



# lilitha trust

BRINGING WARM RAYS OF HOPE TO YOUNG WOMEN



*Empowered Women, Empowering Women*

A Legacy of Opportunity and Growth

Cyril Ramaphosa   
EDUCATION TRUST YEARS









## Background and legacy of the Lilitha Trust



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**In 2009, the Lilitha Trust was established through an initiative led by the Shanduka Group and its Executive Chairman and Founder, Cyril Ramaphosa. This visionary transaction sought to address the significant gender disparities in the South African economy, where men were the primary beneficiaries of BBB-EE deals by providing a group of broad-based women with shares in Shanduka Group.**

The initiative identified women from diverse fields who had played pivotal roles in South Africa's transformation but lacked the capital to become business owners. It also included members of Sizoya Sibuye (a group of ex-political prisoners) and female employees of the Shanduka Group. The women were granted an allocation of shares, which vested over a period of years.

As part of the transaction, share dividends earned by these women during the period were reinvested into educational

programmes to support young women in their academic journeys. Further, a number of Lilitha recipients donated additional funds to the Lilitha Trust on finalisation of the transaction. The scheme concluded in 2013, and the remaining contributions were entrusted to the Cyril Ramaphosa Education Trust (CRET), ensuring the continuation of the Lilitha Trust's mission – empowering young women through education.

Since its founding in 2000, CRET has provided holistic support to countless students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The integration of the Lilitha Trust into CRET ensured that its legacy of opportunity, growth, and empowerment lived on, creating tangible change for future generations of women.

The Lilitha funding has now been fully utilised by CRET and this report provides a final update to the Lilitha members on allocation of the funds.



## Lilitha: A Ray of Light

The name Lilitha, derived from isiXhosa, means “Ray of Light.” It symbolises enlightenment, hope, and empowerment. Just as light illuminates the darkness, the Lilitha Trust has shone a path forward for countless girls and women, offering them the gift of education and opportunity. Its name reflects the powerful legacy it leaves behind – a beacon of inspiration and progress.

### The Women of Lilitha Trust: Pioneers of Change

The Lilitha Trust brought together extraordinary women united by a shared commitment to empowerment, social justice, and economic transformation.

These trailblazers included:

- **Leaders Across Sectors** – Women who contributed to South Africa’s development but had been excluded from economic ownership opportunities.
- **Ex-Political Prisoners (Sizoya Sibuye Members)** – Women who had fought against apartheid, sacrificing their freedom to create a just society.
- **Female Employees of the Shanduka Group** – All women within the organisation who had shown talent and dedication but had previously lacked investment opportunities.

Through their participation, these women were empowered and went on to create a ripple effect of transformation. Their contributions set a precedent for corporate social responsibility, reinforcing the importance of gender-focused economic inclusion.



# Impact of the Lilitha Trust

## Total beneficiaries in the Lilitha scheme



12

Female  
High School  
Learners Fully  
Funded



29

Total  
Beneficiaries  
Supported



19

Graduates  
Empowered



73

Women who  
contributed  
to the Lilitha  
Trust



R12  
million

Total Funds  
Allocated

Through the collective efforts of its participants, the Lilitha Trust transformed lives. The impact figures speak volumes!

These numbers, however, only tell part of the story. The true impact lies in the lives changed, the futures reshaped, and the doors opened for young women who may otherwise never have had the opportunity to succeed.

## The Beneficiaries: Education as a Catalyst for Change

The first six beneficiaries of the Lilitha Trust were young girls from disadvantaged backgrounds, chosen for their academic excellence and potential. Identified by the Alexander Education Committee (AEC), these students were supported through high school, removing financial barriers and enabling them to focus on their studies.

Since then, the impact of the Lilitha Trust has expanded through its integration into CRET. The remaining funds continued to support female students in fields such as education, medicine, engineering, and science—areas where women have historically been underrepresented. Today, these empowered graduates are contributing to society, driving change, leading in their respective communities and inspiring the next generation of female leaders.



## A heartfelt *Thank You* to the women of Lilitha

To the incredible women of the Lilitha Trust – your vision, generosity, and unwavering commitment to uplifting others have left an indelible mark. Because of you, countless young women have had the chance to pursue their dreams, break barriers, and redefine what is possible.

Your legacy is one of generosity, resilience, empowerment, and transformation. The ripple effect of your investment continues to shape lives, ensuring that more women and families are equipped with the education

and opportunities needed to lead and succeed.

To the beneficiaries – you are the embodiment of this legacy. Your achievements stand as a testament to the power of education, proving that when women are given opportunities, they thrive, uplift their community, and drive meaningful change.

We are immensely proud of you and eagerly anticipate the remarkable futures you will build.



## Be the change, support the future

The work of empowering women is far from over. While the Lilitha Trust's chapter has concluded, its mission lives on. We invite you to continue supporting initiatives like CRET, ensuring that more young women receive the education they deserve.

### Join us in making a lasting impact:

Scan the QR code to contribute to the empowerment of future generations through education.

*Together, we can keep the  
light of Lilitha shining brightly  
– illuminating the path for  
generations to come!*





## List of Liliitha Trust donors

### External Women

Baby Tyawa  
Barbara Masekela  
Harriet Kongisa  
Helena Dolny  
Janet Love  
Jeanette Mgedeza  
Joyce Matube  
Joyce Seroke  
Marcia Moremedi  
Marion Sparg  
Ngoato Takalo  
Nokwanda Mkhize  
Nonhlanhla Mthiyane  
Ntemela Madiba  
Ntjantja Ned  
Petiwe Matutu  
Pumla Dineo Gqola  
Rosina Mamokgethi Setati  
Sankie Dolly Mthembu-Mahanyele  
Shirley Mabusela  
Sibongile Mkhabela  
Siphokazi Koyana  
Tebello Nyokong  
Thenjiwe Mtintso  
Thinavhuyo Ngobeli  
Vuyelwa Edith Manzana

### Sizoya Sibuye

Bella Dhlamini  
Cecilie Palmer  
Hanchen Koornhof  
Joyce Dipale  
Lilian Sere – Keagile  
Magauta Molefe  
Maleshane Hilda Mokoena  
Nolundi Ntamo  
Nomakayo Ethel Mafuna  
Nozimanga Maggie Makhudu  
Oshadi Mangena  
Palesa Musa  
Patricia Alarm  
Sally Motlana  
Sibongile Tshabalala  
Tikkie Mthimunye  
Yvonne Ntonto Mhlauli  
Juby Mayet  
Nikiwe Deborah Matshoba  
Vesta Smith

### Shanduka Women

Anna Molelekeng Hlalele  
Ayandiswa Mgwebi  
Banyana Mohajane  
Beulah van Wyk  
Dolly Maria Sibeko  
Donné Nicol  
Heather Williams  
Jeanette Freeman  
Julia Maishoane  
Karishma Sewpersad  
Lebogang Malinga  
Lorraine Jennifer Jagesar  
Maria Mojalefa  
Matholo Maureen Mphatsoe  
Melanie Gayle Spencer  
Nonhlanhla Baloyi  
Ntombenhle Pearl Keswa  
Pebetsi Edith Mkhondo  
Phuti Mahanyele-Dabengwa  
Refiloe Nyoni  
Reneé Booysen  
Susanne Christine Baird  
Thandeka Ncube  
Tiny Mabelane  
Yvonne Bongekile Sitole  
Yvonne Nokukhanya Themba

## List of beneficiaries

- |                       |                                |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Abiba Meyong       | 11. Lindiwe Ndlebe             | 21. Humayra Akhalwaya    |
| 2. Atlegang Makokoe   | 12. Lungile Makhathini         | 22. Mathapelo Maile      |
| 3. Boipelo Devenhuis  | 13. Masego (Magdalene) Muthula | 23. Owam Nono            |
| 4. Corine Malahlela   | 14. Masego Bosoga              | 24. Keketso Mofokeng     |
| 5. Cheandra Jacobs    | 15. Mpho Tleane                | 25. Patience Benjamin    |
| 6. Dineo Nono         | 16. Nneka Nwodo                | 26. Sherry Jiang         |
| 7. Dimakatso Matlala  | 17. Palesa Futshane            | 27. Smangele Mbatha      |
| 8. Iviwe Malotana     | 18. Palesa Mokoena             | 28. Snethemba Sikhakhane |
| 9. Kutlwano Leshaba   | 19. Senzekile Maseko           | 29. Kgauhelo Rampota     |
| 10. Lebohlang Mashaba | 20. Duncan Mofokeng            |                          |












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## Contact us:

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-  **Twitter:** @CRETBursary
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*Cyril Ramaphosa*   
EDUCATION TRUST **25**  
YEARS

