

GREAT KEI UNEMPLOYMENT HACKATHON

7-8 May 2022

Sponsored by :

EPF TECH FUND



Winning Team: Victorious Tech Leaders

Top Row: Asithandile Ngubane (Team Leader), John Mogashoa, Sindiswa Mnisi, Esihle Ntozini.

Bottom Row: Sithabile Mafuleka, Tumiso Motalaota, Dina Komape, Tsoeu Monyane.

Empire Partner Foundation

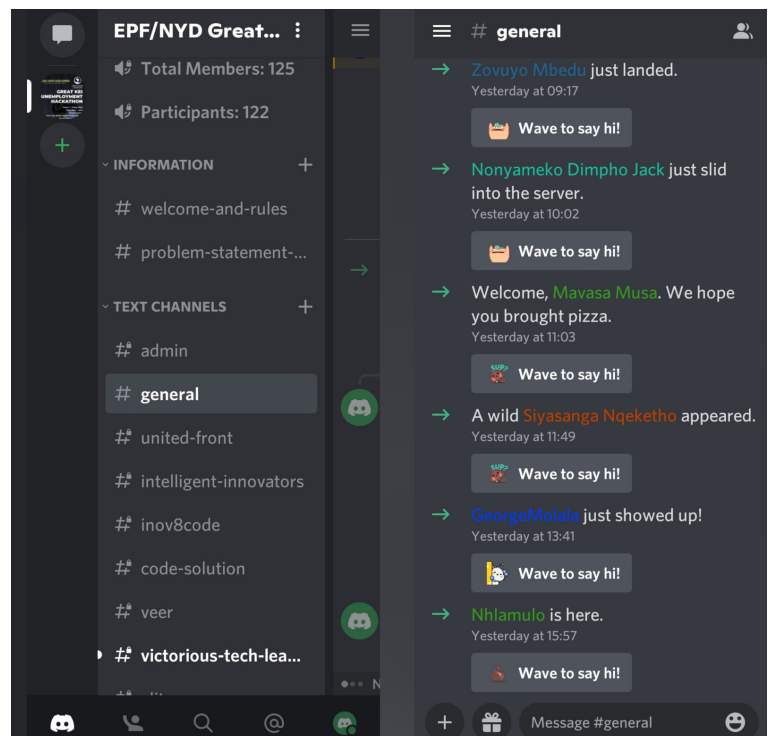
- 18 months and 18 hackathons, EPF has journeyed in hosting hackathons from 100% physical to hybrid and now for the first time 100% virtual on Discord.
- On the 7th to 8th of May 2022 we hosted the Great Kei Unemployment Hackathon in partnership with Nyara Youth Development.
- **Context:** “Great Kei Municipality has 17.6% employed people of the total population as per the 2011 Statistics South Africa survey. Labour force participation rate is significantly higher as opposed to the employment rate at 40.7% Unemployment rate is 28.2% but the proportion of those that are not economically active (not working, nor looking for work) .” (Stats SA 2011)

- **Hackathon focus:** How can we use tech to address youth unemployment in the Great Kei?
- 119 young digital innovators in programming, business, finance and marketing from across South Africa participated in solving the challenge by developing tech solutions.

FAST FACTS

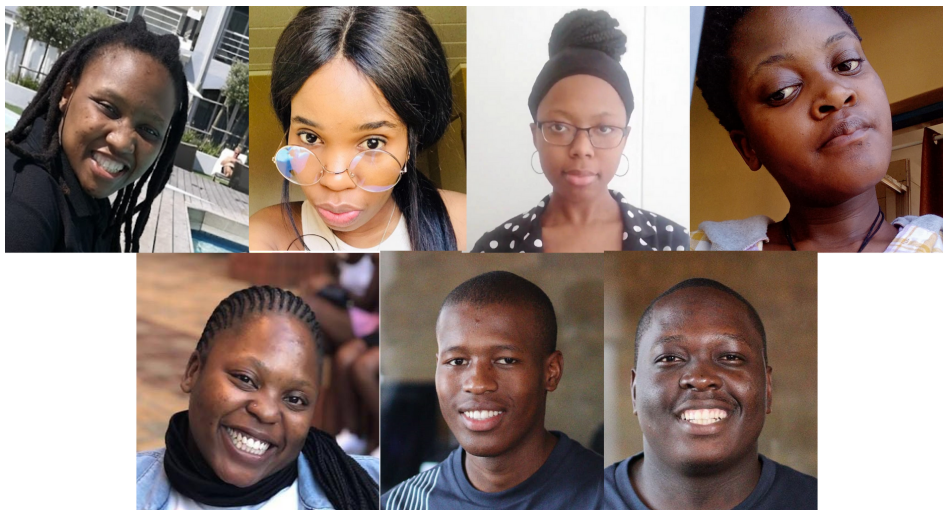
- 18 HOSTED HACKATHONS
- 8 UPCOMING HACKATHONS IN 2022
- 1000+ TOTAL DIGITAL INNOVATORS
- ITWEB NEWS COVERAGE
- 159 SOLUTIONS DEVELOPED
- 18 NEW PARTNERSHIPS SECURED
- 49 KEYNOTE SPEECHES
- 16 INTERN OPPORTUNITIES CREATED
- 10 BURSARIES PROVIDED
- 18 WINNING TEAMS WITHIN OUR INCUBATION HUB
- OVER HALF A MILLION RAND IN CASH PRIZES AWARDED

Discord (Digital Platform)



- The winning team, Victorious Tech Leaders was awarded R8000 cash prize, now join the EPF Incubation Hub, where they will get support to become technopreneurs. Their Team Leader, Asithandile Ngubane says, "The name of the winning app is Digital Kei. The function of the app is to equip the youth with necessary skills into becoming entrepreneurs such as agricultural skills & selling platform, digital skills, online tutoring, Forex, Software Development and many more.
- When asked how their team felt about winning and how they see their success inspire other young digital innovators, Ngubane says, "We feel so grateful to have won the competition considering that we had to work virtually, especially competing against other competitive teams within a few hours to implement a solution that will benefit the Youth. Our success will inspire other young digital innovations in a way for them to never give up or think that their ideas are too absurd to put them into reality because every solution is valid. You just have to believe in it."

Intelligent Innovators: Second Place



Top Row: Sisipo Songo (Team Leader), Samukelisiwe Khumalo, Katiana de Almeida, Sfundo Nyandeni
Bottom Row: Keleabetswe Legoai, Nduduzo Shabalala, Sibusiso Magwaxaza

- Robyn Mafanya, the founder of Nyara Youth Development said, "It has been a great pleasure working with EPF. The ideas and technical apps presented were at a high level and I can't wait to see the outcome of the incubation process of the winning team. As judges we had a hard time choosing the winners based on all the talent. It was really exhilarating discovering the talent that the youth of SA have, it really gives one hope for a brighter future, especially for them."

Inov8code: Third Place



Top Row: Clarence Mantiya (Team Leader), Inganathi Bozo, Mariam Lukoji, Hope Nkabinde

Bottom Row: Rencilwe Gwangwa, Lindiwe Gabela, Precious Myemane

- Jasmine Mokwena, EPF's Hackathon Coordinator says, "The Great Kei Unemployment Hackathon served as a historical milestone for us at EPF. It was wonderful working with our newest partners from Nyara in focusing on eradicating youth unemployment that is so rampant in the Great Kei area in the Eastern Cape. We at EPF look forward to the next province we will be venturing socio-economic change out to using tech."

Upcoming Hackathons:

- 6 more monthly hybrid hackathons to be hosted in 2022 by Empire Partner Foundation. Save the calendar by clicking here: <https://cutt.ly/tGn0Ye5>
- The next hybrid hackathon theme is the Small Business Development Hackathon on the 28th to 29th of May 2022.

Special thanks to:

- EPF Tech Fund for sponsoring the Hackathon.
- Nyara Youth Development for partnering with us to host the Hackathon.
- ITWeb for covering our Hackathon story.
- The keynote speaker: Robyn Mafanya (Nyara Youth Development, Founder)
- The judges: Robyn Mafanya (Nyara Youth Development, Founder). Sibongile Booi (Second Office, Founder & General Manager). Coenraad Loubser (Wish.org, Founder). Devakashan Naicker (EPF, Electronics Engineer)
- Universities that EPF have partnered with in inviting students to participate: WeThinkCode. Hyperion Dev. Durban University of Technology (DUT). University of Kwa-Zulu-Natal (UKZN). Nelson Mandela University (NMU). University of Fort Hare (UFH).

PROUD SUPPORTERS

