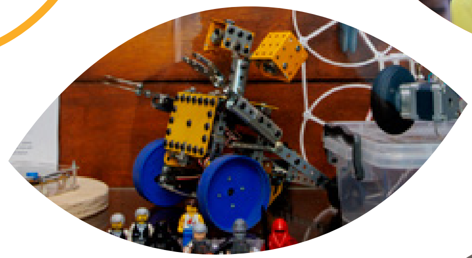
ANNUAL REPORT
2024/25



Celebrating 20 years of SCIENCE | TECHNOLOGY | RESEARCH | ENGINEERING | ART & MATHEMATICS

20

GAUTENG PROVINCE
EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SCI-BONO
DISCOVERY CENTRE

Celebrating 20 years of

STEAM

Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths.

This year marks a significant milestone for Sci-Bono as we celebrate our Platinum Anniversary – 20 years of igniting curiosity and inspiring young minds.

The platinum foiling on our cover symbolises these two decades of excellence in science education, innovation, and empowerment. Just as platinum represents strength, rarity, and resilience, so too does Sci-Bono stand as a vital and lasting force in shaping futures through learning. This design element honours our journey, recognises our achievements, and reaffirms our commitment to advancing opportunity and curiosity for generations to come.

OUR INTEGRATED REPORTING JOURNEY

The Sci-Bono Discovery Centre is on a structured journey toward full integrated reporting. As a publicly funded institution with a wide-reaching mandate, we recognise the importance of reporting that reflects not only financial performance but also our strategic priorities, governance, stakeholder relationships, and long-term value creation. While this report retains elements of a traditional annual report, it marks a deliberate shift towards integrated thinking – with greater emphasis on material matters, outcomes, and alignment with the Six Capitals. Over time, we aim to deepen this approach, embedding integration into our planning, performance management, and stakeholder engagement processes.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACRONYMS LIST

4IR	Fourth Industrial Revolution
ABE	Amgen Biotech Experience
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AFS	Annual Financial Statements
AGM	Annual General Meeting
AHOC	Ad Hoc Oversight Committee
APP	Annual Performance Plan
AR	Augmented Reality
ARC	Audit, Risk and Compliance
ARCC	Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee
ASC	Academy Support Centre
CAPS	Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
CSI	Corporate Social Investment
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
DBE	Department of Basic Education
DMRE	Department Of Mineral Resources and Energy
ECD	Early Childhood Development
EUC	End User Computing
FET	Further Education and Training

FINCO	Finance Committee
FLL	FIRST Lego League
FTC	FIRST Tech Challenge
GDE	Gauteng Department of Education
GNSEC	Governance, Nominations and Social and Ethics Committee
GPG	Gauteng Provincial Government
GRC	Governance, Risk and Compliance
HPCSA	Health Professions Council of South Africa
HR&D	Human Resources and Development
HR	Human Resources
ICITP SA	Institute of Chartered IT Professionals
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IP	Intermediate Phase
ISF	International Science Fair
IT	Information Technology
ITC	Instructor Training Centre
IMC	Integrated Marketing and Communications
MD	Managing Director
MEC	Member of the Executive Council
MCSP	Multi-Certification Skills Programme
MICT SETA	Media, Information and Communication Technologies Sector Education and Training Authority
MMBP	Multimedia Broadcast Platform

MOI	Memorandum of Incorporation
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MST	Mathematics, Sciences and Technology
NDP	National Development Plan
NPC	Non-Profit Company
NS-Tech	National Sciences Technology
NSC	National Senior Certificate
NWU	North-West University
PAT	Practical Assessment Task
PDI	Professional Development Institute
PMO	Project Management Office
POPCRU	Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union
PR	Public Relations
REMCO	Remunerations Committee
SAASTEC	Southern African Association for Science, Technology and Education Centres
SACE	South African Council for Educators
SAICE	South African Institution of Civil Engineering
SAMF	South African Mathematics Foundation
SAMO	South African Mathematics Olypiad
SASL	South African Sign Language
SASSETA	Safety and Security Sector Education Training Authority
SCM	Supply Chain Management

SETA	Sector Education and Training Authority
SOS	School of Specialisation
SP	Senior Phase
SSIP	Secondary School Improvement Programme
STEAM	Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths
STIRCO	Science, Technology, Innovation and Research Committee
STREAM	Science, Technology, Research, Engineering, Arts and Maths
TOR	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
US	United States
USA	United States of America
VPN	Virtual Private Network
VR	Virtual Reality
YDP	Youth Development Programme

This report presents a holistic account of the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre's activities, performance, and impact for the financial year 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. It has been prepared to inform our stakeholders – including the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE), partners, funders, learners, educators, and the broader STEAM education community – about how we deliver on our mandate and strategic objectives.

Reporting Boundary and Scope

The report covers the operations of the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre NPC, a non-profit company based in Johannesburg, South Africa. It focuses on the Centre's key programmes, partnerships, and outcomes across the Gauteng Province, and includes both operational and strategic developments for the year under review.

Frameworks and Reporting Approach

The report is aligned to the principles of integrated thinking and reflects the guidance of the King IV™ Report on Corporate Governance, particularly in relation to accountability, stakeholder inclusivity, and performance. Where relevant, we reference our alignment to the National Development Plan (NDP) and the Gauteng Department of Education's priorities.

Materiality

The content of this report is informed by a materiality determination process, which considers the issues that have the most significant impact on Sci-Bono's ability to create sustainable value and deliver on its mandate. These include education outcomes, brand management, stakeholder partnerships, funding stability, and governance.

Assurance

The annual financial statements have been audited by independent external auditors, and selected programme results have been verified internally. The report as a whole has been reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors.

Forward-Looking Statements

This report may contain forward-looking statements regarding future plans and developments. These are subject to risks and uncertainties, and actual outcomes may differ.

Approval

The report was approved for release by the Board on 14 October 2025, following a process of review and validation by Management and key stakeholders.

Further Information

For further information or feedback, please contact:
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Website: www.sci-bono.co.za

20 YEARS OF SPARKING YOUNG MINDS TO DREAM BIG.

SECTION 01
OUR LEADERSHIP


SCI-BONO
PEEBLES
EDINBURGH

Mr Matome Chiloane | MEC

FOREWORD BY THE MEC FOR EDUCATION, SPORTS, ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION

Excellence Under Pressure: Sustaining Impact for Gauteng's Future

The partnership between the Gauteng Department of Education and Sci-Bono Discovery Centre continues to deliver meaningful impact across our province. The Secondary School Improvement Programme, Broadcasting Multimedia Platform, Intel AI Youth Site designation, and teacher development initiatives represent genuine advancement in STEM education. These achievements reflect the dedication of our Board, Management, and staff and they matter deeply to thousands of learners and educators across Gauteng.

Yet this annual report also reflects a reality we must acknowledge directly: Sci-Bono faces financial sustainability challenges that require urgent attention and collaborative action.

The organisation has been operating under structural funding constraints where grant allocations cover direct programme costs but do not sustain organisational infrastructure and long-term viability. This situation has intensified over the past 18 months, creating a dynamic where excellent programme delivery masks underlying financial stress. The Board has responded by drawing on investment reserves, a necessary measure but one that is not indefinitely sustainable.

This is not a crisis of programme quality or organisational competence. Rather, it reflects a fundamental question about how Gauteng chooses to invest in STEM education infrastructure. The question is not whether Sci-Bono can deliver impact, it clearly can. The question is whether that impact is being funded through a model designed to endure.

Government grant funding remains vital and substantial. However, grants are typically project-specific, creating a framework where programmatic excellence does not automatically translate to organisational sustainability. Additionally, the private sector partnerships that strengthened the organisation in previous years have not maintained their earlier momentum. And commercial revenue streams from venue rental, specialised programming, and intellectual property remain underdeveloped.

The Board is conducting a comprehensive review to guide strategic decisions about organisational structure, programme prioritisation, and funding diversification. These decisions will require difficult choices. They will also be necessary.

Sci-Bono has earned credibility through 20 years of demonstrated excellence in STEM education. That credibility is an asset, but only if we build sustainable models to sustain it. That work begins now, and it requires commitment from government, corporate partners, and civil society.

The question facing Gauteng is whether we value this impact enough to fund it properly. How we answer that question will determine whether Sci-Bono continues advancing STEM education in our province, or whether we lose institutional capacity built over two decades.

We are calling our stakeholders to this conversation. The time for incremental adjustment has passed. The time for strategic decision-making is now.

Mr Matome Chiloane, MEC
Gauteng Department of Education, Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

I present this report on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre. The institution attained an unqualified audit outcome for the year under review and I am confident that the Board, employees and stakeholders are proud of this achievement. As we close the 2024/25 financial year with the monumental celebration of Sci-Bono's 20 year anniversary, one cannot help but reflect of the tremendous growth the company has made in the last two decades.

Let me also express our sheer pride in leading a world-class science centre that has made a significant impact in the lives of those it interacts with – the community and leaners who are beneficiaries of our Secondary School Improvement Programme (SSIP). Health working conditions for our employees are important. Their mental and financial wellbeing are the cornerstone of the institution. The Board also wishes to thank the suppliers, with whom we have a mutually beneficial relationship. We help their business' grow through continued support and in turn, they contribute to our B-BBEE compliance and enterprise development goals. Last but not least, we appreciate our stakeholders who have played integral roles in ensuring Sci-Bono remains a good corporate citizen.

During the 2024/25 financial year, the company proudly launched three instrumental projects, the multimedia broadcasting studio, the classroom of the future, and the 4IR centre. In addition to these projects, the company also successfully concluded a sale of immovable property for the acquisition of the Magalies River Lodge, a property acquired in our revenue diversification efforts. Whilst the company is grappling with financial sustainability and revenue growth, some strategic interventions have been made to realise these objectives. The Board is discussing a business model to be adopted by the institution. This will be a blue print to improving value creation, increasing revenue streams, aiding offerings delivery and addressing capacity issues. This will further assist in the enhancement and alignment of systems for improved operational efficiency and innovation. The Partnership and Collaboration Strategy is beginning to gain momentum as we gained a new partnership with the Gauteng Provincial Government.

We remain grateful to the MEC honourable Matome Chiloane, and GDE for their confidence and support in ensuring that Sci-Bono achieved its strategic objectives. The Board remained strongly focused and rooted in ensuring good governance practises are observed, by subjecting itself to Board evaluation processes in compliance with the King IV™ codes. It further demonstrated consistent dedication, fostering a culture of high performance, unity, resilience and by providing ethical leadership. It fulfilled all its fiduciary duties by holding all structural meetings and committees are functional and operate with their mandate as espoused by their terms of references. The Board has played an active role in strengthening governance by ensuring that the institution's policy universe remains aligned to best practice guidelines and the legislation.

The 2019-2024 Strategic Plan laid out five outcome-based goals as a foundation for growth. As we enter into a new cycle, the Board endeavours to develop new strategic goals that further amplify and enhance our 2019-2024 strategic objectives to align with the changing political and economic landscape. Our plans for the new decade will be to ensure we broaden our reach and become the known and obvious go-to provider for maths, science, technology, and innovation initiatives. We invite corporate institutions to partner with us in ensuring that the youth of South Africa play a leading role in tech and innovation. Our doors are open for collaborations that are aimed at making a sustainable impact in the lives of South Africans leading to their financial emancipation. Education and transforming lives of South Africans through STEAM initiatives remains the lifeblood of Sci-Bono.

I would like to acknowledge the CEO, Prof Ntsobi and his Executive Team for their diligence and dedication in implementing the strategic objectives of the company. The Board is confident that as we usher ourselves into a new decade and a new strategic cycle, you will be able to steer the ship into its highest point. The Board further prides itself in knowing that we have staff that have been with Sci-Bono for periods almost as long as its existence. We pride ourselves in knowing that we have been able to retain such personnel and implore them to teach the new ones the ways of Sci-Bono that has kept it alive so long.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Board of Directors, I would at this point like to welcome all new staff members to the family, as well as to express our gratitude to the staff at large, all our stakeholders, partners, funders, suppliers, and customers for the support that they have given Sci-Bono over the last two decades and we look forward to walking the journey with you for many more decades to come!

Mr Abbey Witbooi
Chairperson of the Board of Directors

PLATINUM TODAY, EVERLASTING ENDURANCE OF POSSIBILITIES TOMORROW.

SECTION 02

ABOUT SCI-BONO

ABOUT SCI-BONO

Established in 2004, the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre is South Africa's premier science education institution and one of the largest science centres on the continent. Located in Newtown, Johannesburg, Sci-Bono operates as a non-profit company and a strategic partner to the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE), with a shared commitment to improving science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) education across the province.

In 2024, Sci-Bono marked its 20th anniversary – a significant milestone that reflects two decades of growth, innovation, and impact in the education landscape. From its early beginnings in a repurposed power station to becoming a dynamic public institution serving hundreds of thousands of learners and educators annually, Sci-Bono has evolved into a key enabler of STEAM learning, access, and development.

At the heart of Sci-Bono's mission is the advancement of science literacy and the promotion of lifelong learning. The Centre supports the full education value chain, from early childhood interventions and curriculum-aligned school programmes to teacher development and career awareness initiatives. Through its wide range of over 300 interactive exhibits, school holiday programmes, mobile labs, and science festivals, Sci-Bono fosters curiosity, critical thinking, and a culture of discovery among learners of all ages and society in general.

Over the past two decades, Sci-Bono has grown into a leading institution in the promotion of STEAM participation, particularly among historically disadvantaged communities. Its work extends well beyond the walls of the Newtown centre, with outreach programmes and satellite centres reaching deep into peri-urban and township schools. These interventions are designed to bridge the digital information and educational divide, improve learner performance in key subjects such as maths and science, and equip teachers with the tools and confidence to deliver high-quality instruction.

Our Guiding Principles

As we celebrate our 20th anniversary, we have revised our guiding principles to reflect the changing educational landscape, deepen our impact, and ensure we remain relevant to the needs of learners, educators, and society at large

Our Vision

A world-class Science Centre capacitated to foster a culture of Science and Technology by making it fun, exploratory, innovative, and responsible.

Our Mission

To empower society through innovative and interactive Science, Technology, Research, Engineering, Arts and Maths (STREAM) education that fosters curiosity and discovery.

Our Purpose

Sci-Bono's core purpose is to promote a society with the capacity to compete in the global world of science and technology and that is equipped with the skills, attitudes, and knowledge to do so effectively. This will take time as opinions about what is important in society, and the status of educators in STEAM and related subjects and the status of learners studying those subjects depends on other subjects, and therefore also the status supporting those subjects.

Our Values

At Sci-Bono, our core values guide our organisational culture and inform how we engage all stakeholders, both internally and externally. These values reflect our commitment to excellence, ethical conduct, and inclusive engagement, and are outlined below.

A

Accountable

We take responsibility for our actions and decisions, ensuring transparency and reliability in all our endeavours. We are committed to delivering on our promises and continuously improving our performance.

S

Stakeholder Centrism

We prioritise the needs and expectations of our stakeholders, including visitors, partners, and the community. By actively engaging with and listening to our stakeholders, we create meaningful and impactful experiences.

I

Integrity

We uphold the highest standards of honesty and ethical behaviour. Our commitment to integrity ensures that we provide accurate and trustworthy information, fostering a culture of respect and trust.

I

Innovation

We embrace creativity and forward-thinking to drive scientific discovery and educational excellence. We remain at the forefront of science education by fostering an environment encouraging experimentation and new ideas.

E

Ethical

We adhere to ethical principles in all operations, from research and exhibits to partnerships and community engagement. Our ethical approach ensures that we contribute positively to society and the environment.

E

Empathy

We understand and value the diverse perspectives and experiences of our visitors and staff. By fostering empathy, we create an inclusive and supportive environment that encourages curiosity and learning.

Sci-Bono initiates, develops, and implements a range of programmes aligned with these principles. Each programme is strategically structured with clear objectives, core activities, desired outcomes, and measurable targets. These initiatives encompass both core and support functions across the organisation and include performance indicators to monitor progress.

Core Business Functions

Science Education Centre	Provides exciting STEAM programmes, exhibitions, workshops, shows, and demonstrations that bring science to life for learners, educators, and the broader public.
Exhibitry	Features hands-on, interactive science exhibits that encourage exploration and curiosity across all age groups.
Science Career Centre	Offers career guidance, counselling, and psychometric assessments to help learners explore opportunities in STEAM fields.
Teacher Development and Support	Delivers professional development workshops and resources that enhance educators' competence and confidence in STEAM teaching.
Learner Support	Manages large-scale tuition programmes, including the Secondary School Improvement Programme (SSIP), in partnership with the Gauteng Department of Education.
ICT and Youth Skills Development	Provides accredited training in collaboration with partners such as CISCO, CompTIA, Microsoft, and MICT SETA, preparing youth for 4IR opportunities.

Support Functions

Human Resources (HR)	Oversees recruitment, employee relations, performance development, and training, aligned to HR best practice.
Marketing and Communications	Drives brand visibility, stakeholder engagement, and strategic communication across platforms.
Information Technology (IT)	Supports secure, reliable, and future-fit digital infrastructure for internal systems and programme delivery.
Facilities Management	Ensures safe, secure, and well-maintained physical infrastructure, including the science centre and outreach facilities.
Finance and Administration	Leads financial planning, budgeting, procurement, and compliance with financial controls and reporting standard
Project Management Office (PMO)	Coordinates cross-cutting strategic initiatives focused on innovation, partnerships, research, legal compliance, and skills development. It comprises five key departments: • Project Implementation • Fundraising and Partnerships • Research and Development • Skills Development • Legal and Contract Management

Our Strategic Goals

	Advance equitable access to science, technology, research, engineering, arts and mathematics (STREAM) education.
	Position Sci-Bono as a leading Edu-tourism destination.
	Promote research, development and innovation (RDI) in pursuit of a scientifically competitive society.
	Achieve organisational sustainability.
	Build a resilient organisational culture of commitment to excellence, and agility.

Strategy Overview

The 2024/25 year marks a pivotal transition for the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre as we conclude our 2020–2024 Strategic Plan and lay the foundations for our next strategic cycle. Celebrating 20 years of impact, Sci-Bono remains focused on enabling inclusive science education, driving skills development, and supporting the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) in delivering educational excellence.

Strategic Priorities and Performance Review (These priorities continue to underpin our work as we evolve our strategy to meet new challenges.)

Strategic Priority	Strategic Intent	Key Programmes	2024/25 Performance Highlights
1. Support STEM Learning and Teaching	Improve learner outcomes in gateway subjects through targeted academic support and enhanced teaching.	SSIP, Emasondosondo Mobile Science Labs, Saturday and holiday classes.	• Over 300,000 learners in underperforming districts received targeted academic support, contributing to measurable improvements in STEM pass rates. • 498 schools accessed mobile science labs, providing hands-on learning opportunities that improved conceptual understanding. • Saturday and holiday classes helped bridge curriculum gaps and strengthen exam readiness.
2. Promote Science Awareness and Public Engagement	Expand access to science learning and foster a culture of curiosity through exhibitions and public events.	Science Centre Exhibitions, National Science Week, Science Festivals.	• More than 150,000 learners and public visitors engaged through immersive science experiences, increasing public interest in STEAM careers. • National Science Week and themed events broadened access to science learning beyond the classroom. • Multimedia Broadcasting Platform extended Sci-Bono's educational reach to digitally underserved communities.
3. Enable Skills Development and Economic Participation	Equip young people and graduates with digital, career, and 4IR-related skills to improve employability.	Career Centre, ICT Training, AI for Youth, Intel Academy.	• 2,000+ youth trained in ICT and digital skills, many entering pathways to employment or further study. • AI for Youth and Intel Academy programmes enhanced learners' readiness for 4IR opportunities. • Career guidance and psychometric assessments helped align youth aspirations with future skills needs.
4. Build Institutional Capacity and Sustainability	Strengthen governance, operational systems, and infrastructure to support long-term impact.	Project Management Office, Infrastructure Upgrades, Magalies River Lodge acquisition.	• Project Management Office streamline cross-programme coordination and improved reporting discipline. • Implementation of Power BI enhanced data visibility, supporting evidence-based decisions. • Acquisition of Magalies River Lodge created a new income stream and platform for future programme delivery.
5. Strengthen Strategic Partnerships and Stakeholder Relations	Deepen collaboration with GDE, donors, and education partners to align with system priorities.	GDE Engagement, Donor Partnerships, Collaborative Platforms.	• Strategic partnership with the GDE sustained through aligned programme delivery and reporting. • Continued donor confidence led to renewed funding (e.g. AMGEN) and expanded reach. • Participation in provincial education forums strengthened Sci-Bono's role in shaping systemic education responses.

Our Stakeholders

At the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre, we recognise that strong, transparent, and responsive relationships with our stakeholders are essential to achieving our purpose and delivering sustainable impact. As a publicly funded institution and a key delivery partner to the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE), we are committed to inclusive stakeholder engagement that informs our strategy, strengthens accountability, and enhances the relevance of our programmes.

Our stakeholders are identified based on their ability to influence or be impacted by our activities. We engage through formal governance structures, operational collaboration, programme implementation, and direct service delivery.

Key Stakeholders and How We Engage

Stakeholder Group	Why They Matter	How We Engage
Gauteng Department of Education (GDE)	Our principal funder and strategic partner in delivering STEAM education and skills development across the province.	Participation in strategic planning, regular performance reporting, joint programme implementation, and compliance with policy directives.
Learners and educators	Core beneficiaries of our programmes and central to our purpose of transforming science education.	Direct programme delivery (SSIP, Teacher Development, Science Centre activities), feedback mechanisms, and outreach.
Funders and donors	Provide essential financial and in-kind support that enables innovation, expansion, and sustainability.	Funding proposals, formal reporting, partnership meetings, and recognition in events and publications.
Communities and the public	End beneficiaries of a better-educated, science-literate society. Public engagement strengthens our social licence.	Community outreach, science festivals, exhibitions, school visits, and media communication.
Board and governance committees	Provide strategic direction, oversight and assurance to ensure responsible leadership and long-term sustainability.	Board meetings, committee reports, strategic reviews, and compliance assessments.
Employees and volunteers	Deliver our programmes and represent our organisational culture and values.	Staff development, wellness programmes, internal communication, performance management, and engagement surveys.
Partner organisations (e.g. universities, SETAs, corporates)	Collaborate with us to deliver specialised content, extend reach, and leverage technical expertise.	MOUs, joint ventures, shared infrastructure, and programme delivery partnerships.
Youth and unemployed graduates	Target group for many of our skills development, career guidance, and digital training initiatives.	ICT training programmes, psychometric services, internship opportunities, and career expos.

We continuously review and strengthen our engagement practices to ensure that stakeholder insights are integrated into programme design, risk identification, and strategic decisions. In the year ahead, we aim to formalise feedback loops, enhance monitoring of stakeholder expectations, and increase participatory opportunities, particularly for learners and educators.

Our Material Matters

Material Matter	Why It Is Material	Our Response
Sustainable funding and revenue diversification	Sci-Bono remains heavily reliant on grant income (95% in 2024/25), posing sustainability risks amid fiscal constraints.	A dedicated Project Management Office and acquisition of Magalies River Lodge have been introduced as part of a revenue diversification strategy.
Infrastructure modernisation and digital readiness	Ageing infrastructure, power interruptions and digital capacity gaps hinder programme delivery.	Investment in Power BI, ICT upgrades, and the launch of the 4IR Exhibition and Multimedia Broadcasting Platform are part of our digitisation drive.
Educational performance and systemic support	National education challenges require targeted, high-impact support to learners and teachers, especially in underperforming schools.	Programmes such as SSIP, Emasondosondo, and the Teacher Development Unit continue to support nearly half a million learners and 13 242 teachers.
Workforce capability and retention	Delivery of complex, high-volume programmes depends on skilled and committed staff. Retaining institutional knowledge is critical.	New senior appointments, internal training, and wellness initiatives support staff well-being and organisational performance.
Stakeholder confidence and accountability	As a publicly funded entity, transparency, compliance, and governance are essential to maintaining trust.	Unqualified audits, strong internal controls, and alignment with King IV™ principles reflect our commitment to accountability.
Access and inclusion in STEAM education	Many learners still face barriers to participation, especially in marginalised and rural communities.	Outreach activities, mobile labs, and inclusive programming (e.g. for people with disabilities) remain core to our mandate.
Responsiveness to emerging trends	AI, robotics, and 4IR technologies are reshaping skills requirements, necessitating proactive programme innovation.	Programmes like AI for Youth, Intel Academy, and the 4IR Centre are helping learners adapt to new realities.

Our Business Model

How we use our resources to deliver long-term public value through science education and skills development.

Inputs
Our Resources and Capital

Financial Capital

Public funding from the Gauteng Department of Education and donor contributions that support programme delivery and infrastructure.

Human Capital

A multidisciplinary team of educators, administrators, technicians, and subject specialists who deliver services and manage operations.

Intellectual Capital

Institutional knowledge, educational content, programme models, and digital capabilities that drive innovation and learning.
Includes:

- Curriculum-aligned learning programmes and teaching methodologies
- Proprietary tools, training content, and assessment models
- Digital platforms, data systems, and multimedia infrastructure supporting knowledge delivery and evaluation.

Social and Relationship Capital

Strong partnerships with GDE, schools, donors, academic institutions, and the broader science and education ecosystem.

Manufactured Capital

The Sci-Bono Centre, mobile labs, and satellite infrastructure (e.g. Magalies River Lodge).

Our core activities
How We Create Value

Curriculum Support & STEAM Learning

SSIP, Saturday classes, mobile labs, learner interventions.

Teacher Development

Training for in-service teachers

Public Science Engagement

Exhibitions, festivals, outreach events, and awareness campaigns.

Skills Development

Career guidance, ICT training, AI for Youth, Intel Academy, coding and robotics.

Programme Innovation & Research

Designing, testing, and scaling new models aligned to 4IR.

Governance & Assurance

Oversight, compliance, internal controls, and impact evaluation.

Outputs

FY2024/25 (What we delivered)

- **59 266 Science Centre learners** reached through direct interventions
- **192 teachers** trained through the ABE Programme
- **99 728 participants** in Science Engagements and awareness
- **301 students** trained in ICT and employability programmes
- **63 Schools** reached through the Science Centre outreach activities

Outcomes

Long-Term Value (What we are enabling)

- Improved learner performance in STEAM subjects
- Strengthened teaching capacity across underperforming districts
- Greater public engagement in science and innovation
- Increased digital and work-readiness skills among youth
- Reinforced trust and alignment with provincial education priorities

Strategic Trade-Offs Considered

Reach vs. **Depth** of Impact

Infrastructure **Investment** vs. Programme **Expansion**

Innovation vs. **Risk** Tolerance

Public **Accountability** vs. Operational **Agility**

Our business model is grounded in public value creation and aligned to the Gauteng Department of Education's priorities. As we move into a new strategic cycle, we remain committed to sustaining this model while expanding our impact through innovation, partnerships, and systemic responsiveness.

SECTION 03

GOVERNANCE


SCI-BONO
DISCOVERY CENTRE

The Board of Directors oversees governance in line with the Companies Act, the Non-Profit Organisations Act, the approved Memorandum of Incorporation (MOI), and the principles of King IV™. The Board is committed to ethical and effective leadership and upholds a Governance Framework grounded in the principles of integrity, accountability, and transparency.

Governance Framework

The Board of Directors, in its capacity as the Accounting Authority, serves as the custodian of good governance at the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre NPC. The organisation's Governance Framework provides clear role definition and delineates areas of accountability to ensure effective oversight. The roles, responsibilities, membership requirements, and procedural conduct of Board members are comprehensively set out in the approved Board Charter and the Code of Conduct for Board Members.

The roles of the Board Chairperson and the CEO are formalised and clearly defined in the organisation's constitutional documents. The separation of these roles ensures a balanced distribution of authority and decision-making power. The Board has the appropriate size, knowledge, skills, and expertise to effectively oversee the organisation's operations. Its broad skills base contributes significantly to its effectiveness. However, the Board recognises the need for continued progress in promoting diversity and transformation, particularly regarding the representation of people with disabilities, youth, and women.

Our Governance Framework

Our Board

The Board of Directors serves as the accounting authority and is responsible for upholding sound governance at the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre NPC. The organisation's Governance Framework defines clear roles and areas of accountability to support effective oversight. The roles, responsibilities, membership criteria, and procedural conduct of Board members are outlined in the approved Board Charter and the Code of Conduct for Board Members.

Board Composition

In accordance with its Memorandum of Incorporation (MOI), the Board comprises eleven (11) directors: ten (10) non-executive directors and one (1) executive director – the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) – appointed in terms of the MOI. The Board was duly constituted during the reporting period, with no resignations or new appointments.

Board Members

Non-Executive Directors

MR ABBEY WITBOOI
Chairperson
Committees: AHOC (Chairperson), GNSEC (Chairperson)

Mr Abbey Witbooi is a seasoned leader and dedicated public service advocate. As the General Secretary of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (POPCRU) from 1998 to 2009, he championed workers' rights and social justice. His expertise in governance and leadership has seen him serve as Chairperson of the Safety and Security Sector Education and Training Authority (SASSETA) Board from 2011 to 2015.
Mr Witbooi has also been instrumental in community development initiatives, serving as a trustee of the Dun Carnival City Community Trust since 2013. Currently, he leads the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre Board as Chairperson, a role he has held since 2015, driving innovation and science education in South Africa. Through his tireless commitment and visionary leadership, Mr Witbooi continues to make a lasting impact in various spheres of society.

MR ZETH MALELE

Committees: STIRCO (Chairperson: Appointed August 2024) AHOC, ARCC

Mr Malele is an ICT industry veteran with over 35 years of leadership experience, including former CEO of arivia.kom and current MD of TCM Networks. He brings extensive expertise in digital strategy, corporate governance, and technology innovation.

PROF BONGANI DOUGLAS BANTWINI

Committees: FINCO, STIRCO (Chairperson: Resigned August 2024)

Prof Bantwini is a globally recognised science education expert. He holds a Ph.D. in Elementary Science Education and a master's from the University of Illinois (Fulbright Scholar) and is a C2-rated NRF researcher. His strengths lie in research-led curriculum development, digital transformation in teacher education, and strategic academic leadership.

MS NOMNDENI BANDA
Committees: AHOC, FINCO, GNSEC, REMCO

Ms Nomndeni Banda is a Chartered Accountant (SA) and Registered Auditor with extensive expertise in financial governance, audit, and strategic oversight. She holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the Gordon Institute of Business Science and is the Director of Manx Audit Hub Inc. Ms Banda was appointed to the Sci-Bono Board in March 2023 and also serves on other boards. Her professional strengths include strategic financial management, regulatory compliance, risk management, and value-driven leadership. She is passionate about ethical governance, accountability, and the advancement of women in the auditing profession.

Non-Executive Directors (contd.)

ADV. LENTSWE MOKGATLE
Committees: GNSEC, REMCO

Adv. Mokgatle is an experienced advocate of the High Court of South Africa with over 20 years in law, governance, and public relations. He serves as a Non-Executive Director at Sci-Bono and the South African Forestry Company SOC Ltd., bringing strong legal acumen, strategic oversight, and stakeholder engagement skills to the Board.

PROF KHULEKANI SITOLE
Committees: REMCO (Chairperson), STIRCO

Prof Sitole is a seasoned academic leader with expertise in educational governance and strategic oversight. As Chair of Sci-Bono's Remuneration and Human Resources Committee and former member of core Board committees, he contributes deep insight into institutional transformation and HR governance. He holds a Ph.D. and serves in leadership roles in higher education.

MR MASHANE MPHAHLELE
Committees: ARCC, FINCO, GNSEC

Mr Mphahlele holds an MBA from Milpark Business School and is a Doctoral candidate with Lighthouse Seminary (USA). Appointed to the Board in 2020, he brings expertise in governance, corporate finance, and strategy. His commitment to ethical leadership and financial sustainability supports Sci-Bono's mission to advance science literacy, innovation, and youth development.

MR GODFREY TSOTETSI
Committees: AHOC, ARCC, GNSEC, REMCO

Mr Tsotetsi brings extensive expertise in governance, oversight, and public-sector leadership – having served as a member of Sci-Bono's Board since October 2020. With a background in provincial legislature oversight and committee governance – including contributions to audit, risk, remuneration, and social and ethics – he enhances Sci-Bono's leadership through strategic insight, ethical decision-making, and stakeholder accountability.

MS PATRICIA MALOKA
Committees: STIRCO (Chairperson), GNSEC

Ms Maloka provides strategic and financial oversight, having led the creation of Sci-Bono's Sustainability Investment Fund and contributed to unqualified audits. A former Deputy Director-General at Social Development, she heads the Panyaza Lesufi Education Institute. She holds science and management degrees from UNISA and Wits and is pursuing a DBA through the University of Salford.

Executive Director

PROF MFANELO NTSOBI
Chief Executive Officer
Committees: EXCO
Prof Ntsobi is a seasoned academic and executive leader with extensive experience in science education and digital transformation. He holds a Ph.D. and has published widely on topics such as ICT integration, artificial intelligence, and pedagogy. As CEO, he provides strategic leadership to advance Sci-Bono's mission in STEAM education and innovation.

Company Secretary*

ADV. LEBOGANG RADEBE
Company Secretary
Adv Radebe is a seasoned legal and governance practitioner specialising in corporate and commercial law. She has provided advisory, governance and company secretariat services to both public and private sector entities such as UNISA Enterprise, Transport Authority for Gauteng, FoodBev Manufacturing SETA, Central Energy Fund, African Exploration Mining and Finance Corporation. She previously acted as company secretary to Sci-Bono in 2020/21 and was re-appointed as such in June 2023 until November 2024.

*Subsequent to Adv. Radebe's departure in November 2024, Dr Ndabezitha was appointed in the position of Company Secretary in March 2025.

Board Meetings

In line with its Memorandum of Incorporation (MOI) and Board Charter, the Board is required to hold a minimum of four meetings per year. During the review period, ten meetings were held – comprising four ordinary meetings, one Annual General Meeting (AGM), four workshops, and one special meeting. Attendance by Board members was exceptional.

Board Meeting Attendance

DIRECTOR	MEETING DATES				WORKSHOPS AND STRATEGIC PLANNING						SPECIAL MEETINGS
	24-Jun-24	4-Oct-24	11-Dec-24	31-Mar-25	7-Jun-24	29-Aug-24	24-Aug-24	14-Sep-24	8-Mar-25	27-Mar-25	22-Jan-25
Mr Abbey Witbooi	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓*
Dr Nandipha Madiba	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓	✓*	✓*
Prof Bongani Bantwini	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	*	✓*
Prof Khululekani Sitole	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	✓	✓*
Adv. Lentswe Mokgatle	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓*
Ms Patricia Maloka	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓*
Mr Zeth Malele	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓*
Mr Mashane Mphahlele	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓*
Mr Godfrey Tsotetsi	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓*
Ms Nomndeni Banda	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓*

KEY

✓	Present
*	Apology noted
✓*	Tele conference
-	Absent
N/A	Not appointed at time
**	Not a member anymore

Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee Statement

As Chairperson of the Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee (ARCC), I am pleased to report that the committee successfully discharged its responsibilities in line with its approved mandate for the 2024/25 financial year. The committee exercised oversight over financial reporting, internal controls, risk management, and compliance processes, ensuring that these systems remained robust, transparent, and aligned with Sci-Bono's strategic objectives and good governance principles.

Engagements with Management, internal audit, and external audit were constructive and professional, fostering improved accountability, risk awareness, and governance maturity across the organisation. While certain areas – particularly information technology controls and aspects of risk governance – continue to require focused improvement, the committee is satisfied that the overall control environment provides a sound foundation to safeguard Sci-Bono's long-term sustainability and maintain stakeholder confidence.

Guided by its approved Charter, the committee ensured the integrity of the Annual Financial Statements, evaluated the effectiveness and independence of internal and external assurance functions, and engaged directly with the Chief Executive Officer and the Board on key governance and risk matters. The ARCC also confirmed that it operated in full compliance with its Terms of Reference, having conducted its affairs in accordance with the Charter and fulfilled all responsibilities assigned to it.

In accordance with its Terms of Reference, the committee is required to meet at least four times per financial year. During the year under review, the committee convened six meetings, including two special meetings, thereby exceeding the minimum requirement. Member attendance remained consistently high, reflecting the committee's commitment to diligent governance and effective oversight.

Audit, Risk and Compliance Board Committee Meetings Attended (ARCC)						
DIRECTOR	MEETING DATES				SPECIAL MEETINGS	
	6-May-24	30-Aug-24	22-Oct-24	19-Mar-25	28-May-24	7-Mar-25
Nandipha Madiba	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Zeth Malele	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Mashane Mphahlele	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Godfrey Tsotetsi	**	**	✓*	✓*	**	✓*
Monica Matobako	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Sithembele James	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*

KEY

✓ Present | * Apology noted | ✓* Tele conference | - Absent | N/A Not appointed at time | ** Not a member anymore

Internal Audit and Risk Oversight

The Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee (ARCC) of the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre serves as an independent governance structure, providing oversight of the organisation's financial reporting, risk management, internal controls, compliance, and assurance processes. The committee operates in accordance with its approved Charter, the Companies Act, and the principles of the King IV™ Report on Corporate Governance.

The ARCC's mandate includes evaluating the adequacy and effectiveness of internal control systems, assessing the reliability and integrity of financial reporting, overseeing the organisation's Risk Management Framework, and ensuring compliance with relevant legislation. It also ensures the independence, quality, and effectiveness of the internal and external audit functions.

The Sci-Bono Discovery Centre outsourced its internal audit function to PKM Internal Audit, an independent assurance provider. This arrangement gives stakeholders confidence in the reliability of reported information, the effectiveness of governance practices, and the adequacy of internal control systems designed to promote resilience in a dynamic operating environment.

During the year under review, internal audit developed and implemented the Annual Operational Audit Coverage Plan in alignment with the approved Internal Audit Plan. Progress was monitored and reported quarterly to the ARCC. Internal audit also conducted follow-up reviews to assess Management's implementation of corrective actions from prior audits, ensuring that efficient and effective controls are embedded.

The committee, however, remains concerned about long-outstanding unresolved audit findings, particularly in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) environment, and has directed Management to prioritise their resolution.

Effectiveness of Internal Control

The internal control environment of the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre demonstrated improvement during the year under review. However, residual weaknesses persist, and the Governance, Risk and Compliance (GRC) Office continues to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of controls across the organisation.

This oversight is informed by internal and external audit reviews, as well as Management's progress in addressing prior-year audit findings. While progress is evident, the committee's assessment indicates that further improvement is required, particularly in Information Technology and Asset Management controls. Management has committed to implementing corrective measures to strengthen these areas and prevent recurrence of similar findings in future financial years.

Governance of Risk

The organisation has adopted a comprehensive Risk Management Policy and Strategy that governs all risk management activities within the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre. The policy and strategy were reviewed and updated during the fourth quarter of the financial year under review, following a recommendation from the ARCC, and subsequently approved by the Board on 31 March 2025.

During the year, risk assessments were conducted at both strategic and operational levels – covering areas such as Strategic Operations, Information Technology, and Compliance – to review existing risk profiles and identify new and emerging risks. The Risk Registers informed the Annual Risk-Based Internal Audit Plan.

Although progress was made, the implementation of certain risk mitigation plans during the 2024/25 financial year did not meet the committee's expectations. The newly approved 2025/26 Risk Register is expected to strengthen alignment between the organisation's strategic objectives, annual corporate plan, budget, and Risk Management Framework.

Quality of Management and Quarterly Reports

Management submitted quarterly Governance, Risk and Compliance (GRC) reports to the committee for review. The ARCC noted significant improvement in the quality, completeness, and timeliness of these reports and encouraged Management to continue enhancing analytical reporting to support more informed decision-making.

Evaluation of the Annual Financial Statements

The ARCC evaluated the Annual Financial Statements (AFS) for the year ended 31 March 2025 and noted a regression in the financial reporting process compared to the prior year. The following key matters were identified:

- Non-adherence to the timely submission of financial statements;
- Deficiencies in financial recordkeeping and related business processes; and
- Material uncertainty relating to going concern, as current liabilities exceeded current assets, resulting in negative cash flows and a deficit for the year.

The committee further noted that the loss incurred during the 2024/25 financial year was primarily attributable to reduced funding allocations from Government and increased delivery programme costs, which placed significant pressure on the organisation's operating budget.

In addition, delays by Government in honouring payment deadlines adversely affected cash flow, compelling the organisation to obtain an overdraft facility and to make early withdrawals from its investment portfolio to sustain operations and meet financial obligations.

Despite these financial constraints, the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre maintained operational stability and continued to deliver on its educational and developmental mandate, ensuring that core programmes and learner support initiatives were not compromised.

External Auditors' Report

The ARCC is satisfied that the Annual Financial Statements fairly present the organisation's financial performance, cash flows, and financial position in all material respects, in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and the Companies Act of South Africa. The committee will continue to oversee the implementation of corrective measures aimed at strengthening financial management, improving liquidity, and ensuring the timely and accurate preparation of financial reports.

The external auditors concluded that the Annual Financial Statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre NPC as at 31 March 2025, as well as its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with IFRS and the Companies Act of South Africa. The ARCC accepts the external auditors' opinion and confirms that the external audit function operated independently of Management throughout the audit process.

The committee acknowledges the professionalism, diligence, and cooperation demonstrated by the external audit team and extends its appreciation for their continued support and constructive engagement.

On behalf of the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee:

Ms Nomndeni Banda
Chairperson: Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee

Board Sub Committees

Remunerations and Human Resources Committee (REMCO)

The Remunerations and Human Resources Committee (REMCO) is a Board-level committee established to provide oversight of employee relations and the broader labour environment. Its role is to ensure that the organisation offers competitive and equitable remuneration and benefits, thereby fostering a positive and productive workplace.

REMCO is also responsible for the strategic oversight of human capital management, with a particular focus on ensuring that critical roles are adequately resourced to support the organisation in achieving its mission and vision. The committee operates in line with its approved Terms of Reference. In accordance with its mandate, REMCO is required to meet at least four times per financial year. This requirement was fully met during the reporting period, with four scheduled meetings and one additional special meeting convened.

Remuneration and Human Resources Committee Meetings Attended					
MEMBERS	MEETING DATES				SPECIAL MEETINGS
	13-May-24	20-Aug-24	7-Nov-24	13-Feb-25	18-Jul-24
Khulekani Sitole	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Lentswe Mokgatle	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Nomndeni Banda	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Godfrey Tsotetsi	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*

KEY

✓ Present
* Apology noted
✓* Tele conference
- Absent
N/A Not appointed at time
** Not a member anymore

Finance Committee (FINCO)

The Finance Committee (FINCO) is a Board-level committee established in terms of its approved Terms of Reference, which define its governance scope and responsibilities. The committee is responsible for establishing effective frameworks for financial management, including the approval of financial regulations, policies, business systems, and workflow processes. It monitors performance against the approved budget, strengthens internal controls, and ensures compliance through accountability mechanisms and best practices.

The committee also oversees the organisation's approved Supply Chain Management (SCM) procurement policies and procedures and ensures the effective implementation of all finance-related policies. It recommends policies, systems, and procedures that maintain and enhance the financial health and integrity of the organisation, while reviewing strategies for managing financial risks and contingent liabilities, including the use of insurance coverage and other risk management techniques. In addition, it collaborates with the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee to address enterprise-wide risks, emerging threats, and opportunities, and oversees the preparation of the Annual Financial Statements, Integrated Annual Report, and related corporate reporting.

During the reporting period, the committee discharged its responsibilities as set out in the Terms of Reference (TOR), providing strategic oversight and guidance to Executive Management. It also supported business continuity by recommending for Board approval projects that exceeded the CEO's delegated mandate. In line with its Terms of Reference, the committee is required to meet at least four times per year to review quarterly management reports. This requirement was met, with the committee convening four scheduled meetings during the reporting period. In addition, due to the strategic nature of its work – particularly relating to financial approvals and business activities – the committee held six special meetings, which were duly approved by the Board Chairperson in accordance with the Board Charter.

Finance Board Committee Meetings Attended

MEMBERS	MEETING DATES				SPECIAL MEETINGS					
	23-May-24	27-Aug-24	29-Nov-24	25-Feb-25	4-Jun-24	13-Jun-24	21-Sep-24	18-Dec-24	25-Mar-25	31-Mar-25
Patricia Maloka	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Bongani Bantwini	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Mashane Mphahlele	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Nomndeni Banda	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*

KEY

✓	Present
*	Apology noted
✓*	Tele conference
-	Absent
N/A	Not appointed at time
**	Not a member anymore

Governance, Nominations, and Social and Ethics Committee (GNSEC)

The Governance, Nominations, and Social and Ethics Committee (GNSEC) is a statutory Board committee established in compliance with South African company law. Its responsibilities include oversight of organisational ethics, responsible corporate citizenship, and sustainable development. In addition to governance and compliance, the committee plays a broader role in supporting the organisation's contribution to value creation in society.

In line with its Terms of Reference, the GNSEC is required to meet at least four times during each financial year. This requirement was fully met, with the committee convening four ordinary meetings during the period under review.

Governance, Nominations and Social and Ethics Board Committee Meetings Attended

MEMBERS	MEETING DATES			
	3-May-24	5-Aug-24	31-Oct-24	13-Jan-25
Abbey Witbooi	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Patricia Maloka	✓*	**	**	**
Godfrey Tsotetsi	✓*	**	**	**
Lentswe Mokgatle	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Nomndeni Banda	N/A	✓*	✓*	✓*
Mashane Mphahlele	N/A	✓*	✓*	✓*

KEY

✓	Present
*	Apology noted
✓*	Tele conference
-	Absent
N/A	Not appointed at time
**	Not a member anymore

Science, Technology, Innovation and Research Committee (STIRCO)

The Science, Technology, Innovation and Research Committee (STIRCO) was established by resolution of the Board to provide oversight of both the core and non-core business operations of the organisation. Its mandate includes supporting the advancement of science, technology, and innovation, while ensuring that the organisation's programmes remain relevant and aligned to strategic objectives.

In line with its Terms of Reference, the STIRCO is required to meet at least four times per financial year. This requirement was fully met during the reporting period.

Science, Technology, Innovation and Research Board Committee Meetings Attended				
MEMBERS	MEETING DATES			
	23-Apr-24	23-Jul-24	27-Nov-24	27-Jan-25
Bongani Bantwini	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Nandipha Siwahla-Madiba	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Zeth Malele	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Khulekani Sitole	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*

Special Ad Hoc 20th Anniversary Oversight Committee

To commemorate its 20th anniversary in 2024, the organisation established an Ad Hoc Oversight Committee (AHOC). The committee was mandated to oversee the planning and execution of activities celebrating two decades since Sci-Bono's founding in 2004. AHOC is a temporary structure and will be disbanded in March 2025.

During the reporting period, the committee held two meetings in preparation for the official celebration scheduled for March 2025.

Ad Hoc Oversight Board Committee Meetings Attended		
MEMBERS	MEETING DATES	
	2-Apr-24	30-Jul-24
Abbey Witbooi	✓*	✓*
Nandipha Siwahla-Madiba	✓*	✓*
Godfrey Tsotetsi	✓*	✓*
Zeth Malele	✓*	✓*
Nomndeni Banda	✓*	✓*

KEY

✓ Present   * Apology noted   ✓* Tele conference   - Absent   N/A Not appointed at time   ** Not a member anymore

SECTION 04

OUR CORE FUNCTIONS

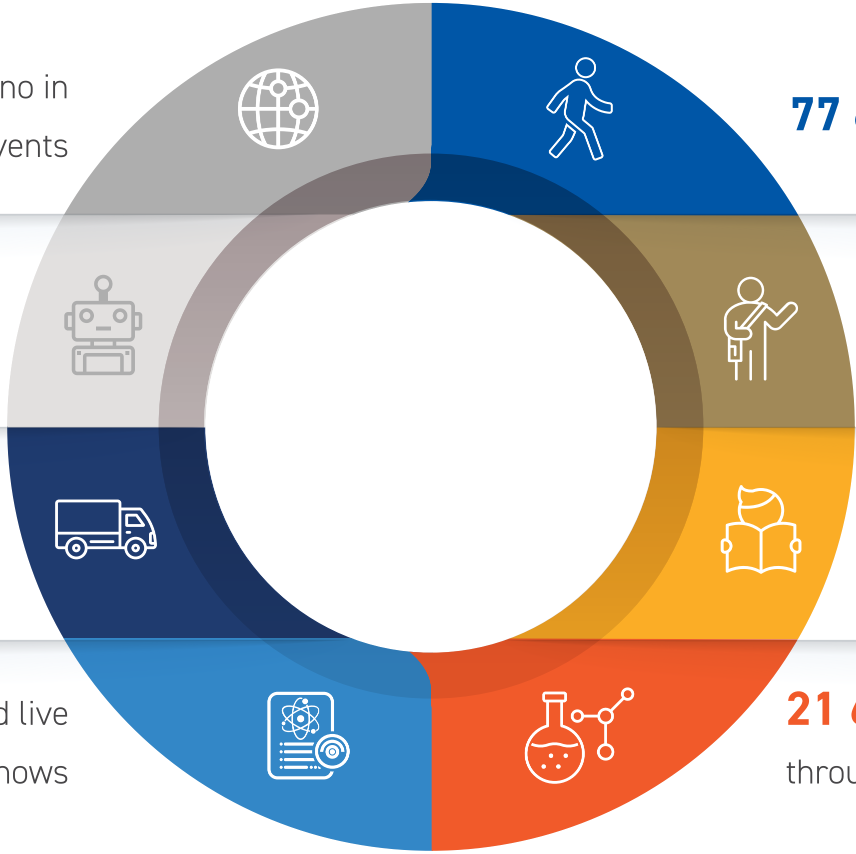

DISCOVER
SCIENCE

OUR PROGRAMME IMPACT

PROGRAMME GAVE ME TOOLS I'VE NEVER HAD ACCESS TO BEFORE – **NOW MY LEARNERS ARE EXCITED ABOUT BIOSCIENCE**

TEACHER, ABE TRAINING INSTITUTE

Our Stats at a Glance



Staff represented Sci-Bono in **4** international events

77 629 total visitors

62 teams in National Robotics Tournament

59 266 school learners

22 098 participants reached via 128 outreach events

4 875 ECD learners

36 410 watched live science shows

21 631 learners reached through laboratory sessions

Inspiring a Love for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics
Over 77 000 Visitors Engaged

Science Awareness
- 4IR Exhibition: **35 871 visitors**
- Holiday Programmes: **8 469 participants**
- Focus Weeks: **7 940 learners**
- International Days: **1 978 attendees**
- Outreach events: **128 events, 22 098 reached**

Science Education
- MST Workshops: **1 519 learners**
- ABE Programme: **192 teachers trained**
- Apprentice Doctor Camp: **80 learners**
- ECD Inreach: **4 875 learners, 513 educators**
- Rocketry Course: **3 courses, 64 learners and 13 educators from 13 schools**
- Science Laboratories: **21 631 learners and public members**

Science Competitions
- FLL Robotics (Regional + National): **108 Teams and 778 learners**
- Mental Maths Challenge: **175 learners**
- SAICE Bridge Building: **18 learners**
- Aqualibrium Water Competition: **48 learners**

Science Communication
- Speak to a Scientist: **770 participants**

Prof Mfanelo Ntsobi | CEO

CEO'S MESSAGE

It is with great pride that I present the Annual Report of the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre for the financial year under review. This report provides a comprehensive overview of the Centre's financial performance, operational achievements, and strategic initiatives undertaken during the period, reflecting our continued commitment to advancing science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) education and community development.

During the year, the Centre's financial management remained prudent, with a clear focus on cost-efficiency and optimal allocation of resources. Spending trends indicate a concentration on core programmes that directly impact learners, educators, and communities, while certain non-core or underperforming activities have been discontinued to streamline operations. Despite these efforts, the Centre continued to face capacity constraints and operational challenges, particularly in scaling high-impact initiatives and ensuring sufficient resource allocation across all projects.

To enhance our service delivery, new initiatives were introduced, and strategic activities were proposed to address emerging needs. In this regard, Sci-Bono embarked on new venture creation to ensure cohesive planning and monitoring of programmes and projects, acknowledging the interdependencies between various functionaries. The primary focal areas of this working group includes amongst others:

- Revenue diversification;
- Technology and innovation;
- New ventures for sustainability;
- Skills development; and
- Increase research output to support our service offerings.

These ventures are designed to diversify our impact, strengthen revenue systems, and ensure long-term sustainability. As a leader in the STEAM educational drive in Gauteng, South Africa and beyond, the Centre is further positioning itself to be a "go-to" consultancy on research and business intelligence for public, private, and non-governmental business intelligence in relation to educational needs within the context of 4IR and AI developments.

Over the past few years, the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre has increasingly positioned itself as a thought leader and contributor to academic research in the STEM and STEAM education space. This is evidenced by its growing body of scholarly outputs on platforms like ResearchGate, Google Scholar, and Academia.

These outputs reflect efforts in teacher professional development, curriculum innovation, and the integration of ICTs in science education. The Centre's emphasis on evidence-based programming has enhanced its partnerships with academic institutions, solidifying research as a core driver of programme design, impact evaluation, and policy influence. Through its research engagements, Sci-Bono contributes not only to knowledge generation but also to advancing equitable access to quality science education across Gauteng.

Progress in STEAM Education for the 2024/25 Financial Year

In the 2024/25 financial year, the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre made measurable progress in advancing STEAM education through its diverse programmes targeting learners and educators in township and under-resourced schools. The Centre expanded its STEAM integration model by embedding critical literacy (reading) and creative arts into its traditionally STEM-focused activities. This holistic approach is designed to develop both analytical and expressive capacities among learners. Highlights from the year include the scaling of STEAM clubs, the rollout of interdisciplinary projects, and the training of teachers in problem-based learning methods aligned with CAPS and DBE priorities. These initiatives have not only increased learner engagement and subject performance but have also contributed to fostering innovation mindsets critical for the 21st-century workforce. The continued alignment of these programmes with national education priorities underscores Sci-Bono's strategic role in transforming basic education through STEAM.

Furthermore, the Centre has adopted a Business Model Canvas approach as a strategic planning tool to sharpen our value proposition, optimise resources, and strengthen partnerships. This model has enabled Sci-Bono to map out its customer segments, refine its channels of delivery, and explore innovative revenue models that balance public good with financial resilience. By institutionalising this framework, we aim to integrate sustainability and innovation into every aspect of our operations.

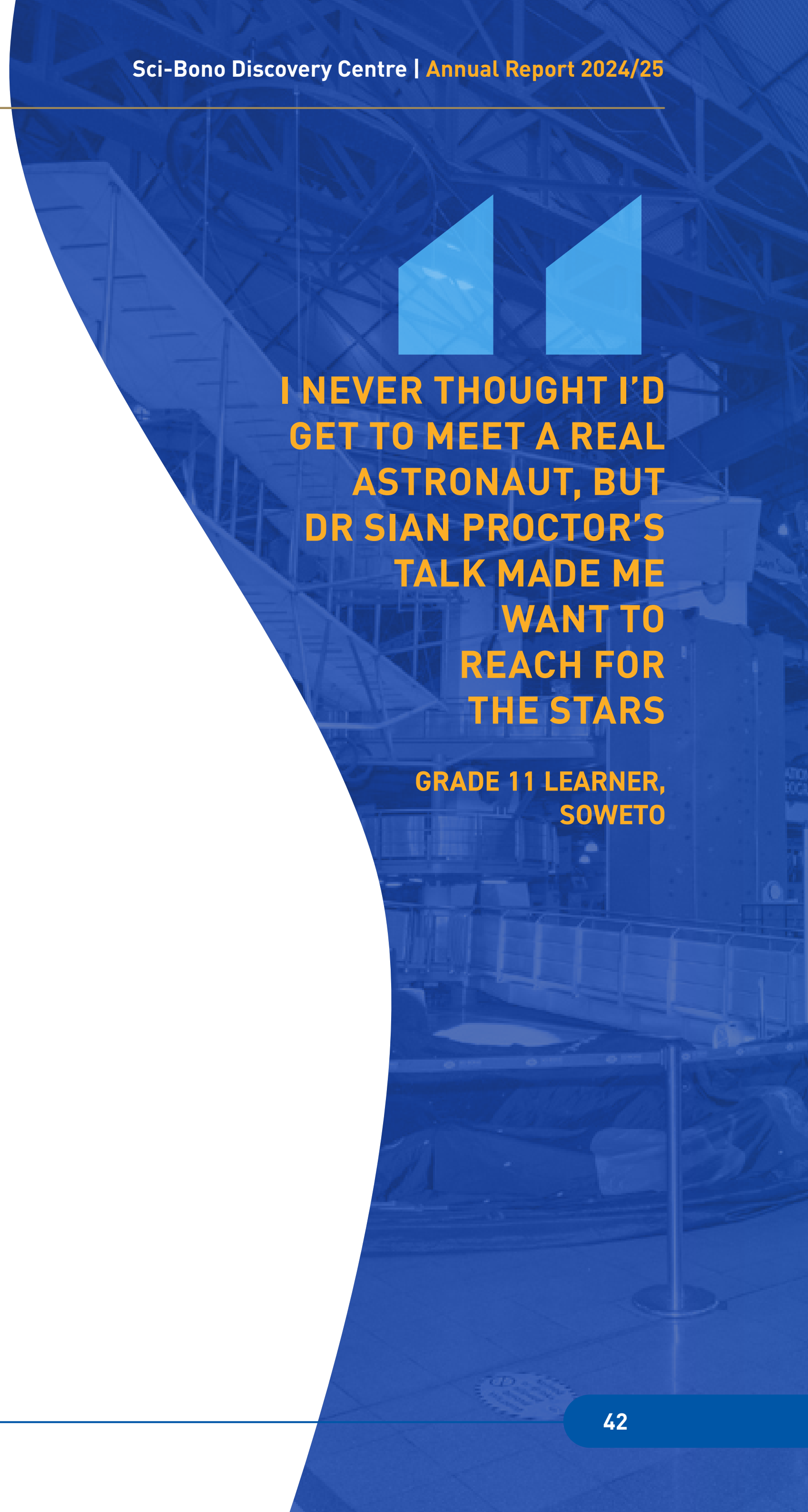
In response to audit matters raised in the previous year, the Centre has implemented targeted interventions to strengthen financial controls, reporting accuracy, and overall governance. These measures reinforce our commitment to transparency, accountability, and the sustainable management of public resources.

Looking ahead, the Centre remains focused on ensuring economic viability and operational sustainability. Strategic plans are being refined to mitigate financial challenges, expand outreach programmes, and enhance the impact of our STEAM education initiatives. Events that occurred after the reporting date have been considered in our planning, ensuring continuity and adaptability in a dynamic operating environment.

I wish to acknowledge and express sincere appreciation to all stakeholders, partners, staff, and the Board of Trustees for their unwavering support, dedication, and commitment to the Centre's mission. It is through these collaborative efforts that Sci-Bono continues to inspire curiosity, innovation, and learning among South Africa's youth and communities.

This Annual Report aims to provide users with a transparent, comprehensive view of the Centre's financial performance, operational achievements, and strategic direction, reinforcing our pledge to excellence in service delivery and community development.

Prof Mfanelo Ntsobi
Chief Executive Officer
Sci-Bono Discovery Centre



Our Executive Management

As a Science Centre, Sci-Bono's Executive Management Team, led by the Chief Executive Officer, is responsible for providing strategic leadership, including the development and implementation of the organisation's vision, mission, and strategic plans. The team ensures sound governance, regulatory compliance, and effective risk management. At this level, leadership is focused on ensuring organisational sustainability, financial viability, and operational efficiency.

PROF MFANELO PATRICK NTSOBI
Chief Executive Officer

MR NKATEKO MALULEKE
Chief Financial Officer

MS FIKILE MAPELA
Corporate Services Director

MR DUMISANI NYINGWA
Executive Manager in the Office of the CEO

MR ANELE DAVIDS
Education Support and Programmes Director

OUR CORE FUNCTIONS

Science Education Centre

The 2024/25 financial year was a successful period for the Science Centre, marked by the full implementation of planned programmes and a continued increase in public engagement. The Centre welcomed a total of 77 629 visitors – comprising 59 266 school learners and 18 363 members of the public – reaffirming its role as a leading science education and edu-tourism destination.

Notable highlights for the year included Sci-Bono's participation in the Techno-Africa Robotics Expo in Middleburg, hosted by the Techno-Africa Academy Science Centre, and the African Aerospace and Defence Expo at Waterkloof Airforce Base in Pretoria. The Centre also commemorated the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples and hosted a flagship Speak to a Scientist event featuring U.S. astronaut Dr Sian Proctor, in collaboration with the American Embassy, where she shared insights from her journey to space.

To strengthen institutional capacity and build international relations, Sci-Bono staff engaged in a number of global knowledge exchange platforms. These included a seminar on virtual reality technology applications for developing countries held in China, at the Euro-Trade Summit in Estonia, and at the 8th International Symposium on Science Festivals in Thailand. Staff also presented papers and facilitated workshops at the 25th annual SAASTEC Conference.

In addition to its centre-based activities, the Science Centre expanded its reach through targeted Early Childhood Development (ECD) initiatives, engaging 4 875 learners and 513 educators. The team also participated in 128 outreach activities across Gauteng and neighbouring provinces, reaching over 22 098 learners and members of the public with high-impact science awareness programmes.

Science Centre Programmes

The Science Centre delivers a wide range of engaging and inclusive activities, structured across four key programme categories:

- **Science Awareness**
- **Science Education**
- **Science Competitions**
- **Science Communication**

These programmes are designed to inspire curiosity, enhance scientific literacy, and promote active participation in STEAM fields. They directly support Sci-Bono's:

- **Strategic Goal 1** – Advancing equitable access to STEAM education; and
- **Strategic Goal 2** – Positioning Sci-Bono as a leading edu-tourism destination.

Through these focus areas, the Science Centre continues to serve as a dynamic platform for learning, exploration and innovation for learners, educators, and the broader public.

Science Shows

Science shows continue to be one of the most popular attractions at the Science Centre. These live, interactive demonstrations are designed to spark curiosity and deepen understanding of scientific concepts and phenomena. During the year, a total of 36 410 visitors attended our science shows – comprising 32 595 children and 3 815 adults. We extend our sincere appreciation to Afrox for their continued support and generous donation of liquid nitrogen, which enhances the quality and impact of these demonstrations.

MST Workshops

The MST workshops remain a core component of the Science Centre's programme offering. These interactive, hands-on sessions are designed to engage learners and members of

the public in the practical application of STEM concepts. 1 519 learners participated in these workshops, gaining exposure to real-world scientific principles in an accessible and engaging format.

Birthday Parties

Sci-Bono hosts science-themed birthday parties for children aged 3 to 12 years, offering a fun and educational environment for memorable celebrations. The Centre remains a popular venue of choice for families, having hosted a total of 115 birthday parties this year.

Holiday Programmes

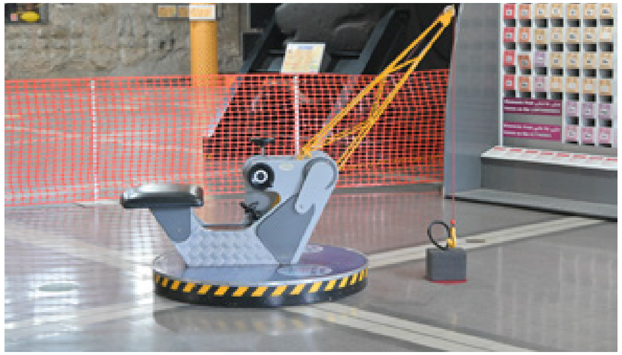
Three holiday programmes were presented to provide families with the opportunity to engage in fun, hands-on science activities together. Each programme was aligned to nationally and internationally recognised science themes and observances. A total of 8 469 visitors participated across the following themed programmes:

- Energy Holiday Programme
- Mission to Mars Holiday Programme
- Discover Science Holiday Programme

International Days

Sci-Bono celebrates both national and United Nations (UN) International Days through curated activities and talks aligned with the themes and objectives of each observance. These events are designed to raise awareness and inspire action through science-based engagement. A total of 1 978 participants took part in events commemorating the following days:

1. International Day of Light
2. World Environment Day
3. International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
4. Mandela Day
5. World Food Day
6. International Day of Women and Girls in Science



7. World Water Day and Awareness Campaign
8. World Maths Day

Focus Weeks

Focus Weeks offer learners and educators an opportunity to engage directly with industry partners, exploring how STEM is applied within various sectors and exposing participants to evolving technologies and career pathways. These themed weeks also promote awareness of the academic and professional routes available in each field. A total of 7 940 learners participated across the six Focus Weeks:

1. Mathematics Focus
2. National Science
3. Transport
4. Inquiring Minds ECD
5. Health Science
6. Water Focus

Rocketry

Sci-Bono's Rocketry courses, offered during school holidays, introduce Grade 11 learners to the fundamentals of rocketry – including its history, applications, and core scientific and mathematical principles. Participants work in teams to design, construct and launch their own rockets. Three courses were held, involving 64 learners and 13 educators from 13 schools. The highest-performing rocket, reaching an altitude of 287 metres, was built by a team from the Soshanguve School of Specialisation.

Speak to a Scientist

Speak to a Scientist is Sci-Bono's flagship Science Communication Programme, designed to bridge the gap between science and society. It offers learners and the public an opportunity to engage directly with scientists on topical issues in an accessible and interactive format. Seven events were hosted, attracting over 770 participants. Highlights included a talk by U.S. astronaut Dr Sian Proctor, in collaboration with the U.S. Embassy in South Africa, titled Packing for Space. Dr Proctor, one of the first civilians to participate in a low Earth orbital space flight, shared insights from her journey. Other featured topics included How 4IR is Shaping the Future, The Value of Space Science Knowledge, and The Cultivation of Innovation and Technology Advancement.

Laboratories

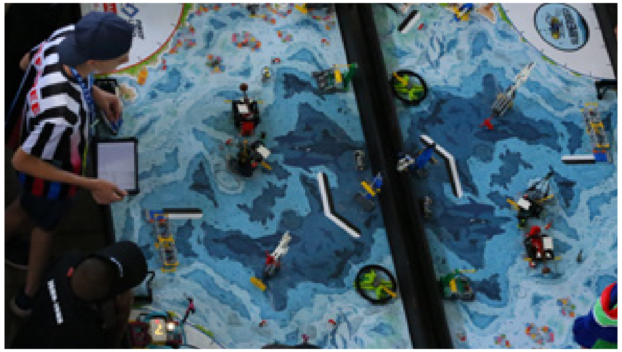
Sci-Bono provides curriculum-aligned practical science support to disadvantaged schools through its three fully equipped laboratories: the Dow Chemistry Lab, the Festo Physics and Mechatronics Lab, and the Life Science Lab. These facilities also offer younger learners and members of the public an opportunity to experience laboratory environments through engaging science and technology workshops. A total of 21 631 learners and public participants accessed the laboratories during the year.

Electronics Club

The Electronics Club provides Grade 10 and 11 learners with practical technical skills through informal, hands-on sessions. Learners assemble and test electronic circuits, applying concepts from their electrical technology curriculum in a real-world context. Seventeen sessions were held during the year, involving 16 learners from five schools: John Orr SOS, Curtis Nkondo SOS, Masisebenze Comprehensive School, Mpilisweni SOS and Jabulani Technical.

Outreach

To extend its reach beyond the physical Centre, Sci-Bono participated in 128 outreach events aimed at engaging learners and communities unable to visit the facility. These activities included participation in high-profile events such as the African Aerospace and Defence Expo, the Disability Summit and Career Expo, the Techno-Africa Robotics Expo, Petra Diamonds Career Day (Free State), the JMPD Women's



Month Celebration in Soweto, the Eskom Expo for Young Scientists, and the National Science and Technology Forum at the CSIR.
In addition, curriculum-aligned practicals were delivered at disadvantaged and under-resourced schools through Sci-Bono's SASOL mobile outreach vehicle. Collectively, these efforts reached 22 098 learners and members of the public.

Apprentice Doctor Camp

Sci-Bono hosted an immersive Apprentice Doctor Camp from 4 to 8 December for Grade 10 to 12 learners aspiring to pursue careers in medicine. Developed and led by medical professionals under the guidance of retired surgeon Dr Anton Scheepers, the camp offered practical, hands-on experience in the medical field. Workshops included diagnosing diseases, patient examination, venipuncture, eye dissections, suturing and fracture reduction. A total of 80 learners participated, including 15 sponsored learners from disadvantaged schools supported through Sci-Bono's Learner Enrichment Programme.

Mental Maths Challenge

The Mental Maths Challenge is a provincial-level competition for Grade 1 to 3 learners in Gauteng, conducted in collaboration with the Gauteng Department of Education. The competition progresses through school, cluster, district and provincial levels, with Sci-Bono hosting the provincial round. A total of 57 learners participated in the Mental Maths Challenge, alongside 118 learners who took part in the accompanying Numeracy and MST Curriculum Grade Challenge.

SAICE Aqualibrium Water Competition

In partnership with the South African Institution of Civil Engineering (SAICE), Sci-Bono hosted the Johannesburg leg of the National Aqualibrium Water Competition on 10 May. The competition challenges learners to plan, design, construct and operate a model water distribution network – simulating the work of civil engineering professionals in municipalities and metros.

Twelve teams, comprising 48 learners and 12 teachers, participated in the national event, with representation from across South Africa and Eswatini, including Johannesburg, Pretoria, Secunda, Bloemfontein, Kimberley, Pietermaritzburg, Gqeberha, Cape Town, Durban, Polokwane and Harrismith. Mpilisweni Secondary (Johannesburg) claimed first place, followed by Eunice High for Girls (Bloemfontein) in second, and Kimberley Boys High (Kimberley) in third.

FIRST Tech Robotics Competition

On 18 January 2025, Sci-Bono hosted the regional round of the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) – a high-tech robotics competition aimed at equipping Grade 7 to 12 learners with advanced, industry-relevant robotics and coding skills. The challenge requires teams to design, build, programme and operate robots in a head-to-head alliance format, promoting STEM learning, engineering principles, innovation and teamwork.

Nine teams took part in the event, comprising 108 participants, including 59 team players, 25 supporters and 24 coaches. One of the participating teams was from Sci-Bono's own Club House, reflecting the Centre's commitment to cultivating home-grown talent in robotics and technology.

FIRST Lego League (FLL) Robotics Tournament

Sci-Bono hosted the FIRST Lego League (FLL) Gauteng South Regional Competition on 2 November and the National Competition on 6 to 7 December 2024. The Centre also sponsored and mentored 15 teams from public schools, Schools of Specialisation (SOS), and under-resourced schools across Gauteng.

Each team comprised up to ten learners and two educators. The 2024/25 season theme, Submerged, challenged participants to develop innovative solutions to problems faced by professionals exploring ocean environments, while showcasing their coding and robot design skills.

A total of 46 teams participated in the regional round and 62 teams in the national competition. Six Sci-Bono teams earned awards in various categories during the regional event, with three qualifying for the nationals. Notably, the Sci-Bono-sponsored team SB Stars (Emdeni) earned third place in the Robot Design Award category and received invitations to participate in both the 2025 Open Africa Challenge (Cape Town) and the International FLL Competition in Greece.

Amgen Biotech Experience (ABE) Programme

Now in its second year at Sci-Bono, the Amgen Biotech Experience (ABE) continues to inspire learners and educators through hands-on exposure to real-world bioscience. Developed in the United States and supported by the Amgen Foundation, the programme introduces educators to a university-level bioscience curriculum that includes a wide range of laboratory-based experiments using advanced, industry-grade equipment.

Three Professional Development Institutes (PDIs) were hosted, reaching a total of 192 teachers. The ABE Programme plays a vital role in bridging the gap between school-level science and the world of biotechnology, equipping teachers to deliver impactful learning experiences in the classroom.

4IR Exhibition

The Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) Exhibition offers visitors an interactive introduction to emerging technologies and their real-world applications. Designed to raise awareness and promote engagement, the exhibition features a range of hands-on experiences, including a Pepper humanoid robot, two dancing Sanbots, virtual and augmented reality stations, a programmable robotic arm, a robotic dog, a holographic fan, and interactive science and technology games.

Over the year, the exhibition attracted 35 871 visitors – including 6 389 adults and 29 482 children – highlighting its continued popularity and relevance in promoting future-focused science learning.

Climbing Wall

Built to Junior Competition standards and standing 8 metres tall, the Sci-Bono Climbing Wall remains a popular attraction for visitors seeking a physical and team-based challenge. The wall is used for both team-building activities and general public access, offering an exciting complement to the Centre's educational programming. A total of 3 713 individuals climbed the wall during the year.

Eskom Expo Teachers Training

The Eskom Expo for Young Scientists is a national science fair that provides learners with an opportunity to conduct scientific investigations and present their research to peers, educators and industry professionals. Provincial rounds culminate in the prestigious International Science Fair (ISF), where top learners from 35 regional expos across South Africa compete at a national level. In support of this initiative, Sci-Bono hosted a dedicated training workshop to equip teachers with the skills to guide and mentor learners through the research and project preparation process. A total of 179 teachers participated in the workshop.

Bridge Building Competition

In partnership with the South African Institution of Civil Engineering (SAICE), Sci-Bono hosted the Johannesburg Provincial Bridge Building Competition on 26 July 2025. The competition challenges high school learners to apply mathematics and science in an engineering context by designing and constructing a model bridge using only dowel sticks, glue and string, in line with a technical brief. Bridges are judged on both aesthetics and structural strength.

Six schools participated: Parktown Boys High, Blue Eagle High, Sgodiphola Secondary, Mpilisweni High, Soul Academy High and Maphutha Secondary. Parktown Boys High secured first place, followed by Mpilisweni High in second and Sgodiphola Secondary in third.

Theatre Shows

As part of the promotion of the creative arts in STEM learning, Sci-Bono offered live theatre performances suitable for audiences from ECD phase through to adults. The shows on offer during the year were: Tholo the Brave, Thabo the Space Dude, The Life of Marie Curie, Mama Wati, Billy Goats Gruff, Wanda the Musical, and a special show presented during Transport Week – The Great Race. A total of 38 331 learners and public attended the theatre shows during the year.

Planetarium Shows

To educate on Astronomy and Space Sciences, the Centre offers planetarium shows for both public and school visitors. The shows involve the projection of the night sky on the inside of a curved dome structure which produces an immersive 3D experience. Some of the shows presented included the navigation of the night sky and exploring the solar system. A total of 3 900 visitors attended the shows during the year.

Exhibitry

The Exhibitry Unit is responsible for the design, development, maintenance and reengineering of Sci-Bono's interactive science exhibits. These exhibits are central to the Centre's educational offering, inspiring curiosity and encouraging deeper engagement with STEM subjects among visitors of all ages – particularly youth from disadvantaged communities. Through both community outreach and in-Centre visits, young people are introduced to new worlds of possibility, with exposure to careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics that they may not otherwise encounter.

Permanent Exhibitions

Sci-Bono's permanent exhibitions span a wide range of scientific disciplines:

- Science and Technology: Displays focused on physics, chemistry, engineering and automotive innovation.
- Mathematics: Puzzles and games designed to build problem-solving and numerical thinking in an enjoyable, accessible way.
- Energy and Environment: Exhibits that promote ecological sustainability, conservation and awareness of green energy.
- Space, Astronomy and Exploration: Interactive experiences that spark interest in the universe and the future of space exploration.
- Science and Innovation: Activities that promote creative problem-solving and practical innovation for real-world challenges in South Africa and across the continent.

Temporary and Special Exhibitions

- Themed Exhibits: The popular 4IR exhibition showcases emerging technologies such as robotics and digital innovation.
- Collaborative Exhibits: Partnerships, such as the ongoing collaboration with Wits University, enrich and expand the Centre's educational reach.
- Seasonal Events: Exhibits linked to national and international events – including Science Week, World Space Week, and Transport Week – help ignite public interest in science and technology.

We acquired a Mobile Digital Planetarium in this FY, a state of the art dome structure in which the night sky is projected to learn about Astronomy and Space Sciences.

Build an Exhibit Workshop

At the 2024 Southern African Association for Science, Technology and Education Centres (SAASTEC) Conference in Cape Town, the Exhibitry team led a workshop where 16 delegates successfully built their own Hyperbolic Slot exhibits to take back to their home science centres.

Highlights

- Early Childhood Development (ECD) Innovation: Nine new ECD exhibits were designed, built and tested in-house using advanced electronic manufacturing tools. The ECD Exhibits are used in outreach programmes at ECD festivals and ECD Centres. The Mobile Planetarium which is a popular attraction featured in the Youth Development pavillion at the Africa Aerospace and Defense Expo together with our Puzzling Things exhibits. They also offer a future revenue stream, with potential for local and international sales to other science centres.
- Strategic Acquisition: Exhibitry secured the donation of a Under the Ocean exhibition at no cost to Sci-Bono. The exhibition is currently being upgraded and installed at the
- Centre, adding a new dimension to the visitor experience.

Science Career Centre

Career Education Presentation Series

The Career Centre participated in the marathon expo series hosted by the Office of the Premier of Gauteng, along with several other large-scale career expos. Held from April 2024 to March 2025, these events took place across various low-income communities in Gauteng. The primary objective was to provide unemployed youth with access to information on study opportunities, career guidance, course requirements, and skills-based programmes – supporting their transition into further education and employment.

Career Dress-Up Day

As part of the Department of Basic Education's (DBE) calendar, Career Dress-Up Day is an initiative aimed at introducing Grade 7 learners to a range of career options in a fun and engaging way. The programme seeks to raise awareness of the world of work and the variety of available professions, encouraging learners to begin thinking about their future career paths from an early age.

Career Development Support and Counselling Services: Psychological Services Function

The Psychological Services function provides comprehensive support through a range of psychometric and non-standardised assessments to assist learners in making informed subject and career choices. It also conducts educational evaluations for learners experiencing barriers to learning, with a primary focus on supporting Grade 9 learners transitioning to the Further Education and Training (FET) phase. These services are designed to guide learners through their educational journey and prepare them for tertiary education. In addition, therapeutic and counselling services – including group-based interventions – are offered to out-of-school youth and at-risk learners in Grades 9 to 12. Given the intensive nature of these interventions, they are tailored to address the specific needs of individuals or small groups.

Individual and Group Subject and Career Choice Assessments

These assessments are conducted either at the Centre or through the Psychological Services Outreach Programme in schools. Psychometric assessments are used to support learners in making informed subject and career choices, based on their interests, aptitudes, and personal strengths. The assessments are offered to both individual learners and groups, ensuring broad access to personalised guidance and decision-making support.

Career Information, Education and Advisory Services

These individualised career advisory services, with a focus on careers in science and technology, are offered to out-of-school youth, parents, and the general public. This offering aligns with Sci-Bono's broader mission to equip society with the skills required to improve the quality of life for all South Africans.

Special Programmes (Science and Technology)

These programmes promote careers in science and technology by offering both standardised and non-standardised assessments to support career and job selection. In addition to career guidance, the programmes also provide therapeutic services, such as trauma debriefing and crisis intervention, to support the holistic well-being of learners.

Psycho-educational Assessments

Psycho-educational assessments are used to identify learning disabilities that may impact behaviour and emotional functioning. The Centre works closely with clients to evaluate intellectual and multiple disabilities, developing tailored rehabilitation and remediation plans based on assessment outcomes.

Science Career Centre Successes

The Science Career Centre introduced an innovative, interactive, and self-directed career exploration workbook that includes a non-standardised psychometric tool specifically developed for Grade 9 learners. While it excludes aptitude testing, the workbook assesses a variety of psychological constructs and is facilitated by registered psychometrists. Closely aligned with the Life Orientation curriculum, the workbook has become popular across Gauteng. Learners use it as a portfolio of evidence and gain access to psychological services that would otherwise be financially inaccessible.

By actively leveraging outreach opportunities in schools and youth-focused initiatives, the Centre extended its services to underserved communities. This expansion has contributed to improved participation and performance across all Career Education programmes and activities. In a notable achievement, two student psychometrists from the July to December 2024 intake successfully passed their Board Examinations and are now qualified as independent psychometrists, eligible for registration with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).

Group Psycho-educational Workshops

Aligned with the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements (CAPS), Sci-Bono offers Group Psycho-educational Workshops for learners in the Senior and Further Education and Training (FET) phases. These workshops address psychological dimensions that contribute to learners' overall well-being and resilience, equipping them to recover from setbacks and manage life challenges. Topics include mental, emotional, social, and spiritual health, grief, depression, anxiety, fear, abuse, self-esteem, and the importance of supportive relationships and social networks.

Group Psycho-social Support Workshops

Sci-Bono also provides Group Psycho-social Support Workshops to address the psychological and social needs of learners from disadvantaged backgrounds. These workshops are designed for learners facing crises or difficult circumstances that place their academic progress at risk. Through these interventions, the Centre offers external support aimed at rebuilding both individual and community psycho-social well-being, thereby enabling learners to thrive in their educational environments.

Psycho-educational Assessments (Scholastic Assessments)

The Psychological Services team conducts psycho-educational assessments for learners from Grade R (pre-school) through to the high school phase. These assessments support cognitive development, identify learning backlogs, and facilitate early intervention. The team also provides referrals and follow-up support for learners experiencing neurodevelopmental barriers and assists with placement in remedial schools or the implementation of accommodations and concessions where needed.

Counselling and Therapy Services

Sci-Bono offers counselling and therapeutic services through psychological screening and short-term interventions, aimed at identifying and addressing mental health challenges. These services include essential psychometric and psychological assessments to support learners' emotional well-being. The Centre also conducts psycho-educational group workshops for children of all ages, promoting mental wellness and preventative mental health strategies.

Number of learners participating in activities

Activity	No. of Learners FY2023/24	No. of Learners FY2024/25
Standardised subject and career choice assessments (test administration, scoring, report writing, and feedback to clients)	465	578
Non-standardised subject choice assessment workshops	218	4 758
Career development workshops	320	320
In-depth individual career sessions (repeat sessions)	15	9
Psycho-educational assessments (children with barriers to learning)	34	43
Psycho-social life skills workshops – Target 500 (exceeded by 414)	1 608	914
Psych-ed group interventions – Target 500 (fell below by 162)	894	338
Therapy and counselling	118	14
Career information, education and advisory services	39 819	23 515
TOTAL	**34 491**	**30 489**

Teacher Development and Support

Sci-Bono provides teacher training in mathematics, sciences, technology, and other Further Education and Training (FET) technical subjects on behalf of the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) Teacher Development Directorate. This training is implemented in collaboration with the Matthew Goniwe School of Governance and Leadership, the province's official Teacher Training Institute.

The Mathematics, Sciences and Technology (MST) Teacher Development sub-directorate aims to strengthen teachers' competence in curriculum content, pedagogy, and assessment. It also seeks to enhance their capacity to teach using Information Communication Technology (ICT) and Practical Assessment Task (PAT) skills, supported through a Department of Basic Education (DBE) conditional grant.

In the 2024/25 period, Sci-Bono delivered South African Council for Educators (SACE)-endorsed training to 13 242 teachers across the Foundation, Intermediate, and Senior Phases.

- Foundation phase training focused on various mathematics topics, including problem solving involving the four operations.
- Intermediate phase teachers received training in natural science and technology, covering content areas such as life and living, matter and materials, and energy and change.
- Senior phase teachers were trained in mathematics, natural science, and technology, with emphasis on content knowledge, the design process, and structures.

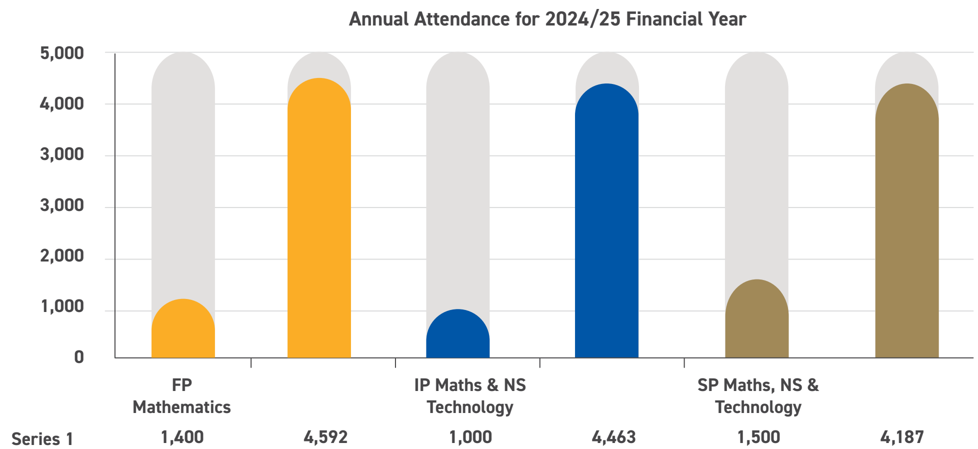
Pre- and post-training assessments were administered to evaluate the impact of the training. In some cases, practical assessment tasks (PAT) were incorporated into this evaluation process.

The graph below summarises Sci-Bono's average attendance per programme during the reporting period

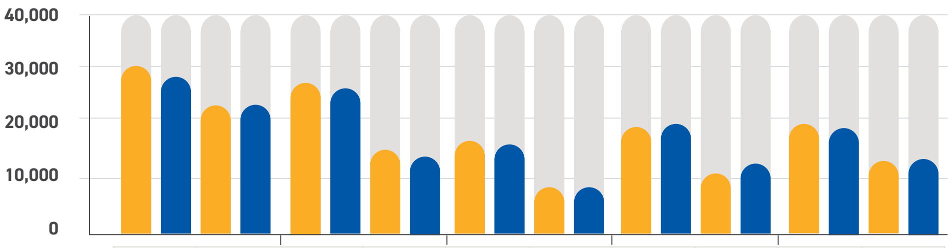
Grade 8 and 9 SSIP

The Grade 8 and 9 Secondary School Improvement Programme (SSIP) supplements the normal school timetable and is often referred to as "the sixth school day." It focuses on strengthening mathematics and English first additional language by addressing problematic concepts, filling content gaps, and supporting learners in tackling examination-style questions.

The programme places strong emphasis on homework, reinforcing the weekly curriculum taught in schools, while also equipping learners with strategies to improve performance in critical subject areas. To ensure consistency, both tutor and learner support materials are developed and distributed, giving all participants equal access to high-quality resources.

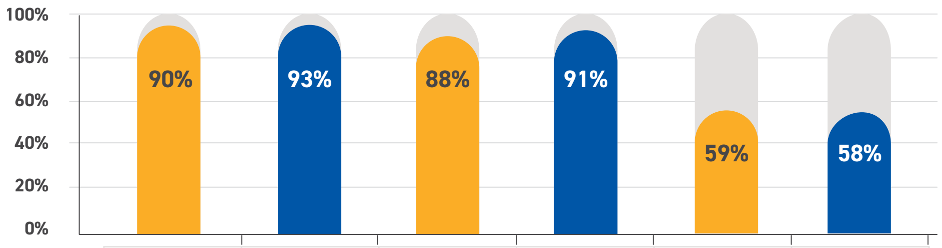


Learner Attendance



	Expected	Actual	Expected	Actual	Expected	Actual	Expected	Actual	Expected	Actual
	May		June		July		September		October	
Grade 8	29 006	23 268	25 468	12 160	10 589	6 684	17 902	9 720	19 836	11 857
Grade 9	27 452	24 094	24 203	12 106	10 749	6 782	18 133	10 106	19 635	11 305

Tutor Attendance



2024/05/11	2024/05/11	2024/05/18	2024/05/18	2024/06/01	2024/06/01
Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 8	Grade 9

Multi-Certificate Programme

The programme commenced on 2 March 2024, with 50 learners enrolled – 25 in electrical training and 25 in automotive training. Training sessions were conducted on Saturdays and during school holidays, concluding on 21 June 2024. All participants successfully completed the programme and received Certificates of Competence at the Technical Awards Ceremony held in September 2024.

Mathematics and Physical Science Cinema Classes

In partnership with Prime Stars, Sci-Bono offered innovative Grade 12 mathematics and physical science lessons delivered in cinema venues. The programme commenced on 15 July 2024, with 27 schools participating across 13 cinemas in the province. A total of 3 471 learners and 123 educators benefitted, gaining enhanced subject knowledge and exposure to new learning methodologies in preparation for their final examinations.

Learner Development Camps

During the 2024/25 financial year, Sci-Bono hosted a series of development camps aimed at strengthening learner achievement in mathematics, physical science, technical mathematics, technical science, natural science, accountancy, geography, and senior phase mathematics. The programme targeted 1 200 learners from Grades 10 to 12 across 50 MST Conditional Grant schools in the province, focussing on both girls and boys with the potential to become top achievers in these gateway subjects.

The camps combined intensive academic sessions with team-building and enrichment activities, underpinned by a meta-cognition approach to strengthen subject mastery and self-directed learning skills. As part of the value-added programme, universities, career counsellors, and motivational speakers – many of whom came from similar backgrounds – engaged with the learners, encouraging them to pursue STEM-related careers.

Five camps were held during the year:

- **Quarter 1:** 308 boy learners at Laerskool Bekker; 15 to 21 June 2024.
  Grade 12 Girl Learner Camp at Volkskool, running concurrently with the boys at Hoërskool Bekker.
- **Quarter 2:** Grade 12 Girl Learner Camp at Volkskool; boys hosted at Hoërskool Bekker.
- **Quarter 3:** 254 boys at Hoërskool Bekker and 286 boys at Sedaven High School.

In total, 1 062 learners participated across these camps. Learners reported greater confidence in their academic abilities, improved study discipline, and stronger preparation for final examinations. The initiative contributed significantly to Sci-Bono's goal of improving MST outcomes while advancing gender equity in STEM education.

Outcomes and Impact

Across both the girl and boy learner camps, participants reported improved academic confidence, stronger study discipline, and enhanced readiness for final examinations. The initiative contributed significantly to Sci-Bono's commitment to improving MST learner performance while advancing gender equity in STEAM education.

#7/7 Learner Programme for A+ Grade 12 Learners

From 31 October to 2 November 2024, the MST Unit hosted a face-to-face weekend camp at Sci-Bono for top-performing Grade 12 learners, with accommodation provided at Newtown City Lodge. The intensive programme included structured sessions from Friday evening through to Sunday afternoon, focussing on exam preparation and subject mastery. The results were exceptional: five learners achieved seven distinctions each, with one learner attaining first position nationally in both technical mathematics and technical science. Another learner ranked third in the province and secured first place in accountancy. In recognition of their achievements, three of the learners were invited by the Minister of Basic Education, the Honourable Siviwe Gwarube, to join the Top 100 Learners in the country.

Mathematics Olympiads for FET Learners

The South African Mathematics Olympiad (SAMO), presented by the South African Mathematics Foundation (SAMF), provides a challenging platform that inspires learners to excel in mathematics. In 2024, a total of 1 332 learners from 16 schools across the province were registered. The first round was written on 14 March 2024, after which 100 learners qualified for the second round, held on 9 May 2024.

Technical Skills Competitions

Mechanical and electrical technology learners showcased their abilities at the Technical Skills Competitions held on 27 July 2024 at John Orr School of Specialisation (SOS), Rhodesfield SOS, HTS John Vorster, and HTS N Diederichs. A total of 64 electrical technology learners participated in power systems, digital, and electronics categories, while 55 mechanical technology learners competed in welding, fitting, and automotive. All participating teams performed well, with learners receiving awards for their achievements.

Apprentice Doctor Programme

The Apprentice Doctor Programme targeted 15 girl learners, selected from participants in the MST Conditional Grant Camps, who aspire to pursue careers in medicine. The week-long programme was hosted at Sci-Bono from 2 to 6 December 2024, providing learners with practical exposure to the medical field through simulated activities, career guidance, and skills development.

At the end of the programme, all participants were awarded Certificates of Completion, recognising their commitment and achievement. The initiative not only nurtured interest in medical careers but also contributed to increasing female representation in STEM-related professions.

MST Conditional Grant Learner Programmes

Through the MST Conditional Grant, Sci-Bono supported more than 10 000 learners during the 2024/25 financial year. The funding enabled five key interventions: the SSIP Grade 8 and 9 programmes, quizzes, olympiads, excursions, and science fairs.

Together, these interventions strengthened the MST pipeline by giving learners opportunities to consolidate classroom learning, apply knowledge in competitive and practical settings, and develop problem-solving and critical thinking skills. The initiatives not only supported improved exam readiness but also encouraged greater participation in STEM subjects, broadening pathways into technical and scientific careers.

GET Competitions

More than 5 000 learners participated in competitions that progressed from school to district and finally to provincial level. The competitions were held in both the intermediate phase (IP) and senior phase (SP), and covered mathematics, natural sciences, and natural sciences technology (NS-Tech).

Subject	School Level	Provincial Level
NS Tech and NS	>= 1000	167
Mathematics	>= 2000	160
Technology	>= 3000	897

Career Expo and Women's Month Activities

Career Expo

On 26 July 2024, Ekangala SOS hosted a Career Expo in partnership with the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE). Schools from the surrounding area were invited, with the expo attracting 350 learners. The DMRE and its partners from the mining sector set up career information stalls, providing learners with valuable insights into study and employment opportunities in the mining industry.

Women's Month Activities

As part of Women's Month celebrations, Sci-Bono hosted 300 Grade 11 girl learners from MST Conditional Grant schools between 27 August and 2 September 2024. Learners toured Sci-Bono's 4IR facility and the Classroom of the Future, where they engaged with interactive exhibits and explored emerging technology applications. Over the course of the programme, 60 learners attended in smaller groups, ensuring an immersive experience that encouraged girls to consider careers in STEM fields.

Learner Support

Secondary School Improvement Programme (SSIP)

In the 2024/25 financial year, the Secondary School Improvement Programme (SSIP) supported 498 secondary schools, reaching approximately 75% of matriculants across the province. Learners benefitted through a range of interventions, including walk-in camps, residential camps (with psycho-social support), and Saturday classes. To ensure equitable access, transport was provided for learners residing more than 5 km from SSIP sites. These initiatives contributed positively to the National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination outcomes, with the programme driving a 4% improvement in the provincial matric pass rate.

Beneficiaries of the SSIP

Approximately 93 000 matriculants from 498 schools participated in the SSIP. Learners were supported across 283 walk-in sites and through additional measures such as feeding and transport.

Key highlights include:

- **Walk-in Camps:** About 89 000 learners participated in the walk-in camps.
- **Residential Camps:** Approximately 16 000 learners attended residential camps, where they also accessed psycho-social support to address behavioural challenges and issues such as substance abuse.
- **Transport:** Around 16 000 progressed learners were provided with transport to various SSIP sites across the province.
- **Feeding Scheme:** All Grade 12 SSIP learners benefitted from the feeding programme.
- **Saturday Programme:** About 93 000 Grade 12 learners attended the Saturday sessions focussing on critical subjects.

SSIP Material

Learning materials were made available to all 93 000 Grade 12 learners in both hard copy and digital formats, supporting independent study. These resources were used consistently across Saturday and holiday programmes, enhancing exam preparation.

Outreach Project

The Outreach Project focused on strengthening learner performance in mathematics and physical science for Grades 10 to 12, with particular emphasis on supporting Section 58B schools across the province. A team of specialised teachers visited identified schools during the year, providing tuition both during the school day and over school holidays. Support was delivered over a three-week period per school, during which the Outreach Team prepared and taught topics where educators had identified challenges. Nine schools benefitted from this intervention, reaching a total of 2 008 learners.

ICT and Youth Development

During the 2024/25 financial year, the ICT and Youth Development Department continued to play a pivotal role in advancing equitable access to technology and digital skills development. Through targeted programmes, the department reached under-resourced schools, communities, and previously disadvantaged individuals, equipping them with critical skills for participation in the digital economy.

This report consolidates the department's performance across four quarters, highlighting achievements, challenges addressed, and strategic objectives met. Key initiatives delivered during the year included:

- The Youth Development Programme (YDP)
- Dell Solar Powered Classrooms
- Clubhouse initiatives
- Digital skills development programmes for the public
- Cisco Academy Support Centre and Cisco Instructor Training Centre
- Digital training support to the schools of specialisation
- The Multi-Certification Skills Programme (MCSP)
- Support to provincial youth skills expos

A strong emphasis was placed on advancing Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) technologies, integrating artificial intelligence (AI) education, and preparing young people with the skills required for employability and job readiness.

As Sci-Bono celebrates its 20th anniversary, the department's work reflects both the organisation's enduring commitment to empowering youth through technology and its forward-looking focus on the skills needed to thrive in a rapidly evolving digital world.

Strategic Alignment

The department's programmes were implemented in direct alignment with Sci-Bono's strategic objectives:

- **Strategic Goal 1:** Advance equitable access to science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) education.
- **Strategic Objective 1.3:** Establish a multi-certification skills development centre focused on both school-level and post-school education and training.

1 794	learners reached through Dell Solar-Powered Classrooms
1 446	learners engaged in enrichment programmes
592	learners participated in Clubhouse activities
982	Cisco certificates issued
143	Microsoft Specialist and Expert certifications
301	youth enrolled in the Youth Development Programme
87	graduates
20	graduates from the first D-Lab cohort completed internships

Programme Highlights

Youth Skills Development Opportunities

The Youth Development Programme (YDP) remained a flagship 10-month initiative, providing disadvantaged and unemployed youth with essential skills and recognised qualifications. The programme facilitated pathways to employment, self-employment, learnerships, internships, and further study opportunities.

Training covered a suite of Cisco certifications in:
- Computer Fundamentals;
- Networking;
- Cyber Security; and
- Web and Applications Development.

In addition to technical learning, the programme embedded life and job readiness skills, including mentoring, blitz internships, and industry engagement opportunities, ensuring that participants gained both technical competence and workplace confidence.

The completion of the 2024 programme was celebrated at a formal graduation ceremony on 3 December 2024, where:
- Fourty-eight students specialising in networks and security obtained CCNA Cisco Cyber Operations qualifications.
- Thirty-nine students graduated as qualified web developers.

To extend the impact of the YDP, Sci-Bono partnered with Field Lab to deliver the D-Lab Programme, a 10-month skills development and work readiness initiative designed as a follow-up pathway for selected graduates. The programme focuses on design thinking, digital skills, character building, and leadership qualities essential for successful innovators and collaborative leaders.

D-Lab includes:
- Six months of structured training;
- A three-month internship to apply learning in real-world contexts;
- Ongoing support from subject matter experts, including business coaches, industry facilitators, and personal mentors; and
- Training resources and a stipend provided upon completion.

The programme is fully accredited by the Institute of Chartered IT Professionals (ICITP SA), ensuring its alignment with professional standards.

In its inaugural year, 20 students from the 2024 YDP cohort completed the training phase and undertook internships across a range of companies. Their achievement was recognised at a graduation ceremony on 31 January 2025, hosted at the Sci-Bono Auditorium. Building on this success, a second cohort commenced in March 2025, comprising 60% graduates from the 2024 YDP.

Youth Graduates with Internationally recognised Cisco and Microsoft Certification 3 Dec 2024

Dell Solar-Powered Classrooms and Community Hub

In line with Sci-Bono's mandate to widen equitable access to technology and digital education, the Solar-Powered Classrooms and Community Hub created meaningful opportunities for learners, teachers, and community members to engage with future-focused skills. As Sci-Bono marks its 20th anniversary, these initiatives highlight the organisation's ability to sustain long-term partnerships and deliver innovative solutions that respond to evolving community needs. The Solar-Powered Classrooms at Mapetla High, Emdeni High, and Waverley Girls High School continued to serve as innovation hubs for technology education, reaching a total of 1 794 learners during the year.

The focus areas included:

- Coding and robotics;
- Digital literacy;
- Graphic design; and
- Web development.

Special emphasis was placed on artificial intelligence education, with learners participating in the Intel AI for Youth Programme, Microsoft AI Fluency, and extended coding and robotics initiatives.

In April 2024, Sci-Bono, in partnership with Dell Technologies, expanded this impact with the launch of the Rus-ter-Vaal Community Hub, situated at Rus-ter-Vaal Primary School. The hub was established to address socio-economic challenges in a community characterised by high unemployment, providing access to digital learning and technology for unemployed youth, learners, and teachers.

Training interventions delivered through the hub included:

- Fifteen community youth trained in web development;
- Thirty-seven youth, teachers, and community members completed digital literacy training;
- Nine youth received coaching towards obtaining their driver's licences; and
- Teachers supported with technical assistance.

Beyond classroom-based learning, the Solar-Powered Classrooms impacted an additional 1 446 learners through enrichment programmes such as:

- Scratch coding;
- Spike LEGO robotics;
- 3D design; and
- Reading, spelling bee, and maths olympiad activities.

Clubhouse Programme

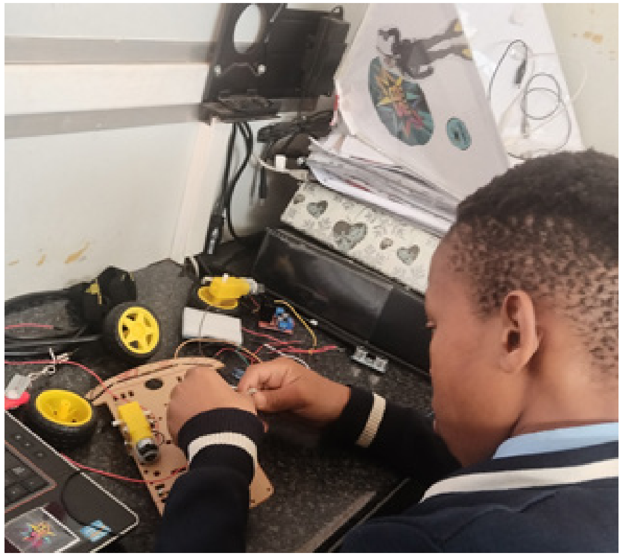
The Sci-Bono Clubhouse provides a free, creative, and safe out-of-school environment where learners work alongside adult and peer mentors to develop skills in artificial intelligence, coding, robotics, virtual reality (VR), 3D modelling, animation, gaming, videography, digital music, and more.

The programme is affiliated with the Clubhouse Network, an international community of 161 Clubhouses across 20 countries. Founded in 1993 in collaboration with the MIT Media Lab, the Network supports young people from low-income communities to explore, tinker, and express themselves with technology. This connection ensures that Sci-Bono members benefit from global exposure and best practice in creative technology learning.

The Clubhouse serves as a creative technology hub for youth aged 9 to 18, engaging 592 members annually through after-school and holiday programmes. Activities range from coding and robotics to 3D design and printing, animation, game design, and video and music production.

Notable achievements include:

- **First Tech Challenge (FTC):** Nine members participated, with the Clubhouse FTC team receiving the Motivate Award. The FTC is an international robotics competition where students in Grades 6 to 12 design, build, and programme robots to compete in an alliance format against other teams.
- **Global RE@CH Media Festival:** Twenty-five members produced and showcased media projects, gaining exposure on an international platform. The festival encourages young people worldwide to express their perspectives on issues that matter to them, while developing storytelling and media production skills.
- **Mixed Reality Team:** Twenty members completed VR and AR projects, designing custom sneakers in VR using Gravity Sketch and presenting them through AR applications. This innovative workflow, delivered in partnership with the Clubhouse Network, has sparked growing interest and will be expanded through more collaborative classes.



Clubhouse Regional Conference

From 8 to 11 August 2024, Sci-Bono hosted the South African Clubhouse Regional Conference under the theme "Virtual Renaissance: Building the World That We Want." The four-day summit brought together talented young people from Clubhouses across South Africa, creating a dynamic platform for learning, collaboration, and cultural exchange.

The programme featured a wide range of activities, including:

- Design Thinking workshops;
- Youth Activism through VR technology;
- Social Media Awareness sessions;
- Maker Camp activities; and
- Game Development projects.

Participants also enjoyed enrichment activities such as a Sci-Bono Science Centre tour, rock climbing, and group showcase events and a highlight of the summit was the leadership demonstrated by Bukosi Maleho, who played a pivotal role in bridging cultural differences and helping peers visualise complex ideas during workshops.

The event exceeded expectations, enabling participants to develop new technical skills, gain confidence, and build lasting cross-cultural friendships. Most significantly, it gave rise to an ongoing inter-clubhouse community, with youth already hosting regular virtual meetings in the VR Clubhouse Space.

This transformative experience demonstrated that geographical distance is no barrier to collaboration and innovation among young people, and reinforced Sci-Bono's role as a catalyst for future-focused youth engagement.

Academy Support Centre (ASC) and Instructor Training Centre (ITC)

The ICT Academy continues to hold the status of a premier Cisco Academy Support Centre (ASC) and Cisco Instructor Training Centre (ITC), positioning Sci-Bono as a leader in advancing digital skills across South Africa.

The Academy Support Centre provides onboarding, technical, and advisory services to 49 Cisco Networking Academies nationwide. Its role is to support the establishment of new academies, while ensuring that all registered academies remain up to date with developments, opportunities, and innovations within the Cisco Networking Academy space. Sci-Bono's Instructor Training Centre received the Premier Status Award, recognising excellence in instructor development and programme delivery.


cisco Networking Academy

INSTRUCTOR TRAINING CENTRES AWARDS
PRESENTED TO

Sci-Bono ICT Academy
(ITC ID: 3074186)

For outstanding contributions and extraordinary efforts in scaling instructor training operations, successfully preparing the largest number of instructors ensuring they are well-equipped to deliver high-quality Cisco Networking Academy courses.

Ahmed Elkabbany
Regional Manager Middle East, Africa & CIS

9 July 2024

Digital Skills Development

Sci-Bono delivered the MICT SETA-accredited End User Computing (EUC) qualification online to 30 staff members from three North West University campuses: Potchefstroom, Vanderbijlpark, and Mafikeng. This was the second group of 30 NWU staff members who commenced their training in January 2024 and completed the programme with an impressive 98% pass rate. Their graduation ceremony is scheduled to take place later in 2025.

Building on this success, a third cohort of 30 NWU staff members was registered and began training on 18 March 2025.

NWU Potchefstroom Campus Staff EUC Graduation 24 Oct 2024

Microsoft Office Training and Specialised ICT Education

During the year, 143 candidates participated in Microsoft Office training, including youth, government officials, learners, and Sci-Bono staff. This training enabled participants to achieve proficiency and earn internationally accredited certifications at both Microsoft Specialist and Microsoft Expert levels.

The partnership with NTT Data continued to deliver strong results, providing specialised ICT education to high-achieving learners. Through this collaboration:

- Fifty Grade 11 learners obtained Cisco Cybersecurity Essentials certification.
- Fifty Grade 12 learners obtained Cisco Data Science and Intel AI for Youth (Machine Learning) certification.

As Sci-Bono celebrates its 20th anniversary, these internationally benchmarked certifications reflect the organisation's two decades of building globally recognised digital skills pathways and ensuring that South African learners can compete and excel in the digital economy.

Multi-Certification Skills Programme (MCSP)

The Multi-Certification Skills Programme (MCSP) has emerged as one of the ICT and Youth Department's most impactful initiatives, significantly advancing digital skills acquisition and demonstrating the value of collaborative partnerships with the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE).

The MCSP is designed to provide learners with diverse training and certifications from Grade R to Grade 12. Its purpose is to ensure that learners acquire practical skills and qualifications beyond the traditional National Senior Certificate, equipping them for the workforce, higher education, and the rapidly evolving Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). The programme's goal is for every learner in Gauteng to acquire at least one accredited skill per year, enabling them to graduate with multiple certifications by the end of Grade 12.

The programme covers a wide range of skills, including general, technical, and 4IR-related areas such as coding, robotics, AI, and digital literacy. Sci-Bono contributes to this initiative through training interventions, technical support to Schools of Specialisation (SoS) and Twinning Schools, and participation in regional outreach events such as mini-festivals and SoS launches. Notably, Sci-Bono hosted the 4IR Mini-Festival in September 2024.

Learners from SoS also benefit from access to Sci-Bono's specialised facilities, including the Science Centre Exhibition, Mechatronics, Chemistry and Life Sciences Laboratories, and the Electronics Clubs.

Sci-Bono's 4IR Certification and Skills Development Initiatives include:

- Foundation Phase Coding and Robotics (Grades R–3): Introducing learners to block coding using Cubroid Robotics Kits and Scratch coding for simple game development.
- Coding and Robotics (Grades 4–9): Establishing clubs where learners develop coding and engineering skills, applying the Engineering Design Process and computational thinking to robotics.
- Website Development (Grades 8–11): Supporting the CAT and IT curriculum by teaching programming languages, mobile development, and web development.
- Digital Literacy: Empowering learners with the skills and confidence to use digital tools effectively in their education and daily lives.
- Artificial Intelligence: Positioning Sci-Bono as a national leader in AI education. As Intel's official implementation partner in South Africa, Sci-Bono rolled out the Intel AI for Youth Programme, offering learners hands-on experience in programming, robotics, statistical data management, natural language processing, and Python.

Key achievements during 2024/25 include:

- Hosting an AI Bootcamp in June 2024, which led to several project submissions for the Global AI Festival. One project received the Country Recognition Award in November 2024.
- A December Holiday AI Bootcamp where 60 students developed solution-driven AI projects.
- Participation in the Microsoft National AI Skills Initiative, including the development of offline course materials, a learner management system, and delivery of pilot projects with 134 registrations and 45 module completions in Microsoft AI Fluency.

As Sci-Bono celebrates its 20th anniversary, the MCSP exemplifies how the organisation has evolved from promoting foundational science literacy to pioneering 4IR and AI education, ensuring that today's learners are equipped to thrive in tomorrow's global economy.

MCSP and ICT Training: Technical Skills, Certification and Reach			
Programme	**Technical Skills**	**Certification**	**Impact**
Foundation Phase Coding and Robotics (Grades R–3)	• Design Thinking • Physical Computing • Build Robots • Block Code • Smart Device Coding • Scratch Coding	Skills Based Certificate	1 537
MCSP Coding And Robotics (Grades 4–9)	• Systems/Design Thinking building • Programming • Science • Applied Mathematics • Technology Design	Skills Based Certificate	1 313
Digital Literacy	• Basic Computer Skills • Internet Navigation • Digital Communication • Data Management • Online Safety and Security • Content Creation • Digital Collaboration • Media Literacy • Troubleshooting and Technical Support	Microsoft	3 547
AI	• Programming • Data Science • Natural Language Processing, • Generative AI • Algorithmic and Computational Thinking • AI Ethics and Bias Reduction • System mapping	Intel Microsoft	194
Cisco Certification	• Intro to Data Science • Intro to Cyber Security • Digital Awareness	Cisco	199

Skills for the Future

As Sci-Bono celebrates 20 years of advancing education and opportunity, the project-based learning approach of the Multi-Certification Skills Programme ensures that learners gain not only technical knowledge but also the broader competencies needed to thrive in the future world of work.

Essential skills developed include:

Active learning

Mathematics application

Judgment and decision-making

Effective communication

Problem solving

Persistence

Collaboration

Research skills

Critical thinking

Social and emotional skills

Success Stories and Highlights

Sci-Bono Clubhouse Students Win *Global Intel AI for Youth* Country Award

In November 2024, Sci-Bono Clubhouse students achieved a historic milestone by winning the Country Award in the Global Intel AI for Youth Competition.

The team developed an innovative AI-powered youth employment solution aimed at addressing South Africa's critical unemployment challenge. The application provides personalised career guidance, intelligent job matching, and skill development recommendations to support young job seekers in navigating today's competitive labour market.

By leveraging advanced Intel technologies – including oneAPI, Neural Compressor, and the OpenVINO toolkit – the students demonstrated not only strong technical expertise but also the ability to apply these tools to solve real-world community challenges.

This victory highlights the quality of education and mentorship available at the Sci-Bono Clubhouse. Here, students are not only introduced to AI but are empowered to use it as a tool for meaningful innovation and social impact. The project exemplifies Sci-Bono's mission to equip young innovators with the knowledge and confidence to create solutions that matter.

Global Intel AI Country Winners 2024

Current Occupation of Youth Development Programme Alumni

Year of completion	Name	Job Title	Organisation
2024	**Omphemetse Molefe**	Cybersecurity Pre-sales engineer	Maxtec
	Lerato Mposula	Networking Engineer Intern	Sci-Bono Discovery Centre
2023	**Nathan Sibonelo Zwane**	Service Assurance Engineer: Telco industry	Vodacom
	Kenneth Sicelo Mdlalose	Networking Engineer	MTNSA
	Nhlayiseko Chauke	Associate Network Engineer (Telecommunications and service provider)	NTT Data
2022	**Amanda Mpongwana**	Current job title: NOC Engineer Field: Operations	MakwaIT
2021	**Tyrick Hendriks**	ICT Trainer, Digital Literacy	Sci-Bono Discovery Centre
2020	**Tiro Mosoeu**	Security Engineer	MacRoots 9pty) Ltd.
2018	**Thulani Maphisa**	Cybersecurity Engineer	IGuardSA
2017	**Ofentse Majana Banyana**	IT Infrastructure Engineer	Dischem Pharmacy
2015	**Zakhele Nkosi**	Networking Engineer	Torque IT

Emdeni Solar Lab Robotics Club

The Emdeni Solar Lab Robotics Club, made up of 12 enthusiastic learners from Emdeni Secondary School in Soweto, has consistently showcased creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills throughout the First Lego League (FLL) season. Known as the SB Stars, the team is mentored by Sci-Bono and competed in the 2024/25 National Championships, earning multiple awards for project innovation, robot design, robot performance, and overall championship excellence.

Building on this success, the SB Stars were selected to represent South Africa at the Open Africa Competition, taking place from 7 to 9 May 2025 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre. This prestigious event will bring together 75 teams from 40 countries around the world, providing the SB Stars with an invaluable platform to showcase their skills on the global stage.

Sci-Bono ICT Academy Awards

During the reporting period, Sci-Bono's ICT Academy received recognition for its outstanding contributions to the Cisco Networking Academy through two prestigious awards:

- Cisco Networking Academy Premier Award – awarded to partners who demonstrate excellence in impact, satisfaction, and engagement, with Premier+ partners also recognised for exceptional growth. This award affirms Sci-Bono's role in fostering a thriving digital learning environment and supporting both students and instructors.
- Cisco Instructor Training Centre Award – recognising exceptional performance in training Cisco System instructors. This award highlights Sci-Bono's excellence in instructor development, student growth, and overall academy support, further strengthening its leadership in the digital skills space.

4IR Mini-Festival

In Quarter 2, Sci-Bono hosted the Gauteng Department of Education's 4IR Mini-Festival, a flagship showcase of learner achievements and technological innovation. The festival brought together learners from Grade R to Grade 12, who demonstrated their skills across multiple technology domains, including:

- Coding and robotics for the Foundation Phase;
- Robotics for Grades 4 to 9;
- Artificial intelligence applications;
- Engineering solutions;
- Technology-driven solutions; and
- Digital literacy.

Learners presented solution-driven projects that applied 4IR technologies to real-world challenges. Highlights included:

- A solar-powered farm with AI capabilities;
- An ambulance equipped with AI technologies;
- A solar-powered tractor design;
- Robots engineered and programmed to perform specific tasks;
- VPN solutions for secure connectivity; and
- A crocheted blanket with AI capabilities to track location and monitor the health status of homeless people.

The festival demonstrated the ICT and Youth Development Department's ability to translate theoretical 4IR education into practical, innovative solutions developed by learners – showcasing not only technical knowledge but also creativity and problem-solving.

SCIENCE BELONGS TO EVERYONE – 20 YEARS OF OPENING DOORS.

At the Gauteng Department of Education 4IR Mini-Festival, held on 31 August 2024, the Honourable Matome Chiloane, Gauteng MEC for Education, attended the event alongside learners from Sci-Bono's partner programmes. Lethabo Mohoase (Forest High School) and Phillipine Mogashoa (Jiyana Secondary School), both from the NTT Saturday School Programme, delivered presentations. Owam Mooi (Waverley Girls High School) showcased her innovative VPN solution as part of the festival. These learner presentations highlighted the depth of talent emerging from Sci-Bono-supported initiatives and reinforced the value of collaborative partnerships in building 4IR skills.

In Closing

The ICT and Youth Development Department's performance reflects exceptional achievement across all key performance areas, with many programmes exceeding their targets. Learners, teachers, government officials, and community members benefitted directly from a diverse range of initiatives, while the department also secured international recognition through the Global AI Festival, achieved Cisco Networking Academy Premier Status for its Instructor Training Centre, and hosted a highly successful 4IR Mini-Festival showcasing learner innovation.

The Multi-Certification Skills Programme (MCSP) emerged as a flagship success story, equipping learners with multiple skills and certifications and demonstrating the strength of collaborative partnerships as well as the urgency of 4IR skills development in South Africa. From foundational digital literacy to advanced AI programming, the department's comprehensive approach to technology education has positioned Sci-Bono as a national leader in digital education. Initiatives such as the 4IR Mini-Festival and participation in the Global AI Festival highlight Sci-Bono's ability to translate education into tangible innovation outcomes.

Looking ahead, these achievements provide a strong platform for growth. The proven track record of delivery, international recognition, and measurable learner impact creates compelling opportunities for marketing, new partnerships, and additional funding.

As Sci-Bono celebrates its 20th anniversary, the ICT and Youth Development Department's results illustrate how the organisation has evolved into a premier multi-certification skills development centre. The programmes delivered this year have not only met educational objectives but also demonstrated real-world impact through employment opportunities, further education pathways, and innovative project development – ensuring that young South Africans are prepared to thrive in the digital economy.


GAUTENG PROVINCE
GAUTENG PROVINCE
SCI-BONO
DISCOVERY CENTRE

SECTION 05

OUR SUPPORT FUNCTIONS


DISCOVERY

Human Resources and Development

The Human Resources and Development (HR&D) Department plays a central role in enabling Sci-Bono's success and long-term sustainability. As custodians of our most valuable resource – our people – we focus on creating an environment where employees can thrive, grow, and contribute meaningfully to the organisation's mission. The department's strategy is closely aligned with Sci-Bono's overall objectives, with emphasis on strengthening employee engagement, building an inclusive and supportive workplace culture, and positioning HR&D as a key enabler of organisational performance.

Priorities and Achievements

During the year under review, HR&D advanced a number of priorities that support organisational growth, ensure compliance with employment legislation, and promote holistic people development. These achievements reflect Sci-Bono's commitment to developing a capable, diverse, and future-ready workforce that underpins its role as a leading science education centre.

Sci-Bono as an Employer of Choice

Sci-Bono aspires to be recognised as an employer of choice in the sector. This ambition is guided by the organisation's mission, vision, and values, and is supported by employment practices designed to attract, develop, and retain talent. Over the past year, focus was placed on implementing competitive remuneration policies and progressive people management practices that enhance staff engagement and retention, laying the groundwork for sustained organisational excellence.

Living the Sci-Bono Values

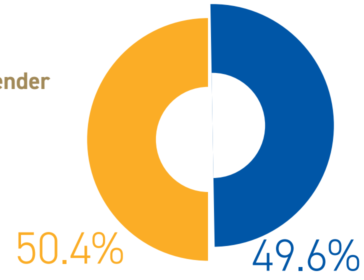
To better understand employee sentiment and organisational culture, Sci-Bono commissioned an independent employee satisfaction survey during the year. The results confirmed that employees remain deeply committed to the organisation's mission, while also highlighting areas where improvements are needed. These insights provide a valuable foundation for targeted initiatives aimed at strengthening engagement, resilience, and overall organisational performance in the year ahead.

Driving Transformation Through Employment Equity

The department successfully submitted the annual Employment Equity Report, achieving full compliance with the Employment Equity Act. This achievement reflects more than regulatory adherence – it underscores Sci-Bono's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and fairness. By advancing Employment Equity and strengthening our B-BBEE standing, the organisation continues to promote social justice and equitable representation, principles that remain central to our mission and values.

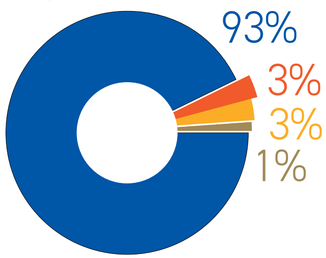
Employees by Gender

Male 132
Female 134



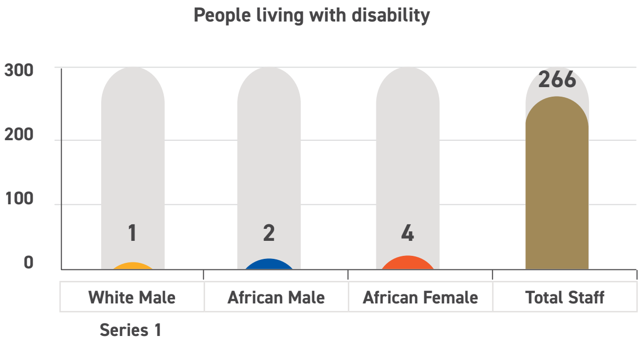
The total number of employees includes fixed term contractors attached to ICT projects, seasonal workers and interns we had in the 2024/25 financial year.

Employees By Race



Africans: 248
Coloured: 8
Indians: 8
White: 2

To ensure equitable representation across all occupational levels, Sci-Bono achieved most of its employment equity targets during the year. Opportunities for further improvement remain, particularly in increasing the representation of white females, where a 2% improvement has been identified as a target.



The staff profile indicates that 2.63% of Sci-Bono's workforce comprises persons living with disabilities.

Investing in Social Impact and Youth Empowerment

Sci-Bono partners with a range of organisations to place interns across different operational areas. This initiative provides young people with essential workplace exposure, enabling them to complete their qualifications and transition into professional careers.

These partnerships play a vital role in developing a sustainable pipeline of skilled young professionals, reinforcing Sci-Bono's position as a hub for science education, innovation, and employability. By investing in youth development, Sci-Bono demonstrates its commitment to national skills priorities, youth empowerment, and broader nation-building objectives. In doing so, the organisation not only inspires young learners but also contributes to cultivating the next generation of leaders in science and innovation.

IT Management

In line with the Board's priorities for FY2024/25, which emphasised digitalisation and the adoption of Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) practices, the Human Resources (HR) and Information Technology (IT) Management departments jointly spearheaded the automation of reporting processes at Sci-Bono.

IT Governance

Implementation of IT governance was a key focus during the year. The ICT Steering Committee was established and is now fully operational, providing oversight of IT initiatives with significant organisational impact. In addition, engagement with several technology companies was initiated to explore the possibility of appointing a dedicated technology partner to support Sci-Bono's strategic ambition to advance STEAM.

IT Management Initiatives

The IT Department continued to implement the approved IT Governance and Management Framework, with emphasis on optimising Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems, enhancing organisational services, and migrating systems to the cloud where feasible. The organisation is also preparing for implementation of its IT Strategy, which is aligned to the organisational strategy.

Support for Digital Initiatives

The IT Department remains committed to enabling Sci-Bono's digital transformation. Key efforts include supporting internal departments in delivering virtual experiences of the Centre and working closely with stakeholders to drive IT initiatives aligned with organisational digitalisation goals.

Collectively, these initiatives strengthened Sci-Bono's digital readiness, improved operational efficiency, and laid a solid foundation for future innovation in STEAM education.

Key Projects and Activities

Completed (FY2024/25)	Ongoing (FY2025/26)
Implementation of IT Governance and Management Framework	Migration of ERP systems to the cloud
Firewall upgrade	Replacement of faulty cabling in parts of the building
Finalisation of draft IT Strategy	Linking all Sci-Bono physical sites into a single network
Migration of file servers to SharePoint	Implementation of the IT Strategy
IT infrastructure and hardware upgrades	Continued rollout of IT Governance and compliance practices
Network and security upgrades	

20 YEARS OF KNOWLEDGE; LEARNING AND APPLICATION

Facilities Management

Facilities Management oversees the holistic management of buildings and related services to ensure a clean, safe, hygienic, and conducive environment for staff, visitors, and stakeholders. The department is responsible for all physical resources of the organisation, including planning, development, major projects and refurbishments, repairs and maintenance, space allocation, health and safety, risk management, the property portfolio, fleet and transport, security, and cleaning. Its mandate is to support Sci-Bono's core business while minimising environmental impact.

Property Management

The property market in South Africa, and particularly Johannesburg, continues to underperform. Historically, the retail shops along Helen Joseph Street have not generated sustainable income, largely due to low foot traffic in the area. The department has therefore been tasked with exploring alternative uses for these spaces, such as small offices or project venues. These could be suited to smaller businesses that do not depend on walk-in customers, for example, satellite offices for law firms supporting the Family Court. Internally, the spaces could also serve as project offices. Other available areas have been successfully leased to external companies such as Da Vinci. The Curious Café, Sci-Bono's anchor tenant, continues to maintain a long-standing relationship with the organisation. The current lease is under review to secure a long-term agreement.

Facilities Maintenance

The Repairs and Maintenance team manages a wide range of projects in-house, building internal capacity while containing costs. Several major projects are planned for the next financial year, subject to budget approval. These include:

- Replacement of multiple air-conditioning units that have reached end of life to improve comfort and efficiency
- Upgrading the auditorium to meet modern technological requirements and client needs.
- External building repairs, waterproofing, and painting.
- A comprehensive environmental audit to identify energy consumption issues and guide sustainability initiatives.
- Implementation of a new "Sorting at Source" Recycling Programme.

Security Management

Security at the Centre is delivered through two key areas:

- Physical Security: Guarding, investigations, and event security provided by security personnel.
- Technical Security: Use of technology such as CCTV, access control, vehicle scanning, and visitor check-in systems.

In the past year, the security environment was enhanced through the installation of new cameras. Plans are in place to further expand these measures.

Cleaning Management

The Cleaning Department ensures a consistently clean and hygienic environment across the Centre. Additional services include operating a small in-house laundry for lab coats, tablecloths, and similar items, resulting in significant savings compared with external providers. The team also provides teas and coffees for meetings as required. Hygiene services have been expanded over the year, with a strengthened focus on ablution facilities.

Fleet Management

The Fleet Management function ensures that company vehicles are properly maintained and available for operational use. These vehicles are critical in supporting departmental interventions and organisational activities, with repairs and servicing carried out timeously to maximise efficiency.

Safety Management

Sci-Bono is governed by a comprehensive Health and Safety Policy and complies with all applicable legislation and directives issued by national government, as far as reasonably practicable. Staff training has been prioritised, with teams of first aiders, firefighters, and emergency response personnel in place to ensure preparedness and compliance.

Events Management

Events Management is the holistic management of all internal and external events booked at the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre.

The Events Management Department manages planning and execution of all internal and external booked events, meetings, expos, focus weeks and such.

Events ensures that all bookings are executed timeously with the utmost efficiency and professionalism that supports the strategy and goals of the organisation.

Events are an income stream that allows for the most effective use of all venues with a minimum of costs. All of the coordination and management of events are achieved through the effective use of inhouse equipment and resources.

Number of Events held: 20
Income generated during FY2024/25: R341 119.9.

Integrated Marketing and Communications

Amplifying Our Legacy

Our 20th anniversary was more than a celebration; it was a strategic campaign to cement our position as a world-class science centre.

Nationwide Engagement: The #SciBono20 campaign trended nationally on social media, harnessing digital storytelling, radio, TV, and billboards to share our story.

Commemorative Events: We hosted a series of flagship events, including the official launch of the MMBP, the 4IR and Classroom of the Future. We honored our history by renaming spaces after pioneers. Our Former Chief Operations Officer Ms Tebogo Gule, a dedicated and visionary leader who loved science and championed the promotion of STEM education, which further shaped Sci-Bono's programmes. She contributed materially and symbolically to the science shop and birthday room, which is named in her honour and memory.

Mr Phiroshaw Camay was a Sci-Bono Discovery Centre Board Member and Chairperson, and during his tenure, Sci-Bono received numerous local and international awards. Throughout his leadership, Sci-Bono formed and strengthened various relationships and partnerships, which coagulated Sci-Bono as a leading Science Centre. Appropriate to his memory and in his honour, the VIP Boardroom was named after him. Together, they have left solid legacies.

A Living Archive: Over 300 high-quality images were documented from the events, capturing moments for generations to come.

Strengthening Our Foundation for the Future

A Unified Structure:
The Marketing, Communications, and Broadcasting Departments are streamlined into a single Integrated Marketing and Communications (IMC) Unit. Ensuring a cohesive brand messaging and maximising operational efficiency.

Marketing and Communications

The Marketing and Communications Department is responsible for Sci-Bono's marketing, media and public relations, advertising, online internal and external communications.

The reporting period did not see an increase in media coverage, as measured by our Advertising Value Equivalent (AVE).

We quantified our branding and social media activities undertaken as follows:

Social Media Following

Period	Facebook	Twitter	Instagram	TikTok	YouTube
Quarter 4	12 000	4 232	2 885	295	317
Quarter 3	11 866	4 273	2 444	135	268
Quarter 2	11 000	4 209	1 958	100	172
Quarter 1	11 000	4 185	1 623	21	125

Visitor Reviews

Our Facebook visitor reviews are 4.5 out of 5, 4.5 in Google and 4.5 in Trip Advisor. Facebook reviews are higher in comparison to most of our competitors. Sci-Bono is also rated higher in both Google and TripAdvisor, a satisfactory rating as we remain higher.

Sci-Bono Reviews on Facebook/Google/Trip Advisor

Facebook	4.5
Google	4.5
Trip Advisor	4.5

Innovation in Action - The Multimedia Broadcast Platform (MMBP)

The existence of the MMBP marks a quantum leap in our ability to deliver high-quality, accessible STEAM education across Gauteng and beyond.

Transforming Educational Delivery:

The MMBP creates an interactive, safe learning environment through live broadcasts, real-time feedback, and personalised support, ensuring no learner is left behind.

Key Impact Initiatives:

- **Secondary School Improvement Programme (SSIP) Livestreaming:** Broadcasted live, interactive lessons to thousands of Grade 11 learners in critical subjects like mathematics and physical sciences.
- **Inclusivity for Deaf Learners:** Partnered with the GDE to pilot a programme recording lessons and exams in South African Sign Language (SASL), breaking down barriers to education.
- **Strategic Interventions:** Provided critical support for senior phase learners and contributed to strategy for improving matric pass rates in Section 58B schools.

Operational Excellence:

The MMBP delivered 545 professional production services, from studio recordings to mobile broadcasts, for both internal programmes and external clients like the Office of the Premier.

Pathway to Sustainability:

We are developing innovative strategies to commercialise the MMBP, ensuring its long-term viability and growth. Our plans include:

- **Service Offerings:** Studio rental, content creation, and professional photography.
- **Future Ventures:** Strategic partnerships with media houses and the launch of a dedicated Sci-Bono IPTV channel.

This approach allows us to diversify revenue without compromising our core mission of delivering quality educational content.

Looking Forward

Building on the momentum of our 20th year, we are poised for even greater impact. With the MMBP as our engine for the expansion of brand Sci-Bono, a strengthened marketing and communications, we will continue to innovate, partner, and educate. Empowering the next generation of South African pioneers, thinkers, and creators.

Finance and Administration

Executive Summary

The support function is responsible for the organisation's internal administration, logistics, finances, and risk management to bolster and enable the core functions. The support function is also responsible for maintaining high standards of health and safety in the organisation.

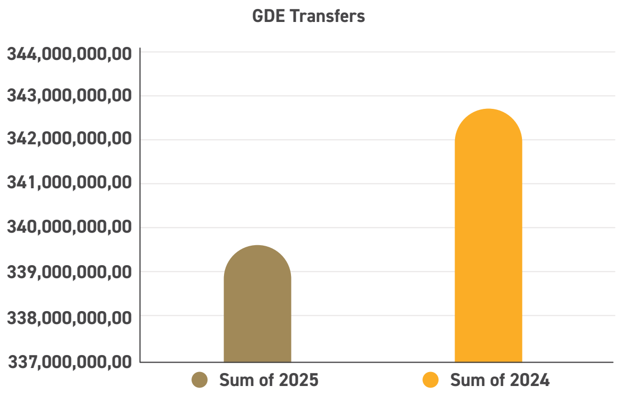
The support function holds two main divisions (with their respective departments), as detailed below:

Finance and Administration

- Financial Management
- Supply Chain Management

Finance and Administration

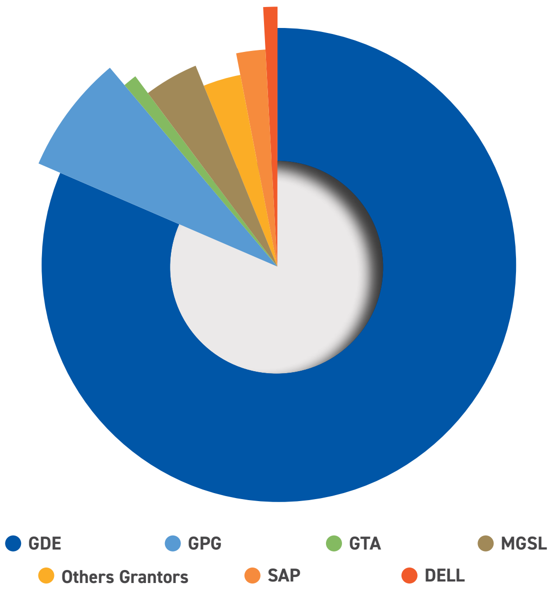
The Finance Unit is responsible for the budgeting, procurement planning and management, financial management and disbursement of funds. In this financial year, the functions of risk management, audit and the overall monitoring of the internal control environment have been migrated to the unit of Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) within the organisation; whilst the payroll function has been migrated to the Corporate Services Directorate. The activities of Sci-Bono are mainly funded by the GDE programme budget transfers. The total actual transfers for the 2024/25 financial year were R339 million, a decrease of R3.5 million from R342 million in the 2023/24 financial year as per the figure to the right.



Whilst the funding from the GDE has been reasonably constant over the years, fundraising activities and stakeholder management initiatives have led to increased funding streams. Other funding agreements were concluded within the financial year, including Gauteng Provincial Government (GPG) and AMGEN (amongst others). The agreements from the previous financial period are also still active.

Funders	Amount	%
AMGEN	2,629,628	0.68%
DELL	1,136,159	0.29%
ETDP SETA	80,834	0.02%
GDE	335,137,000	86.89%
GPG	27,706,681	7.18%
GTA	1,032,783	0.27%
MGSL	10,500,000	2.72%
Others Grantors	7,020,817	1.82%
SAP	466,137	0.12%
	385,710,038	**100%**

Income Distribution (%)



Review of Financial Performance

During a review of financial performance, Sci-Bono has a deficit of R120 million during the 2024/25 financial year, a decrease of R123 million from a surplus of R3.2 million in the 2023/24 financial year. There was a 6% decrease in total income, whilst there was a 23% increase in expenses.

The deficit incurred during the 2024/25 financial year was primarily attributable to reduced funding allocations from government and increased delivery programme costs, which placed significant pressure on the organisation's operating budget.

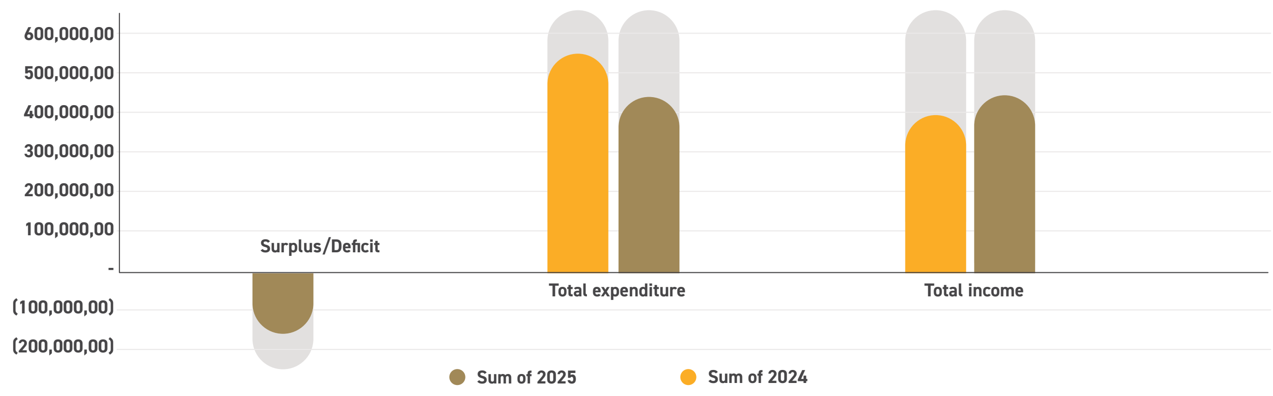
In addition, delays by government in honouring payment deadlines adversely affected cash flow, compelling the organisation to obtain an overdraft facility and to make early withdrawals from its investment portfolio to sustain operations and meet financial obligations.

Despite these financial constraints, the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre maintained operational stability and continued to deliver on its educational and developmental mandate, ensuring that core programmes and learner support initiatives were not compromised.

Category	2025	2024	Variance	Var %
Total Income	407,918,102	432,291,589	(24,373,487)	-6%
Total Expenditure	527,930,297	429,031,823	98,898,474	23%
Surplus/Deficit	(120,012,195)	3,259,766	(123,271,961)	-3782%

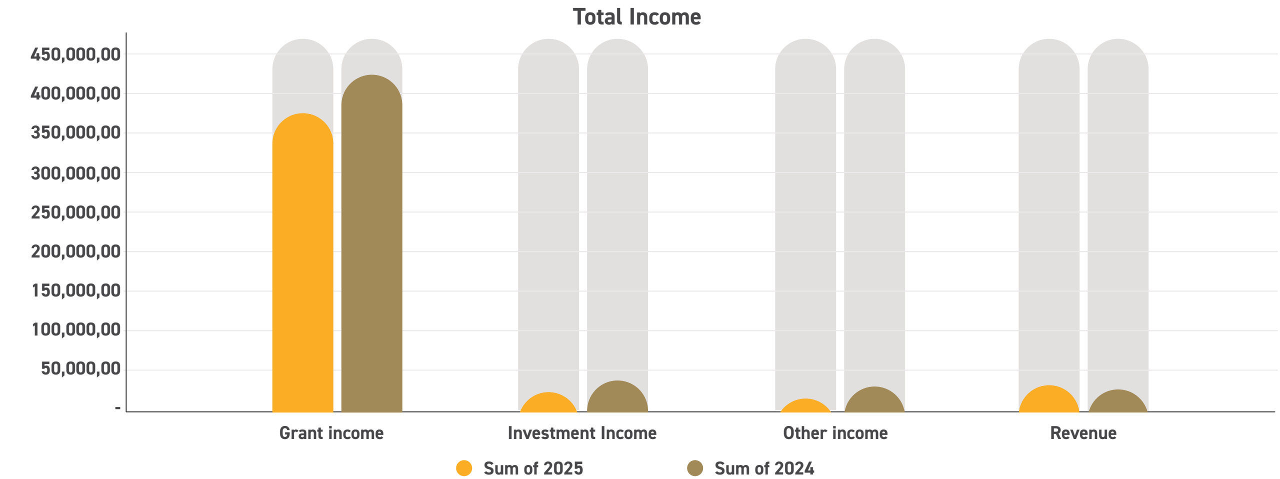
This is as a result of the majority of income i.e 95%; being projects income, as such 89% of total income is received with plans of expenditure (even though it might not be conditional grants).

Financial Performance



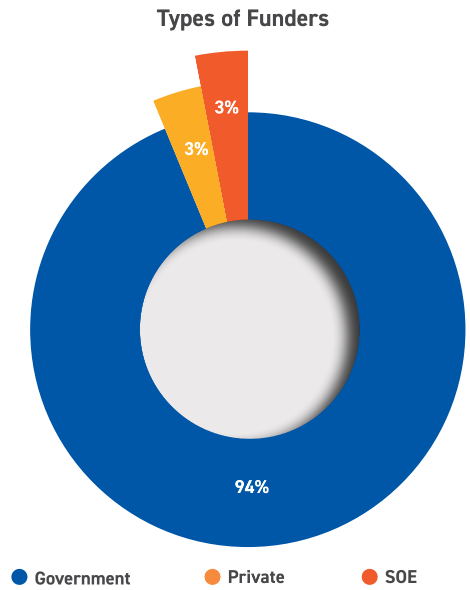
The total income for the financial year was R407 million, with grants income being R385 million (95%). Investment income was R7.9 million (2%), and other income stood at R4.4 million (1%). The Sci-Bono normal operations contributed R9.8 million (2%) to total revenue, as per figure 4. The cash flow challenges experienced in the current financial year affected the ability to invest funds, thus leading to a 29% decrease in investment income.

Category	2025	2024	Variance	Var %
Revenue	9,809,599	8,678,723	1,130,876	13%
Other Income	4,471,437	3,162,718	1,308,719	41%
Grant Income	385,710,785	409,311,504	(23,600,719)	-6%
Investment Income	7,926,281	11,138,644	(3,212,363)	-29%



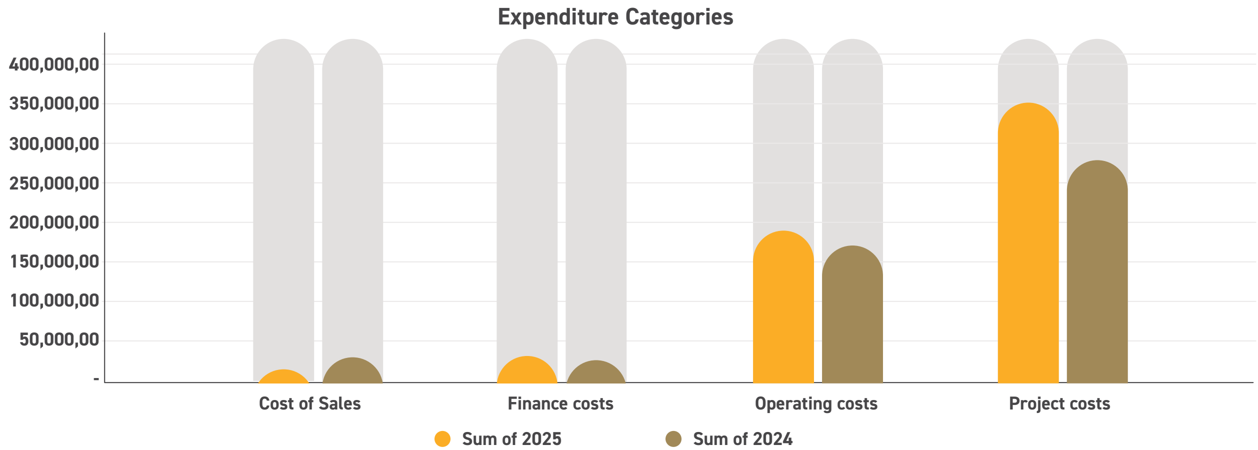
The organisation's sustainability is still largely dependent on project income. Project income contributed 95% of the total revenue; whilst 94% of grant income being from government sources; thus leading to a risk of over reliance on government.

Types of Funders	Amount	Percentage
Government	362,362,681	94%
Private Funders	11,814,575	3%
SOEs	11,532,783	3%
	385,710,038	

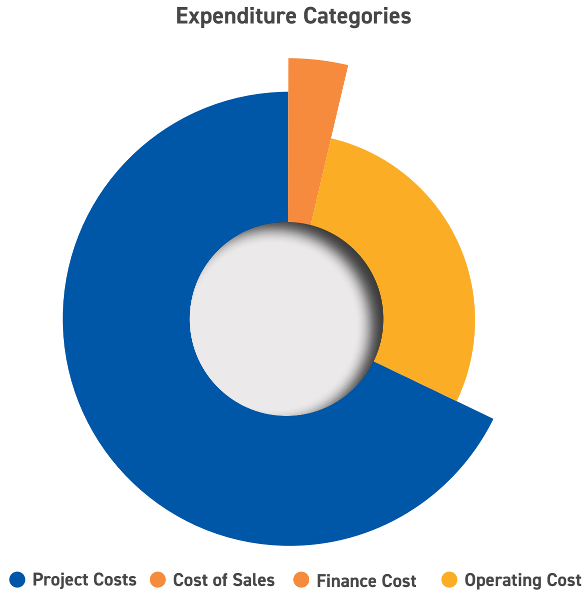


The total expenditure increased by 23%, from R429 million in 2023/24 to R527 million in 2024/25. The increase in expenditure is not constant with the increase in income, as a result of high costs of implementation and increase in scope of projects, without an accompanying increase in funding, in this financial year there is a 6% decrease in total income. There is, however, a balance of 65% and 35% between project expenditure and operating expenditure (consistent with the previous financial year of FY2023/24.

Category	2025	2024	Variance	Var %
Cost of Sales	45,745	-	45,745	100%
Operating Costs	175,565,454	160,279,477	15,285,977	10%
Project Costs	346,573,867	268,743,271	77,830,596	29%
Finance Costs	5,745,231	9,075	5,736,156	100%
	527,932,322	**429,033,847**	**98,898,474**	**23%**



Over 85% of total expenditure was incurred in terms of our procurement process. The most significant portion of the budget was directed towards core services, with a fair share directed at capital expenditure; and the remainder on support services.



Review of Financial Position

None-Current Assets (R576 million)

The property, plant and equipment decreased by less than 1% due to limited expenditure on Capital Expenditure due to budget constraints.

The intangible assets increased by 17%, this is due to expensing of assets relating to Educational Content for the our Learner and Teacher support programmes and ICT based Exhibitions.

On 24 February 2024, the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre entered into a sale agreement, to purchase Magalies River Lodge, a going concern entity. The sale was concluded by 28 February 2025. The purpose of the acquisition was to support Sci-Bono's strategic cost-reduction for student accommodation and modest revenue diversificatiion.

Investments at Fair Value

- The Board of Directors approved a resolution on 22 January 2025 for the early withdrawal from a long-term investment in a Fixed Deposit Account at Standard Bank of South Africa to support business operations and maintain programme continuity as per the Memorandum of Agreement with the grant donor (GDE).
- This is as a result of the financial challenges being experienced throughout the fiscal, affecting the major funder and leading to inconsistent and shortage of funding for programmes.
- The investment balance at 15 January 2025 was R128,132,712.33; the penalties for early withdrawal were R3,939,041.10; whilst the opportunity cost was R19,545,325.

Receivables Balance (R18.5 million)

- The trade receivables have decreased by 279%; where the most significant contributor being refunds for VAT from South African Revenue Services (SARS).
- There has not been movement on the contingent asset, that has been raised on the balance of the VAT balance, which was previously disclosed as R25 million.

Bank Balances (R9.6 million)

- The bank balances decreased as a result of the cashflow challenges that were experienced during the financial year, as a result of difficulty in receiving funding from our major funder.
- This also led the early withdrawal of the fixed term deposit, as disclosed in note 7 of the financial statements.

Decrease in Equity

- The reserves decreased by 4% as a result of the revaluation of the Buildings.
- The retained earnings decreased by 58%, as a result of the movements in the Statement of Financial Performance; i.e the deficit for the year.

Current Liabilities (Deferred income)

- The non-current deferred income remained steady, decreasing by R3.1 million from R173.6 million to R170.5 million.
- There was no deferred income, as all grant conditions and activities were completed for the financial year.

Current Liabilities

- The trade payables increased by 18% from R41.4 million in the previous financial year to R35.1 million in the current year. This was due to the implementation of significant projects that are school calendar year based, in which the last month of the finacial year is the most active (March is the end of Term 1 of the school calendar year).

INVESTING IN OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE, 20 YEARS AND COUNTING.

Project Management Office

The 2024/25 financial year marked an important phase for the Project Management Office (PMO) as it entered its second year of operation. During this period, the PMO advanced significantly in programme governance, coordination, and implementation, while consolidating its role as a central enabler of organisational performance.

The year was characterised by the professionalisation of the PMO through the development of strategic frameworks, operational plans, standardised templates, and project management tools. These enhancements strengthened governance structures, streamlined processes, and reinforced accountability across Sci-Bono projects.

A key achievement was the PMO's support to operational departments in developing business plans and submitting funding proposals to potential partners. The PMO also deepened engagement with Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) and private sector stakeholders to mobilise resources in line with the Resource Diversification Strategy.

One of the major milestones was the conceptualisation of the Sci-Bono Skills Precinct – an ambitious initiative designed to establish an integrated ecosystem for skills development, training, and innovation. This initiative, strongly endorsed by industry partners, government departments, and local municipalities, is envisioned as a centre of excellence that will integrate vocational, technical, and digital skills to respond to labour market needs and position Sci-Bono as a hub for skills innovation.

To further strengthen sustainability and innovation, the New Venture and Commercialisation Committee was established as a platform for coordinating new ideas and revenue-generating opportunities. The committee, overseen by the Executive Manager in the Office of the CEO, advanced a range of initiatives to diversify income streams and foster partnerships that contribute to long-term financial resilience. The PMO also played a leading role in monitoring and evaluating the Secondary School Improvement Programme (SSIP). In a significant development, Sci-Bono Board members participated in on-site monitoring visits, engaging directly with tutors and learners. Their presence was well received by students, who saw it as a strong sign of support and encouragement. The M&E work further culminated in the publication of an academic book chapter, providing a systems review and literature synthesis that contributes to the knowledge base on education programme evaluation. Complementing these efforts, the Research and Development Department enhanced Sci-Bono's reputation as a thought leader in STEM education through the publication of the Sci-Bono STEAM Framework with a leading international academic publisher. This achievement further cements Sci-Bono's contribution to educational innovation and integrated learning.

Overall, the 2024/25 financial year was transformational for the PMO, marked by strengthened governance, innovation, research, and evidence-based monitoring. These advancements have reinforced Sci-Bono's leadership in education and workforce readiness, and its role in shaping South Africa's future skills landscape.

Supply Chain Management

The Supply Chain Management (SCM) Department plays a strategic role in ensuring that procurement processes are efficient, compliant, and aligned with organisational objectives and the priorities of the Board of Directors. Sci-Bono's SCM Framework is guided by the principles of fairness, transparency, equity, competitiveness, and cost-effectiveness, with value for money and return on investment as non-negotiable imperatives.

A key achievement during the year was the strengthening of compliance across procurement processes. All requisitions and requests were subjected to a rigorous cross-functional evaluation process, ensuring active end-user involvement in purchase order approvals while upholding the principle of segregation of duties.

Capacity building was a major focus area. More than 30 supply chain practitioners achieved formal certification through a skills programme accredited by the local government sector education and training authority. This, together with targeted training for officials involved in procurement across departments, reduced the system inefficiencies experienced in previous years. The SCM function also continued to monitor compliance with delegated authorities and reporting lines, ensuring that all procurement above the CEO's delegations was duly submitted to the Board Finance Committee (FINCO) and, where required, to the Board for approval or ratification.

The implementation of the Annual Performance Plan (APP) was achieved despite cost-containment measures. End-users played an active role in ensuring that procurement was undertaken at market-related prices. For critical or scarce items with complex technical specifications, SCM conducted market sensitisation exercises to support fair pricing and accurate demand forecasting. Improved management practices also encouraged more accurate and timely requests, which reduced urgent procurement through deviations.

The newly established Governance, Risk and Compliance (GRC), Audit, Risk and Compliance (ARC) Department further strengthened SCM governance by refining risk management processes. While SCM had already been operating in line with policy and national standards, ARC's oversight helped tighten control measures and mitigate potential risks. As a result of continuous training, enhanced oversight by Executive Management, and robust monitoring by the Board and its committees, no significant incidents of financial misconduct were recorded in relation to procurement during the year under review.

Looking ahead, SCM will continue to build on this foundation by enhancing strategic sourcing, contract management, and supplier performance monitoring. The Department is committed to ensuring that supply chain management is not only a compliance-driven function but also a strategic enabler of value creation, contributing to enterprise-wide performance while maintaining the highest standards of accountability, transparency, and oversight.

Partnerships and Fundraising

This financial year's narrative is one of purposeful evolution. Guided by the strategic vision of the Board and the Office of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), we have focused on weaving partnerships and fundraising more deeply into the fabric of Sci-Bono's mission through the Project Management Office. Our journey has been to move beyond transactional relationships and begin building the foundational partnerships that will enable sustainable impact for years to come.

Our approach was built on a framework designed for resilience and growth. We began laying the groundwork for funding diversification, exploring new channels from strategic embassy engagements to build a more resilient financial model with a supporting database. Concurrently, we worked to advance collaborative synergy, embedding partnership principles into project lifecycles to create compelling value propositions. Most importantly, we focused on expanding our reach, consciously working to amplify our Centre's profile to showcase its potential to a wider audience.

This foundational work has begun to yield a promising pipeline of opportunities with international partners, embassies, SETAs, and, mission-aligned corporates, trusts and foundations . We have taken initial steps to formalise relationships through Memoranda of Understanding, transforming preliminary discussions into potential long-term alliances. A key area of focus has been positioning Sci-Bono as a dynamic hub for STEAM innovation, integrating science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics. This has opened dialogues for support that could expand its capacity and reach. Underpinning these efforts is a new, data-driven Fundraising Strategy, which provides our roadmap for the important work ahead.

Yet, this is only the beginning. Our potential to scale our impact across South Africa is immense, and realising it requires a deepened commitment to sustainable partnerships. The path forward is clear: we must operationalise cross-functional workflows to accelerate collaborative decision-making, leverage data-driven insights to identify new opportunities, and, most critically, convert our promising dialogues into solidified, multi-year partnerships.

In conclusion, this year has been about planting seeds for future growth. None of this progress would be possible without the unwavering support and shared vision of our invaluable funders, donors, stakeholders, and partners. Your belief in our mission is the bedrock upon which we build the future. We have established a strong strategic framework and engaged a diverse network of potential collaborators. The true measure of our success, however, will be our collective ability to nurture these opportunities into lasting partnerships that not only ensure our financial sustainability but also significantly expand Sci-Bono's footprint and impact across the nation. Our work continues, and the opportunity to build together has never been greater.

#	Donor	
1	**Dell**	ICT Training
2	**ETDP-SETA**	Staff levy refund
3	**SAP**	ICT Training and Science Centre
4	**GDE**	MST Learner and Teacher Training
5	**Matthew Goniwe School of Leadership**	MST Teacher Training
6	**Gauteng Provincial Government**	Multimedia and Broadcasting Platform
7	**Amngen**	Life Science Laboratory
8	**Airliquide**	ICT Training
9	**SAASTEC**	National Science Week

SECTION 06

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sci-Bono Discovery Centre NPC
(Registration number 2004/010183/08)
Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

GENERAL INFORMATION

Country of incorporation and domicile
South Africa

Nature of business and principal activities
Science Centre

Directors
Mr Witbooi, Abbey (Chairperson)
Dr Madiba, Nandipha Daphne (Deputy Chairperson)
Prof Bantwini, Bongani Douglas
Ms Banda, Nomndeni Xolile
Mr Malele, Ganelang Zeth
Adv. Mokgatle, Lentswe Gabriel
Ms Moloka, Patricia Ntepane
Mr Mphahlele, Mashane Johannes
Prof Ntsobi, Mfanelo Patrick (Chief Executive Officer)
Prof Sitole, Khulekani
Mr Tsotetsi, Coffee Godfrey

Registered office
Sci-Bono Discovery Centre
c/o Miriam Makeba & Helen Joseph Street, Newtown
Johannesburg, 2107

Business address
Sci-Bono Discovery Centre
c/o Miriam Makeba & Helen Joseph Street, Newtown
Johannesburg, 2107

Postal address
PO Box 61882
Marshalltown, 2107

Bankers
Standard Bank of South Africa
Nedbank

Auditor
Rakoma & Associates Inc.
Chartered Accountant (SA) Registered Auditor
Willow Wood Office Park, Block D
CNR, 3rd Ave & Cedar Road Johannesburg
2021
PO Box 1002
Randpark Ridge, Randpark, Johannesburg
2156

Secretary
Dr. Ndabezitha, Siyabonga

Company registration number
2004/010183/08

Tax reference number
9058859159

Preparer
The annual financial statements were internally compiled by:
Mr. Maluleke, Nkateko
Chief Financial Officer

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES AND APPROVAL

The directors are required in terms of the Companies Act of South Africa to maintain adequate accounting records and are responsible for the content and integrity of the annual financial statements and related financial information included in this report. It is their responsibility to ensure that the annual financial statements fairly present the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and the results of its operations and cash flows for the period then ended, in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standards. The external auditor is engaged to express an independent opinion on the annual financial statements.

The annual financial statements are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and are based upon appropriate accounting policies consistently applied and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates.

The directors acknowledge that they are ultimately responsible for the system of internal financial control established by the company and place considerable importance on maintaining a strong control environment. To enable the directors to meet these responsibilities, the board sets standards for internal control aimed at reducing the risk of error or loss in a cost effective manner. The standards include the proper delegation of responsibilities within a clearly defined framework, effective accounting procedures and adequate segregation of duties to ensure an acceptable level of risk. These controls are monitored throughout the company and all employees are required to maintain the highest ethical standards in ensuring the company's business is conducted in a manner that in all reasonable circumstances is above reproach. The focus of risk management in the company is on identifying, assessing, managing and monitoring all known forms of risk across the company. While operating risk cannot be fully eliminated, the company endeavours to minimise it by ensuring that appropriate infrastructure, controls, systems and ethical behaviour are applied and managed within predetermined procedures and constraints.

The directors are of the opinion, based on the information and explanations given by management, that the system of internal control provides reasonable assurance that the financial records may be relied on for the preparation of the annual financial statements. However, any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The directors have reviewed the company's cash flow forecast for the year to March 31, 2026 and, in light of this review and the current financial position, they are satisfied that the company has or had access to adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The external auditor is responsible for independently auditing and reporting on the company's annual financial statements. The annual financial statements have been examined by the company's external auditor and their report is presented on pages 92 and 93.

The annual financial statements set out on pages 95 to 131, which have been prepared on the going concern basis, were approved by the board on October 15, 2025 and were signed on their behalf by:

Approval of financial statements

Mr Witbooi, Abbey
(Chairperson)

Prof Ntsobi, Mfanelo Patrick
(Chief Executive Officer)

COMPANY SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATION

In terms of Section 88(2)(e) of the Companies Act of South Africa, as amended, I certify that the company has lodged with the Commissioner all such returns as are required of a company in terms of the Act and that all such returns are true, correct and up to date.

Fundabezitha

Dr Siyabonga , Ndabezitha
Company Secretary
Wednesday, October 8, 2025

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors have pleasure in submitting their report on the annual financial statements of Sci-Bono Discovery Centre NPC for the year ended March 31, 2025.

1. Review of financial results and activities

The annual financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Companies Act of South Africa. The accounting policies have been applied consistently compared to the prior year.

Full details of the financial position, results of operations and cash flows of the company are set out in these annual financial statements.

Composition of the Board of Directors:

Board Member	Date appointed
Mr Witbooi, Abbey (Chairperson)	24 July 2015
Dr Madiba, Nandipha Daphne (Deputy Chairperson)	14 Nov 2016 – 24 June 2025
Prof Bantwini, Bongani Douglas	14 November 2016
Ms Banda, Nomndeni	28 February 2023
Mr Malele, Ganelang Zeth	14 November 2016
Adv. Mokgatle, Lentswe Gabriel	24 July 2015
Ms Moloka, Patricia Ntepane	24 July 2015
Mr Mphahlele, Mashane Johannes	28 October 2020
Prof Ntsobi, Mfanelo Patrick (Chief Executive Officer)	01 November 2022
Prof Sitole, Khulekani	14 November 2016
Mr Tsotetsi, Coffee Godfrey	12 October 2020

2. Events after the reporting period

The directors are not aware of any material event which occurred after the reporting date and up to the date of this report.

3. Going concern

The annual financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to a going concern. This basis presumes that funds will be available to finance future operations and that the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities, contingent obligations and commitments will occur in the ordinary course of business.

The directors believe that the company has adequate financial resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future and accordingly the annual financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The directors have satisfied themselves that the company is in a sound financial position and that it has access to sufficient borrowing facilities to meet its foreseeable cash requirements. The directors are not aware of any new material changes that may adversely impact the company. The directors are also not aware of any material non-compliance with statutory or regulatory requirements or of any pending changes to legislation which may affect the company.

The directors reviewed the budgets and cash flow forecasts for the next 12 months, as well as the current liquidity and solvency position of the company and do believe that the company has adequate financial resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. The annual financial statements have accordingly been prepared on the going concern basis.

4. Auditors

Rakoma & Associates Inc. have been appointed as auditors for the company for 2024/25 financial year.

At the AGM, Ms Banda, Nomndeni Xolile will be requested to reappoint Rakoma & Associates Inc. as the independent external auditors of the company and to confirm Mr. Rakoma, Edgar as the designated lead audit partner for the 2025/26 financial year.

5. Secretary

The company secretary is Dr Ndabezitha, Siyabonga.

Business address: No. 23, The Finn
596 Jubilee Avenue,
Halfway House, Midrand
1685

The annual financial statements set out on pages 95 to 131, which have been prepared on the going concern basis, were approved by the board on October 15, 2025, and were signed on its behalf by:

Approval of annual financial statements

Mr Witbooi, Abbey
Chairperson
Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Prof Ntsobi, Mfanelo Patrick
Chief Executive Officer
Wednesday, October 15, 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF SCI-BONO DISCOVERY CENTRE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Opinion

We have audited the annual financial statements of Sci-Bono Discovery Centre NPC set out on pages 87 to 131 which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March, 2025, statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the annual financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Sci-Bono Discovery Centre NPC as at 31 March 2025, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Companies Act of South Africa.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Annual Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors' Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors (IRBA Code) and other independence requirements applicable to performing audits of annual financial statements in South Africa. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IRBA Code and in accordance with other ethical requirements applicable to performing audits in South Africa. The IRBA Code is consistent with the corresponding sections of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the document titled "Sci-Bono Discovery Centre NPC annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025", which includes the Directors' Report and the Audit Committee's Report as required by the Companies Act of South Africa. The other information does not include the annual financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the annual financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the annual financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Emphasis of matters

Material uncertainty relating to going concern

We draw attention to note 27 of the financial statements, which discloses that the company has a net loss of R120 012 195 and that its current liabilities exceed its current assets in the financial year under audit by R10 928 954. The uncertainty regarding the company's ability to continue as a going concern has been assessed by the board of directors and are disclosed in the financial statements. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of the directors for the financial statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the annual financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Companies Act of South Africa, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of annual financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the annual financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual financial statements are as a whole free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these annual financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of financial statements is included in the Appendix to this audit report. The description, which is located in Annexure 1, forms part of our audit report.

Rakoma and Associates Inc

Rakoma & Associates Incorporated
Per: Edgar Rakoma
Chartered Accountant (SA)
Engagement Partner

Registered Auditor
Date: 15 October 2025
Block D, Willow Wood Office Park,
CNR, 3rd Ave &, Cedar Rd,
Johannesburg

ANNEXURE 1

Auditors Responsibilities for the Audit of Financial Statements

As part of an audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We are also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the annual financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the annual financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the annual financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the annual financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT MARCH 31, 2025

Figures in Rand	Note(s)	2025	2024
Assets			
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	3	498,939,177	500,902,131
Intangible assets	4	62,890,830	51,983,151
Investments at fair value	5	14,800,000	-
	8	-	121,331,398
		576,630,007	**674,216,680**
Current Assets			
Inventories	6	10,469	4,424
Trade and other receivables	7	18,471,978	69,924,728
Investments at fair value	8	3,238	287,572
Cash and cash equivalents	9	9,613,515	768,880
		28,099,200	**70,985,604**
Total Assets		**604,729,207**	**745,202,284**
Equity and Liabilities			
Equity		189,309,599	195,982,492
Reserves		206,868,212	326,983,308
Retained income		**396,177,811**	**522,965,800**
Liabilities			
Non-Current Liabilities			
Deferred income	14	170,523,242	173,685,960
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	12	35,127,255	46,215,166
Provisions	11	2,900,899	2,335,358
		38,028,154	**48,550,524**
Total Liabilities		**208,551,396**	**222,236,484**
Total Equity and Liabilities		**604,729,207**	**745,202,284**

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Figures in Rand	Note(s)	2025	2024
Revenue	15	9,809,599	8,678,723
Cost of sales	16	(45,745)	-
Gross profit		**9,763,854**	**8,678,723**
Other operating income	17	4,471,437	3,162,718
Other operating losses	18	(107,336)	(60,366)
Other operating expenses		(175,458,118)	(160,247,625)
Grant income – Operations		21,125,000	24,973,000
Grant income – Project activities		364,585,785	384,338,504
Project activities expenses		(346,573,867)	(268,743,271)
Operating loss		**(122,193,245)**	**(7,898,317)**
Investment income	19	7,926,281	11,138,644
Finance costs	20	(5,745,231)	(9,075)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		**(120,012,195)**	**3,231,252**

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

Figures in Rand	Revaluation reserve	Retained income	Total equity
Balance at April 1, 2023	**199,943,002**	**322,403,580**	**522,346,582**
Profit for the year	-	3,231,252	3,231,252
Transfer between Reserves	(3,960,510)	1,348,476	(2,612,034)
Balance at April 1, 2024	**195,982,492**	**326,983,308**	**522,965,800**
Loss for the year	–	(120,012,195)	(120,012,195)
Transfer between Reserves	(6,672,893)	(102,901)	(6,775,794)
Balance at March 31, 2025	**189,309,599**	**206,868,212**	**396,177,811**
Note(s)	10		

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Figures in Rand	Note(s)	2025	2024
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash receipts from grant funding and customers		448,281,853	400,682,168
Cash paid to suppliers and employees		(513,037,290)	(383,160,935)
Cash (used in)/generated from operations	22	(70,108,439)	17,521,233
Interest income	19	7,926,281	11,138,644
Finance costs	20	(5,745,231)	(9,075)
Net cash from operating activities		**(67,927,389)**	**28,650,802**
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	3	(12,533,410)	(33,999,385)
Purchases of intangible assets	4	(17,510,298)	(27,970,900)
Purchase of investment in subsidiary		(14,800,000)	-
Deinvestments/(Investments) at fair value	8	121,615,732	23,600,833
Net cash from investing activities		**76,772,024**	**(38,369,452)**
Total cash movement for the year		**8,844,635**	**(9,718,650)**
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	9	768,880	10,487,530
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		**9,613,515**	**768,880**

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Corporate information

Sci-Bono Discovery Centre NPC is a non-profit company incorporated and domiciled in South Africa.

The annual financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2025 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the directors on Wednesday, October 15, 2025.

1. Significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these annual financial statements are set out below.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The annual financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis in accordance with, and in compliance with, International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") and International Financial Reporting Standards Interpretations Committee ("IFRS IC") interpretations issued and effective at the time of preparing these annual financial statements and the Companies Act of South Africa as amended.

These annual financial statements comply with the requirements of the SAICA Financial Reporting Guides as issued by the Accounting Practices Committee and the Financial Reporting Pronouncements as issued by the Financial Reporting Standards Council.
The annual financial statements have been prepared on the historic cost convention, unless otherwise stated in the accounting policies which follow and incorporate the principal accounting policies set out below. They are presented in Rands, which is the company's functional currency.

These accounting policies are consistent with the previous period.

1.2 Significant judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of annual financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management, from time to time, to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses.

These estimates and associated assumptions are based on experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected.

1.3 Property, plant and equipment

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset where it is The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset where it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the company; and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Property, plant and equipment is initially measured at cost.

Costs include costs incurred initially to acquire or construct an item of property, plant and equipment and costs incurred subsequently to add to, replace part of, or service it. If a replacement cost is recognised in the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment, the carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised.

Property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses except for buildings which is carried at revalued amount being the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses

Revaluations are made with sufficient regularity such that the carrying amount does not differ materially from that which would be determined using fair value at the end of the reporting period. Any increase in an asset's carrying amount, as a result of a revaluation, is recognised to other comprehensive income and accumulated in the revaluation surplus in equity. The increase is recognised in surplus or loss to the extent that it reverses the valuation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in surplus or loss.

1.3 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Any decrease in an asset's carrying amount, as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in surplus or loss in the current period.

The decrease is recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent of any credit balance existing in the revaluation surplus in respect of that asset. The decrease recognised in other comprehensive income reduces the amount accumulated in the revaluation surplus in Reserves.

The revaluation surplus in reserves related to a specific item of property, plant and equipment is transferred directly to retained earnings as the asset is used. The amount transferred is equal to the difference between depreciation based on the revalued carrying amount and depreciation based on the original cost of the asset.

Property, plant and equipment are depreciated on the straight line basis over their expected useful lives to their estimated residual value.

The useful lives of items of property, plant and equipment have been assessed as follows:

Item	Depreciation method	Average useful life	Residual
Buildings	Straight line	70 Years	10%
Plant and machinery	Straight line	10 Years	10%
Furniture and fixtures	Straight line	10 Years	10%
Motor vehicles	Straight line	10 Years	10%
Office equipment	Straight line	10 Years	10%
IT equipment	Straight line	10 Years	10%
Exhibits	Straight line	20 Years	10%
Laboratory Equipment	Straight line	10 Years	10%
Signage	Straight line	20 Years	0%
Telephone equipment	Straight line	10 Years	10%
Tools	Straight line	10 Years	10%

The residual value, useful life and depreciation method of each asset are reviewed at the end of each reporting year. If the expectations differ from previous estimates, the change is accounted for prospectively as a change in accounting estimate.

Each part of an item of property, plant and equipment with a cost that is significant in relation to the total cost of the item is depreciated separately.

The depreciation charge for each year is recognised in surplus or loss unless it is included in the carrying amount of another asset.

Impairment tests are performed on property, plant and equipment when there is an indicator that they may be impaired. When the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment is assessed to be higher than the estimated recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised immediately in surplus or loss to bring the carrying amount in line with the recoverable amount.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its continued use or disposal. Any gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment, determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds, if any, and the carrying amount of the item, is included in surplus or loss when the item is derecognised.

Capital work in progress

The company has capital work in progress that are disclosed as property, plant and equipment for the current projects. The cost of these projects will be capitalised to the asset. Completed projects will be recognised under property, plant and equipment on completion.

Once the asset has reached the location and condition as intended by management, capitilisation of the costs cease. These costs are expensed in the statement of financial performance.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

1.4 Intangible assets

An intangible asset is recognised when:

- it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity;
- the cost of the asset can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost.

Expenditure on research (or on the research phase of an internal project) is recognised as an expense when it is incurred.

An intangible asset arising from development (or from the development phase of an internal project) is recognised when:

- it is technically feasible to complete the asset so that it will be available for use or sale.
- there is an intention to complete and use or sell it.
- there is an ability to use or sell it.
- it will generate probable future economic benefits.
- there are available technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the asset.
- the expenditure attributable to the asset during its development can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any impairment losses.

Item		Depreciation method	Average useful life
Software	Straight line	10 Years	10%
Website	Straight line	10 Years	0%

An intangible asset is regarded as having an indefinite useful life when, based on all relevant factors, there is no foreseeable limit to the period over which the asset is expected to generate net cash inflows. Amortisation is not provided for these intangible assets, but they are tested for impairment annually and whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired. For all other intangible assets amortisation is provided on a straight line basis over their useful life.

The amortisation period and the amortisation method for intangible assets are reviewed every period-end.

Reassessing the useful life of an intangible asset with a finite useful life after it was classified as indefinite is an indicator that the asset may be impaired. As a result the asset is tested for impairment and the remaining carrying amount is amortised over its useful life.

Internally generated brands, mastheads, publishing titles, customer lists and items similar in substance are not recognised as
intangible assets.

Amortisation is provided to write down the intangible assets, on a straight line basis, to their residual values as follows:

1.5 Investments in subsidiaries

Investments in subsidiaries are accounted for using the equity method. This excludes investments which are held for sale and are consequently accounted for in accordance with IFRS 5 Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations.

1.6 Financial instruments

Financial instruments held by the company are classified in accordance with the provisions of IFRS 9 Financial Instruments.

Classification

The company classifies financial assets and financial liabilities into the following categories:

- financial assets at fair value through surplus or loss - designated
- loans and receivables
- financial liabilities measured at amortised cost

1.6 Financial instruments (continued)

Classification depends on the purpose for which the financial instruments were obtained / incurred and takes place at initial recognition. Classification is re-assessed on an annual basis, except for derivatives and financial assets designated as at fair value through surplus or loss, which shall not be classified out of the fair value through surplus or loss category.

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial instruments are recognised initially when the company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instruments.

The company classifies financial instruments, or their component parts, on initial recognition as a financial asset, a financial liability or a reserves instrument in accordance with the substance of the contractual arrangement.

Financial instruments are measured initially at fair value, except for Reserves or investments for which a fair value is not determinable, which are measured at cost and are classified as available-for-sale financial assets.

For financial instruments which are not at fair value through surplus or loss, transaction costs are included in the initial measurement of the instrument.

Transaction costs on financial instruments at fair value through surplus or loss are recognised in surplus or loss.

Subsequent measurement

Financial instruments at fair value through surplus or loss are subsequently measured at fair value, with gains and losses arising from changes in fair value being included in surplus or loss for the period.

Loans and receivables are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method, less accumulated impairment losses. Financial liabilities at amortised cost are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method.

Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred and the company has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.

Fair value determination

The fair values of quoted investments are based on current bid prices. If the market for a financial asset is not active (and for unlisted securities), the company establishes fair value by using valuation techniques. These include the use of recent arm's length transactions, reference to other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis, and option pricing models making maximum use of market inputs and relying as little as possible on entity-specific inputs.

Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are measured at initial recognition at fair value, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Appropriate allowances for estimated irrecoverable amounts are recognised in surplus or loss when there is objective evidence that the asset is impaired. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default or delinquency in payments (more than 30 days overdue) are considered indicators that the trade receivable is impaired. The allowance recognised is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the effective interest rate computed at initial recognition.

The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account, and the amount of the loss is recognised in surplus or loss within operating expenses. When a trade receivable is uncollectable, it is written off against the allowance account for trade receivables. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against operating expenses in surplus or loss.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

1.6 Financial instruments (continued)

Trade and other payables

Trade payables are initially measured at fair value, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and demand deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. These are initially and subsequently recorded at fair value.

Bank overdrafts

Bank overdrafts are initially measured at fair value, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

1.7 Leases

The company assesses whether a contract is, or contains a lease, at the inception of the contract.

A contract is, or contains a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

In order to assess whether a contract is, or contains a lease, management determine whether the asset under consideration is "identified", which means that the asset is either explicitly or implicitly specified in the contract and that the supplier does not have a substantial right of substitution throughout the period of use. Once management has concluded that the contract deals with an identified asset, the right to control the use thereof is considered. To this end, control over the use of an identified asset only exists when the company has the right to substantially all of the economic benefits from the use of the asset as well as the right to direct the use of the asset.

In circumstances where the determination of whether the contract is or contains a lease requires significant judgement, the relevant disclosures are provided in the significant judgments and sources of estimation uncertainty section of these accounting policies.

1.8 Inventories

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value on the weighted average cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

The cost of inventories comprises of all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition.
The cost of inventories of items that are not ordinarily interchangeable and goods or services produced and segregated for specific projects are assigned using specific identification of the individual costs.

The cost of inventories is assigned using the weighted average cost formula. The same cost formula is used for all inventories having a similar nature and use to the entity.

When inventories are sold, the carrying amount of those inventories are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related revenue is recognised. The amount of any write-down of inventories to net realisable value and all losses of inventories are recognised as an expense in the period the write-down or loss occurs. The amount of any reversal of any write-down of inventories, arising from an increase in net realisable value, are recognised as a reduction in the amount of inventories recognised as an expense in the period in which the reversal occurs.

Inventories include a "right to returned goods asset" which represents the company's right to recover products from customers where customers exercise their right of return under the company returns policy. The company uses its accumulated historical experience to estimate the number of returns on a portfolio level using the expected value method. A corresponding adjustment is recognised against cost of sales.

1.9 Impairment of assets

The company assesses at each end of the reporting period whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the company estimates the recoverable amount of the asset.

Irrespective of whether there is any indication of impairment, the company also:

- tests intangible assets with an indefinite useful life or intangible assets not yet available for use for impairment annually by comparing its carrying amount with its recoverable amount. This impairment test is performed during the annual period and at the same time every period.

If there is any indication that an asset may be impaired, the recoverable amount is estimated for the individual asset. If it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of the individual asset, the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs is determined.

The recoverable amount of an asset or a cash-generating unit is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. That reduction is an impairment loss.

An impairment loss of assets carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation or amortisation is recognised immediately in surplus or loss. Any impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation decrease.

An entity assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an impairment loss recognised in prior periods for assets other than goodwill may no longer exist or may have decreased. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amounts of those assets are estimated.

The increased carrying amount of an asset other than goodwill attributable to a reversal of an impairment loss does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior periods.

A reversal of an impairment loss of assets carried at cost less accumulated depreciation or amortisation other than goodwill is recognised immediately in surplus or loss. Any reversal of an impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation increase.

1.10 Employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits

The cost of short-term employee benefits, (those payable within 12 months after the service is rendered, such as paid vacation leave and sick leave, bonuses, and non-monetary benefits such as medical care), are recognised in the period in which the service is rendered and are not discounted.

Defined contribution plans

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit plans are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.11 Provisions and contingencies

Provisions are recognised when:

- the company has a present obligation as a result of a past event;
- it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; and
- a reliable estimate can be made of the obligation.

The amount of a provision is the present value of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the obligation. The amount of a provision is the present value of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the obligation. The provision shall be initially recognised at the best possible estimate at the reporting date. This value should take into account, if material, the time value of money. When the provision has a re-imbursive condition from a third party, the reimbursement asset is to be recognised separately on when it is virtually certain payment will be received.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

1.11 Provisions and contingencies (continued)

Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are recognised in the notes to the financial statements.

1.12 Government grants

Government grants are recognised when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the company will comply with the conditions attaching to them; and
- the grants will be received.

Government grants are recognised as income over the periods necessary to match them with the related costs that they are intended to compensate.

Government grants related to assets, including non-monetary grants at fair value, are presented in the statement of financial position by setting up the grant as deferred income or by deducting the grant in arriving at the carrying amount of the asset.

Grants related to income are presented as a credit in the surplus or loss (separately).

1.13 Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and represents the amounts receivable for goods and services provided in the normal course of business, net of trade discounts and volume rebates, and value added tax.

Interest is recognised, in surplus or loss, using the effective interest rate method.

Gate entrance fee is recognised when the amount is received.

Donations are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future economic benefits will flow into the company and revenue can be reliably measured.

1.14 Cost of sales

When inventories are sold, the carrying amount of those inventories is recognised as an expense in the period in which the related revenue is recognised. The amount of any write-down of inventories to net realisable value and all losses of inventories are recognised as an expense in the period the write-down or loss occurs. The amount of any reversal of any write-down of inventories, arising from an increase in net realisable value, is recognised as a reduction in the amount of inventories recognised as an expense in the period in which the reversal occurs.

The related cost of providing services recognised as revenue in the current period is included in cost of sales.

Contract costs comprise:

- costs that relate directly to the specific contract;
- costs that are attributable to contract activity in general and can be allocated to the contract; and
- such other costs as are specifically chargeable to the customer under the terms of the contract.

Cost of sales is reduced by the amount recognised in inventory as a “right to returned goods asset” which represents the company right to recover products from customers where customers exercise their right of return under the company returns policy.

1.15 Translation of foreign currencies

Foreign currency transactions

A foreign currency transaction is recorded, on initial recognition in Rands, by applying to the foreign currency amount the spot exchange rate between the functional currency and the foreign currency at the date of the transaction.

At the end of the reporting period:

- foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate;
- non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction; and
- non-monetary items that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date when the fair value was determined.

In circumstances where the company receives or pays an amount in foreign currency in advance of a transaction, the transaction date for purposes of determining the exchange rate to use on initial recognition of the related asset, income or expense is the date on which the company initially recognised the non-monetary item arising on payment or receipt of the advance consideration.

If there are multiple payments or receipts in advance, before company determines a date of transaction for each payment or receipt of advance consideration.

Exchange differences arising on the settlement of monetary items or on translating monetary items at rates different from those at which they were translated on initial recognition during the period or in previous annual financial statements are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise.

When a gain or loss on a non-monetary item is recognised to other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity, any exchange component of that gain or loss is recognised to other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity. When a gain or loss on a non-monetary item is recognised in profit or loss, any exchange component of that gain or loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Cash flows arising from transactions in a foreign currency are recorded in Rands by applying to the foreign currency amount the exchange rate between the Rand and the foreign currency at the date of the cash flow.

1.16 Deferred Income

Government grants shall be recognised in surplus or loss on a systematic basis over the periods in which the entity recognises as expenses the related costs for which the grants are intended to compensate.

Grants related to income are presented as part of surplus or loss, either separately or under a general heading such as 'Other income'; alternatively, they are deducted in reporting the related expense.

2. New Standards and Interpretations

2.1 Standards and interpretations effective and adopted in the current year

In the current year, the company has adopted the following standards and interpretations that are effective for the current financial year and that are relevant to its operations:

Standard/ Interpretation:	Effective date: Years beginning on or after	Expected impact:
• Lease liability in a sale and leaseback	January 1, 2024	The impact of the amendment is not material.

Figures in Rand

3. Property, plant and equipment

	2025			2024		
	Cost or revaluation	Accumulated depreciation	Carrying value	Cost or revaluation	Accumulated depreciation	Carrying value
Buildings	557,762,438	(114,118,169)	443,644,269	557,645,906	(106,948,973)	450,696,933
Furniture and fixtures	7,527,806	(3,855,907)	3,671,899	7,925,540	(3,373,625)	4,551,915
Motor vehicles	11,047,104	(2,187,754)	8,859,350	5,438,864	(1,744,629)	3,694,235
Office equipment	5,384,545	(2,876,521)	2,508,024	4,970,884	(2,525,022)	2,445,862
IT equipment	37,801,859	(13,074,465)	24,727,394	33,683,190	(10,213,285)	23,469,905
Appliances	12,048,780	(3,346,422)	8,702,358	11,346,037	(2,517,357)	8,828,680
Exhibits	17,875,686	(11,838,153)	6,037,533	17,943,355	(11,410,918)	6,532,437
Laboratory Equipment	1,040,451	(836,307)	204,144	1,040,451	(784,678)	255,773
Signage	237,998	(150,870)	87,128	237,998	(160,542)	77,456
Telephone Equipment	501,553	(148,258)	353,295	302,502	(115,837)	186,665
Tools	350,582	(206,799)	143,783	350,582	(188,312)	162,270
Total	**651,578,802**	**(152,639,625)**	**498,939,177**	**640,885,309**	**(139,983,178)**	**500,902,131**

Figures in Rand

3. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment - 2025

	Opening balance	Additions	Disposals	Other changes, movements	Depreciation	Total
Buildings	450,696,933	116,550	-	747	(7,169,961)	443,644,269
Furniture and fixtures	4,551,915	880,629	(3,992)	(1,234,060)	(522,593)	3,671,899
Motor vehicles	3,694,235	5,921,616	-	(341,213)	(415,288)	8,859,350
Office equipment	2,445,862	437,498	-	(13,183)	(362,153)	2,508,024
IT equipment	23,469,905	4,244,162	(90,364)	-	(2,896,309)	24,727,394
Appliances	8,828,680	704,175	(29,899)	187,578	(988,176)	8,702,358
Exhibits	6,532,437	-	(42,139)	41,082	(493,847)	6,037,533
Laboratory Equipment	255,773	4,322	(4,323)	-	(51,628)	204,144
Signage	77,456	20,577	-	-	(10,905)	87,128
Telephone Equipment	186,665	203,881	(2,619)	2,257	(36,889)	353,295
Tools	162,270	-	-	-	(18,487)	143,783
	500,902,131	**12,533,410**	**(173,336)**	**(1,356,792)**	**(12,966,236)**	**498,939,177**

Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment - 2024

	Opening balance	Additions	Disposals	Other changes, movements	Depreciation	Total
Buildings	444,410,970	13,291,387	-	18	(7,005,442)	450,696,933
Furniture and fixtures	2,151,683	2,819,687	(19,932)	(24,705)	(374,818)	4,551,915
Motor vehicles	1,318,693	2,608,095	-	27,837	(260,390)	3,694,235
Office equipment	1,400,107	1,287,737	-	20,576	(262,558)	2,445,862
IT equipment	12,472,176	13,112,365	(19,708)	-	(2,094,928)	23,469,905
Appliances	8,969,618	850,585	(8,501)	-	(983,022)	8,828,680
Exhibits	7,014,214	29,520	(12,226)	-	(499,071)	6,532,437
Laboratory Equipment	310,956	-	-	-	(55,183)	255,773
Signage	108,937	-	-	(20,577)	(10,904)	77,456
Telephone Equipment	215,606	-	-	(2,227)	(26,714)	186,665
Tools	180,935	-	-	1	(18,666)	162,270
Capital - Work in progress	1	-	-	(1)	-	-
	478,553,896	**33,999,376**	**(60,367)**	**922**	**(11,591,696)**	**500,902,131**

Figures in Rand

3. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Revaluations

Land and buildings are re-valued independently every 5 years. Revaluations are performed with sufficient regularity such that the carrying amounts do not differ materially from those that would be determined using fair values at the end of each reporting period. Any revaluation increase arising on the revaluation of such land and buildings is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity, except to the extent that it reverses a revaluation decrease for the same asset previously recognised in surplus or loss, in which case the increase is credited to surplus and loss to the extent of the decrease previously expensed. A decrease in the carrying amount arising on the revaluation of such land and buildings is recognised in surplus or loss to the extent that it exceeds the balance, if any, held in the properties revaluation reserve relating to a previous revaluation of that asset. The buildings were revalued in the 2021-22 financial year, and the revaluation was conducted on the 28th March 2022, by an independent valuation brokering company, Mirfin Valuation Services (Valuation Report No.: MVS-24689); and Mr Elridge Fuller (Professional Associate Valuer) with valuer registration number 7529 was seconded to conduct the valuation, based on market equivalent values in the area.

These assumptions were based on the market conditions in 2022.

The carrying value of the revalued assets under the cost model would have been:

Buildings	286,846,587	286,574,015

Figures in Rand

4. Intangible assets

	2025			2024		
	Cost / Valuation	Accumulated amortisation	Carrying value	Cost / Valuation	Accumulated amortisation	Carrying value
Internally generated intangible assets	75,382,951	(12,492,121)	62,890,830	57,947,721	(5,964,570)	51,983,151
Website	49,840	(49,840)	-	49,840	(49,840)	-
Total	**75,432,791**	**(12,541,961)**	**62,890,830**	**57,997,561**	**(6,014,410)**	**51,983,151**

Reconciliation of intangible assets - 2025

	Opening balance	Additions	Amortisation	Total
Internally generated intangible assets	51,983,151	17,510,298	(6,602,619)	

Reconciliation of intangible assets - 2024

	Opening balance	Additions	Amortisation	Total
Internally generated intangible assets	26,766,627	27,970,900	(2,754,376)	51,983,151

5. Interests in subsidiaries

On 24 February 2024, Sci-Bono Discovery Centre entered into a sale agreement, to purchase Magalies River Lodge. The sale was concluded by 28 February 2025. The purpose of the acquisition was to support Sci-Bono's strategic cost-reduction for student accommodation and modest revenue diversificatiion.

Magalies River Lodge	% voting power 2025	% voting power 2024	% holding 2025	% holding 2024	Carrying amount 2025	Carrying amount 2024
Sci-Bono Discovery Centre	100.00 %	- %	100.00 %	- %	14,800,000	-

Figures in Rand	2025	2024

6. Inventories

Inventories	**10,469**	**4,424**

A souvenir shop was opened in July 2018 to service the customers with educational consumables (especially related to the science shows offered at the centre). Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is calculated using the weighted average method. Net realisable value represents the estimated selling price less all estimated costs to be incurred in marketing and selling.

7. Trade and other receivables

	2025	2024
Financial instruments:		
Trade receivables	13,015,638	28,679,616
Deposits	549,294	549,294
Other receivable	-	11,382,298
Non-financial instruments:		
VAT	629,498	26,514,895
Employee costs in advance	4,277,548	2,798,625
Total trade and other receivables	**18,471,978**	**69,924,728**
Split between non-current and current portions		
Current assets	18,471,978	69,924,728
Financial instrument and non-financial instrument components of trade and other receivables		
At amortised cost	13,564,932	40,611,208
Non-financial instruments	4,907,046	29,313,520
	18,471,978	**69,924,728**

As of 31 March 2025, trade and other receivables of R10,153,762 (2023/24: R9,493,179) were impaired and provided for. The ageing of these receivables is over 180 days.

Figures in Rand

7. Trade and other receivables (continued)

As of 31 March 2025, trade and other receivables of R10,153,762 (2023/24: R9,493,179) were impaired and provided for. The ageing of these receivables is over 180 days.

2025	Advances	Current not yet past due	Past due but not impaired	Impaired amount	Total gross amount
Advances	4,277,548	-	-	-	4,277,548
Trade receivables	-	4,134,671	19,034,729	(10,153,762)	13,015,638
VAT	-	629,498	-	-	629,498
Deposits	549,294	-	-	-	549,294
	4,826,842	**4,764,169**	**19,034,729**	**(10,153,762)**	**18,471,978**

2024	Advances	Current not yet past due	Past due but not impaired	Impaired amount	Total gross amount
Advances	2,798,625	-	-	-	2,798,625
Trade receivables	-	4,947,579	24,267,362	(535,325)	28,679,616
Sundry receivables	11,382,298	-	-	-	11,382,298
VAT	-	-	35,472,749	(8,957,854)	26,514,895
Deposits	549,294	-	-	-	549,294
	14,730,217	**4,947,579**	**59,740,111**	**(9,493,179)**	**69,924,728**

Figures in Rand	2025	2024

8. Investments at fair value

Investments held by the company which are measured at fair value, are as follows:

Debt at fair value through profit or loss:	**3,238**	**121,618,970**
Designated at fair value through profit or loss:		
Investments at fair value	3,238	287,572
Fixed Deposit	-	121,331,398
	3,238	**121,618,970**
Split between non-current and current portions		
Non-current assets	-	121,331,398
Current assets	3,238	287,572
	3,238	**121,618,970**

Fair value information

Financial assets at fair value through surplus or loss are recognised at fair value, which is therefore equal to their carrying amounts.

The following classes of financial assets at fair value through surplus or loss are measured to fair value using quoted market price.

The net movements in Investments are R-121,615,732 (2023-24: R23,600,833).

Nedgroup Investments Core Income Fund C2

The listed units as at 31 March 2025 are as follows:

* Nedbank Group Investment Core Income Fund C2 3,226.06 units at 1.0037 cents / unit.

8. Investments at fair value (continued)

Fair value hierarchy of financial assets at fair value through surplus or loss:

For financial assets recognised at fair value, disclosure is required of a fair value hierarchy which reflects the significance of the inputs used to make the measurements, i.e:

Level 1 represents those assets which are measured using unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets;

Level 2 applies inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the assets either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices);

Level 3 applies inputs which are not based on observable market data.

FIxed Deposit with maturity date of August 2026; at Future Value (FV) of R157 million:

Board of Directors approved a resolution on 22 January 2025 for the early withdrawal from a long-term investment in a Fixed Deposit Account at Standard Bank of South Africa; to support business operations and maintain programme continuity as per the Memorandum of Agreement with the Grant Donor (GDE). This is as a result of the financial challenges on being experienced through the fiscal, thus then affecting the major funder and leading to inconsistent and shortage of funding for programmes.

The investment balance at 15 January 2025 was R128,132,712.33; the penalties for early withdrawal were R3,939,041.10; whilst the opportunity cost was R19,545,325.

Figures in Rand	2025	2024

9. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of:		
Cash on hand	1,751	1,885
Bank balances	2,555,687	265,711
Short-term investments accounts	7,056,077	501,284
Figures in Rand	**9,613,515**	**768,880**

10. Revaluation reserve

The revaluation reserve relates to the take-on assets from Jet Education Services on inception of Sci-Bono Discovery Centre NPC for no consideration in the period ended 28 February 2005. The asset taken over, were accounted for at the fair value at the date of transfer.

Revaluation reserve	195,982,492	199,943,002
Transfer between reserves	(6,672,893)	(3,960,510)
	189,309,599	**195,982,492**

Figures in Rand			

11. Provisions

Reconciliation of provisions - 2025	Opening balance	Utilised during the year	Total
Leave provisions	2,335,358	565,541	2,900,899

Reconciliation of provisions - 2024	Opening balance	Utilised during the year	Total
Leave provisions	2,077,668	257,690	2,335,358

Figures in Rand	2025	2024

12. Trade and other payables

Financial instruments:		
Trade payables	7,486,317	34,053,288
Accrued expenses	12,129,439	6,870,027
Payroll accruals	15,248,612	4,716,178
Deposits received	262,887	575,673
	35,127,255	**46,215,166**

The average credit period for certain goods is five months. Interest is not charged on these amounts as they are within the credit limits granted by the suppliers. Interest is charged at an average rate of 4.5% on overdue outstanding balances. The amount of interest paid on overdue amounts is R1,806,189.90 (2023/24 :R9,075).

Figures in Rand

13. Commitments

Description	Start date	Expiry date	Total value	FY2025-26 commitment
Cleaning and Hygiene Services	Tuesday, October 1, 2024	Thursday, September 30, 2027	1,349,720	449,907
Lease of Offices	Sunday, October 1, 2023	Saturday, October 31, 2026	4,073,444	1,452,886
Company Secretary services	Saturday, March 1, 2025	Saturday, February 28, 2026	660,000	605,000
Employee Health and Wellness Programme	Friday, March 1, 2024	Tuesday, March 31, 2026	894,102	447,051
Internet services	Monday, May 1, 2023	Thursday, May 1, 2025	1,707,543	853,771
VOIP telephone lines	Sunday, October 1, 2023	Saturday, October 31, 2026	983,000	327,667
Short term insurance	Saturday, April 1, 2023	Friday, March 31, 2028	880,534	880,534
Internal Audit services	Wednesday, November 1, 2023	Saturday, October 31, 2026	1,524,000	508,000
External Audit services	Wednesday, November 1, 2023	Saturday, October 31, 2026	1,407,995	496,341
			13,480,338	**6,021,157**

Figures in Rand	2025	2024

14. Deferred income

Non-current liabilities	170,523,242	173,685,960
Current liabilities	-	-
	170,523,242	**173,685,960**

Figures in Rand

Deferred income reconciliation

2025	Opening balance	Deferred income recognised during the year	Grant income utilised	Grant income utilised	Total
Non-current liabilities	173,685,961	(3,162,718)	-	-	170,523,243
Current liabilities	-	-	428,868,131	(428,868,131)	-
	173,685,961	**(3,162,718)**	**428,868,131**	**(428,868,131)**	**170,523,243**

2024	Opening balance	Deferred income recognised during the year	Grant income utilised	Grant income utilised	Total
Non-current liabilities	176,848,697	(3,162,718)	-	-	173,685,979
Current liabilities	-	-	409,902,574	(409,902,574)	-
	176,848,697	**(3,162,718)**	**409,902,574**	**(409,902,574)**	**173,685,979**

Non-current liabilities

The deferred income relates to government grant received for the construction of phase I and II, which was completed in the financial year ended 28 February 2011. The deferred income would be amortised and realised as income over the useful lives of the building. The nature and extent of government grants recognised in the audited annual financial statements and an indication of other forms of government assistance from which the entity has directly benefitted.

Current liabilities

The deferred income recognised is relating to unfulfilled conditions attached to the grant assistance received in the financial.
There was none recognised for this financial year.

Figures in Rand		2025	2024

15. Revenue

Revenue from contracts with customers			
Gate takings, Souvenir Shop sales		3,700,254	2,618,926
Venue hire and Training income		884,341	3,408,238
Climbing wall income		783	51,195
Team building income		5,132,873	310,224
		9,718,251	**6,388,583**
Revenue other than from contracts with customers			
Rental Income		91,348	2,290,140
		9,809,599	**8,678,723**

16. Cost of sales

Sale of goods		45,745	-

A souvenir shop was opened in July 2018 to service the customers with educational consumables (especially related to the science shows offered at the centre). The accounts balance also includes cost variances that are higher than the Purchase Order amounts.

17. Other operating income

Donations income		1,308,719	-
Realisation of deferred income		3,162,718	3,162,718
		4,471,437	**3,162,718**

18. Other operating gains (losses)

Gains (losses) on disposals, scrappings and settlements			
Property, plant and equipment	3	(107,336)	(60,366)

Figures in Rand	2025	2024
19. Investment income		
Interest income		
Investments in financial assets:		
Bank and Investments at Fair Value	7,926,281	11,138,644
20. Finance costs		
Interest paid	5,745,231	9,075

21. Taxation

The company has been approved as a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO) in terms of section 30 of the Income Tax Act, (the Act) and the receipts and accruals are exempt from income tax in terms of section 10(1)(cN) of the Act.

Figures in Rand	2025	2024
22. Cash (used in) or generated from operations		
Profit (loss) before taxation	(120,012,195)	3,231,252
Adjustments for non-cash items:		
Depreciation, amortisation, impairments and reversals of impairments	14,215,853	11,733,126
Losses on sale of assets and liabilities	107,336	60,366
Movements in provisions	565,541	257,690
Adjust for items which are presented separately:		
Interest income	(7,926,281)	(11,138,644)
Finance costs	5,745,231	9,075
Changes in working capital:		
(Increase) decrease in inventories	(6,045)	1
(Increase) decrease in trade and other receivables	51,452,750	(17,308,059)
Increase (decrease) in trade and other payables	(11,087,911)	33,839,144
Increase (decrease) in deferred income	(3,162,718)	(3,162,718)
	(7,167,532)	**(17,521,233)**

23. Contingencies

Contigent Asset

As at 31 March 2021, the Debtors balance of Value Added Tax (VAT) refunds was unmatched by the actual payments from the South African Revenue Services (SARS). There is a number of returns that are still under consideration from the SARS dating back from as early as 2015/16 financial year. The total value these VAT returns at the end of 2020/21 financial year is R25,363,827 (accummulated).

Due to the life span of the debt, the certainty of receiving the payment is in question; thus we have decided to move the balance from the Statement of Financial Position into a Contigent Asset. There have been no further movements as at 31 March 2025.

Figures in Rand		2025	2024

24. Related parties

Relationships

Gauteng Department of Education	
Matthew Goniwe School of Governance and Leadership	
Magalies River Lodge	On 24 February 2024, Sci-Bono Discovery Centre entered into a sale agreement, to purchase Magalies River Lodge. The sale was concluded by 28 February 2025. The purpose of the acquisition was to support Sci-Bono's strategic cost-reduction for student accommodation and modest revenue diversificatiion.

Related party balances

	2025	2024
Accounts - Owing (to) by related parties		
Gauteng Department of Education	8,820,750	8,820,750
Matthew Goniwe School of Governance and Leadership	3,900,000	4,892,730
Magalies River Lodge	-	(306,624)
Amounts included in transaction regarding related parties		
Gauteng Department of Education	335,137,000	342,783,000
Matthew Goniwe School of Governance and Leadership	10,500,000	11,000,000
Magalies River Lodge	(3,632,830)	(4,306,964)
Compensation to directors and other key management		
Remuneration to directors and other key management	16,797,840	10,216,875
Remuneration to non-executive directors	2,550,259	3,937,696
	19,348,099	**14,154,571**

Figures in Rand

25. Directors' emoluments

Executive

2025

Directors' emoluments	Basic salary	Other benefits *	Company Contributions **	Settlement ***	Total
Services as director or prescribed officer					
Prof. Ntsobi, Mfanelo Patrick (Chief Executive Officer)	2,856,110	131,093	320,443	-	3,307,646
Mr. Davids, Anele Jeremiah Stephen	1,675,922	74,739	188,156	-	1,938,817
Mr. Maluleke, Nkateko Raymond	1,896,551	75,724	212,397	-	2,184,672
Ms. Mapela, Fikile Daphney	1,675,922	74,739	188,156	-	1,938,817
Ms. Nduneni, Zukisa	1,577,485	-	176,308	3,992,128	5,745,921
Mr. Nyingwa, Dumisani	1,449,056	40,714	162,197	-	1,651,967
	11,131,046	**397,009**	**1,247,657**	**3,992,128**	**16,767,840**

2024

Directors' emoluments	Basic salary	Company Contributions **	Total
Services as director or prescribed officer			
Prof. Ntsobi, Mfanelo Patrick (Chief Executive Officer)	2,685,526	295,622	2,981,148
Mr. Davids, Anele Jeremiah Stephen	1,611,302	170,127	1,781,429
Mr. Maluleke, Nkateko Raymond	1,574,225	171,877	1,746,102
Ms. Mapela, Fikile Daphney	1,548,793	169,509	1,718,302
Ms. Nduneni, Zukisa	911,683	101,155	1,012,838
Mr. Nyingwa, Dumisani	883,520	93,536	977,056
	9,215,049	**1,001,826**	**10,216,875**

* Other benefits comprise of performance and discretionary bonuses, re-imbursive travelling costs and subsistence allowances.

** Company contributions comprise of both medical aid and provident fund contributions.

*** Settlement refers to a early termination of an employment contract pay-out.

Figures in Rand

25. Directors' emoluments (continued)

Non-executive

2025

Directors' emoluments	**Basic salary**	**Other fees**	**Total**
Services as director or prescribed officer			
Mr. Witbooi, Abbey (Chairperson)	294,843	4,823	299,666
Dr. Madiba, Nandipha Daphne (Deputy Chairperson)	283,432	6,178	289,610
Prof. Bantwini, Bongani Douglas	214,557	5,434	219,991
Ms. Banda, Nomndeni Xolile	233,320	5,626	238,946
Mr. Malele, Ganelang Zeth	200,873	4,634	205,507
Adv. Mokgatle, Lentswe Gabriel	171,171	4,173	175,344
Ms. Moloka, Patricia Ntepane	303,502	6,593	310,095
Mr. Mphahlele, Mashane Johannes	221,580	5,259	226,839
Prof. Sitole, Khulekani	240,108	5,172	245,280
Mr. Tsotetsi, Coffee Godfrey	198,865	5,031	203,896
Ms. Mantobako, Monica (*)	74,016	2,219	76,235
Mr. James, Sithembele (*)	57,245	1,605	58,850
	2,493,512	**56,747**	**2,550,259**

* Independent Audit, Risk and Compliance (ARCC) Members
** Other fees relates to allowable expenses, including communication costs, travel costs, subsistence allowances, etc.

Figures in Rand

25. Directors' emoluments (continued)

2024

Directors' emoluments	Emoluments	Other fees	Total
Services as director or prescribed officer			
Mr. Witbooi, Abbey (Chairperson)	495,906	10,402	506,308
Dr. Madiba, Nandipha Daphne (Deputy Chairperson)	589,400	15,530	604,930
Prof. Bantwini, Bongani Douglas	281,060	7,866	288,926
Ms. Banda, Nomndeni Xolile	309,950	9,321	319,271
Mr. Malele, Ganelang Zeth	320,650	8,390	329,040
Adv. Mokgatle, Lentswe Gabriel	224,350	7,049	231,399
Ms. Moloka, Patricia Ntepane	383,430	10,434	393,864
Mr. Mphahlele, Mashane Johannes	384,500	11,438	395,938
Prof. Sitole, Khulekani	313,880	13,589	327,469
Mr. Tsotetsi, Coffee Godfrey	342,313	11,538	353,851
Ms. Mantobako, Monica (*)	117,400	3,300	120,700
Mr. James, Sithembele (*)	42,800	1,200	44,000
Ms. Mpisi, Nthuseng (*)	21,400	600	22,000
	3,827,039	**110,657**	**3,937,696**

* Independent Audit, Risk and Compliance (ARCC) Members
** Other fees relates to allowable expenses, including communication costs, travel costs, subsistence allowances, etc.

Figures in Rand

26. Financial instruments and risk management

Categories of financial instruments

Categories of financial assets

2025

	Note(s)	Fair value through profit or loss - Designated	Amortised cost	Total	Fair value
Investments at fair value	8	3,238	-	3,238	3,238
Trade and other receivables	7	-	13,564,932	13,564,932	13,564,932
Cash and cash equivalents	9	-	9,613,515	9,613,515	9,613,515
		3,238	**23,178,447**	**23,181,685**	**23,181,685**

2024

	Note(s)	Fair value through profit or loss - Designated	Amortised cost	Total	Fair value
Investments at fair value	8	121,618,970	-	121,618,970	121,618,970
Trade and other receivables	7	-	40,611,208	40,611,208	40,611,208
Cash and cash equivalents	9	-	883,939	883,939	883,939
		121,618,970	**41,495,147**	**163,114,117**	**163,114,117**

Figures in Rand

26. Financial instruments and risk management (continued)

Capital risk management

Trade and other payables	12	35,127,255	46,215,166
Cash and cash equivalents	9	(9,613,515)	(768,880)
Net borrowings		**25,513,740**	**45,446,286**
Equity		393,745,103	520,430,192
Gearing ratio		6%	9%

Financial risk management

Overview

The company is exposed to the following risks from its use of financial instruments:

- Credit risk;
- Liquidity risk; and
- Market risk (currency risk, interest rate risk and price risk).

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the company if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations.

Credit risk consists mainly of cash deposits, cash equivalents and trade debtors. The company only deposits cash with major banks with high quality credit standing and limits exposure to any one counter-party.

Liquidity risk

The company is exposed to liquidity risk, which is the risk that the company will encounter difficulties in meeting its obligations as they become due.

The company manages its liquidity risk by effectively managing its working capital, capital expenditure and cash flows. The financing requirements are met through a mixture of cash generated from operations and but without long and short term borrowings.

27. Going concern

The annual financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to a going concern. This basis presumes that funds will be available to finance future operations and that the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities, contingent obligations and commitments will occur in the ordinary course of business.

The directors believe that the company has adequate financial resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future and accordingly the annual financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The directors are satisfied that the company is in a sound financial position and that it has access to sufficient borrowing facilities to meet its foreseeable cash requirements. The directors are not aware of any new material changes that may adversely impact the company. The directors are also not aware of any material non-compliance with statutory or regulatory requirements or of any pending changes to legislation which may affect the company.

The directors reviewed the budgets and cash flow forecasts for the next 12 months, as well as the current liquidity and solvency position of the company and do believe that the company has adequate financial resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. The annual financial statements have accordingly been prepared on the going concern basis.

The loss incurred during the 2024/25 financial year was primarily attributable to reduced funding allocations from Government and increased delivery programme costs, which placed significant pressure on the organisation's operating budget.

In addition, delays by Government in honouring payment deadlines adversely affected cash flow, compelling the organisation to obtain an overdraft facility and to make early withdrawals from its investment portfolio to sustain operations and meet financial obligations.

Despite these financial constraints, Sci-Bono Discovery Centre maintained operational stability and continued to deliver on its educational and developmental mandate, ensuring that core programmes and learner support initiatives were not compromised.

28. Events after the reporting period

The directors are not aware of any other material event which occurred after the reporting date and up to the date of this report.

DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT

Figures in Rand	Note(s)	2025	2024
Revenue			
Gatetakings, Science shop sales, etc.		3,700,254	2,618,926
Training income		884,341	3,408,238
Rental income		91,348	2,290,140
Climbing wall		783	51,195
Other income		5,132,873	310,224
	15	**9,809,599**	**8,678,723**
Cost of sales			
Opening stock		(4,424)	(4,425)
Purchases		(51,790)	1
Closing stock		10,469	4,424
	16	**(45,745)**	**-**
Gross profit		**9,763,854**	**8,678,723**
Other operating income			
Donations income		1,308,719	-
Realisation of deferred income		3,162,718	3,162,718
Government grants		385,710,786	409,311,504
	17	**390,182,223**	**412,474,222**
Other operating gains (losses)			
Losses on disposal of assets or settlement of liabilities		(107,336)	(60,366)
Operating loss		**(122,193,244)**	**(7,898,317)**
Investment income	19	7,926,281	11,138,644
Finance costs	20	(5,745,231)	(9,075)
Deficit for the year		**(120,012,194)**	**3,231,252**

DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Figures in Rand	2025	2024
Other operating expenses		
Advertising	(1,365,906)	(1,995,031)
Amortisation	(6,602,619)	(2,754,376)
Auditors remuneration	(1,738,142)	(481,943)
Bad debts	(10,153,762)	(535,325)
Bank charges	(1,419,245)	(93,873)
Cleaning	(90,171)	-
Consulting and professional fees	(38,431,024)	(16,886,751)
Legal fees	(594,152)	(1,201,176)
Consumables	(1,567,443)	(620,000)
Depreciation	(12,966,236)	(11,591,696)
Employee costs	(103,961,344)	(91,656,144)
Office consumables	(2,519,810)	(1,584,032)
Project expenses	(307,952,149)	(268,744,974)
Fines and penalties	(4,001)	(58,787)
Licence expenses	(415,653)	(1,692,735)
Gifts	(114,960)	(448,017)
Hire	(1,329,876)	(1,791,843)
Incorporation costs	(318,382)	(425,341)
Insurance	(1,372,679)	(853,838)
Health and safety expenses	(456,804)	(341,939)
Motor vehicle expenses	(1,298,963)	(1,480,321)
Municipal expenses	(1,231,937)	(939,266)

DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Figures in Rand	2025	2024
Other operating expenses (Cont)		
Packaging	(5,258,996)	(2,409,684)
Postage	(1,394,293)	(341,746)
Printing and stationery	(1,333,304)	(717,789)
Protective clothing	(236,233)	(147,989)
Repairs and maintenance	(5,572,652)	(7,210,255)
Staff welfare	(10,697)	(410,639)
Subscriptions	(1,636,006)	(1,381,952)
Telephone and fax	(1,534,053)	(477,488)
Training	(1,622,574)	(1,503,884)
Conference expenses	(7,527,919)	(8,212,062)
	(522,031,985)	**(428,990,896)**

PROJECTS EXPENSES (DETAILED STATEMENT)

Figures in Rand	Note(s)	2025	2024
Other operating expenses			
Abaholi Project		(86)	(203,174)
Birthdays expenses		(576,451)	(515,565)
Amasondosondo Project (ECIC)		-	(24,000)
Career Centre Projects (South 32)		(62,824)	(187,251)
DELL Project		(437,566)	(755,023)
Digital Signage Project		-	(13,464)
Dow Laboratory		-	(2,065)
Electronics Club Project		(737,646)	-
GPG Activities		(7,798,431)	(2,245,204)
FLL Robotics Project		(79,450)	(700)
Focus Week Project		(61,200)	(95,838)
Life Sciences Laboratory		(995)	(24,746)
Holiday Programmes Project		(18,423)	-
Research and development		(430,435)	-
MGSL Teacher Development Project		(8,307,391)	(7,306,494)
MST Conditional Grant Project		(13,059,637)	(12,143,511)
MST GET Grant Project		(7,760,584)	(9,412,834)
MST Workshop and Shows		(72,019)	(10,500)
Rocketry Project		(112,534)	(103,624)
Science Centre -Other Activities		(312,412)	(287,350)
Special Events		(13,625)	-
SSIP Project (GDE)		(262,562,570)	(230,979,330)
Broadcasting		(4,851,571)	(2,050,205)
ROS -GDE Project		(697,294)	(2,410,907)
		(307,953,144)	**(268,771,785)**

NOTES

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DISCOVERY CENTRE

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