



2023 Annual Report

with support from

glasswaters
foundation

Vodacom
Lesotho
Foundation



AMBASSADE
DE FRANCE
EN AFRIQUE DU SUD,
AU LESOTHO
ET AU MALAWI
*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*

DW Deutsche
Welle
Made for minds.

CITIZEN
SCIENCE
ZÜRICH

Milli*
Media & Information Literacy Learning Initiative

Dolen
LESOTHO YMRU

ENIGMA
ACADEMY

af
Alliance Française
Maseru - Lesotho

PHEHA
PLASTIC

paleng
PEACE FOR AFRICA

nmt
Free speech for Africa



BOOKS FOR LESOTHO



Thari Trust
Lesotho
LEARNING FOR LIFE



Psychological Wellness Centre
Holistic Support for Your Well-Being

and Selibeng sa Thuto Trust

The Hub is a
project of Morija
Museum &
Archives in
Morija, Lesotho.





Through various activities, The Hub aims to foster a community of young people in Lesotho who are skilled, inspired, motivated and socially conscious.



Access to information

- In 2023, The Hub continued to provide access for the community to:

- internet
- computers
- tablets
- digital skills training

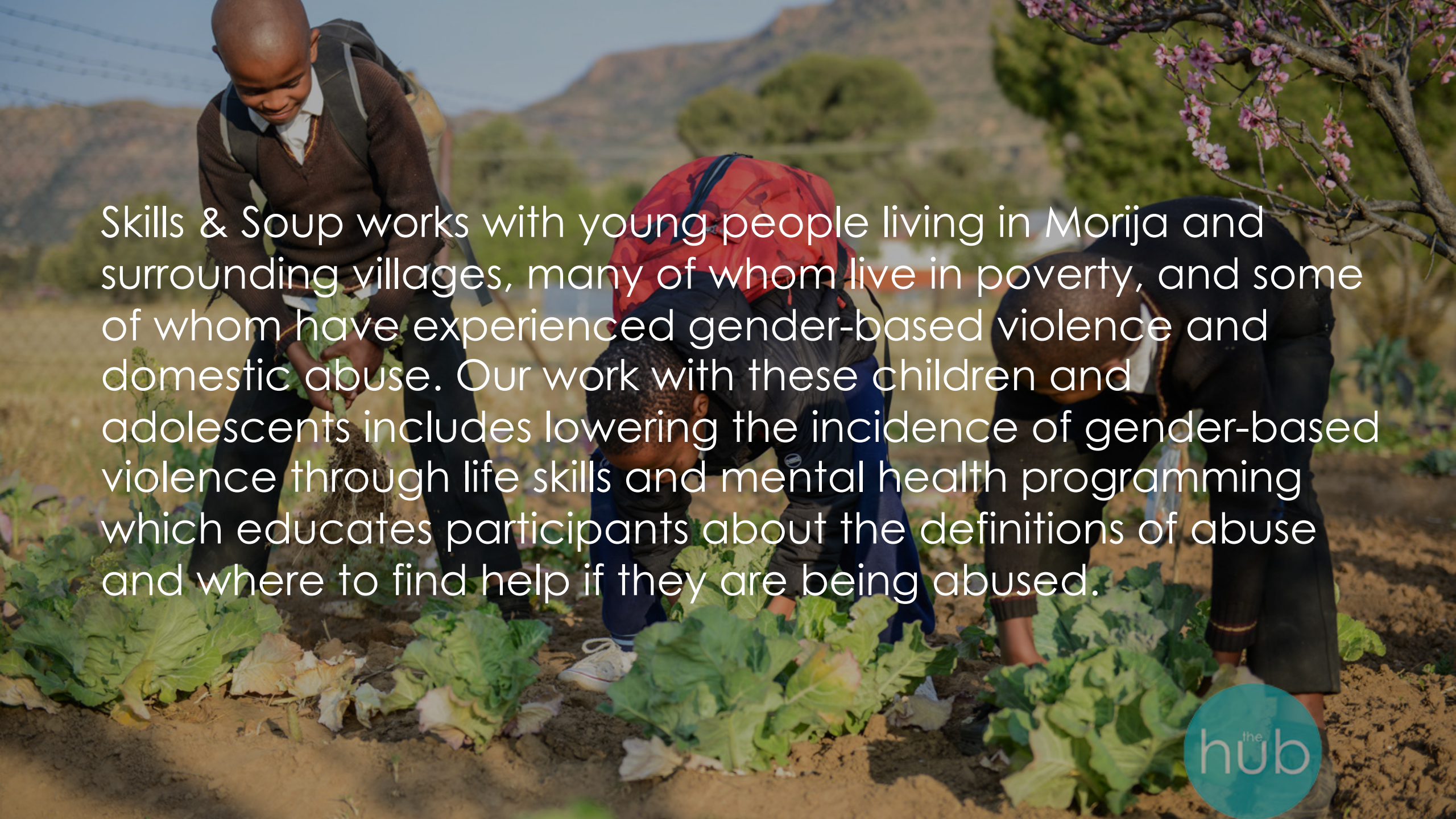


Since 2020, The Hub has implemented Skills & Soup, a programme that provides 100 children and adolescents with weekly nutritious meals, well-being and academic support.

The Hub is fundraising to increase the daily number to 125 or more children and adolescents weekly in 2024.

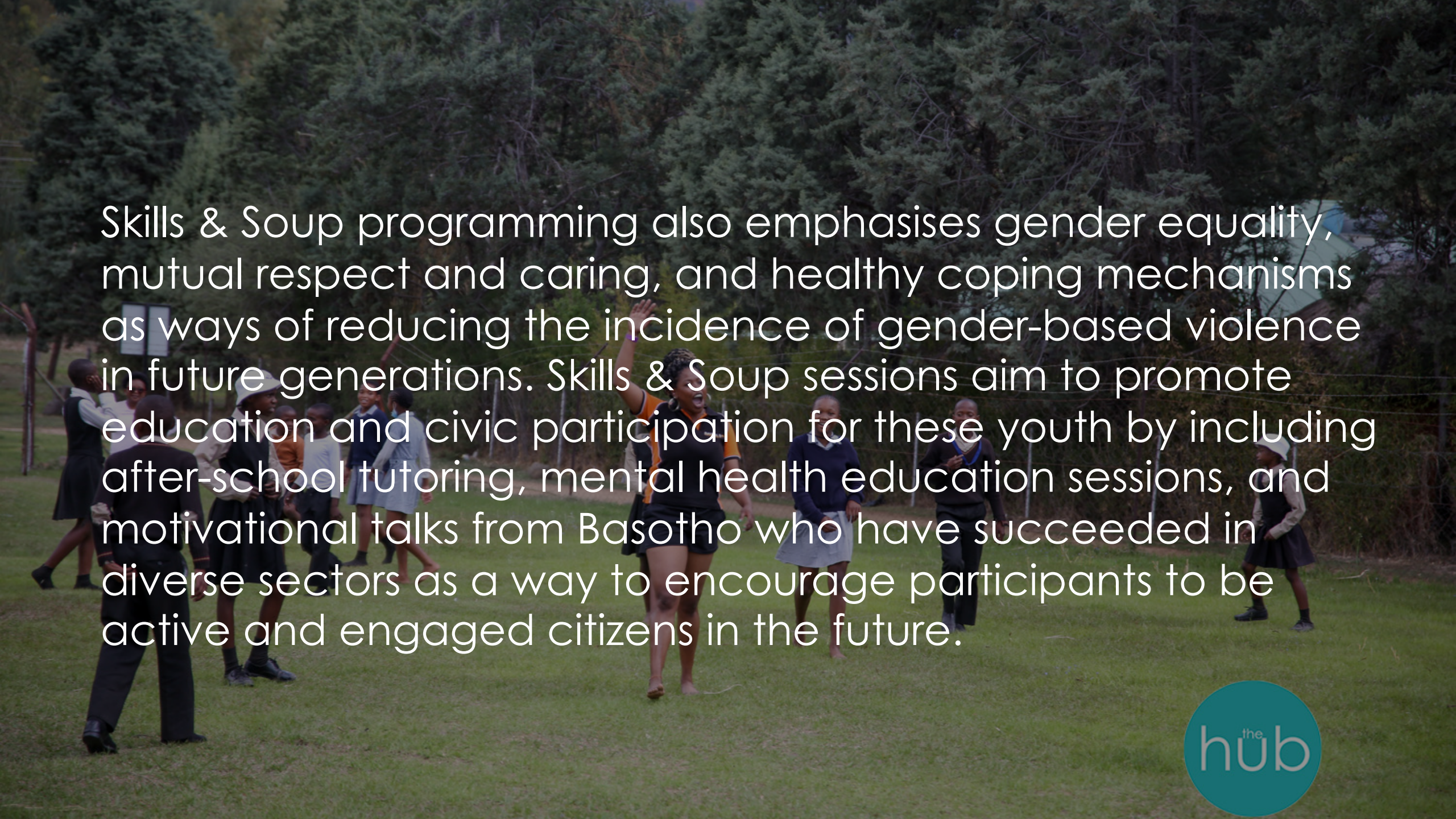
Skills & Soup's
100 weekly
participants range
in age from 8-19.
They participate
in groups of 20
per day.





Skills & Soup works with young people living in Morija and surrounding villages, many of whom live in poverty, and some of whom have experienced gender-based violence and domestic abuse. Our work with these children and adolescents includes lowering the incidence of gender-based violence through life skills and mental health programming which educates participants about the definitions of abuse and where to find help if they are being abused.



A group of young people, mostly in school uniforms, are dancing in a grassy field. In the center, a young woman in a black and orange shirt is dancing with her arms raised. Other students are scattered around, some in traditional Basotho clothing. The background is filled with dense green trees.

Skills & Soup programming also emphasises gender equality, mutual respect and caring, and healthy coping mechanisms as ways of reducing the incidence of gender-based violence in future generations. Skills & Soup sessions aim to promote education and civic participation for these youth by including after-school tutoring, mental health education sessions, and motivational talks from Basotho who have succeeded in diverse sectors as a way to encourage participants to be active and engaged citizens in the future.



Skills & Soup

- 252 sessions held including:
 - Academic support sessions
 - Well-being sessions
- 10,080 meals served
 - Nutritious hot meal
 - Nutritious take-home ration



Academics @ Skills & Soup

- Led by Thejane Malakane
 - Professional teacher
- After school tutoring
- STEM subjects
- Coding with Scratch
- Personal Development



What some of Skills & Soup participants say about their lessons with Thejane:

"I enjoyed being taught multiplication by him, he makes it easy."

"I loved his lessons on the skeleton system."

"I enjoyed learning about gas particles in science."

"I loved when he taught us a topic in science subject that we never did in school, so when we did it at school I was then familiar with it."

"I like learning about climate change and how it affects our country."

"I enjoyed learning about other countries and cultures."

"I enjoy learning about Maths and Science."

Well-being @ Skills & Soup

- Led by Thembekile Mokhosi
 - Professional counsellor
- Mental well-being
- Coping mechanisms
- Human rights
- Physical well-being



What some of Skills & Soup participants say about their lessons with Thembekile:

“I apply what I’ve learned to cope with the pressures of life.”

“I am able to know when I am angry, sad or happy because of Ausi Thembi and how to avoid the bad emotions”.

“The self esteem lessons have helped me feel good about myself and love myself, do everything with passion.”

“They helped me become more kind and helpful to others who need my help”.

“When I have problems I am comfortable to approach Ausi Thembi and tell her my problems.”

“I learned not to be an abusive person especially to girls.”

“I am now able to pay attention and concentrate on my schoolwork.”

“I have learned how to control my anger.”

Well-being @ Skills & Soup

- Visiting Psychologist
Lebohang Bereng:
- 3 sessions held
- Learning about types
of mental health
problems, causes,
symptoms, treatments
and coping
mechanisms



Sign language @ Skills & Soup

- Skills & Soup continues throughout school holidays with additional lessons in sign language:

- 43 lessons delivered
- Led by Lineo Hlaha
- Trained sign language interpreter



Sign language @ Skills & Soup

- Additional sign language lessons were held during school holidays led by Shekeshe Peshoane, who is deaf
- 8 lessons delivered
- opportunity to practice communicating strictly with sign language



Meals @ Skills & Soup

- Prepared by Cafe Mojo
- Highly nutritious hot meal includes protein, starch, vegetables
- Highly nutritious take-home ration includes 2 loaves fortified brown bread, peanut butter, boiled egg, fruit



Meals @ Skills & Soup

- The Hub has eliminated single-use plastic by having participants bring reusable containers for:
 - Hot meal
 - Juice
 - Bread
 - Peanut butter



Photo by Alvein Matiea

What some of Skills & Soup participants say about their meals:

“Helps me in the case where there is no food at home, then I’m able to take the bread home and take as lunch while at school.”

“When I get home and there is no food, I am okay because I ate at The Hub.”

“I sometimes take food home to my siblings.”

“Sometimes there would be no food at home at all, so when I arrive with the food it’s then that we will be able to eat.”

“I provide food to my family.”

“I can bring some food home if we don’t have any.”

What some of Skills & Soup participants say about their meals:

“In the case where there is no food at home, we get to eat the bread that I got from Skills & Soup.”

“I get to have something to eat.”

“The take home food is helpful when there is no food at home we can eat.”

“When there is no food at home, I am able to eat the food from The Hub.”

“The food helps me a lot when there is no food at home.”

“In the case where there is no food at home, I get to eat here and be satisfied.”

Skills & Soup Outreach

- 12 S&S outreach sessions held at rural, digitally excluded schools including:
 - IT and coding
 - Mental and physical well-being



Monthly motivational Hub Talks bring a range of professionals, creative practitioners and activists to The Hub to inspire youth, and open their eyes to a variety of career paths.



Hub Talks @ Skills & Soup

- 12 Hub Talks held
 - Actor and scholar Lebohang Ntsane
 - Entrepreneur Tjeka Tjeka Thakeli
 - HIV activist Tšepang Maboe



Hub Talks @ Skills & Soup

- Disability activist Nthabeleng Ramoeli
- The People's Matrix LGBTQIA+ rights organisation
- Thabo Ratia, top LGCSE student in 2022 with A* in all 7 subjects



Hub Talks @ Skills & Soup

- Cyberbullying activist
Rethabile Tsephe
- Kefuoe Angelina
Nkuatsana, who leads
Mamello School and
Special Needs Centre
- Investigative journalist
Pascalinah Kabi



Hub Talks @ Skills & Soup

- Animation facilitators
Matty Monethi and
Thato Mokhali
- Permaculture
teacher and
practitioner Ivan
Yaholnitsky
- Financial wellness
advisor and author
Tokiso Tkay Nthebe



In 2023, The Hub launched the Hub Talk Podcast, a monthly motivational and informative podcast available to stream on Spotify or download from Soundcloud @thehubatmorija.



Hub Talk Podcast

- 12 Hub Talk Podcasts produced featuring Hub Talk speakers
- Brings a range of professionals, creative practitioners and activists to The Hub, aiming to inspire youth, and open their eyes to a variety of career paths



With support from Glasswaters Foundation, Dolen Cymru and other partners, Skills & Soup has a well-being agriculture project for learning agripreneurial skills and increased food security among Skills & Soup participants.



Agriculture Project

- Winter vegetables harvested include kale, cabbage, swiss chard, beetroot, and carrots
- Summer vegetables have been planted
- Fundraising is ongoing for shade netting



Agriculture Project

- Together with Skills & Soup participant Motselisi Mohapeloa, and with support from International Baccalaureate (IB) and the Global Youth Fund, rainwater harvesting is under way for the garden



Motselisi Mohapeloa and Skills & Soup were included in the 2023 Global Youth Action Fund awardees. They joined 300+ youth from 48 countries who were selected for their innovative ideas and projects that address the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Motselisi and Skills & Soup are working on a project to address food security in a changing climate, and also took part in a Social Entrepreneurship Lab course through the Global Youth Action Fund.

Recording and transcription

Started by Taylor Hart Odom. By attending this meeting, you consent to being included.

[Privacy policy](#)

S

Sanjana (...)

...

View all

13:27

teams.microsoft.com/_#/?modern-calling/

Meeting chat

here.

Niharika Dwivedi 13:09

Hii, Niharika from India and its currently 4:30 pm here!

Mateo Urbina (Invitado) (Guest) 13:10

Good Morning from Ecuador. Its currently 6Am here 😊

Muhammad Ibrahim Rashid (Guest) 13:10

Hi im Ibrahim from Pakistan, and the time here is 4:08pm

Laiba Ali (Guest) 13:10

Hi, I am Laiba from Virginia! It is 7a,

Elene Samsiani (Guest) 13:11

Good afternoon from Georgia! its 3pm here

Ahnaf Ilman (Guest) 13:12

Good evening, myself - Ahnaf Ilman, heading from Dhaka, Bangladesh and representing team Bacto Crop. And yeah, it's 17:12 here :)

¿Quieres hacer contenidos tan geniales como este?

REGÍSTRATE AHORA

the hub

good afternoon, Motselisi M

OUR CIRCUL

Need: This audience has specific needs such as finding affordable housing options near educational institutions or workplaces, managing their finances effectively, and maintaining a healthy work-life balance.

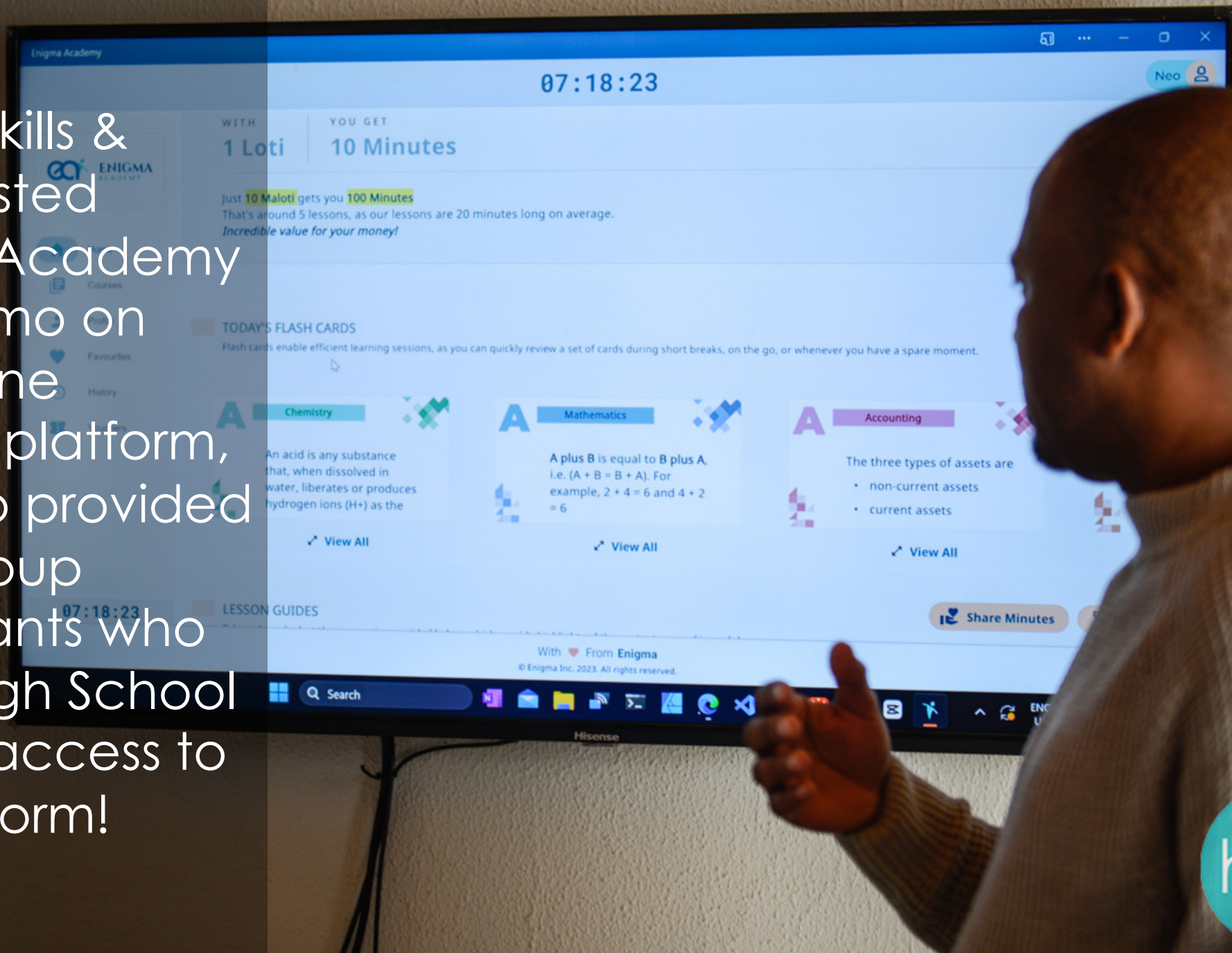
The secret are:

- Motivation
- Behaviors
- Goals

Digital platforms and mobile apps can be developed to educate and engage communities in proper waste segregation and recycling practices.

Página siguiente

In 2023 Skills & Soup hosted Enigma Academy for a demo on their online learning platform, they also provided Skills & Soup participants who are in High School with full access to the platform!



School Fees 2023

- The Hub is supporting 14 Skills & Soup participants with high school fees in 2023
- The number of students in need will increase to 30+ in 2024, support them via our crowdfunding campaign by [following this link!](#)



As part of Skills & Soup programming, the participants recite a creed each day, reinforcing their affirmation and commitment to being the best version of themselves.

In partnership with Dolen Cymru in 2023, The Hub held a series of workshops to turn the creed into a short film titled 'We Believe'.

We Believe is a short motivational film featuring Skills & Soup participants and facilitators. The film was part of Lesotho Film Festival 2023 and has 60,000 views on social media.



'We Believe' Video

- Created during workshops:
 - Scriptwriting led by Moso Sematlane
 - Filmmaking led by Thepa L. Moiloa
 - Animation led by Doops Arts & Design



The Hub has facilitated environmental education in the Makhoarane region and online since 2017.

In 2023 we took our educational photography exhibition about climate change and environmental degradation, produced by students at The Hub, to Alliance Française de Maseru for EU Green Week.

Environmental Education

- 200+ students in Maseru participated in guided tours of The Hub's exhibition, led by Pheha Plastic, during EU Green Week at Alliance Française de Maseru
- All of The Hub's educational content is free and open source



Photo by Alvein Matiea

In partnership with the Embassy of France in South Africa, The Hub produced a stop motion claymation film titled *Lehoatata* addressing climate change and gender inequality.



Lehoatata was produced during an 8-day workshop in October, led by 2 facilitators, with 4 high school students from Skills & Soup and The Hub's interns participating in production.



Climate Change Education

- *Lehoatata* was produced by a team of youth without prior experience in creating stop-motion animation or claymation
 - Consisting of 7,146 individual frames, *Lehoatata* is 6 minutes and 47 seconds long



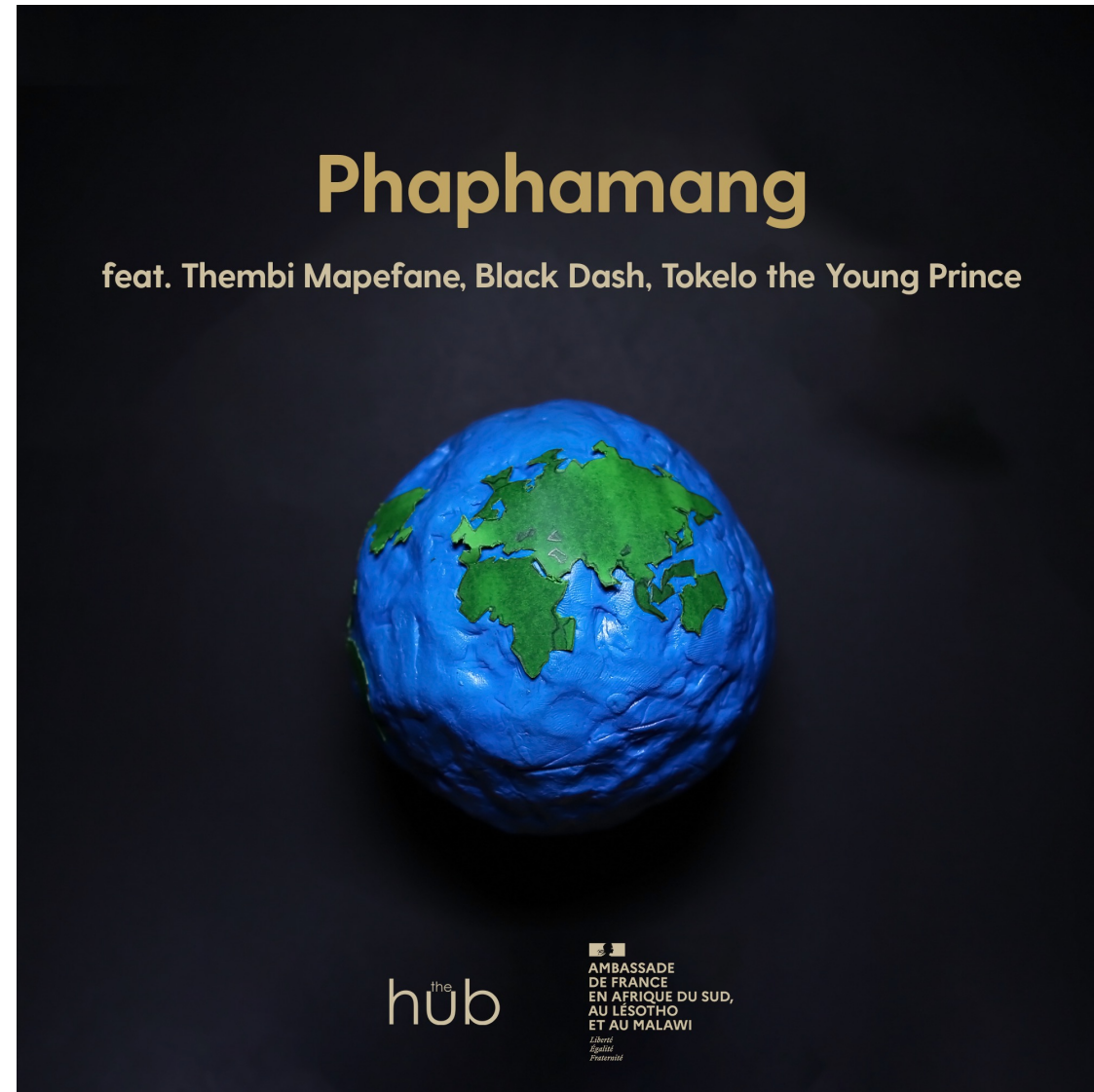
Climate Change Education

- Lehoatata was published on November 25, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and start of 16-Days of Activism Against GBV
- 124,000+ views on Facebook



Climate Change Education

- The facilitators of the animation workshop were guests on the Hub Talk Podcast in November
- An original song was produced by The Hub for the soundtrack titled Phaphamang featuring youth from The Hub



Climate Change Education

- Digital arts for climate change education and gender justice

• A permanent educational outdoor exhibition about climate change with 100 posters was printed and is exhibited along The Hub's high traffic fenceline

BIODIVERSITY



Benefits of
**healthy
plants**

Melemo ea limela tse
phetseng hantle



1

Provide
nutritious food

Fana ka lijo tse matlafatsang



2

Improve
soil fertility

Ntlafatsa tlhahiso ea mobu



3

Supply clean air
and water

Fana ka moea o hloekileng le
metsi a hloekileng



4

Help mitigate
climate change

Thusa ho thibela phethoho ea
maemo a leholimo



5

Protect
biodiversity

Tšireletsa biodiversity

Created by:



With support from:



Source:



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Climate Change Education

- Digital arts for climate change education and gender justice
 - The exhibition is free and open for everyone to access
 - Schools will be invited to tour the exhibition when they re-open in January 2024



Climate Change Education

- To draw attention to the issues around single use plastic and lack of waste management in Morija, The Hub's logo was created from wire and filled with waste with support from the Embassy of France in South Africa



The logo was produced by 16-year-old Katleho, who builds electric cars and boats from wire and plastic that run on phone batteries. He is among 30+ youth from Morija for whom The Hub is currently raising funds for 2024 school fees.



In 2023 The Hub continued to host full-time and part-time internships for 3 youth who are gaining hands on experience in photography, animation, filmmaking, business administration, public speaking and more.



The Hub is also hosting full- and part-time STEM and Accounting internships for 7 youth to gain valuable work experience and share their skills with young members of The Hub.



STEM Internships

- STEM interns at The Hub are teaching weekly digital skills lessons to students from Lesotho National Council of Women's vocational school as well as a vocational catering school in Morija as part of their curriculum



In partnership with Citizen Science Zürich, in September The Hub started the Hair Salon Project, a citizen science project aiming to assess the acceptability and feasibility of promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services over 12 months in hair salons in Lesotho.

To kick off the 'Hair Salon Project' at The Hub, all Skills & Soup girls received eco friendly Palesa Pads – washable, reusable sanitary towels.



Hair Salon Project

- A Citizen Scientist Working Group workshop was held in November to train 5 local hair stylists on SRH issues and to test the questionnaire forms that will be used to implement the programme



Hair Salon Project

- The Hub's interns also took part in the Citizen Scientist Working Group workshop, key in the inclusion of boys and men in the work toward societies that value women and men as equal, making them safer and healthier



In 2023, The Hub opened the only loan out library in Morija, aimed at supporting a love for reading and writing among young people, with more than 700 books loaned out so far!



New space coming!

- In January, a new multi purpose space to open using shipping containers and provide:
 - a library (enabling it to be open 5 days/week)
 - learning space
 - storage room



In 2023, The Hub continued to receive donations of books for early readers from Paleng – Place of Stories and from the Network of Early Childhood and Development of Lesotho.



Book Donations

- The Hub has delivered hundreds of books to ECCD schools in the Makhoarane region
- The donated books include several children's books in Sesotho



In partnership with Deutsche Welle Akademie, The Hub hosted script writing and filmmaking workshops in 2023, producing in 5 short films on Media and Information Literacy (MIL) topics with 197,000+ views on social media.



Filmmaking on MIL Topics

- Elections and Mis/Disinformation
- Climate Change & MIL
- Access to Information & Civic Participation
- Be Digital, Be Safe
- Freedom of Press & Safety of Journalists



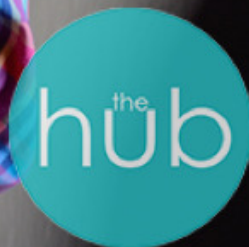
In 2023, The Hub took part in MIL workshops: SADC Production Lab 2.0 and Spaces of Solidarity in Johannesburg, South Africa in partnership with Deutsche Welle Akademie and the Media Institute of Southern Africa.



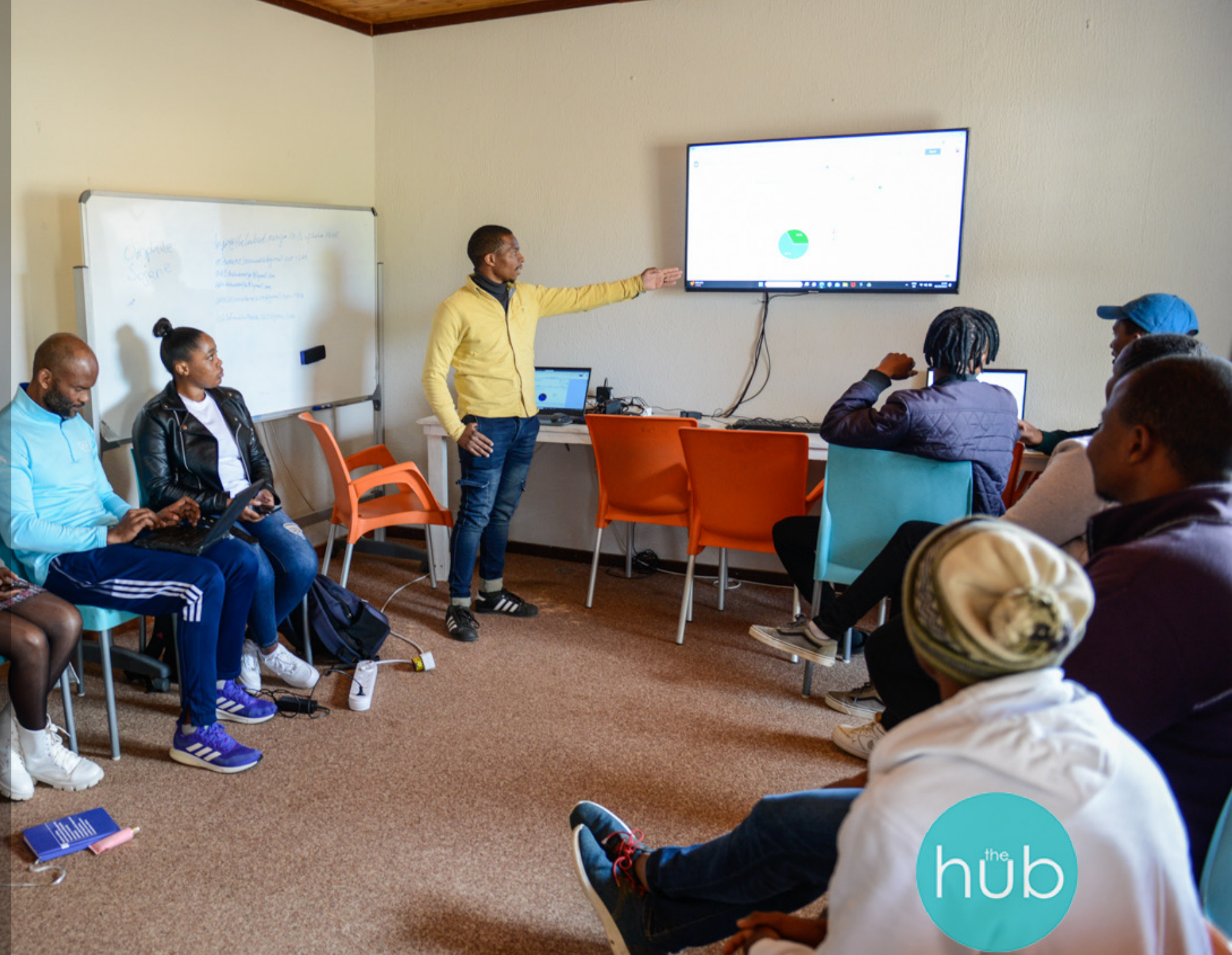
In September, The Hub took part in a 'Source to Mouth' cleanup event together with ReNOKA and the European Union to raise awareness about the environmental challenges of plastic pollution, soil erosion and river health.



In September,
The Hub hosted
Chimère
Communities for
an experimental
art and AI
workshop, and
co-created a
fictional script and
visuals for a
comic.



In September, The Hub facilitated a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) workshop for 3 NGOs, covering data collection using free tools like Google Forms, and photography as an important part of M&E for NGOs.



In 2023, Margot Leger did a guest lecture at Stellenbosch Business School for their MPhil students in Development Finance, and showcased some of The Hub's videos created by The Hub's interns in 2022.





Throughout 2024,
The Hub will
continue to
provide vital
support and
educational
opportunities for
youth in Morija
and surrounding
communities.



Follow the links below for more about:

- [School fees fundraiser](#)
- [Skills & Soup in 2023](#)
- [Hair Salon Project](#)
- [Digital arts for climate change education and gender justice](#)
- [Lehoatata \(Desert\) animation](#)
- [We Believe video](#)
- [Media and Information Literacy videos](#)
- [Hub Talk Podcast](#)
- [Chimère Communities and The Hub's AI collaboration](#)
- [EU Green Week](#)
- [Success stories](#)
- [World Cleanup Day 2023](#)
- [SADC Production Lab](#)
- [SADC Production Lab 2.0](#)
- [Spaces of Solidarity Conference](#)

Visit our flowpage to stay up to date with all the latest at The Hub: flow.page/thehubatmorija

The Hub contributed to the following content in 2023:

- [Video and photography: Source to Mouth Cleanup](#)
- [Video: NECDOL](#)
- [Video: Play 4 SRHR \(Embassy of France in South Africa\)](#)
- [Photo essay: ComBaCaL](#)
- [Photography: ReNOKA](#)
- [Photography: ReNOKA](#)
- [Photography: ReNOKA](#)
- [Photography: ReNOKA](#)
- [Photography: ReNOKA](#)
- [Video: ComBaCaL \(to be published\)](#)



Phone/WhatsApp: (+266) 5888 8387

Email: info@thehubmorija.co.ls

Website: thehubatmorija.co.ls

Facebook: [@thehubatmorija](https://www.facebook.com/thehubatmorija)

Instagram: [@thehubatmorija](https://www.instagram.com/thehubatmorija)

Twitter: [@thehubatmorija](https://twitter.com/thehubatmorija)

YouTube: [@thehubatmorija](https://www.youtube.com/thehubatmorija)

TikTok: [@thehubatmorija](https://www.tiktok.com/@thehubatmorija)

Soundcloud: [@thehubatmorija](https://www.soundcloud.com/thehubatmorija)

Spotify: [@thehubatmorija](https://www.spotify.com/artist/thehubatmorija)