



Newsletter



A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO OF CGCSA

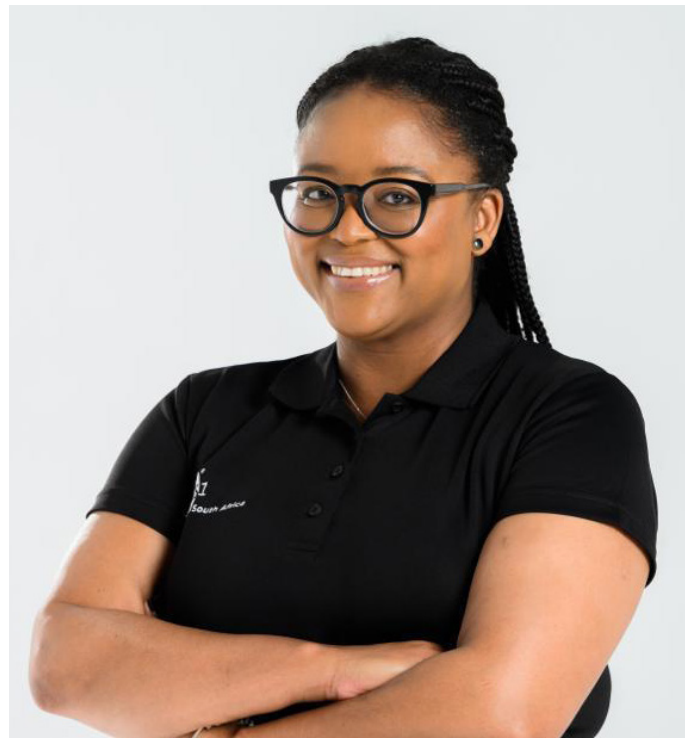
It once again gives me pleasure to share with you our June 2024 newsletter which is packed with latest news and developments at The Consumer Goods Council of South Africa (CGCSA) for your information and update. As with previous newsletters, each division within CGCSA provides an overview of their activities and any other material developments that they wish to share with you.

At the core of our activities is to ensure that we enable you, our members, to trade even better in a particularly challenging economic environment, owing to a number of challenges that we continue to engage with the government and other stakeholders. I am however particularly encouraged by the outcome of the recent general elections, and the resultant formation of the Government of National Unity (GNU).

This is the first time in the history of our young democracy to have such a political make-up of national government. Given the political and ideological differences of the parties forming the GNU, I am cautiously optimistic that there will be policy and regulatory continuity, albeit with some changes where necessary. The GNU has the urgent task of addressing macro-economic challenges that the country faces, among these energy security, infrastructure bottlenecks and crime and improving the business climate.

As we said in our opinion article published in Daily Maverick on the 1st 1 July 2024, the challenges facing the country need all hands on deck through partnerships with the business sector, civil society, labour movements, communities and other key stakeholders, to achieve economic growth, business sustainability, job opportunities and community self-sufficiency, meaning, our communities need to be empowered and liberated through access to basic services.

The business sector also needs to be empowered through reforms to tax laws to unlock effective public-private partnerships that will enable rebates in the event that the sector spends money for example, to repair public infrastructure that is hindering service delivery and business continuity CGCSA is ready to engage with the relevant government ministers and departments as part of our



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ongoing stakeholder engagement, to discuss issues affecting the consumer goods sector, with a view to coming up with solutions-based and time-bound interventions. We will update you on this planned engagement.

On the regulatory front, we have coordinated the submission of comments by members to a number of legislative amendments, and we wish to thank members who have taken the time to share their comments which will help us to engage with the relevant government departments.

HAPPY READING
and please do share with us your thoughts
and comments about the newsletter.

Consumer Goods Crime Risk Initiative

Election Readiness

The Consumer Goods Crime Risk Initiative (CGCRI) played an instrumental role in providing its members and member company CEOs with election update reports shared monthly and bi-weekly to ensure that the consumer goods industry is kept abreast of all developments.

The CGCRI represented the industry at the National Joint Operational and Intelligence Structure where issues of national stability and preparedness were discussed. Member sites located in vulnerable areas were identified and escalated to the National Joint Operation Center to ensure that they form part of the deployment plan.

All concerns expressed by the industry were speedily communicated to the National Joint Operational and Intelligence Structure through the established structures and were addressed promptly. The situation in the country pre; during and post the elections remained calm and stable. There were isolated cases of tension, however no major issues resulted from that.

Counterfeit & Illicit Products

Over the past 6 months, numerous disruptive raids were conducted by law enforcement which resulted in the seizure of illicit cigarettes worth over millions of Rand and several suspects were apprehended.



Did you know that the CGCRI now has a hotline that anyone can anonymously report illicit trade & counterfeiting of goods via the Illicit Trade Hotline 0800014856 and the MYCGCSA/ GS1 APP (available on the AppStore & Play Store).

Counterfeit bottles of liquor including fake labels and boxes with an estimated street value of R1.6 million were seized by in Estcourt, Kwa Zulu Natal by the Hawks in terms of the Counterfeit Goods Act. Three suspects were arrested and charged for possession of property suspected to be stolen. Tests were conducted and it was established that it was counterfeit as well as illicit liquor. Some of the illicit liquor which was imported did not meet the South African alcohol standard by volume percentage, which would make it illegal to sell them in the country. SARS Customs seized the liquor for verification and further investigation.



Food Safety and Sustainability

Food Loss and Waste

The number of signatories to the South African Food Loss and Waste Initiative continues to grow. We are approaching the celebration of the fourth year of the South African Food Loss and Waste Initiative, which will take place in September this year. The number of signatories to the Initiative is currently 121. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with all signatories and members. Details on this will follow.

Food Loss and Waste Measurement and Reporting is underway for 2023. In 2022, 34 Core Signatories were measuring food loss and waste in their operations and had submitted their 2021 data to the Initiative for collation. This year, 40 core signatories submitted their 2022 data using the new Food Loss and Waste Reporting Platform. A call for 2023 data has been made and Core Signatories have until the 1st July 2024 to submit their data. We will then start work to develop a food loss and waste baseline for this Initiative.

A video has been developed to promote the Initiative.

A short promotional video has been developed to raise awareness of the South African Food Loss and Waste Initiative. View this video [here](#).

Funding has been secured for the next three years to improve the impact and sustainability of the Initiative. We are excited to announce that the CGCSA will receive funding to support the South African Food Loss and Waste Initiative over the next 3 years. Under this support, US\$15 million has been extended to Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) by the Ballmer Group to support voluntary initiatives or agreements aimed at tackling food loss and waste being carried out in South Africa, Australia, Indonesia, Mexico and also to be developed in Brazil. This will help us to accelerate and increase the impact of the work that is already underway through this Initiative in South Africa.

Health & Wellness

14 of the 102 member companies have signed up (13.7%) to the new Healthy Food Options Industry Initiatives (HFOII) commitment period and 9 companies (8.8%) have declined participation. The numbers remain the same. The CGCSA will be surveying members to understand the reasons for not participating in this programme among those that have not signed up. These insights will be used to tailor the programme to address any barriers to participation. Current signatories will be interviewed to put together a case study booklet to showcase the work being done by these organisations and to inspire others.

The CGCSA has developed a workforce nutrition programme for its own employees, which will focus on Nutrition Education, Nutrition-focused health checks and Breastfeeding Support in 2024. We look forward to sharing more information about this throughout this year.

Food Safety and Quality

Microbiological Standards, Preservatives and Antioxidants Review. A request for the review of microbiology standards, preservatives and antioxidants regulations has been submitted to the Department of Health, this has been acknowledged and follow ups are being made to request that this work starts soon for the benefit of the industry. We are looking forward to the re-establishment of the review work and await a positive response from the department.

South African Bureau of Standards- Standard Development.

The SANS 2088 Food Donation Management Standard development is currently in progress. Due to minimal attendance, the first working group meeting had to be rescheduled. We encourage all food safety and food donations expert members to come forward and join us in shaping this project. Please reach out so we can include your participation and collaborate actively in developing this important standard. Interested individuals may contact preciousM@cgcsa.co.za.

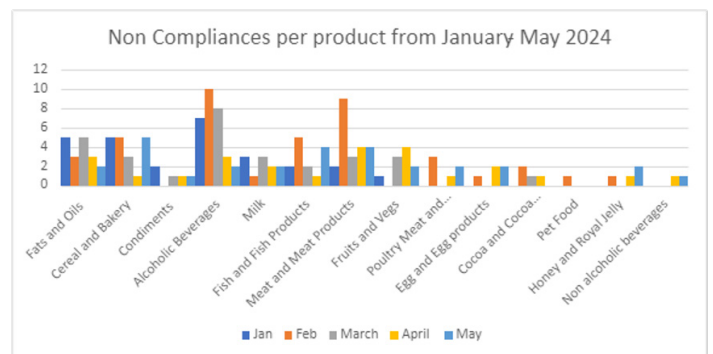
Assignee Forum. After the written submissions and engagements between the Agriculture and Agroprocessing value chain industry associations and the Department of Agriculture Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) had earlier this year, we are pleased to announce the re-establishment and revitalization of the assignee forum, which brings together various stakeholders to serve as a crucial platform for communication, dispute resolution, and strategic engagement. The Terms of Reference (ToR) developed previously have been reviewed and updated based on stakeholder feedback to align with current needs. The revised ToR will soon be circulated to all assignees by the department for their input before final approval. We eagerly anticipate future engagements, challenges resolutions and fruitful collaboration ahead.

Food Fraud. A comprehensive food fraud action plan has been developed, detailing specific actions to mitigate counterfeit goods through rigorous identification and authentication methods, enhancing supply chain transparency, implementing legal measures, raising consumer awareness, partnering with law enforcement, conducting thorough vendor screenings, and deploying advanced technological solutions.

We are currently conducting an in-depth analysis of the members listed on the Global Standards (GS1) registry platforms as part of our broader efforts leading up to enhancing our capabilities in detecting and reporting fraudulent activities and counterfeit goods within the market.

Exploring an alternative approach, we are currently engaged in providing our members with valuable insights derived from the latest statistics sourced from the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC), Monthly Food Fraud Summary Reports. These reports play a crucial role in evaluating products vulnerable to counterfeiting and those already intercepted and identified as non-compliant.

The below figure indicates a summary of products that were found to be non-compliant between January to May 2024 (source: European Commission, 2024)



Trade Related Matters

Trade Barriers 5-point Plan. The trade task team that was formed between the industry and the Department of Trade Industry and Competition (DTIC) is still ongoing and there are monthly scheduled meetings to obtain timely updates on the challenges that members had raised on the 5-point plan. Members operating in Botswana are encouraged to inform the DTIC of the situational status regarding the acceptance of Conformity Assessment Programme (CAP) certificates from various entities, not just a single entity.

There will also be increased frequency of consultations and engagement between the industry and the department to ensure that there is tangible reporting of work done. The DTIC has established a team that may occasionally request to visit and observe the situation on the ground to familiarize themselves with the daily challenges faced by the industry.

Mozambique Labelling Regulations and Conformity

Assessment Programme. The Department of Trade Industry and Competition (DTIC) has provided an update that two engagements were held with Mozambique, and a Memorandum of Understanding covering accreditation, certification, metrology, standards, and mutual agreements has been submitted for consideration. A team of officials has been set up in the DTIC to engage with Mozambique and ensure regular follow-ups.

Regarding labeling requirements in Mozambique, consultations have been conducted and the matter has been tabled with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Free Trade Agreement. The opinion of the SADC Free Trade Agreement is awaited, considering regional implications and the need for reciprocity without discrimination against other countries. Members are urged to inform the FSSI if any trade challenges are experienced.

Training/Workshops and Consultancy Services

A reminder that Food Safety and Sustainability Initiative (FSSI) offers workshops and training sessions that can be tailor made to suit your organisation's needs. These can be held virtually and/or physically. See further details below on our workshops and consultancy services.



Venue:

We are able to offer training online and physically at the CGCSA premises, or at the companies' premises.



Language:

We are able to provide training in English and other official languages such as Xhosa, Zulu, Northern Sotho, and Southern Sotho.



Accreditation:

Our workshops are currently not S-ETA accredited.

Number of participants:

We are able to offer workshops to individuals and groups of up to 20 people (at CGCSA or at the companies' premises).



Language:

Our experts, with more than ten years in the food industry and regulatory environments, offer and facilitate our workshops in a practical and easy-to-understand manner.



Workshop	Duration	Who Should Attend	Content
International and National Trade, Food Control and Regulatory Framework	8 hours	Personnel in: Supply chain Regulatory Quality Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding of Global Trade Processes Understanding of the World Trade Organization The Relevance of Codex Alimentarius to National Regulations Overview of South African Food Control and Regulatory Framework Overview of Levels of Legislation (Acts, Regulation, Policy, Guidelines) Overview of Legislative Drafting Process (from draft to publication) Understanding Food Legislation and Interpretation Practical Application and Interpretation of a Regulation (Food Safety and Hygiene, Quality, Food Labelling, Legal Metrology, Retail readiness, GS1 barcoding)
Food Safety and Hygiene: Legislative requirements and Private standards.	8 hours	Personnel in: Supply chain Regulatory Quality Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding the difference between Food Safety and Hygiene Legislation and Private Standards • Food Safety Enforcement in South Africa Practical Food Safety exercise (GFSI-Global Markets and Certificate of Acceptability Checklists)
Food Labelling	8 hours	Personnel in: Supply chain Regulatory Quality Nutrition Marketing	<p>Overview of South African Labelling Regulatory requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DTIC: SABS and NRCS Department of Health Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development <p>With a focus on regulations related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal Metrology Agricultural Product Standards Act Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act Practical Label Evaluation The relevance of GS1 Standards (barcoding and market access) to Law and Compliance
Global Markets Capacity Building Programme	8 hours	Personnel in: Supply chain Regulatory Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides guidance regarding the requirements and the key elements for the production of safe food or for service provision in relation to food safety by incorporating GFSI Global Markets Programme Basic Level and Intermediate Level Assessment food safety requirements Considers and applies also all relevant local regulations that will be used by the supplier when implementing the programme i.e R638 Hygiene Regulations Include all products and processes in the scope of the assessment Ensure compliance to all relevant legislation

Full-day workshop: Time will be allocated for lunch and two breaks (Morning and Afternoon)

Cost: All costs exclude VAT

FSSI Members only (20 Max) (company cost/group) Non-FSSI members/ all other companies (for each person)

- R 926.00 an hour (min. 2 hours)
- R102750 an hour (min. 2 hours)

Additional information:

All costs are exclusive of catering and travel.
Travel costs will be for the company if training is at the company's premises.

Note: Tailored packages can be arranged depending on the product or legislation specificity, company needs and technical expertise from CGCSA

For bookings and quotations contact:

fsiservices@cgcsa.co.za or give us a call on 011 777 3253

The following Consultation Services are available to members and non-members:

Fees for 2024-2025

Item	Rate (Vat excl.)	Description
FSSI Presentations*	R 30 000.00 R 4.81/km travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fee charged for each session Minimum of 10 attendees for each session Excluding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel and accommodation expenses (outside Gauteng)
Email enquiries	R 984.71	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enquiries from non-members will be charged on a pro rata/hourly basis
Expert assistance on food and regulatory related matters (Non-Member consultation)	R 984.71 per hour R 4.81/km travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 2-hour Consultation Excludes flight and accommodation cost: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outside the Gauteng province CGCSA offices (no travel or accommodation costs) Online option now available
Label Assessments against legislation		
Members		
FSSI members (Excl. Anchor and SMME members)	R 1 804.40	Fee per label/hour
FSSI SMME members	R 902.38	
Non-members		
Non-FSSI members (100% up front charge)	R 2 280.00	Fee for each label/hour
SMME (Non-Member)	R 1 158.56	Mandatory 2-hour consultation on regulatory compliance
Alerts on matters affecting the industry	R10816.00	Alerts ONLY

* Terms and conditions apply in accordance with membership options

For membership and further information please contact fsiservices@cgcsa.co.za

Producer Responsibility Organisation

Introduction



The Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment has introduced mandatory Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulations to reduce the environmental impact of waste materials. The regulations aim to drive the collection, sortation, and recycling of waste materials, promote design for recyclability, and involve all relevant stakeholders in the recycling process. Producers are required to pay a fee for the waste materials they put out into the market. The regulations cover packaging, lighting, and electronic equipment, and require collection to meet recycling targets. The Consumer Goods Council of South Africa (CGCSA) is well positioned to act as the Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO) to ensure members work together to reduce environmental impact and advocate for necessary changes in the regulations.

Mission and goals

To play a socially responsible role in environmental sustainability and contribute to the wellbeing of local communities, encouraging collaboration with other stakeholders, responding to regulations as a sector specific PRO, delivering on our mandate to 'help members trade better.'



Objectives

- Support/implement EPR regulation targets.
- Support and ensure a clean/litter free environment.
- Create inclusive jobs.
- Support local and international development goals (NDP and SDGs).
- Encourage Circular Economy.



Services

- Collection and recycling of products and packaging material.
- Public education and awareness campaigns.
- Compliance monitoring and reporting.
- Stakeholder engagement (Collaboration for impact).



How to become a member or a partner

Please visit: www.cgcsa.co.za

Still wish to engage? pro@cgcsa.co.za / 011 777 3300 /

www.cgcsa.co.za/aboutCGCSAPro



Where we are located

164 Katherine Street,

Pinmill Farm Block D,

Sandton 2146



consumer
goods council
of south africa
Helping members trade better.

CGCSA Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO)

Your partner in paper & packaging, electrical, electronic and
lighting waste management



Member Visits

We always appreciate invites from Members as they celebrate moments in their company lives.

In May, we visited Kellanova as they were launching their garden initiative at a Primary School in the Springs area. Its moments like this that makes us proud to be a part of the sector. Collectively ensuring sustainable food security.



During the month of June when as we celebrated Youth Month, we were reminded of the Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) amongst us. We were invited to spend the day at the amazing Makhamisa factory as they hosted the Progressive African Women event at their facilities.

Touring the plant, one can only appreciate the great results that we can achieve as a country and sector if we work together supporting SMMEs. One could not ignore the inspiration the other SMMEs got from the plant tour. We thank members of this sector in collaborating with Makhamisa and those who are yet to. The facility is FSSC22000 certified, and we can only be proud and thankful that the IDC saw an opportunity in Terence and Phumzile and backed them.

There are great opportunities in us working together as these efforts now employ over 30 individuals, the impact cannot be ignored. During youth month we can only appreciate Makhamisa and all other SMMEs in the sector. These are the catalyst of economic growth for South Africa. May we see them, may we support them.



Global Standard Solutions

From GS1 Barcodes to QR Codes with GS1 Standards.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first product barcode to be scanned in a grocery store. In the early 1970s, retailers and manufacturers worked together with GS1 the global organization for data standards to adopt the barcode as the universal way to identify products.

The GS1 barcode is used today on billions of products worldwide and is great for enabling many processes like scanning at checkout, category management, fulfilment in distribution centres and much more.

Today, more than ever, consumers and regulatory bodies are demanding more product information, such as usage instructions, safety, ingredients, nutrition, certifications, recycling, etc., and there is an ongoing need for enhanced product traceability through the supply chain to mitigate risks and improve customer service.

However, the traditional barcode that has served us so well doesn't have the capacity to support these future needs. To meet these new demands, the consumer goods industry will be best served by transitioning to QR Codes with GS1 standards, as they can store extensive amounts of product information and are easily accessible via smartphones.

This would open a range of new possibilities, providing all the information consumers need and desire, improving traceability and driving efficiencies through the supply chain, while still enabling scanning at checkout with the project called Sunrise 2027.

For Sunrise 2027 to succeed, industry must once again come together to adopt a unified approach, requiring changes from both retailers and manufacturers. We expect that this transition will happen gradually and believe that those who lead this transformation will be best positioned to unlock valuable new capabilities and provide more benefits to their customers, shoppers and consumers.

To learn more about QR codes with GS1 standards and get involved, go to:
<https://gs1za.org/barcodes/barcode-types/>

Two dimensional 2D barcode

GS1 has standards for five 2D barcodes that are currently in use across a variety of industries. The two most widely recognised are QR Code (GS1 Digital Link URI) and GS1 DataMatrix barcodes which can both be used to store the Global Trade Item Number (GTIN) as well as information such as an expiry date or a serial number.

The GS1 Data Matrix is already widely used in the Healthcare industry

With more and more regulations being developed across the world to enable traceability, pharmacovigilance, and post market surveillance, as well as digital health advancement, there is an increased need for product identification data to be captured through scanning barcodes placed on medical products (pharmaceutical and medical devices) and their packaging. The recommendation of the GS1 Healthcare community is for the use of GS1 DataMatrix for the identification of medical products, when the scanning environment, data and regulatory requirements make the usage of a 2D instead of a linear barcode necessary.

Global healthcare stakeholders have implemented the GS1 DataMatrix for many years as the 2D barcode to fulfil medicines traceability regulations in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Egypt, Ethiopia, Europe, India, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, USA and many others – in total in more than 75 countries around the world. Equally, many donor organisations are requiring the GS1 DataMatrix on pharmaceutical products they purchase. The GS1 DataMatrix is also commonly used to meet Unique Device Identification (UDI) requirements in many countries across the globe.

There are many reasons for the choice of the GS1 DataMatrix, the most important are:

- Captures the largest amount of identification data in the smallest amount of space on packaging
- Can be printed directly on the products
- Has sophisticated error detection and correction algorithms, allowing the GS1 DataMatrix barcode to be scanned even if damaged, torn or printed poorly

The GS1 Healthcare community recommends the implementation of GS1 DataMatrix as the ONLY globally endorsed 2D / Matrix data carrier for product identification in healthcare.

The use of QR codes for providing healthcare product information electronically within care settings or to patients should be considered carefully and in the context of potentially confusing users within the healthcare supply chain, including patients or healthcare provider staff.

The GS1 Healthcare community does NOT recommend the use of QR codes for product identification.

GS1 Healthcare 2D Data Carrier Recommendation Summary		
GS1 Keys for:	GS1 DataMatrix	GS1 QR Code
a) Trade Item Identification <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GTIN• GRAI• GIAI• SSCC	✓	✗
b) Other Identification use cases <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GLN• GDTI• GSRN• ...etc.	✓	✓

NOTE 1: This paper discusses use of GS1 2D/Matrix Data Carriers and does not alter present policy on use of 1D/Linear Data Carriers with GS1 Keys.
NOTE 2: At present SSCC is only used with the GS1-128 1D/Linear Data Carrier. SSCC is included above for future use when applicable.

https://www.gs1.org/sites/default/files/docs/healthcare/gs1_hc_2d_data_carrier_use_position_-_20160501_final.pdf

<https://www.gs1.org/docs/healthcare/position-papers/GS1-DataMatrix-Position-Paper-FINAL.pdf>

2D Barcodes in Retail: Next generation barcode

As technology has evolved, so have consumer expectations. QR Code powered by GS1 allows consumers and shoppers to use their smartphones to connect directly to the brand to enhance consumer engagement.

Read the GS1 Data Matrix Position Paper [HERE](#).

With limitless, brand-authorised content at their fingertips, consumers have access to real-time information like allergens, recipes, rewards, promotions and more. There are many reasons for the choice of the 2D barcodes powered by GS1, the most important are:

- 2D barcodes powered by GS1 enable traceability and sustainability initiatives, reduce waste, and simplify recall and return processes.
- QR Codes powered by GS1 give producers, brand owners and retailers new ways to connect with consumers and shoppers.
- 2D barcodes powered by GS1 hold more products information and go "beep" at the register.

Retailers should prepare for 2D barcodes

While the 1D barcode is not going away, retailers will need to plan to welcome a defined set of different barcodes through their Point of Sale.

With planning, this will ensure the ability to support your existing systems and to grow and scale, on your own schedule, to unlock additional capabilities.

Manufacturers have a choice of 2D barcodes

Explore the 2D barcodes that can unlock consumer engagement and help you leverage your products data to better power your business.

Your 2D Migration Starts [HERE](#).

GS1 South Africa Barcode Online Application

Our members shared their thoughts, and we've taken them to heart. Last year, we received some not-so-great feedback about our online barcode registration portal.

We're excited to announce that we're now hard at work on phase 2 of the portal. This update will make the registration process much easier for everyone.

Here are some of the new features you can look forward to:

Simplified Customer Journey: We've reimagined the user experience to make navigation and processes more intuitive and straightforward. Whether you're new to the platform or a returning member, you'll find everything you need with ease.

Seamless Barcode Applications: You'll be able to apply for new and additional barcodes effortlessly and within minutes. The improved interface will guide you through each step, ensuring a smooth and hassle-free experience.

Integrated Payment System: Pay for your GS1 Annual licences directly through the portal. We continue to ensure that all online transactions are processed securely via a trusted payment gateway. Once you initiate a purchase, you'll be smoothly guided through the payment steps.

Single Sign-On Access: Access all our key services, including Activate and Verified by GS1, with just one sign-on. No more juggling multiple passwords or accounts.

Enhanced Customer Support: Our online portal remains the cornerstone of delivering fast, effective, and user-friendly service. We're committed to providing top-notch customer support, ensuring you get the help you need when you need it.

Obtain your barcode online today and experience great customer support and exceptional value for your investment of time and money. Register [HERE](#).

Master Data Services

Verified by GS1



What is verified by GS1?

Verified by GS1 provides unique, trusted, and verifiable products, company and location information for business partners and government entities. This is done by representing each product, company and location with an ID card containing a small set of attributes making each product, company, or location uniquely identifiable.

These attributes are stored in a global, trusted database of information hosted by GS1 (the GS1 Registry Platform) - acting as authoritative registries of GS1 issued identity that can be accessed and queried globally through GS1 Member organisation.

Verified by GS1 will benefit your business by:

- Improving product authenticity,
- Streamlined supply chain processes, making it more difficult for illicit products to enter the market undetected.
- Increased consumer trust, shoppers can be confident in the authenticity of the products they purchase.
- Improved data accuracy, facilitates better tracking and tracing of products, enabling stakeholders to quickly identify and mitigate the risk of illicit products enter the market.
- Better visibility in the marketplace.




Verify your GTINs [HERE](#).

GS1 Activate

Activate is a service offered by GS1 to make it easy for you to put a barcode on your products. Whether you're selling in retail or in other sectors, we provide all you need so you can get your product listed fast. And the faster you list your products, the more you can sell.

In addition to facilitating Barcode management through GS1 Activate, we provide comprehensive support and guidance to ensure your product listing process is smooth and efficient. With GS1's extensive expertise and resources, you can be confident that your products will be accurately identified and readily accessible to retailers and consumers alike. By utilising GS1 Activate, businesses are able to generate and share product data helping you trade better locally and globally. Don't miss out on the opportunity to maximise your sales potential with GS1 Activate!

What activate can do for you:

		
<p>Get barcode numbers for your products</p> <p>Barcode numbers (also called GTINs) identify your products uniquely and enable them to be sold anywhere in the world.</p>	<p>Generate barcode symbols</p> <p>Once you have a barcode number, you can generate the barcode symbol to print on product packaging. We'll also give you advice on how to print and place the barcode so it scans well first time!</p>	<p>Share your product data</p> <p>The basic product data that you add to GS1 Activate will be made available globally so that retailers and marketplaces can view it.</p>

Global Data Synchronising Network (GDSN)

GS1 GDSN and GS1 Global Data Model

GS1 Global Data Model & Attribute Definitions for Business (ADB) enable greater data quality within the network

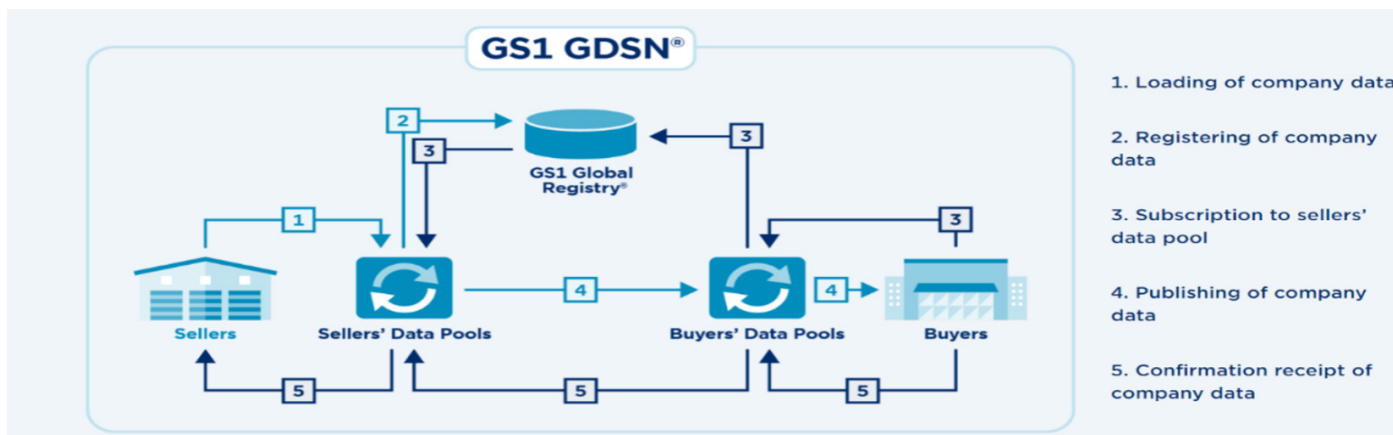


The GDSN programme is a powerful platform designed to enhance product visibility and streamline interaction with major retailers across any market. It makes it possible for any company, in any market, to share high-quality product information seamlessly. The benefits of GDSN include gain access to a vast network of retailers and trading partners, enable efficient listing and managing product data in accordance with industry standards.

GS1 GDSN and the GS1 Global Data Model

Your product content in the GS1 GDSN network will follow the GS1 Global Data Model standard, helping to create a seamless shopping experience across every channel.

The GS1 Global Data Model defines a globally consistent set of foundational product attributes needed to list, store, move and sell your products. By simplifying and harmonising the exchange of product data around the world, the GS1 Global Data Model increases operational efficiency for brand owners and retailers and improves data accuracy and completeness for consumers.

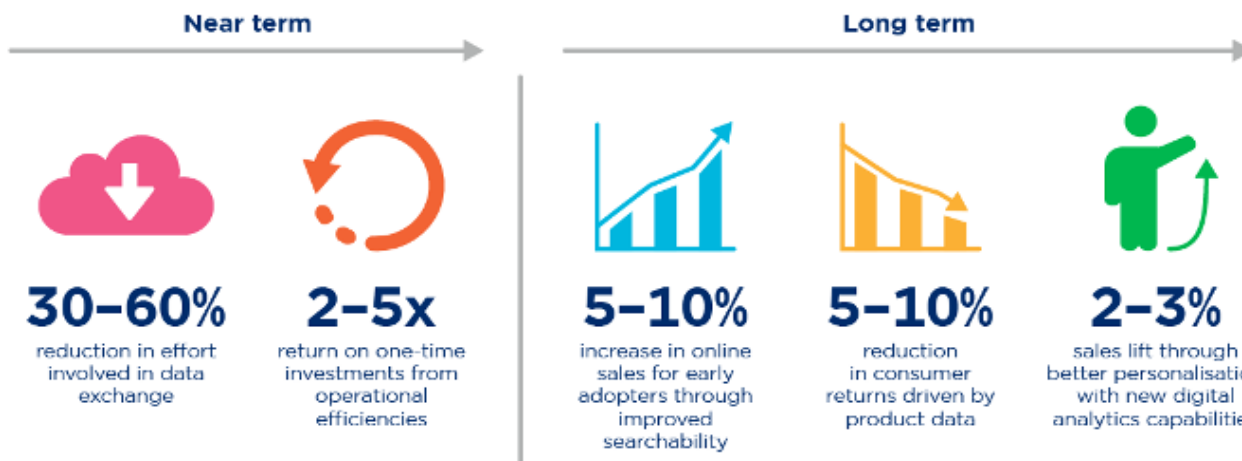


To find out how GS1 GDSN is making a difference for Carrefour retail store and its suppliers, click [HERE](#).

GS1 GDSN helps healthcare group purchasing organisation, check out the case study link [HERE](#).

To find out more about GDSN, watch this video featuring testimonials from industry leaders [HERE](#).

According to a McKinsey & Company study, retailers and brand owners will benefit in both the near term and long term from the adoption of a standard data model.



Healthcare update

GS1 healthcare envisions a future in which the healthcare sector achieves the harmonised implementation of global standards in business and clinical processes, enabling interoperability, optimal quality, and efficiency of healthcare delivery to benefit patients. GS1 can - and will - play a role in the trends, through provision of unique identifiers, barcodes, and data sharing standards. We will prioritise our activities through the strategy development process and following assignments.

Yet, our challenge is to remain relevant in a changing world. Therefore, our strategy needs to be adaptable and flexible, as the rate of development and change over the past two years is expected to continue. Through our efforts, the healthcare sector will have the opportunity to leverage GS1 standards in innovative ways, that have not been imagined before. the outcome will be what GS1 standards deliver - accuracy, visibility, trust in the supply chain, and increased patient safety.

One thing will not change. All the innovations that result from these trends and challenges need to be supported by a strong, reliable, accurate and transparent supply chain right to the point of care. Patients are treated with products and by caregivers - many times across multiple locations - and information about all of these need to be identified, captured, stored and transmitted accurately and securely. The standards by which to do this are the role of GS1.

Legal , Regulatory and stakeholder Engagement

Overview

As we navigate the ever-evolving legal and regulatory landscape in the FMCG sector, our Legal Regulatory Stakeholder Engagement department remains committed to advocating for a supportive environment that enables our members to trade better. This section of the newsletter highlights our continuous efforts in shaping policies, managing risks, and fostering strategic relationships.

We highlight key achievements from the past year, such as our landmark victory in the meat analogue case and our extensive regulatory submissions, as we strive to protect and advance the interests of our members. We also outline our regulatory priorities for the upcoming year, including engagements on food labelling regulations, the Health Promotion Levy, and the Tobacco Products Bill. Additionally, we spotlight the establishment of our e-Commerce Working Group, aimed at enhancing collaboration and best practices in the rapidly growing online retail sector.

Your active participation and feedback are vital as we work together to create a sustainable and prosperous FMCG

Highlights of the 2023/24 financial year

Meat Analogue Case

The CGCSA has been successful in reviewing and setting aside the decision to confiscate meat analogue products, following a protracted court case.

This landmark victory reinforces the need and value of the required regulatory standards relating to meat analogue and it is a powerful monument to our CGCSA's steadfast dedication and ceaseless advocacy on behalf of its members, stakeholders and the affected consumers.

Read more about the ground breaking conclusion [HERE](#).

Regulatory submission in 2023/24

The CGCSA has made 20 regulatory submissions in the 2023/24 financial year and 16 of the 20 regulatory submissions are still under review by regulators.

Regulatory priorities for the 2024/25 financial year

Draft Regulations Relating to the Labeling and Advertising of Foodstuffs

The Draft Regulations Relating to the Labelling and Advertising of Foodstuffs, commonly referred to as the Front of Pack Labelling (FOPL) Regulations, remain a major source of concern for the majority of our members and we continue engaging government and relevant stakeholders to ensure that the Draft Regulations do not see the light of day in their current form. The CGCSA has successfully lobbied for the Draft Regulations to be subjected to a Nedlac process which will commence on 22 February 2024 – with the interested stakeholders making submissions to the Department of Health.

The Department of Health has indicated that the Nedlac process will run concurrently with their internal process that is currently considering the public submissions following the deadline of 21 September 2023.

Health Promotion Levy

On the 22 December 2023, the President signed the Bill into law. This means that the proposed Health Promotion Levy which is set to increase in 2025 will take effect. The CGCSA is currently engaging with the Presidency and other relevant stakeholders such as National Treasury, Department of Health, Department of Trade, Industry and Competition and the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Reform on the Socio-economic Impact Assessment recently published by the Presidency for public comments.

Tobacco Products and Electronic System Bill

Following the written submission CGCSA made to the portfolio committee on Health, the Committee is currently facilitating public preliminary hearings on the Tobacco products Bill. Five provinces have been consulted up to date.

The official public hearings on the Bill are expected to take place this year and CGCSA has asked the Committee for an opportunity to make the oral submission.

e-Commerce Working Group

The CGCSA has established an e-Commerce/Marketplace Working Group (“e-CWG”) aimed at fostering member collaboration on non-competitive matters within the e-commerce space. According to the Online Retail in South Africa 2023 report, online sales grew by 30% in 2022 to surpass the R50bn milestone. They were also significantly faster than total retail sales, which grew by only 1.7% in the same year.

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This proves that consumers are embracing online shopping and using their mobile devices more and more. The industry also experienced an increase in cross-border e-commerce, with buyers purchasing more from outside South Africa and having items delivered locally. We aim to facilitate, through the e-CWG, thought leadership in e-commerce to ensure that our members are exposed to local and international best practice, for sustainable businesses, investment and job creation.

As e-commerce matures and more South Africans become accustomed to buying online, our role as the CGCSA is to facilitate an environment that empowers our members to trade better through among others, advocating for a fit-for-purpose regulatory environment and the levelling of the playing fields. Ultimately, we intend to facilitate a better and more proactive response to the common challenges that our members face, and to leverage on the successes, within the mandate of the CGCSA (i.e., on non-competitive matters).

CGCSA requested members to nominate individuals from their respective entities to participate in the e-CWG. The first meeting of this working group took place on 9 May 2024. The terms of reference of the e-CWG were discussed and agreed upon. The e-CWG will meet bi-monthly and report to the Portfolio Advisory Committee quarterly.

Regulatory submissions made in the 2024/25 financial year (March 2024 to date)

Employment Equity Act: Sectorial Targets

Following the amendments to the Employment Equity Act, 1998 (“EEA”) in April 2023 and the initial round for public comment in May 2023 on the proposed sectoral targets, the Department of Employment and Labour has reissued proposed sectoral targets as Draft Regulations on the Proposed Numerical Sectoral Targets (“Draft Regulations”).

While the sectorial targets for the Manufacturing, Wholesale Retail and Food Services sectors that were proposed in 2023 remained unchanged, adjustments were made to the sectoral targets by including overall targets for designated groups, replacing specific allocations for individual race groups, and providing guidance on the implementation of the 5-year targets.

CGCSA made a submission similar to the one of May 2023 as there were no material changes suggested by members in the consultation process. The submission is available on request.

Liquor Product Act: Draft Amendments

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) published the Liquor Regulations Draft Amendments for public comment in February 2024. The draft amendments seek to introduce new definitions, new requirements for different classes of alcohol and labeling requirements.

The CGCSA made the submission to DALRRD on 2 May 2024 and the submission is available on request.

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development: Draft Regulations for Certain Raw Processed Meat Products and Processed Meat Products Intended For Sale In The Republic Of South Africa

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (‘DALRRD’) published the following amended regulations for public comments:

- Regulations Regarding the Classification, Packing And Marking Of Certain Raw Processed Meat Products Intended For Sale In The Republic Of South Africa (Draft attached)
- Regulations Regarding the Classification, Packing And Marking Of Processed Meat Products Intended For Sale In The Republic Of South Africa (Draft attached)

The CGCSA hosted a member workshop on the proposed regulation on 13 May 2024 to collate member comments and made its submission to DALRRD on 20 May 2024.

Border Management Authority Regulations

The Department of Home Affairs published the Draft Border Management Authority Regulations on 3 May 2024 for public comments. The Draft Regulations focused on personnel matters, address several key areas. These include the structure and functioning of the border guard, officer commissioning, officer training, qualifications and competency standards, the use of firearms, a code of conduct, disciplinary proceedings, complaints and grievances affecting the authority’s work, and appeals processes.

Additionally, the regulations call for the establishment and staffing of a border risk management and targeting centre. It is important to note that the Act was implemented incrementally from January 2021 to August 2022 and is now fully in effect. In our submission, we recommended that border guard officers should receive extensive and adequate training on the technical standards and regulations in all areas they will be expected to perform inspection services on. Such as training on food safety standards and other relevant regulations.

Gas Master Plan

The Department of Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy has published the Draft Gas Master Plan for public comment.

According to the media statement issued by the Department, the Draft Gas Master Plan is a policy instrument that seeks to ensure security of gas supply by diversifying supply options from both local and international markets.

It outlines the role of natural gas in the context of energy mix and provides policy direction to the industry. The media statement further states that the plan considers the complete gas topology ranging from demand, supply, importation, infrastructure, and distribution networks. It recognises the critical role of natural gas in the country's economy, and anticipates the infrastructure required for the delivery of gas at a point of consumption based on a least-cost model.

The CGCSA made its submission on 14 May 2024 to the Department.

Leaf Services Submission

Leaf Services(Pty) Ltd ("the Assignee"), designated as an Assignee in terms of Section 2(3)(a) of the Agricultural Product Standards Act, Act number 119 of 1990 to grains and grain products destined for sale in the local market published the proposed inspection procedures and inspection fees for grains and grain products for public comment.

In January 2024, the CGCSA made its submission to the Assignee raising its concerns on the procedural fairness of the consultation process the Assignee had embarked on, requesting for clear Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) of the inspections.

The CGCSA made further submissions on 12 April 2024, following amendments to the SOP's, which the Assignee published on their website and not through the accepted norms of government gazette publications. The CGCSA cautioned them against this conduct by citing relevant Promotion of Administrative Justice Act provisions and precedence (authority or similar cases previously decided). We further cautioned them about treating this consultation as a tick box exercise.

Below are regulations out for public comment which the CGCSA is driving in consultation with members.

Hazardous Chemical Agents Regulations

The Department of Employment and Labour published the Hazardous Chemical Agents (HCA) Regulations for public comment. The Draft Regulations apply to employers who carries out work at a workplace which may expose any person to hazardous chemical agents. They also apply to a manufacturer, supplier or retailer of chemical agent, intended for use in a workplace.

The regulations were first introduced to South Africa in 2021 to enact into law the Globally Harmonised System of classification and labelling of chemicals (GHS). Should the current Draft Regulations become law, they will repeal and replace the 2021 Regulations.

SAHPRA: Traceability guidelines

South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) has published the attached Guideline on Traceability of Health Products ("the guidelines") for public comment.

These guidelines detail the scope and approach for the implementation of product identification for all health products regulated by SAHPRA.

These guidelines further aim to map out the requirements for product identification, data capturing and sharing. They apply to all health products in the South African market.

GS1 South Africa will be making its submission on the proposed guidelines on 30 June 2024.

Training & Development

SMME Access To Retail-Shelf Readiness

The SMME Access To Retail -Shelf Readiness Training Project was conceptualised to address the challenges faced by SMMEs with access to retail and sustainability matters.

Many SMMEs aspire to have their products on the retail shelves, however they are always informed that they are not ready and face several barriers, ranging from regulatory and compliance to off take agreements, thus creating barriers for emerging producers.

In May 2024 CGCSA successfully trained 23 SMMEs and the below topics were covered:

- Food Safety and Hygiene Training: International and National Trade, Food Control and Regulatory framework training
- Global Markets Capacity Building Programme Checklist
- Food labelling Module Training
- Physical Product Label Evaluation
- Introduction to GS1 Standards & Barcoding
- Introduction to GS1 Platforms (GS1 activate, Verified by GS1)
- Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN)
- Barcode Verification & Item Measurement



Informal Traders & Micro Enterprise Development Programme

The ITAMED is a training intervention identified by the Wholesale and Retail Sector Education and Training Authority (W&RSETA) and it is presented widely in South Africa. The training intervention covers various business modules designed to assist the Informal Traders and Micro Enterprises in growing and sustaining their businesses.

The modules include but not limited to Customer Care, Introduction to Entrepreneurship, Purchasing Skills, Hygiene, Point of Sale and Food Safety. In March 2024 CGCSA had the pleasure of successfully training 400 Informal Traders in Springs and Katlehong funded by the Wholesale & Retail Seta.



Events

GS1 Global Forum



The GS1 Global Forum is the global annual event to align the organisation's strategy, inspire and strengthen the GS1 staff around the world. The week offers great opportunities to learn about the latest standards and solutions achievements, share implementation and innovation best practices from around the world, hear from user's perspective and network with peers.

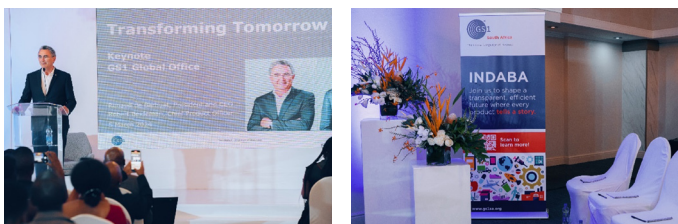
The event's theme focused on Bringing Value to Industry, consumers, and patients. Global forum 2024 was a great success with 826 in-person and 1,609 virtually participants. GS1 MOs from 100 countries participated. Over 50 exciting sessions available for replay.

We're thrilled to share that for the second time, a member of our GS1 South Africa team has claimed the prestigious Make a Difference Award. In 2020, Martin Kairu Wanjiku was the recipient, and now, four years later, in 2024, Chanelle Komarasamy has proudly secured the award once again. Let's extend our warmest congratulations to both winners, as well as to our esteemed GS1 leaders: Zinhle Tyikwe, our CEO, Michele Francis Padayachee, Executive in the Standards division, Sudeshan Pillay, COO and Neo Momodu, Legal, Regulatory and Stakeholder Engagement Executive for their invaluable support and outstanding leadership.



The next GS1 Global Forum will be held in Noordwijkerhout, Netherlands from the 17th to 20th of February 2025. To all GS1 South Africa employees use this platform to motivate, encourage you to do better and put our organisation on a global scale map.

GS1 South Africa Indaba 2024



GS1 South Africa Indaba offers that ultimate forum to discuss how the industry is continuing to rise above today's challenges to deliver optimised supply chain and customer experience. The purpose of Indaba was aimed to convene leaders from the retail industry alongside small and medium-sized enterprises (SMMEs) and entrepreneurs, facilitating mutual learning about the challenges and opportunities they face. It provided a platform for discussing issues such as product listing in retail stores and marketing challenges entrepreneurs encounter, while emphasizing the role of GS1 Standards in enhancing operational efficiency for both parties. During the event, GS1 SA unveiled a Consumer Trust App designed to empower consumers to verify products they purchase, thereby reducing the presence of counterfeit goods across various sectors including retail and pharmaceuticals.

Notable highlights included addresses from prominent figures such as Renaud de Barbuat, President of GS1 Global, and Robert Beideman, GS1's Chief Product Officer. Council members from leading retail groups such as Shoprite, Pick n Pay, Massmart, SPAR Group, Rhodes Food Group, and Tiger Brands also shared insights. Marvin Mies from Wipotec Germany discussed the migration to 2D barcoding, underscoring the anticipated full implementation by 2027. Additionally, experts like Simon Cole and Anton Coetzee delved into topics like healthcare 2D barcoding, serialization, and traceability. It's worth mentioning that the CEO of GS1 Namibia, Patricia Hangola, attended the event.

The event also witnessed the launch of innovative solutions such as the (Verified by GS1 & CGCSA Crime App), introduced by Prof Eldrid from Johannesburg Business School, Sudashane Pillay, COO and Michele Francis Padayachee, Executive of Global Standards & Solutions. This app generated excitement as it allows consumers to verify GS1-certified products and report illicit items directly through the platform.

It can be inferred that the inaugural in-person GS1 Indaba 2024 was a triumph, achieving all its intended



The Pharmacy Show

The Pharmacy Show 2024 is an annual event held in Sandton, South Africa, designed to bring together professionals from the pharmaceutical industry, including pharmacists, healthcare providers, and industry leaders. The event typically features a range of exhibitors, from pharmaceutical companies and suppliers to technology providers and educational institutions.



The show is renowned for its comprehensive program, which includes workshops, seminars, and presentations by experts in the field. It provides a platform for networking, professional development, and staying updated on the latest trends and innovations in the pharmaceutical industry.

GS1 South Africa showcased at the Pharmacy Show 2024, held from March 13th to 14th. The primary goal was to continue educating attendees, promoting our services, and enhancing our brand visibility. Representatives Michele Francis Padayachee, Sudeshan Pillay, Martin Kairu, Chanelle Komarasamy, Thendo Ntshishivhe, and Tshepang Poki participated in the event, representing GS1 SA.





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CGCSA Foundation

Expression of Interest (EOI)

The CGCSA Foundation sent out Expression of Interest (EOI) to over 350 interested parties, including to CGCSA's members, to identify potential organisations or partners to administer and deliver one or more of four Foundation projects. The four projects the Foundation is seeking implementation partners for are:

STEM and digital skills for marginalised youth:

Managing and delivering an initiative aimed at empowering, in particular young women, in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and digital skills.

Access-to-market skills for community and small-scale food producers:

Managing and delivering a training programme and/or courses aimed at small-scale and community food garden producers in the areas of food safety, business and agricultural skills to enhance their economic sustainability through improved access to the food market.

Adopt-a-Substation:

Spearheading efforts to revitalise, maintain and secure critical power sub-stations within the City of Ekurhuleni, ensuring municipal, industry and community engagement and sustainable operations.

Clean-up campaigns that empower youth and vulnerable communities:

Leading initiatives to organise and execute clean-up drives in cities or areas blighted by poor waste management services, fostering long-term community engagement and empowerment.

The Foundation will support these projects through 1-year grants awarded to implementing organisations and will serve as the administrator of the grants.

In addition, the call will aid the Foundation in building a pool of qualified organisations and potential partners for similar and/or future Foundation-supported projects.

Local Food Community Gardens: Cultivating Community Resilience & Food Security

South Africa and in particular the food industry is home to a vibrant array of local food initiatives that are making significant strides in enhancing food security and sustainability.

These grassroots movements are not only providing access to nutritious food but are also empowering communities through education and economic opportunities.

Through the CGCSA Foundation we have supported three food gardens (community gardens) in the Limpopo, Polokwane surrounding areas of Mashashane, Blood River and Lepotlako. The CGCSA Foundation has partners with an NGO in the space SCAT.



We are excited that these gardens are supporting the local communities to improve food security, promote sustainable farming and indeed support economic development for youth and unemployed within the communities.



Upcoming Meetings

14 August 2024 - FSSI Compliance Committee

21 August 2024 - FSSI Executive Committee

Contact us



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