

About the

Women in Green Construction, Waste Management and Renewable Energy Programme

The **Women in Green Construction, Waste Management and Renewable Energy (WIG) Programme** is a specialised business development initiative designed to strengthen the competitiveness of Black-owned businesses operating, or seeking to operate, within South Africa's growing green economy.



Implemented as part of **Project EMBRACE**, the programme supports the development of technical knowledge, business capability and market readiness, enabling entrepreneurs to take advantage of opportunities created by the country's transition towards a more sustainable and inclusive economy.

The programme focuses primarily on **Black women-owned businesses** in the construction, renewable energy and waste management sectors, while also creating opportunities for Black-owned enterprises committed to adopting sustainable business practices. Participants gain practical knowledge,

industry insights and project management capabilities that enable them to develop greener products and services, improve operational efficiency, respond to changing environmental regulations and compete more effectively for public and private sector opportunities.

Through a combination of expert-led training, practical learning and industry engagement, participants are equipped to incorporate sustainability throughout their business operations while positioning themselves for future growth in emerging green value chains.

Who Should Apply?

The programme is designed for:



Black women-owned businesses operating in or supplying the construction, renewable energy and waste management sectors.



Entrepreneurs looking to expand their business offerings through sustainable and environmentally responsible solutions.



Businesses seeking to strengthen their competitiveness, improve operational sustainability and access new market opportunities.



Black-owned enterprises committed to participating in the green economy.

Programme Components

Participants complete a series of integrated courses covering key areas of green business development:



Green Supply Chain Management

Develop practical skills to integrate sustainability throughout the supply chain, including green procurement, supplier development, logistics, warehousing, resource efficiency and regulatory compliance.



Green Product Innovation and Development

Learn how to design and develop environmentally sustainable products using eco-design principles, life-cycle thinking, circular economy practices and sustainable business models.



Green Construction & Waste Management Practices

Gain an understanding of sustainable construction methods, energy-efficient building practices, responsible material selection, water conservation and effective construction waste management.



Project Management

Build the project management knowledge and practical skills required to successfully plan, implement and manage business and infrastructure projects using modern project management approaches, digital tools and emerging technologies.

Benefits of the Programme

Participants benefit by:

- ✓ Building technical knowledge in green construction, renewable energy and sustainable business practices.
- ✓ Strengthening their ability to compete for green economy procurement and supply chain opportunities.
- ✓ Improving business sustainability and operational efficiency.
- ✓ Developing innovative products and services aligned with environmental best practice.
- ✓ Enhancing project management capabilities for successful business implementation.
- ✓ Expanding professional networks through collaboration with industry experts and fellow entrepreneurs.
- ✓ Positioning their businesses for future growth within South Africa's green economy.

Programme Impact

The programme aimed to support **30 Black women-owned businesses** operating within the green economy.

To maximise business impact, participating companies were encouraged to nominate a second representative to build internal organisational capacity.

To date:

- **39 participants** have completed the programme.
- Participants represented **29 Black women-owned businesses** and **1 Black-owned business**.
- Businesses received practical training across four specialised green economy disciplines, strengthening their capacity to participate in sustainable construction, renewable energy, waste management and green supply chains.

The WIG Programme contributes to the broader objectives of Project EMBRACE by increasing the competitiveness, resilience and long-term sustainability of Black-owned enterprises while advancing women's participation in South Africa's green economic transformation.

Project	PROJECT EMBRACE aims to economically mainstream Black women and youth through responsible market access and value chain transformation for an inclusive green economy
Objective	Implement a sustainable framework to boost Black women and youth participation in South Africa's green economy through strengthening an entrepreneurial ecosystem providing research, skills development, advocacy, employment, and entrepreneurship support.
Geographic Focus	Focused on South Africa, with reach into SADC and Sub-Saharan Africa.
Implemented by	South Africa Supplier Diversity Council NPC (SASDC)
Duration	01 Sept 2024 - 30 Jun 2027



Our Partners

Funded by:



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