



**Stellenbosch**

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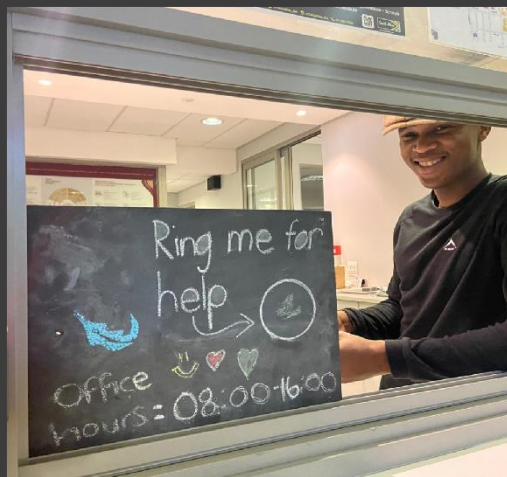
**SRC**

Students' Representative Council  
Ibhunga elimele abafundi  
Studenteraad



## SRC TERM 3 REPORT

### SRC Social Impact and Sustainability



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### Foreword

Greetings Maties,

I would firstly like to thank everyone that played a role, participated and actively engaged in the SRC Elections. As the representative of the Social impact and Sustainability portfolios, I am thrilled and honoured to be able to use this incredible opportunity and platform to contribute impactful initiatives both on campus and within the greater community of the Western Cape. I look forward to engaging with all the potential collaborators and the student body as a whole during my term.

I am quite eager to introduce these projects that I have ideated, collaborated with and will be executing on campus and externally. I hope you will take the initiative of getting involved, educating each other on various crucial conversations based on these portfolios but most importantly, engaging in the various activities and events-old and new, that we will be reviving, delivering and availing to you on campus!

I intend on doing justice to both of these portfolios as they are essential to not only reviving and developing our humanity, as portrayed by the Social Impact portfolio, but also actively contributing and playing our role towards preserving the planet and securing our and the future generation's only natural source of life.

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## **Constitutional Responsibilities: Sustainability**

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The Sustainability portfolio aims to push for institutional changes that ensure environmental sustainability on our campus. The role of the portfolio head is to liaise with facilities management and with the student structure focusing on sustainability initiatives.

The Student Constitution continues to highlight that as the representative of the Sustainability portfolio, I am required to:

- a) to fulfil my duties of submitting a complete report of my responsibilities and other activities to the Secretary after every academic term.
- b) Facilitate projects and initiatives to the benefit of students.
- c) Represent students at the university council, the senate, the institutional forum and other communities, structures, and functionaries of the University.

## **Constitutional Responsibilities: Social impact**

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The Social impact portfolio focuses on initiating change on persons externally from registered students. The main role of this portfolio is organising SRC-specific social impact projects, incentivising, and improving student attendance for these projects. The delegated duties align within liaising with MGD on Student projects and coordinating with ex-officio student structures on the intended social impact projects.

The Student Constitution continues to highlight that as the representative of the social impact portfolio, I am required to:

- a) to fulfil my duties of submitting a complete report of my responsibilities and other activities to the Secretary after every academic term.
- b) Facilitate projects and initiatives to the benefit of students.
- c) Represent students at the university council, the senate, the institutional forum and other communities, structures, and functionaries of the University.

## Portfolio Overview: Sustainability

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Although there is no set description or overview of this portfolio other than the constitutional responsibilities, one would interpret the portfolio overview as follows:

The Sustainability portfolio sets out to bring about transformative sustainable impact within the student community. This would be achieved through the delivering of informative and essential information that would aid the student body with the knowledge and skills of how they can contribute to preserving the environment and living more sustainably, but also through the improvement of facilities on campus.

This portfolio seeks to keep students engaged, involved, and educated on how they can make a difference, become actively engaged citizens in crucial initiatives and conversations and play a role in the movement of preserving not only the environment but the planet as a whole.

## Portfolio Overview: Social Impact

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- 1) The Social Impact portfolio seeks to address and aid disadvantaged communities that can be uplifted through projects and initiatives implemented through this portfolio. It also recognizes and tackles the challenges in most communities in the Western Cape that are caused by the imbalances of the past and the inequalities that continue to affect the province's minority across various socio-economic factors.

The aimed vision for 2023 is as follows:

Creating impactful change across various disadvantaged communities through collaboration and liaising with internal and external structures across the Western Cape. The main target being, aiding and reviving the core communities that lack the resources to uplift its people and overall environment.

Mission: Uplifting and reviving the sense of community in the Western Cape through student-led initiatives and raising socially accountable change makers through our projects.

## Committees/Task Teams

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I serve on the following Committees and/or Task Teams:

### **Social Impact Committee:**

The Division for Social Impact (DSI) serves as SU's first point of reference for staff, students and partners wanting to engage in Social Impact. The DSI does not run initiatives but instead, it provides advice, guidance, support and facilitates engagement. This committee is chaired by Nico Koopman and I serve this committee as the SRC's Social Impact representative.

During our scheduled meetings, we'd discuss proposals, updates, presentations, the promotion and recognition of social impact in the university faculties and communities in and around Stellenbosch, including student engagements within social impact initiatives.

### **SU Co-curricular support fund:**

**Stellenbosch University's Co-Curricular Support Fund (SUCSF/USKOF)** is administered by the Division Student Affairs and is a student bursary fund for national, international, and online co-curricular events and courses.

### **Student Affairs Selection Committee:**

The Student Affairs Selection Committee comprises of the overall reviewal, development and policy recommendations of student activities and affairs.

### **Registration Champions:**

During the Registration and Welcoming period, I was tasked under the Registration champions where we assisted students with temporary accommodation, residence placement and the overall registration processes and logistics. My role during this time was

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assisting students with temporary accommodation and residence placement. Our duties towards these factors ended up being extended longer than expected whereas we continued assisting students even in the third week of lectures and it continued to extend as students arrived at our office seeking accommodation.

### **Term 3 Overview: Sustainability**

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During my third term in office, I officially hosted our Documentary film screening. This doc-film screening, held in the Neelsie cinema, was a WaterBear production of a very controversial and thought-provoking documentary which dived deep into the fast fashion world and its unsustainable methods that fuel the fast fashion industry. The documentary 'Slay' truly raised the intended awareness in which we set out to deliver and it was well-received by the guests that attended this event. It was not only impactful, but it was a source of aid that spread a message of active participation and mobilisation towards ethical and sustainable living and influencing those around us to also be active participants in our society. The most important takeaway I believe was successfully delivered was that it led towards a self-introspection in which the attendees were able to consider how ethical and sustainable a certain product is before purchasing it. This is due to the fact that this doc-film depicted the gruesome extortion helpless animals face in order for us to receive trendy outfits and luxurious accessories all at the expense of the fatality of these defenceless species. The event was completely free and snacks and refreshments were provided to those in which attended this event. The leftovers were duly distributed to the students in the Neelsie.

### **Term 3 Overview: Social impact**

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During my third term in office, I collaborated with the Social Impact Division towards some of the planning and execution of the Nelson Mandela 2-day initiatives that were hosted on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of July. I engaged in the meetings in which I was invited to and was provided with the role of assisting with the food insecurity in which all students in need, especially certain NSFAS recipients (in which were facing the heavy blow of not having the financial means to provide for themselves due to the delayed NSFAS payments and allowances) would have

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access to. I duly, consulted my colleagues and worked on a necessity-based case in which most students had approach our offices requesting and essentials in which would be requested from Miss Lizzie Witbooi, SU's Social worker. Furthermore, I continued to consider non-perishable goods and toiletries in which one would consider essentials. As a resulted, I combined all of these findings and created a document or form in which I listed these specifications and sent it to Social Impact's Division Miss Michelle Pietersen for evaluation and approval. A meeting was then conducted where I was able to present this list once more and once some of the items were approved, the packages were constructed as per under the SI Division's jurisdiction. Consequentially, it was then sent out or shared with SI leaders from residences and PSO's to provide to the students within these spaces.

## Plans for Next Term - SUSTAINABILITY

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I plan on initiating the following:

### **Project: Mobilising Humanity**

This is an initiative in which we hope will be reproduced or face an increasing robust continuation. It is aimed at unifying all the Sustainability bodies & form a task team of the exec of these Sustainability student bodies. We will be collaborating and liaising as one unit and in which students are also able to raise practical solutions, potential events in which they wish to see on campus and/or voice particular Sustainability based grievances in which they face or are aware of on campus but most importantly be able to voice themselves. We wish to tackle the dissonance between Sustainability staff, Sust. Student leaders and all students who wish to participate and be proactive in mobilising climate justice. This project will also be producing events in which we will be implementing on campus, events in which students actually want to be a part of and be impactful in changing the university's standard of climate action-based initiatives for the better.

## Plans for Next Term – SOCIAL IMPACT

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In the spirit of volunteerism these are the events we wish to see through:



1. Volunteering at a school- where we can assist the educators and learners within our limit
2. Volunteering at a local orphanage and potentially donating necessities

## Year plan

### SUSTAINABILITY:

#### **Project: Make the Planet Green Again**

This is the umbrella body projection intended for the following term in which we will be engaging in various initiatives on campus in order to push the agenda of our overall of **"Join(ing) the Green side"** mission.

1. **"Get into the Green Scene"**: A sustainable green market on campus where we will be liaising with various student entrepreneurs and external sustainable businesses to promote green living.
2. **"There is no Planet B"**: awareness campaigns and initiatives on campus that explores climate justice education and provides a broad and interactive platform in which students may engage in.
3. **River clean-up**

### SOCIAL IMPACT:

I plan on initiating the following:

1. **"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader"- read to succeed initiative:** This project is an external initiative in which we will be visiting disadvantaged schools that do not have adequate resources, efficient staff and reading materials. We will be donating such resources and volunteering to assist students with their literacy skills and overall aiding the students wherever possible within our capacity.
2. **"Children of tomorrow" drive:** This initiative aims towards implementing a drive for a children's home where we will be donating our proceedings, spend the day with the children and initiating activities and entertainment for them.
3. We will be donating a few health and safety essentials such as sanitizers and facial surgical masks to an under resourced hospital.

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4. **“Feeding the future” initiative:** This project is set out to preparing food parcels and distributing them to underprivileged backgrounds at a selected home, school or community.