June and August, was a huge success. The series provided an opportunity for ECD and Literacy organisations to get a better understanding of other organisations and programmes occupying the literacy space, and it sparked many collaborations and sharing of resources.

19 organisations took the opportunity to showcase their work to an audience of 514 people over the six weeks. The series was able to open the space for the critical conversation on Mother Tongue Based Bilingual Education (MTBBE), with the research team from the National Dept of Education and WITS University, and it drew several international visitors.

You can access some of the sessions recordings [HERE](#).



Regional Networking Sessions



Eight Regional Networking Events were held in Johannesburg, Durban, and Cape Town this year, providing a platform for regular interaction between NGOs, government, and funders at a regional level.

Gauteng held **03 successful regional events** in 2024. The final event was run in partnership with the Matthew Goniwe School of Leadership and Governance (MGSLG), and was attended by **65 individuals** from **31** NASCEE member organisations.

The Western Cape also held **03 events** in 2024 with the final event hosted by WESGRO at their offices. Don Haripersad Director of Curriculum FET from the WCED presented the WCED 2025 strategy and priority areas. The event was well attended by **45 individuals** from **27** NASCEE member organisations.



KwaZulu Natal held **02 events** and the last one was hosted at Dokkies in Durban, a presentation shared by Pilo's Jika iMfundo project which highlighted key lessons learned in driving systemic change projects in partnership with a province at district level. The event was attended by **45 individuals** from **25** NASCEE member organisations.

We will be expanding these to additional regions in 2025 - watch this space for details. You can access highlights [HERE](#).

Partnerships

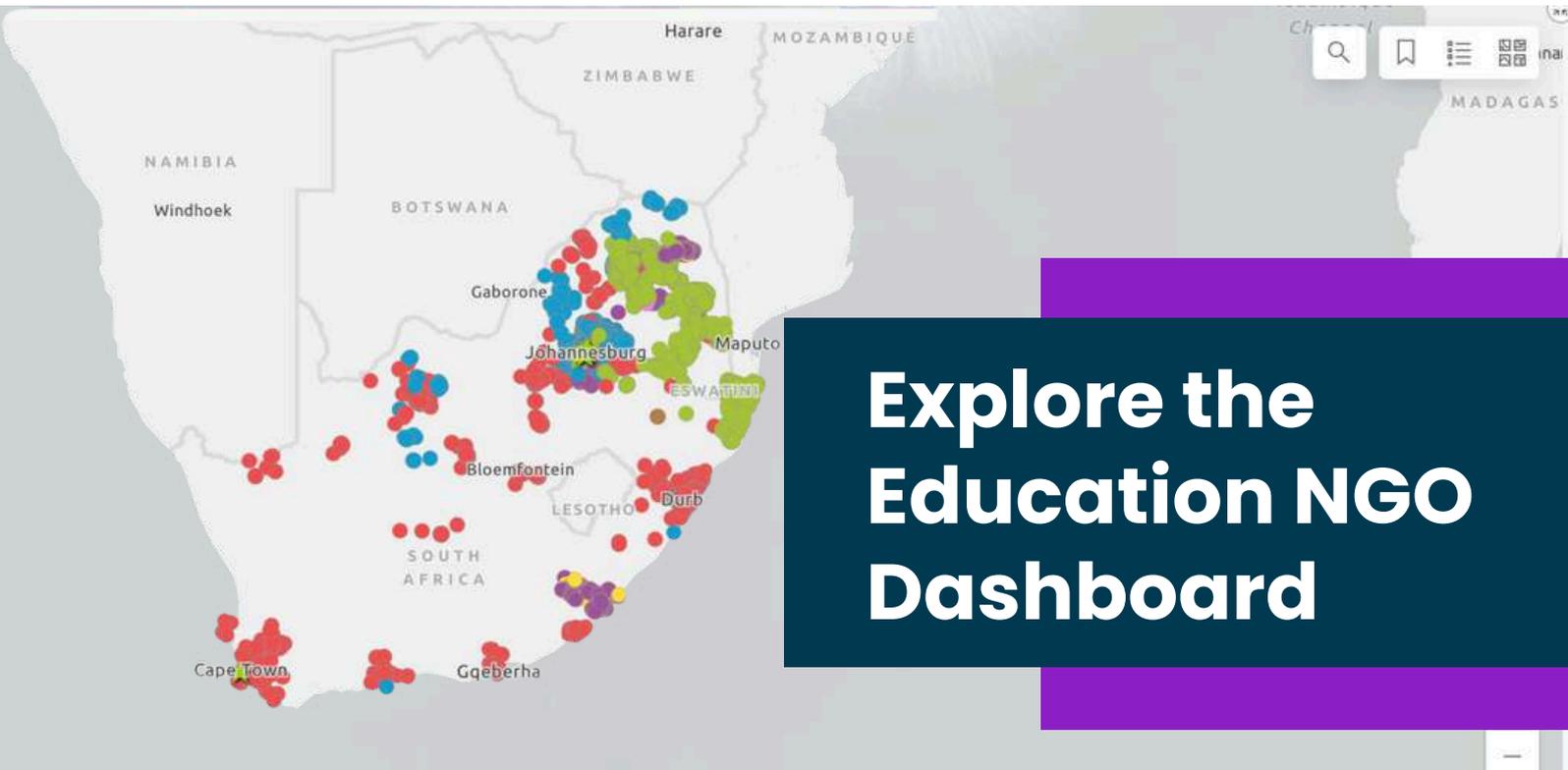


NASCEE has partnered and supported a number of collaboration initiatives in 2024.

TICZA: The partnership in the TICZA programme will continue into 2025 with NASCEE as a member of the convening group, and maintaining responsibility for facilitating the communities of practice for implementing partners. Being part of this initiative is providing NASCEE with valuable insight and lessons learned into the running and management of a multi-stakeholder collaboration.

Edtech in Maths: NASCEE has been a partner with the Binding Constraints Lab on an evolving piece of work to understand the Edtech Maths sector, its impact, and what constructive government engagement might be. Two workshops have been run and a series of smaller meetings. It is an interesting model for NASCEE to track and assess its replicability. See initial report [HERE](#).

Leadership in schools: NASCEE is a partner in an initiative being led by the LEAP Institute to explore collaboration in the Leadership in Schools amongst NGOs working in this sector and what can be shared to drive greater impact within NGOs and with government.



Have you signed-up to be on our NGO education Map?

With **54 organisations** already profiled, the Education NGO Dashboard is gaining momentum! This powerful tool highlights who's working where and what they're doing, fostering connections, collaboration, and impact. Exciting developments, including potential partnerships with the DBE and others, promise to take this initiative to the next level. You can view the dashboard [HERE](#).

Why join?

- ✓ **Connect and Collaborate** – Discover and partner with organisations near you.
- ✓ **Boost Your Visibility** – Funders can see your work, opening doors to opportunities.
- ✓ **Coordinate for Impact** – Schools and government officials gain insight into your activities, enabling better collaboration.

Complete the consent form [HERE](#) and submit it to info@nascee.org.za. We will forward you a survey to help us collect information about the activities your organisation is involved in.



Let's amplify our collective impact. Get on the map today!



Advocacy

An important part of NASCEE's value add for members is to provide a platform to convene and amplify shared priorities around shared evidence. In 2024, the association was invited by the NECT to represent Civil Society at a dialogue with the outgoing Minister. The report on the session and summary of the feedback received from members who participated in the process can be seen [HERE](#). In August 2024 the National Planning Commission led by Mary Metcalfe partnered with NASCEE to get feedback from Civil Society organisations working in education on the Advisory Note on Basic Education Priorities for the Medium-term Development Plan 2024-29. **55 individuals** attended this session and provided valuable feedback to the NPC on what was being proposed. See finalised report [HERE](#). Advocacy is an emerging portfolio for NASCEE and in 2025 the association will be creating more opportunities for members to bring their voice and get behind key issues in the sector.



NASCEE Annual Feedback Survey: We Value Your Input!

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we invite all our members to participate in the NASCEE Annual Feedback Survey. Your insights and feedback are essential in helping us shape the future of NASCEE and ensuring we continue to provide the most relevant resources, events, and support for our shared goal to improve education in South Africa. Please take a moment to complete the survey [HERE](#).



NASCEE Events

Upcoming NASCEE Events 2025

Fundraising Skills Bootcamp

- **Dates:** 29 January – 26 February 2025 (Weekly, 4-hour online sessions)

Leadership Skills Bootcamp

- **Dates:** 6 – 26 March 2025 (Weekly, 4-hour online sessions)

Format: Four ½ day sessions delivered over 4 weeks

[NASCEE 2025 Calendar](#)

Save 5% on Membership Fees this festive season!

Membership fees categories (excluding VAT) for **2025** are:

- Band 1: Less than **R1m – R1,150**
- Band 2: Between **R1m and R5m – R4,600**
- Band 3: Above **R5m – R9,300**.

We're excited to offer a special incentive for both renewing members and new members hoping to join NASCEE for 2025. If you complete your membership payment by **31st of December 2024**, you'll receive a **5% discount** on your membership fees for the upcoming year! To take advantage of this offer, simply make your payment before the deadline. Invoices will be sent along with additional information, guiding you through the renewal process!



happy holidays

