



## **African Bank Champions Education Empowerment at Hlokohloko Primary School**

African Bank firmly believes that quality education has a pivotal role to play in empowering sustainable communities. Led by Group CEO Kennedy G Bungane, the bank for the people proudly hosted an event at Hlokohloko Primary School in Jozini, KwaZulu-Natal, on Friday, 24 January 2025.

The initiative celebrated the handover of newly upgraded school facilities, aimed at enhancing the learning environment, alongside the distribution of essential school supplies, ensuring that learners are fully equipped for success in the year ahead. It forms part of a nationwide Whole School Development model which has benefitted six schools in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape since March 2022.

Key interventions at Hlokohloko Primary School included the construction of three new classrooms, outfitted with modern furniture and interactive digital whiteboards to enhance the learning experience. Additionally, 16 classrooms, including three Grade R facilities, were renovated to improve quality of the learning spaces.

A notable upgrade was the installation of a solar-powered borehole, ensuring a reliable water source and the creation of an eco-friendly wet ablution block. These new facilities, featuring natural lighting and ventilation, improve air quality, reduce energy consumption and promote environmental responsibility within the school.

Beyond infrastructure, African Bank has empowered educators by providing extensive training on integrating Information and Communication Technology (ICT) into the curriculum, enabling teachers to better prepare learners for the future. The bank has also provided crucial resources to ensure that students have the tools they need to succeed, including school uniforms, stationery, and backpacks for all learners.

Over the past three years, African Bank's efforts have benefitted 1 787 learners, provided training for 49 school leaders and educators, created 64 temporary jobs and supported 11 Small, Medium, and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) through construction and renovation activities.

The principal of Hlokohloko Primary School, Mrs SZ Mabika, expressed her gratitude for the improvements:

"It has always been the department's dream for our learners to have access to flushable toilets, and thanks to African Bank, this dream has now become a reality for the students of Hlokohloko Primary School. We are proud to be the first school in our circuit to have a proper ablution block, which has already made a significant difference in the lives of our learners.

Beyond that, African Bank has been a beacon of hope for parents in this community facing poverty by offering job opportunities. Families can now put food on the table, and many individuals have gained new skills through this project, empowering them to provide for themselves. We are deeply grateful for the positive impact African Bank has had in our community, and we look forward to the continued growth and change this partnership brings."

## **About African Bank**



African Bank Limited is a Personal and Business & Commercial bank offering a range of financial products and services, serving both private and business customers. The bank has a countrywide branch distribution network and a full digital channel offering, as well as sales, collections, and customer service contact centres. African Bank is a scalable, diversified, and sustainable business focused on its heritage journey of being a bank for the people, by the people, serving the people - with a clear vision and strategy, strong leadership, and an audacious drive to deliver on the promise of its founders.

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