

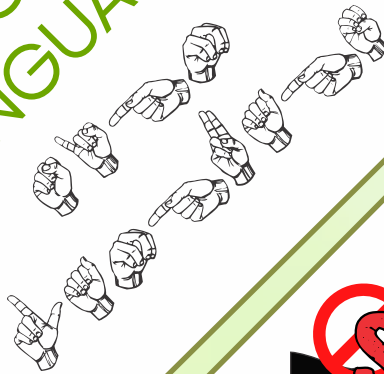
Learning Inclusivity

Annual Report 2025

DeafNET
Centre of Knowledge



SIGN
LANGUAGE



STOP
GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE



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ABOUT US

DeafNET Centre of Knowledge (DeafNET) is a non-profit organisation based in South Africa, established on 1 July 2006, in partnership with De Stichting Vrienden van Effatha (SVE) from the Netherlands. It serves as a network of knowledge and expertise to support Deaf individuals in Africa who face communication-related barriers. Its primary objective is to exchange and disseminate knowledge and skills to empower Deaf individuals and their families across the African continent. It continues to operate as a charitable trust, registration number IT3278/2011; a public benefit organisation, number 930039459; and a non-profit organisation, number 104-814NPO. Over the past 18 years, DeafNET has offered a platform for networking and building partnerships among Deaf organisations throughout the African continent.

VISION

To be a world-class network of exchanging knowledge and expertise in the interest of Deaf persons and their families in Africa.

&

MISSION

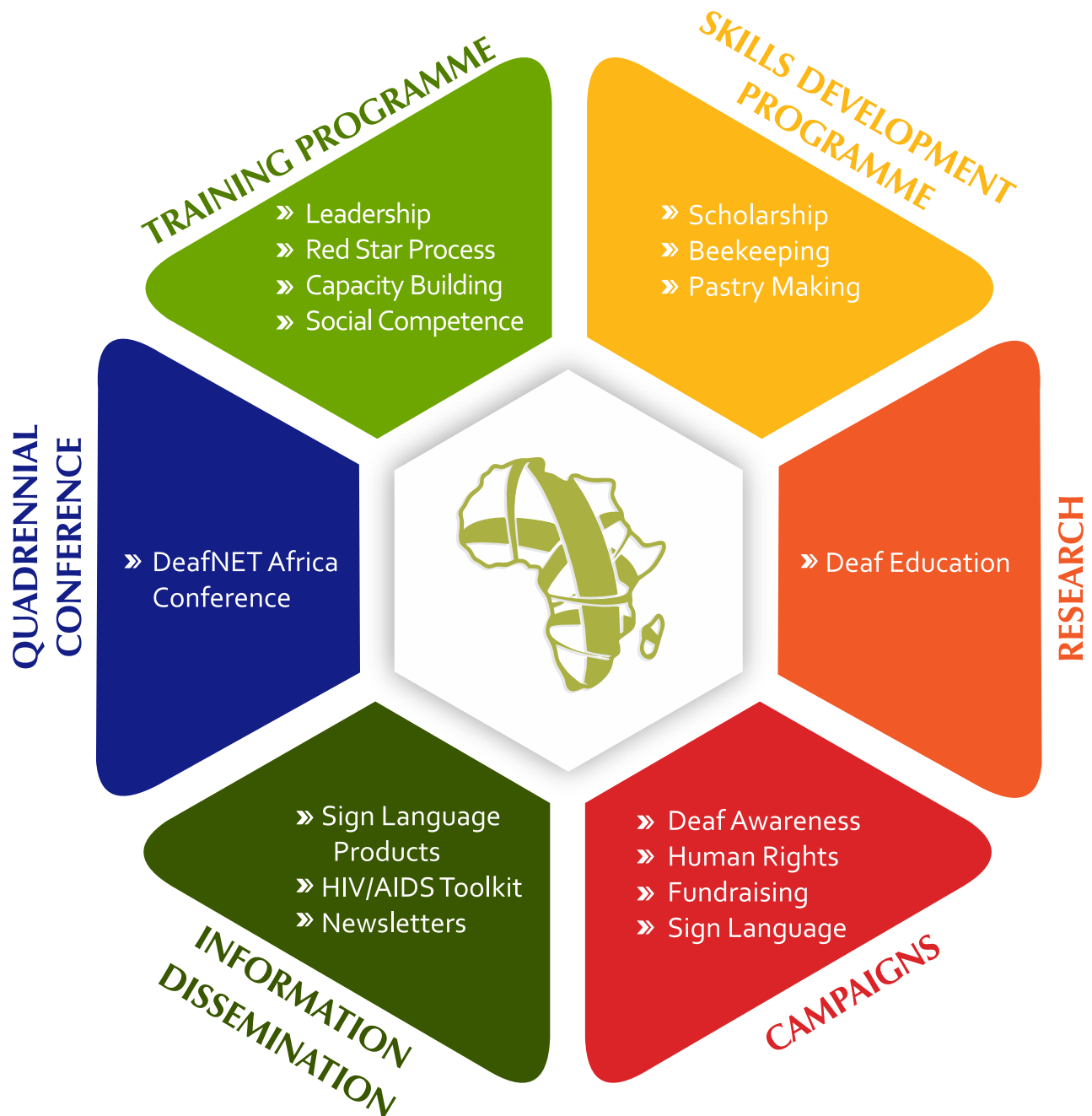
To build a network of the Deaf in Africa through particularising, capacity building, research and knowledge dissemination to improve the health and socio-economic well-being of Deaf people and their families.

CORE VALUES



PROJECT FUNDING MODEL

HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES



MESSAGES



Ms Candice Morgan

PRÉSIDENTE

It is a great honour to share this message on behalf of DeafNET. As we reflect on our journey, we celebrate the progress made toward empowering Deaf individuals and creating inclusive communities across Africa and beyond. DeafNET's mission is to promote the human rights of Deaf people by providing access to information, training and support. This past year, we strengthened partnerships, expanded our reach and created more opportunities for Deaf individuals to grow and lead. Through our workshops, training programmes and advocacy efforts, we continue to build a more inclusive and accessible world.

One of our greatest strengths is our network. By working together with local Deaf organisations, leaders and supporters, we are building a strong foundation for sustainable change. Deaf people are not just beneficiaries; they are the drivers of development, and their voices must be heard.

We are especially proud of our efforts to improve access to information through the use of technology and sign language. Inclusion begins with communication, and we are committed to making all our programmes accessible and responsive to the needs of the Deaf community.

We also recognise the many challenges that remain barriers in education, healthcare, employment and policy. DeafNET will continue to stand with and advocate for the rights of Deaf people at every level.

To our staff, partners and Deaf communities, thank you for your support, dedication and trust. Together, we are making a difference.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to building an inclusive future where every Deaf person has the opportunity to participate, lead and thrive.

Mr Sanjay Beepat

MANAGER



The DeafNET Centre of Knowledge is pleased to present its 2024/2025 Annual Report, covering the period from March 2024 to February 2025. This report highlights the organisation's notable achievements and project activities over this period. DeafNET's exceptional performance in 2024 highlights the success of our project-driven model. A crucial factor driving our progress is the new approach brought by our Deaf Project Team in various African regions. Our emphasis continues to be on knowledge dissemination, network enhancement and the improvement of our Deaf Education Programme.

We reaffirm our commitment to empowering the Deaf community across the African continent, including the Indian Ocean Islands. Through our dedication and knowledge sharing, we aim to create a lasting impact. We look forward to building on this momentum and achieving further success in 2025.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

» The Board of Trustees remains committed to guiding DeafNET toward achieving its mission and vision. Throughout 2024, the Board provided strategic guidance, ensuring DeafNET's sustained progress. The trustees remain dedicated to upholding the organisation's values and advancing its goals to create lasting change.



Ms. C MORGAN *Deaf*

Chairperson - South Africa



Ms. ID OYUU *Deaf*

Vice Chairperson - Uganda



Rev. AL SMIT

South Africa



Dr. M GEIGER

South Africa



Dr. FK KRIGE

South Africa



Mr. JS KELLERMAN *Deaf*

South Africa



Dr. HCM DEFOURNEY

Netherlands



Dr. PAO AKACH

Kenya



Ms. M GLASER

South Africa



Mr. PA COOK

South Africa

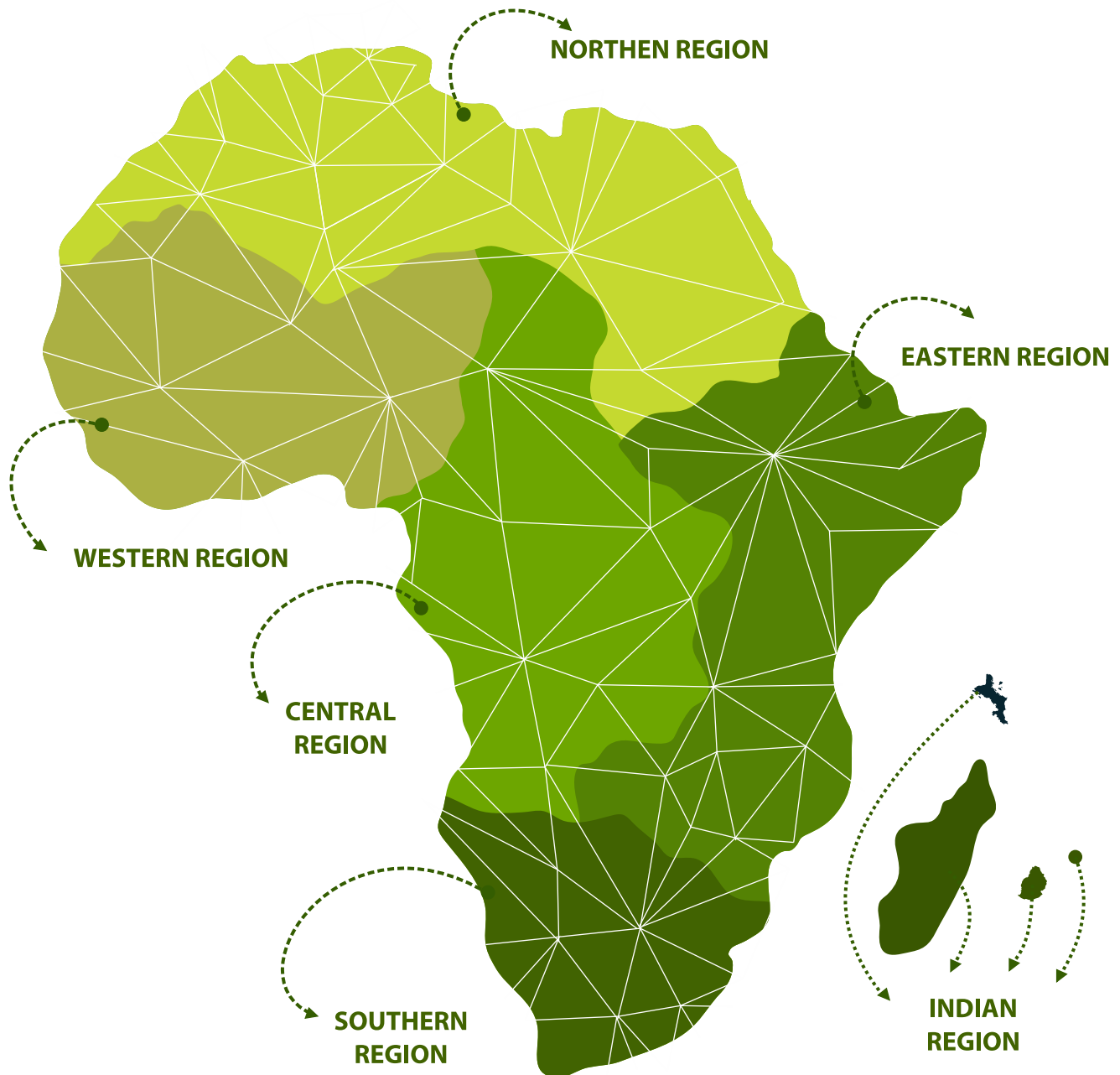


Dr. W AYANSA *Deaf*

Ethiopia

DEAFNET AFRICA NETWORK

» Footprint in Africa



- » Our network spans six regions on the African continent, positioning us to serve the Deaf community effectively. With coverage extending across over 40 countries on the continent and neighbouring Indian Ocean Islands, our network provides a robust structure and makes a meaningful impact.

PROJECT TEAM STRUCTURE

» The DeafNET project team is a diverse and dynamic group of Deaf individuals from various African countries, each bringing unique skills and expertise. They collaborate on specific projects, driving progress and achieving key objectives.



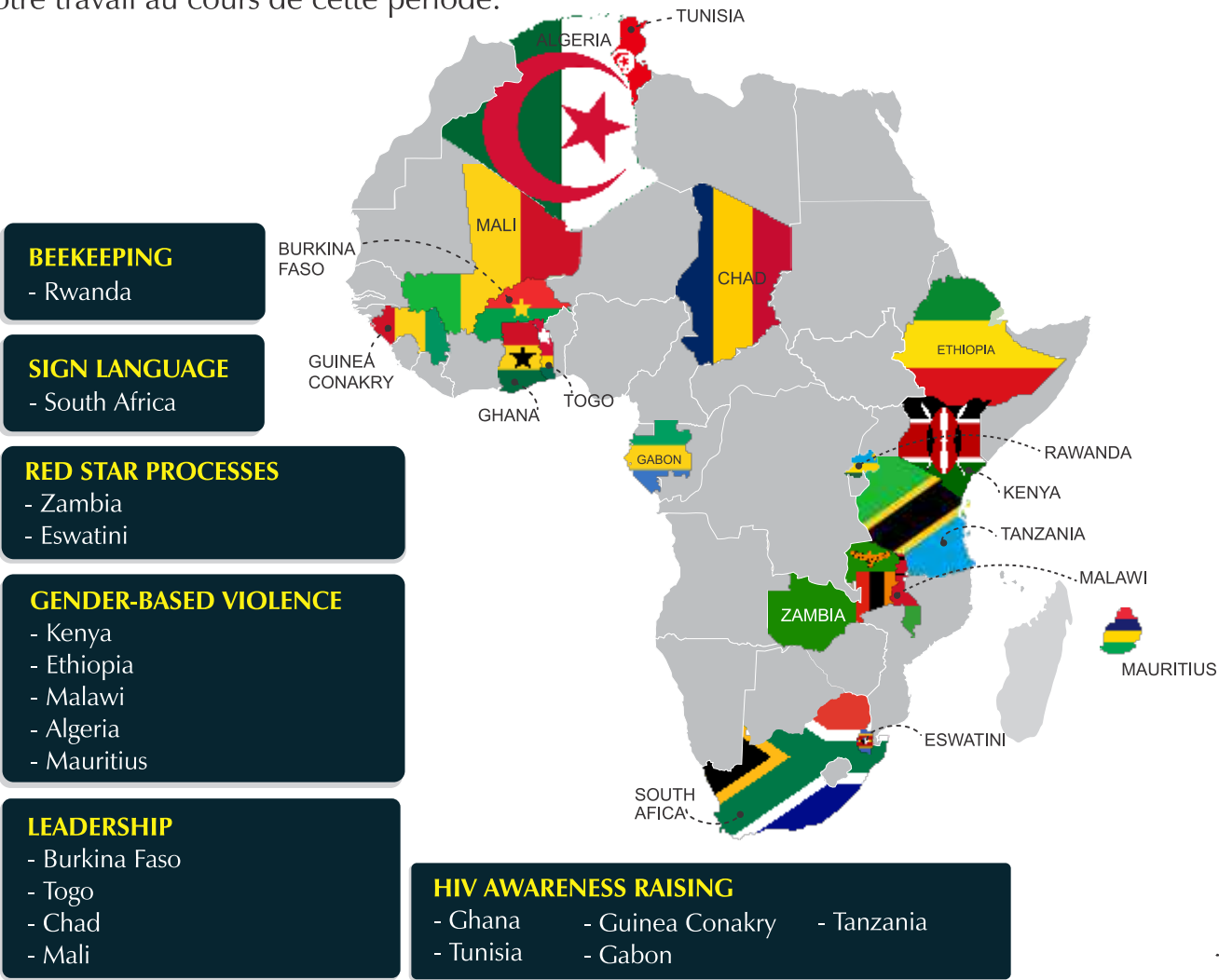
PROJECT FUNDING MODEL



DeafNET acknowledges the generous support of SVE and DSD, our primary donors. Their funding has enabled us to execute projects successfully. We extend our heartfelt appreciation for the support throughout the 2024/2025 period and look forward to another fruitful year.

DeafNET PROGRAMMES

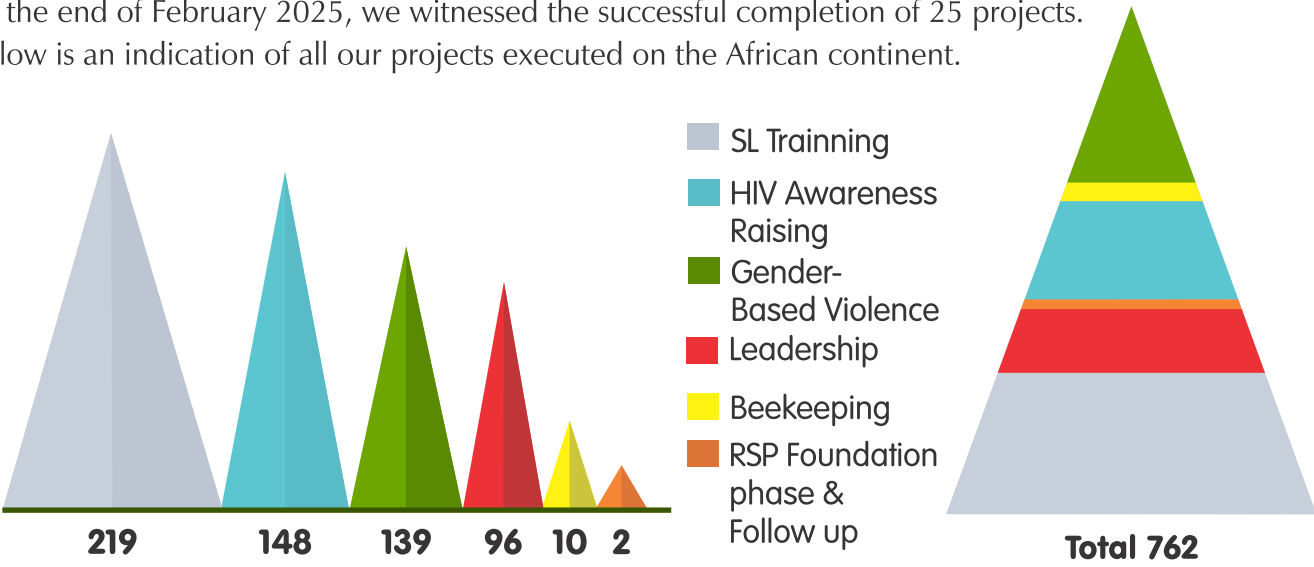
» Grâce à des partenariats très solides avec des organisations de sourds et des écoles de sourds, nous avons renforcé les initiatives de renforcement des capacités, les campagnes de sensibilisation et les programmes éducatifs adaptés à la communauté des sourds. La carte ci-dessous illustre nos projets exécutés entre mars 2024 et février 2025, mettant en valeur notre travail au cours de cette période.



CAPACITY BUILDING

» Training Courses/Awareness Raising/Workshops

By the end of February 2025, we witnessed the successful completion of 25 projects. Below is an indication of all our projects executed on the African continent.



BEEKEEPING



RWANDA MARCH 2023-FEB 2025

The two-year beekeeping project between DeafNET and the Rwanda National Union started in February 2023 and February 2025. Initially, 10 participants were empowered with beekeeping skills, aiming to improve their economic prospects. Through a demonstration apiary, the project instilled hope in the Deaf community in Gicumbi, Rwanda. Over the project's duration, multiple training sessions equipped beneficiaries with skills in handling bees and bee products. By the project's end, the number of active beekeepers had grown from 10 to 60. The local community had also adopted beekeeping practices, with many setting up their own hives. Honey harvesting is progressing well, and the beneficiaries are grateful for DeafNET's support.



RED STAR PROCESS (RSP)

The RSP has demonstrated effectiveness in enhancing the reading, writing and communication skills of Deaf learners, as well as in improving their ability to communicate their emotions and thoughts. This method is both innovative and creative within African Deaf schools.

ZAMBIA 21-27 JULY 2024

One year after the training at De La Bat School for the Deaf in Worcester, follow-up training was held in Zambia. The DeafNET RSP team visited Zambia to conduct this training, which included UTH Special Girls School, Munali Girls Secondary School and Lusaka Boys Secondary School. Two educators from Magwero School for the Deaf in Chipata were also invited to participate.





ESWATINI 27 JULY - 1 AUG 2024

In 2018, six individuals from Eswatini participated in training on the RSP for teaching literacy to Deaf students. The RSP team from South Africa later visited Eswatini to assess how the RSP was being used in Eswatini's schools for the Deaf. This evaluation took place at Seteki School of Deaf and Masetsa High School for the Deaf.



SOCIAL COMPETENCE IN LEADERSHIP

» Leadership training focused on social skills improves participants' ability to govern themselves fairly. It aims to equip Deaf leaders with the necessary knowledge and skills to run their organisations well. This programme is designed to develop new Deaf leaders, as there is still a strong need for leadership training in the Deaf community in Africa, even with more programmes being offered.

BURKINA FASO 24-28 JUNE 2024

The first leadership workshop took place at Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso. The 25 participants were Deaf people and representatives from different fields of the Deaf community. The workshop was led by two facilitators: Mr Shukuru K. Debby from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Mr Edgar Bwire from Uganda.





TOGO 1-5 JULY 2024

The workshop took place at Ecole Ephphatha des Sourds de Djidjolé, BP 2341, Lome. More than 23 Deaf leaders from across Togo participated in the training, organised by DeafNET and led by Mr Edgar Bwire from Uganda and Mr Shukuru K. Debby from the DRC.





CHAD 4-8 NOV 2024

Training was held at the Centre de Formation Professionnelle des Jeunes Sourds in N'djamena. About 25 participants from N'djamena and nearby areas joined the workshop. The session was conducted by two trainers: Mr Shukuru K. Debby from the DRC and Mr Djerandil Mbaindguim from Chad.





MALI 11-15 NOV 2024

A workshop took place in Bamako, Mali, aimed at providing Deaf leaders with essential skills to support their community. More than 25 Deaf leaders from across Mali participated in the training, organised by DeafNET. The session was conducted by two trainers: Mr Shukuru K. Debby from the DRC and Mr Djerandil Mbaindiguim from Chad.



HIV AWARENESS RAISING

DeafNET seeks to enhance awareness regarding the epidemic of sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS, with a focus on Deaf communities. This initiative includes a comprehensive strategy to raise awareness about the epidemic, diminish the stigma associated with HIV and promote the significance of HIV testing and prevention within the Deaf community.

GHANA 11 AUG 2024

A presentation on HIV/AIDS awareness was organised for the members of the Deaf Association at the Conference Hall in Ghana. The workshop was led by Rev. Reuben Peter Wuni (Deaf) and was attended by 32 members of the Deaf Association





TUNISIA 21 SEPT 2024

The workshop was held in honour of the International Week of the Deaf at Rue d'Espagne, Tunisia. A total of 25 participants attended, representing the National Association of the Deaf and various Deaf organisations. The workshop was presented by Mr Atef Boukari (Deaf).





GUINEA CONAKRY 14 SEPT 2024

The awareness-raising event took place at La Salle de l'Ecole des Sourds in Boulbinet, Conakry, Guinea, and was conducted by Mr Souleymane Soumah (Deaf). A total of 25 Deaf participants attended the event.





GABON 19 OCT 2024

DeafNET, in partnership with the Association des Sourds Muets du Gabon, hosted a workshop at Libreville, Gabon. A total of 38 Deaf participants attended the event. Mr Pouna Bertrand (Deaf) facilitated the workshop.





TANZANIA 2 NOV 2024

DeafNET conducted an HIV/AIDS awareness workshop for the Deaf community in Bukoba, Tanzania, at the Bukoba Youth Centre. The workshop attracted about 26 individuals. The workshop was led by Mr Edgar Bwire (Deaf) from Uganda.



GBV AWARENESS RAISING

The objective is to increase awareness to tackle gender-based violence (GBV) and to promote care and visual support for Deaf communities. This toolkit has been created to stimulate further action in response to the crisis of GBV affecting the Deaf community in Africa. DeafNET's GBV toolkit emphasises general sensitisation and awareness-raising efforts.



KENYA 5 MAY 2024

A GBV workshop took place in Mumias Primary School Hall, Kenya. About 24 participants attended the workshop. One of the objectives was to provide an understanding of GBV. The workshop was facilitated by Mr Edgar Bwire from Uganda.





ETHIOPIA 18-19 JULY 2024

A GBV awareness-raising workshop for Deaf individuals was held in Ethiopia at Tegbarhid in Addis Ababa. The workshop was led by Dr Woinshet Ayansa (DeafNET Trustee) from Ethiopia, who oversaw the participation of over 34 Deaf individuals.





MALAWI 17 AUG 2024

Pastor Jimmy Akimu facilitated the GBV awareness training that was held at the Shalom Palace Lodge, Blantyre, Malawi. The participants were selected from different areas and other districts of Blantyre. 27 people attended the workshop.



ALGERIA 5 OCT 2024

A workshop on GBV was held at Rue Didouche Mourad Alger, Algeria. Mr Reda Brahmi facilitated the workshop. He welcomed about 20 participants and highlighted the importance of awareness raising in addressing violence among the Deaf community in Algeria.





MAURITIUS 19 OCT 2024

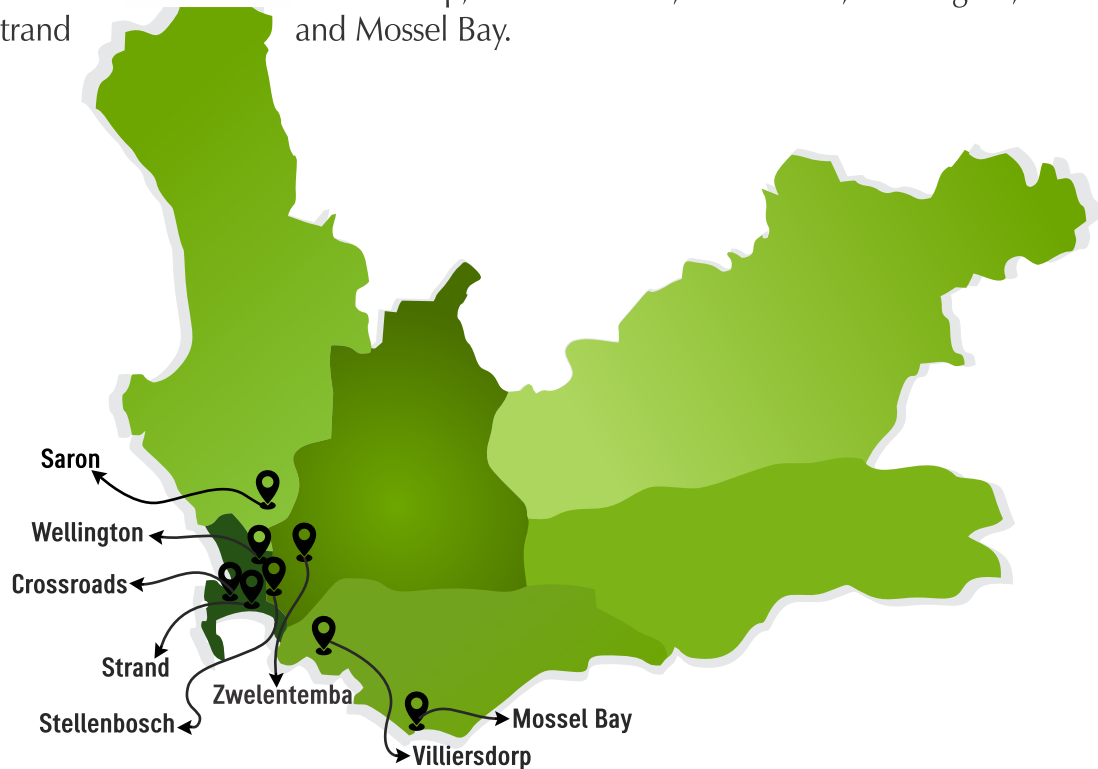
A GBV awareness-raising workshop was hosted at the Deaf Association of Mauritius, Quatre Bornes by Ms Irani Jankee (Deaf). There were 29 participants.



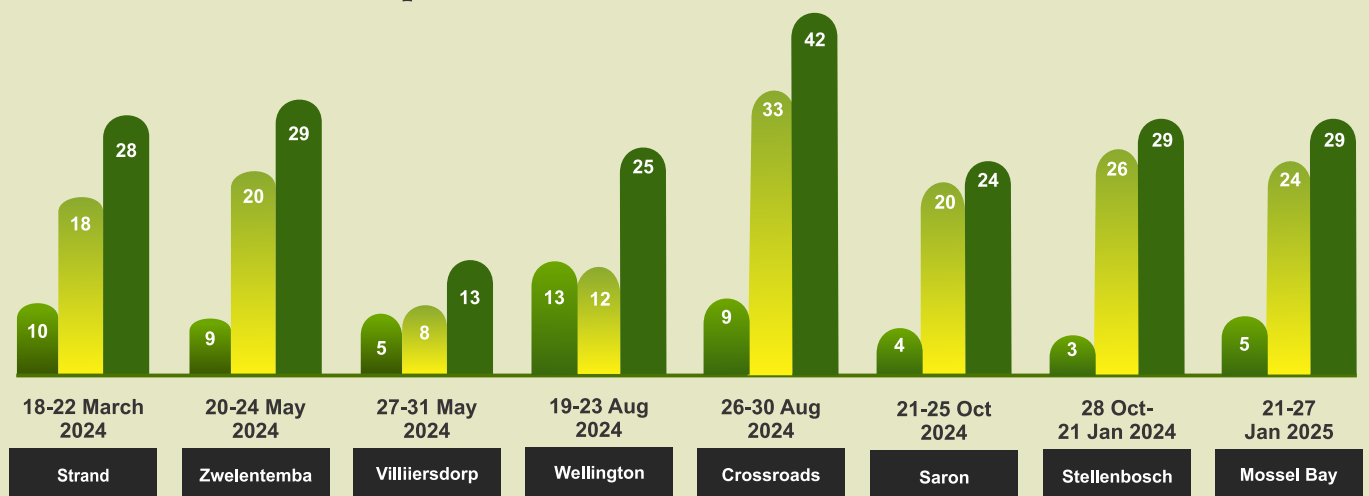
SIGN LANGUAGE TRAINING IN SOUTH AFRICA

» HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Eight Sign Language training workshops were hosted in partnership with the Department of Social Development and SVE. DeafNET presented a Basic South African Sign Language course for youth who are not in education, employment, or training in the Western Cape. A total of 219 youth and community workers were trained in Villierdorp, Zwelentemba, Crossroads, Wellington, Saron, Stellenbosch, Strand and Mossel Bay.



SL Training from April 2024-March 2025



56 Male 163 Female 219 Total



STRAND 18-22 MARCH 2024



ZWELENTHEMBA 20-24 MAY 2024





VILLIERSDORP 27-31 MAY 2024



WELLINGTON 19-23 AUG 2024





CROSSROADS 26-30 AUG 2024



SARON 21-25 OCT 2024





STELLENBOSCH 28 OCT - 1 NOV 2024



MOSSEL BAY 27-31 JAN 2025



OTHER INITIATIVES



MALAWI 5 MARCH 2025

On 5 March 2025, at Balaka Secondary School in Balaka town, Tamva Friends for the Deaf volunteered to train hearing students and teachers in Sign Language. Mr Jimmy Akimu (DeafNET Facilitator) attended the event to monitor the training.



CHAD

Mr Djerandil Mbaindiguim (DeafNET facilitator) has started an entrepreneurial initiative in Moundou-Chad. The ice manufacturing aims to combat unemployment in the Deaf community. At a later stage the recruiting of more Deaf people will be initiated.





RWANDA 10-13 MARCH 2025

Mr Edgar Bwire (Beekeeping Manager) from Uganda attended the global Inclusive Education exchange workshop held in Kigali, Rwanda from 10 to 13 February 2025. The workshop aimed at identifying challenges and generating ideas on how to improve inclusive education around the world.



TANZANIA 23 APRIL 2025

A training session on disability, inclusion, reproductive health and gender was held at Sai Villa Hotel (Iringa, Tanzania) on 23 April 2025. The workshop was facilitated by Mr Tumaini Simeon Ngajilo.

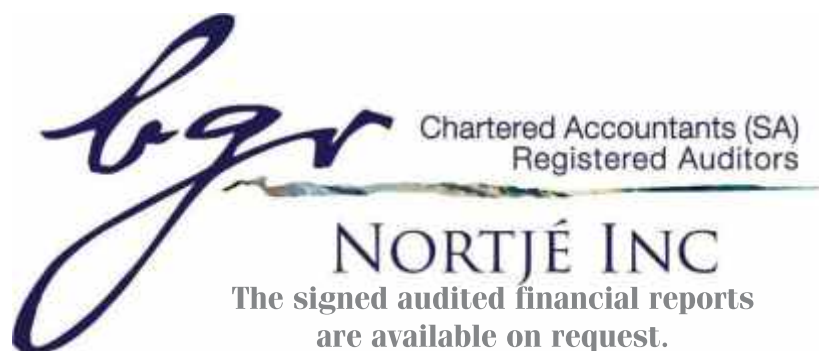




WAY FORWARD

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance our RSP program, we are setting new priorities aimed at redeploying resources, accrediting learning resources, and strengthening project quality. This strategic initiative reaffirms DeafNET's purpose, the Deaf communities we serve, and our commitment to delivering exceptional programs.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT



DEAFNET CENTRE OF KNOWLEDGE
(Registration number: IT 3278/2011)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2025

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	2025 R	2024 R
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	2	58 148	51 000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	912 313	1 169 322
Total assets		<u>970 461</u>	<u>1 220 322</u>
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Capital and reserves			
Trust capital	4	333 023	512 754
Reserve Funds	5	625 365	625 365
Current liabilities			
Creditors	6	12 073	82 203
Total equity and liabilities		<u>970 461</u>	<u>1 220 322</u>

DEAFNET CENTRE OF KNOWLEDGE

(Registration number: IT 3278/2011)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2025

INCOME STATEMENT

	2025 R	2024 R
INCOME	3 547 031	3 480 771
Project income	2 551 640	2 509 525
Department of Social Development	132 000	313 246
Donation: Dr F Krige (Support of School for the Deaf)	810 000	-
De Stichting Vrienden va Effatha (SVE)		
SVE - Projects Income 2024/25 (197) (10% retention)	189 580	-
SVE - Beekeeping	186 212	291 197
SVE - HIV Awareness Program	116 438	157 150
SVE - Leader and Management Training	592 313	596 753
SVE - Competency for facilitators	-	37 470
SVE - Gender-Based Violence	116 438	234 585
SVE - Redstar	170 235	614 125
SVE - Entrepreneurship	-	15 050
SVE - Conference	-	212 350
SVE - Sign Language Workshop	190 013	37 599
Social Development Funding - 2023/24	48 411	-
Other income	995 391	971 246
Administration fees	121 819	155 684
Contributions from other countries for projects	268 840	161 775
Foreign exchange income	14 541	-
Interest	86 095	115 340
Profit on sale of assets	-	1 590
Project coordination fees	494 200	536 857
Registration for workshops	9 896	-

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2025

INCOME STATEMENT

	2025 R	2024 R
LESS: EXPENDITURE	(3 726 762)	(3 285 645)
General expenses	(1 681 283)	(936 516)
Operating expenses	(45 865)	(22 216)
Loss on sale or scrapping of assets	-	(600)
Meeting cost	(33 027)	(13 439)
Travel and accommodation	(1 900)	(739)
Web sites	(10 938)	(7 438)
Administration expenses	(926 713)	(304 987)
Accountants's remuneration	(12 018)	(23 922)
Auditor's remuneration	(29 760)	(8 450)
Bank charges	(4 400)	(201)
Cleaning services	(250)	(499)
Computer expenses	(13 127)	(5 259)
Depreciation and impairments	(2 644)	(2 182)
Foreign exchange loss	-	(17 671)
Honorarium	-	(33 074)
Insurance	(9 719)	(9 693)
Marketing expenses	(5 950)	(477)
Office supplies	-	(849)
Postage and Courier services	(740)	(427)
Sundry expenses	(2 415)	(1 112)
Rent paid	(28 756)	(41 886)
Buildings	(28 756)	(29 558)
Equipment	-	(12 328)
Security	(3 443)	(3 519)
Subscriptions	(5 620)	(5 231)
Stationary	(5 255)	(3 120)
Support: School for the Deaf	(600 000)	-
Telephone and facimile	(2 616)	(3 569)
WFD Congress attendance	-	(143 802)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2025

INCOME STATEMENT

	2025 R	2024 R
LESS: EXPENDITURE (continued)		
Employee salaries and benefits	(708 705)	(609 313)
Compensation funds	(7 767)	(2 091)
Salaries and benefits	(697 211)	(602 710)
Unemployment insurance fund	(3 727)	(4 512)
Project expenses	(2 045 479)	(2 349 129)
SVE - HIV/AIDS Training and Awareness raising in Africa	(144 338)	(144 356)
Workshop expenses	(144 338)	(144 356)
SVE - Leadership and Management	(798 101)	(561 953)
Workshop expenses	(798 101)	(561 953)
SVE - RSP - Zambia	(221 290)	(700 994)
Workshop expenses	(221 290)	(700 994)
DEAFNET - RSP (Eswatini)	(87 190)	-
Workshop expenses	(87 190)	-
SVE - Beekeeping Project Kenya	(223 390)	(299 373)
Auditor Remuneration	(1 500)	(18 000)
Workshop expenses	(173 114)	(235 873)
Salaries	(48 776)	(45 500)
SVE - Sign Language Training in South Africa - 2022/23	-	(11 199)
Workshop expenses	-	(11 199)
TPA Social Development	(180 987)	(313 246)
Workshop expenses	(180 987)	(231 466)
Salaries	-	(81 780)
Gender-Based Violence	(154 181)	(257 076)
Workshop expenses	(154 181)	(257 076)
African Conference	-	(60 932)
Workshop expenses	-	(60 932)
SVE - Sign Language Training in South Africa	(235 652)	-
Workshop expenses	(235 652)	-
Conference 2026	(350)	-
Workshop expenses	(350)	-
Net (deficit)/surplus	(179 731)	195 126
Transfer to Reserve Funds	-	(151 418)
Net (deficit)/surplus for the year	(179 731)	43 708



Thank you

TO ALL OUR
SPONSORS AND DONORS

The generous contributions of our sponsors sustain our work to build a network in Africa through particularizing and capacity building of deaf people and their families. As a registered non-profit organisation in South Africa, your gift to DeafNET is deductible. Please support us.

Stichting Vrienden van

e f f a t h a





GET INVOLVED

Let's work together to
make a difference.



Bank: NEDBANK
Account Number: 1020462655
Account Type: Cheque Account
Branch Code: 101507
Swift Number: NEDSZAJJ

REGISTERED OFFICE:

30 De La Bat Road
Worcester
6850
South Africa

STATUS:

Registered Trust: IT 3278/2011
PBO: 930 039 439
NPO: 104-814-NPO

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This product is a
DeafNET product