



**Gemsbok Innovation Hub
Project**
www.gemsbokgroup.co.za

Contents

Project Summary	
Aim of the project.....	
Objectives of the project	
The current spaces.....	
Factors supporting the creation of the facility	
Objective 1 – Provide support for new and fledgling businesses.....	
Objectives 2 & 3 – Grow apprenticeship provision in Bucks and retain Bucks talent.....	
Objective 4 – Support technical incubation and inspire young people to consider technical careers.	
About Gemsbok Group Pty.Ltd	
Project costs	
Supplementary information.....	
Appendix A – Images and Our Spaces	
Appendix B – Financials & Leadership.....	

Project Summary

The project will equip a first of its kind, Tech-Innovation Hub in Three Rivers, Vaal, Sedibeng Region in the South of Johannesburg; where most young people loiter the streets for lack of opportunities and platforms. The project will provide a platform for regional skilled Techies to engage and batter ideas and opportunities. It is a space where design and technology innovation will be birthed and, Training Skills will be delivered to further equip those in Technology especially or those who are aspiring to get into Tech.

The Gemsbok Innovation Hub is a facility for small and early-stage, high-growth businesses to be able to access advice, support and incubation spaces as well as the wider facilities and opportunities provided by the Hub. There will be business services to meet graduate level skills gaps through brokering the supply of suitably qualified graduates into regional businesses, and a technical design facility to support the incubation of technical businesses and inspire the region's young people to consider careers in **STEM** subjects - **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics**.

Gemsbok Group is already a centre for advanced level Technology and research. The vision for expansion is to provide a hub for innovation, business creation, networking and incubation. It will inspire people with the required facilities and support to meet their skills needs, create knowledge-based businesses/interactions and allow them to learn from other businesses, start-ups and individuals. The Hub will also host Tech-Events, classes and Seminars.

The Hub will afford opportunity for entrepreneurs to test prototypes in a simulated domestic setting. Training will be delivered on various topics including cyber security our facility could host an image of a company's own server and subject it to attack, training a business's IT engineers in how to resist such an attack. Businesses would also be afforded the opportunity to host their business on our servers: Gemsbok Hosting. Our findings suggest that cyber security training is needed by businesses working in the digital economy and by start-up businesses in general, cyber security and organisational resilience are the foundation of a strong business.

In summary, GemsbokTech Innovation Hub is an ideal location where Technology entrepreneurs and connectors can meet, engage and grow together.

Aim of the project

Gemsbok Digital Innovation Hub will be the Sedibeng Region's leading destination and ideal environment for businesses and entrepreneurs in design and digital technology sectors seeking a space to exchange ideas, hear about support for start-up opportunities, innovation and growth. **When delivered well, incubators create a virtuous cycle of employment, employers will increase in the community and increase revenues for local service businesses.** The new facility will be a hub for business-to-business interaction, knowledge exchange and access to apprenticeship and higher skills development, all of which will help to retain talent in Bucks and attract talent from other cities. The Digital Innovation Hub will also have a design capability, enabling businesses and individuals to undertake research, develop prototypes and proofs of concept. The Hub will also be used to inspire Gauteng's and the Vaal's school children, Varsity Students, and those in further education to consider digital careers, through activities which make use of the facility and the mobile outreach facility. Gemsbok impartation in cyber education provides a simulated cyber-attacks, Training and network resilience for Business. Cyber security is one of the fastest growing markets in the ICT sector, with the potential to yield huge business opportunities, particularly for small digital freelancers looking to develop innovative new products and services.

Objectives of the project

There are five objectives for Gemsbok Innovation Hub:

1. Provide support for Established/New and fledgling digital business

Create a hub for businesses and start-ups with an incubation facility for hatching new digital businesses and an environment for business-to-business interaction. Gemsbok Tech Innovation Hub will establish an innovation and incubation facility for digital businesses existing specialisms of engineering design and cyber security. Renting as space in our facility would be an attractive proposition for businesses in Tech; as they would engage with other businesses in the same line of operation, have exposure to opportunities and mentorship. We would have an experienced hub Manager/Programme Manager to provide the ancillary support typically required by start-ups and growing small businesses.

2. Growth Space

Create a linked facility for working with businesses to articulate their skills needs and provide advice, guidance and support on the range of programmes and funding available.

3. Retain Technology talent

Gemsbok Hub will create a service that will connect businesses to opportunities for student placements, internships, live briefs and employment for apprentices and graduates. Crucially, this service will help the Vaal and Gauteng at large to retain its graduates so that those educated in the province can use their local knowledge and the business contacts built over the period of their study, to good effect for their start-up employers.

4. Support technical incubation and inspire young people to consider technical careers

Our project shall create a design facility as a professional space for technical design and virtual testing, enabling design entrepreneurs to innovate and network whilst also providing a resource for schools and community groups to stimulate interest in design and technology careers. We will also take some of the laboratory's capability and other aspects of the partners' provision on the road, to visit schools

and colleges to inspire young people. The Vaal University of Technology and colleges in the Vaal, as part of their wider participation programmes, will use this facility to engage with young people.

5. Support businesses with their cyber and organisational security

Enabling an advanced delivery of cyber programmes and innovation to include; digital forensics and penetration testing. Gemsbok Innovation Hub would have an on-site resource available for the incubation businesses and other clients to design and test resilient websites, databases and payment processes. We will work closely with Businesses to train their staff on consciousness of cyber security.

Population and the economy of Sedibeng District – The Vaal Triangle:

The 2001 census puts the population of Sedibeng District at about 794,605 people. This figure has significantly grown over the years to over a million people. Sedibeng District (Vaal Triangle) consists of the three local municipalities, namely Lesedi, Midvaal and Emfuleni. The total number of households in Sedibeng is estimated at 224 307.

Economically, the district is dominated by manufacturing, which contributed roughly 32% to the local economy during 2001. Manufacturing in the district is dominated by the fabricated metal and the chemical sectors ([Mittal Steel Company](#) (previously ISCOR) and [Sasol](#)). The local economy has been stagnating for a number of years, with a net loss in formal job opportunities. Economic sectors which do present opportunities for further local development and economic growth include agriculture and tourism. **Gemsbok Innovation Hub will introduce the region to the Mainstream Technology Industry if well funded and this will create the silicon-valley effect in the region.**

Summary

Gemsbok Innovation Hub is responding to identified needs and demand, such as with its growth in Access to Tech programmes, making Technology opportunities and engagements accessible to more people locating business support services and incubation facilities in Sedibeng District. The project will also provide a convenient and directly relevant link between businesses and the Events offered at Gemsbok Innovation Hub.

Assumption...

We have assumed a level of meeting room and conference room hire, partly based upon experience at other incubation centres and partly on current demand for space in the region.

The technical design space in our Tech Hub will allow designers and inventors, young people and the wider community to experience the use of design technologies and connect it with business advice, skills training and education and incubation facilities for entrepreneurs to capitalise on the spark ignited by the opportunity to experiment, and nurture that interest in a controlled, professional and entrepreneurial environment. It is available by arrangement, for all of the incubation space tenants, providing an on-site facility for their convenience. The space will inspire young people to pursue careers or start businesses in design and technology sectors. It will demonstrate to young people what is possible with design technologies and show them real people creating designs that emerge from real incubated businesses, and which lead to highly-skilled, rewarding and stimulating roles in employment. It will demonstrate the opportunity of high skill and graduate level work in the region, retaining graduates with a hunger to succeed as IT technicians, leaders, managers and entrepreneurs.

The equipment and costs for this project are estimated as follows:

Computing equipment and Software	R80,000
Enterprise Printers	R22,000
3D Printers and Scanners	R48,000
Furniture – Desks, Seats, etc	R52,000
Simulation unit (setup and wire)	R33,000
Branding and Advertisement	R30,000
Paving of the Hub Premises	R35000
	R300,000

With a funding of ONLY R300 000, we will be able to give the Vaal Triangle its first Innovation Hub.

ABOUT GEMSBOK GROUP PTY. LTD

Gemsbok Group Pty. Ltd is a South African Black Female owned, 100% BEE business with operations in ICT, Training, Media and Real Estate.

We own InspiredFm.Stream, www.gemsbokhosting.com, Africa Thisday News Paper, amatechjobs.com, mzansientrepreneurs.com, Gemsbok Wireless, Software Development Kit project Codenamed the GDK, Scratchberry among other innovative projects owned/co-owned by Gemsbok Group.

We boast of a team of highly driven experts in Web and Mobile Development, Software Engineering, Information Security, Database System Administration to mention but a few in the I.T industry

We invested in the MultiMedia industry where we currently lead in the Vaal as the best Audio/Video Production House. Our studios are equipped with ultra modern hard/soft Tech.

We are driven by the following values: Excellence, Innovation and Team Work. Doing business with us will give you an experience only obtainable from your family. More about us is available on our corporate website – www.gemsbokgroup.co.za

■



Our Spaces

The main role of Gemsbok Innovation Hub is to help companies or individuals to create and develop ideas and project initiatives. The aim is to promote socio-economic development and competitiveness through innovation in the Sedibeng Region. Gemsbok Innovation Hub is a centre of innovation and knowledge creation, combining local knowledge with global scales. The environment has an area of 600 m².

The On-Site Tech shop

The Tech Shop will permit people of all skill levels to use industrial tools and equipment to build their own projects, offering safety and basic usage training on all the tools and equipment and on various other topics. It will provide its members with the necessary tools: electronics, CNC machines, 3D printers, 3D scanners, computing devices, etc, so that they can construct prototypes and products. These tools will be available for use to members of the innovation Hub FREE OF CHARGE.

Hacker Space

Our Hacker Space objectives are to gather in our venue, a group of people with common interests in computing or technology, in order to collaborate on projects, share programming knowledge and discuss technology. It will be a community-operated workspace where computer enthusiasts can meet, socialize and collaborate and share their common interests, often in computers, machining, technology, science, digital art or electronic art. Gemsbok Innovation Hub will be the first Hacker Space in the entire Sedibeng Region.

Gemsbok Junior Innovator Club

The Gemsbok Junior Innovator Club is an entrepreneurship initiative which purpose is to stimulate an entrepreneurial mindset and life skills among youths. The initiative includes workshop, open discussions and other intensive activities to ensure students take the most away from the experience.

FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS.

The hub will make money from:

- 1) Renting out work spaces to its members.
- 2) Paid Events
- 3) A stake in every product incubated in the Innovation Hub

FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS FOR GEMSBOK INNOVATION HUB – VAAL, GAUTENG.

	1 st Year	2nd Year	3 rd Year
Sale of Hub Membership	R1000 pm X 15 Members X 12 Months Total: R180 000	R1250 X 15 Members X 12 Months Total: R225 000	R1500 X 15 Members X 12 Months Total: R270 000
Hiring of Event Center At least One event per month.	R1000 pm X 12 Months Total: R12 000	R1250 pm X 12 months Total: R15 000	R1500 X 12 Months Total: R18 000
Paid Events Hosted by Hub – once monthly	R200 pp X 20 persons = R4000 X 12 Months Total: R48 000	R200 pp X 20 persons = R4000 X 12 Months Total: R48 000	R250 pp X 20 persons = R4000 X 12 Months Total: R60 000
Photocopying Services, Coffee shop etc	R30,000	R35 000	R40 000
TOTAL INCOME	R270 000	R323 000	R388 000
EXPENDITURES			
SALARIES	-R7 000 pm X 12 -R84 000	-R8 000 X 12 -R96 000	R10 000 X 12 -R120 000
Telephone & Internet	-R1000 X 12 -R12000	-R1300 X 12 -R15 600	-R1500 X 12 -R18 000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	-R96 000	-R111 600	-R138 000
INCOME MINUS EXPENDITURE	R174, 000	R211 400	R250 000
TOTAL PROFIT POSSIBLE IN THE NEXT 3 YEARS			R635 400

Please kindly consider to be part of funding this community project.

Thanks.

Mrs. Zama Mbatha

Co-Director, Gemsbok Group

Hon. SJ Nkomo (MP)

Co-Director

Dr. Charles Awuzi

Tech Officer