

NASCEE ROUND UP

26/06/2026



WELCOME TO THIS WEEK'S NASCEE ROUND UP

This week's NASCEE Round Up brings together powerful stories of collaboration, learning, and systems-level change across South Africa's education and social impact landscape.

At the centre of this edition is a compelling Leadership Forum Impact story from Tshwane North, where relationships built through NASCEE's convening spaces have evolved into a practical partnership improving learning outcomes for more than 9,500 learners. What began as dialogue between sector leaders has become a scalable, real-world intervention demonstrating the power of trust, connection, and shared purpose.

We also reflect on the Coaching in Context Short Course hosted in Johannesburg in partnership with YeBo Academy, where education and social impact practitioners strengthened their leadership practice through practical coaching tools, reflective learning, and peer exchange. The programme continues to highlight how shifting everyday conversations can unlock stronger leadership and deeper developmental impact.

Alongside these features, this edition introduces the expansion of data-driven insight through NED Connect's new Reports section, offering a clearer picture of civil society's footprint in schools across South Africa. From visualising support distribution to identifying gaps and opportunities, this development strengthens the sector's ability to coordinate, collaborate, and maximise impact.

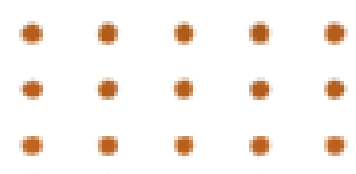
Finally, we spotlight upcoming opportunities for learning and engagement, including professional development workshops, partner initiatives, and NASCEE community events designed to strengthen practice and deepen collaboration across the ecosystem.

Together, these stories reflect a growing shift from isolated effort to connected action—where data, dialogue, and partnership come together to shape stronger outcomes for learners, educators, and communities.

Community Notice Board

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NASCEE Leadership Forum Impact Report

Youth@Work: From Relationships to Results Through Trust and Collaboration

What happens when relationships move beyond networking and become vehicles for action? The answer is unfolding in Tshwane North, where a collaboration sparked through NASCEE's Leadership Forum is already changing learning outcomes for thousands of young people.

When Youth@Work CEO Erica Kempken joined the Johannesburg Leadership Forum, she found more than a professional network. The Forum became a trusted space where leaders could share challenges openly, build meaningful relationships, and explore new possibilities for impact. It was within this environment of openness and trust that a connection with Tshwane North District Director, Thea Coetser, began to take shape.

South Africa continues to grapple with the dual challenge of youth unemployment and unequal educational outcomes. At the same time, schools and institutions often struggle to access the tools and support needed to identify and address learning gaps effectively. Youth@Work has long sought to bridge these divides by creating pathways for young people while supporting institutions to achieve better outcomes. However, turning this vision into reality required strong partnerships and meaningful engagement with the public sector.

Through ongoing dialogue and mutual trust, Youth@Work's long-term vision for district engagement evolved into a tangible partnership centred on learnerPROFILER, an AI-informed digital tool designed to help schools identify foundational literacy and numeracy gaps, meet Screening Identification Assessment and Support (SIAS) requirements, and connect learners with targeted support. The Tshwane North District played a pivotal role in facilitating access to schools and formalising the collaboration through a Letter of Collaboration, ensuring legitimacy, early adoption, and institutional buy-in from the outset.

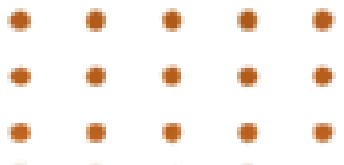
The initiative quickly moved from concept to implementation, allowing the partners to test, learn, and refine the intervention in real time. The results have been remarkable. More than 9,500 learners across nine primary schools have been impacted through improved foundational learning outcomes, while 45 BEEI youth have been trained and supported, creating immediate employment pathways and leveraging existing government programmes.

Beyond the numbers, this collaboration demonstrates the power of trusted relationships to unlock innovation and accelerate change. What began as conversations within a Leadership Forum has grown into a practical, scalable intervention that is improving educational outcomes while creating opportunities for young people.

This story is a powerful reminder that when leaders are given the space to connect authentically, collaboration becomes more than a buzzword—it becomes a catalyst for system-level change. Through the Leadership Forum, NASCEE continues to create the conditions for these partnerships to flourish, proving that relationships built on trust can deliver lasting impact for South Africa's education sector.

[Read the full NASCEE Leadership Forum Impact Report here.](#)





Turning Conversations into Impact

Coaching in Context: Johannesburg

In partnership with NASCEE, YeBo Academy hosted the Coaching in Context Short Course at Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator in Johannesburg on 9–10 June 2026. The two-day programme equipped education and social impact practitioners with practical coaching tools to strengthen leadership, improve workplace conversations, and support meaningful development.

Through interactive learning, reflection, and coaching practice, participants developed skills in structured coaching conversations, active listening, developmental feedback, and relationship-building. The course focused on applying coaching techniques within real organisational contexts to help individuals and teams unlock their potential.

Pre- and post-training assessments showed positive knowledge gains across the cohort, with several participants recording improvements, demonstrating the value of applied, experiential learning.

Participants also reflected on the personal impact of the programme, describing the experience as practical, engaging, and transformative. Many highlighted how the course encouraged deeper self-awareness while providing tools to better support the growth and development of others.

Beyond the skills gained, participants highlighted the opportunity to connect with peers across the education and social impact sectors, sharing experiences, building relationships, and exploring future collaboration opportunities.

[Click here to read the full report on our website for more insights and detailed findings from the session.](#)

Coming up: Coaching in Context – Cape Town

Following the success of the Johannesburg cohort, Coaching in Context is coming to Cape Town.

Coaching in Context Short Course

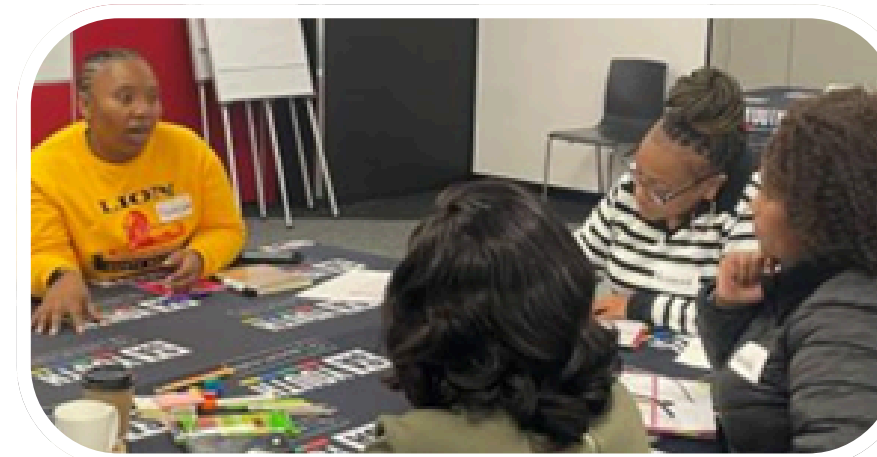
Dates: 4 – 5 August 2026

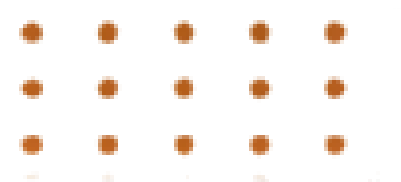
Venue: YeBo Academy Training Hub, 82 Bree Street, Cape Town, 8000

Cost: R3500

NASCEE members receive a 50% discount (R1750)

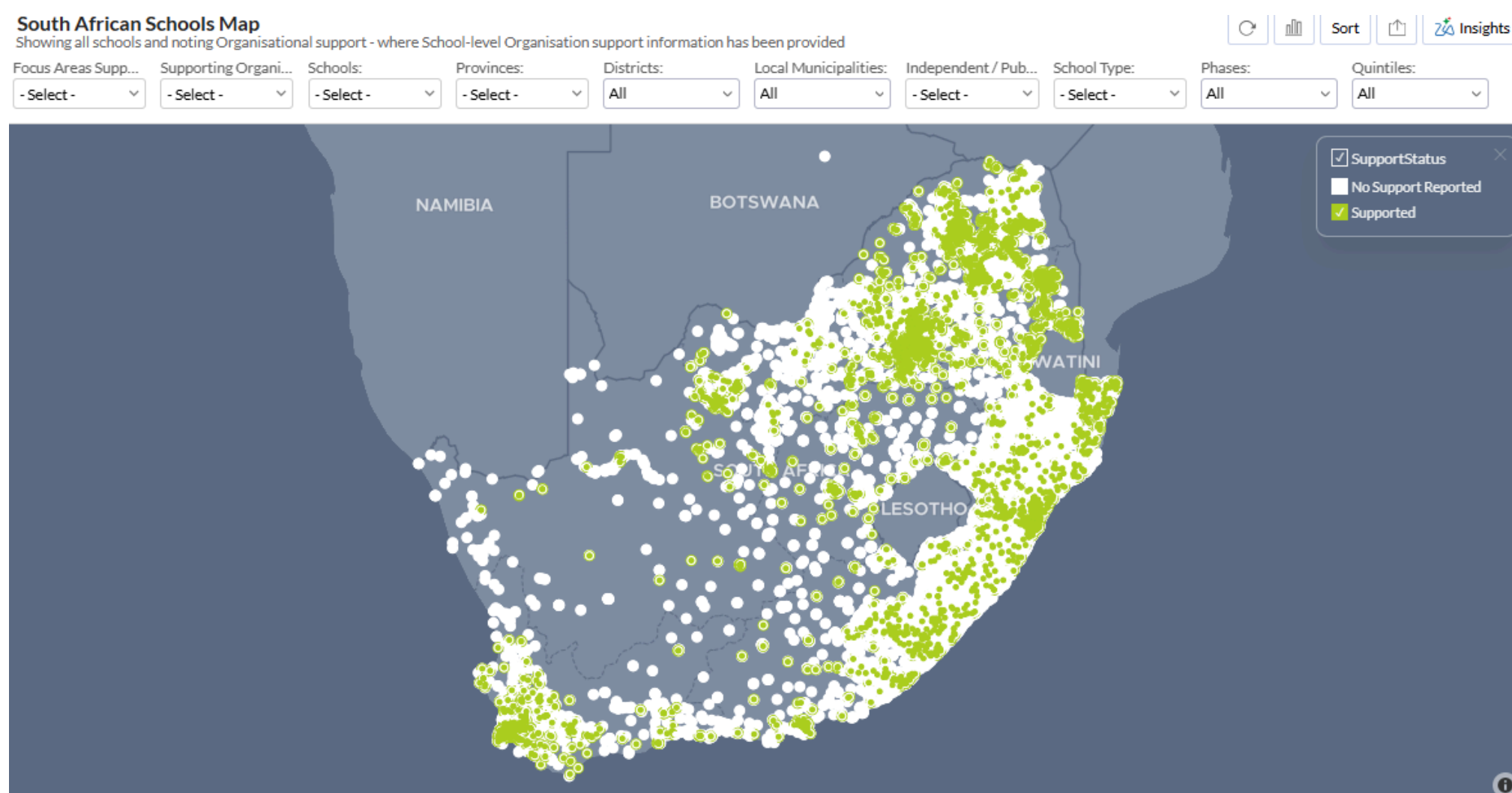
[Click here to find out more about the upcoming Cape Town Coaching in Context Short Course and to apply for your place.](#)





NEW ON NED CONNECT: SEE THE BIGGER PICTURE

How do we know which schools are being supported and which are still being left behind?



We're excited to announce the launch of the new Reports section on NED Connect, giving the education sector access to powerful, interactive insights into civil society's contribution across South Africa.

At the heart of the new reports is an interactive map of every school in South Africa, showing where support from education organisations has been reported. For the first time, government, funders, NGOs and partners can begin to visualise the collective footprint of the sector - and identify where support is still needed.

Based on the information currently available in NED Connect:

- 205 organisations have shared information about their work.
- These organisations collectively report supporting 4,946 schools across South Africa.
- This means that 19% of South Africa's schools are currently known to be receiving support from civil society organisations.
- Together, these organisations represent an estimated R 857 million in annual programme expenditure, employ approximately 5,766 people, and reach an estimated 6.7 million people every year.

The reports allow users to explore support by Province or District, and Support Focus Area, helping identify regional strengths and opportunities for collaboration.

We know that thousands more organisations are making a difference in schools and communities every day. If those organisations are missing from NED Connect - or if their profiles don't include the schools, districts or focus areas they support - then the national picture remains incomplete.

Every profile added or updated helps us answer important questions:

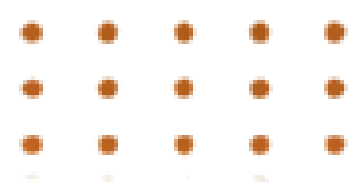
- Which schools are already well supported?
- Where are there gaps in services?
- Which districts need additional partners?
- Which organisations could collaborate rather than duplicate effort?
- Where should future investment be directed?

The more complete our data becomes, the better equipped government, funders and civil society will be to coordinate resources, strengthen partnerships and ensure that every learner, school and community has the support they need.

If your organisation is already on NED Connect, please take a few minutes to review and update your profile. If your organisation isn't yet part of the community, now is the perfect time to join.

Together, we're building more than a directory. We're creating South Africa's most comprehensive picture of education support - turning data into insight, and insight into better decisions for every learner.

[Explore NED Connect](#)



Upcoming Professional Development Opportunity

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP: THE ROLE OF SCHOOL LEADERS

Strong instructional leadership is at the heart of high-performing schools. On Saturday, 1 August 2026, EduPulse Africa, in partnership with The Instructional Leadership Institute, will host a practical one-day workshop at Forest Village Leadership Academy, Cape Town, designed to equip school leaders with the knowledge and tools needed to strengthen teaching, support educators, and improve learner outcomes.

The workshop will provide participants with practical, hands-on experience in instructional leadership through classroom videos, guided discussions, observation practice, and coaching exercises. Attendees will explore effective classroom management, learner engagement strategies, curriculum leadership, and evidence-based approaches to observing and coaching teachers, leaving with tools they can immediately implement in their own schools.

Facilitated by experienced education specialists Dhereshni Moodley and Rochelle van Rooyen, the programme combines research-informed practice with real classroom examples to help school leaders build instructional cultures that drive continuous improvement. Whether you are leading a school, managing a department, or preparing for a leadership role, this workshop offers valuable insights to enhance teaching quality and learner success.

Date: Saturday, 1 August 2026

Venue: Forest Village Leadership Academy, Cape Town

Time: 08:30 – 15:30

Cost: R650 per delegate (includes workshop materials, lunch, refreshments, and a Certificate of Attendance)

To learn more or register, visit www.ili.org.za or www.edupulseafrica.com.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION

Support the Future Funds Initiative

Every learner deserves access to quality teaching, and every school leader deserves the support to make that possible. The Future Funds initiative by the Instructional Leadership Institute (ILI) invites individuals, businesses, and organisations to invest in stronger schools by helping fund leadership development for educators in under-resourced communities.

By contributing to Future Funds, supporters play a direct role in equipping school leaders with the skills and coaching needed to improve teaching quality and learner outcomes, creating lasting impact where it matters most.

To learn more or become a supporter, visit www.ili.org.za/future-funds.

THE FUTURE FUND

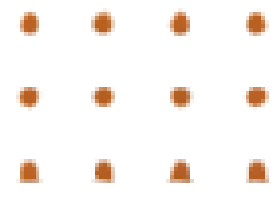
**GIVE R10.
CHANGE A
SCHOOL.**

336 000+
LEARNERS
IMPACTED

280+
SCHOOLS

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NOW**
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Community Notice Board

Upcoming NASCEE Events

Professional Learning Community Masterclasses and Coaching Sessions

(Open to NASCEE Members only)

Finance PLCs Walk-In Clinics 20 July 2026

Regional Networking Events

Gauteng July 2026

Canva Webinar Series

(Open to NASCEE Members only)

Designing with African Colour 31 July 2026

Upcoming Partner Events

Coaching in Context

YeBo Academy in collaboration with NASCEE

Short Course 4-5 August 2026

[Click here to apply.](#)

Eastern Cape Education Partnerships Conference

Axium Education and Public School Partnerships in collaboration with NASCEE and the Eastern Cape Department of Education.

Advancing learning outcomes through stronger school, government, and civil society partnership 6-7 August 2026

Opportunities

CREST, Stellenbosch University and the Zenex Foundation

Evaluation in Education – Short Course

(Open to education stakeholders, NGO practitioners, CSI & foundation staff, programme managers, and evaluators)

[Click here to apply.](#) July – September 2026

EduPulse Africa & The Instructional Leadership Institute

The Role of School Leaders

(Empowering School leaders to Lead Teaching, Strengthen Practice, and Improve Learner Outcomes)

[Click here for more information](#) 01 August 2026

The Instructional Leadership Institute – The Future Fund

A nationwide campaign inviting South Africans to contribute R10 per month to support the development of future school leaders. This initiative helps equip emerging leaders with instructional skills to improve teaching and learning across schools.

[Click here for more information](#)

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