

# Craton Foundation

Ziggy Hartmann was tasked by Craton Mining and Exploration to look into the matter of corporate social responsibility and the task became a passion which grew into a Foundation of which Ziggy is immensely proud of.



*2011—Craton Foundation handing over a classroom with a value of over N\$80,000 to Olof Palme Primary School*

"A great deal of investigation and talking to experts went in to researching the establishment of a Foundation. I soon realised that to identify and meaningfully assist with community needs is far more complicated than it sounds. Expectations and real needs are two different concepts. The trick is to identify needs and the processes to make relevant and lasting contributions," says Ziggy Hartmann.

Craton Foundation was registered in 2010 and aims to create long-lasting relationships with the communities in which Craton Mining and Exploration operates by providing assistance for the social upliftment and educational advancement of Namibian citizens.

Ziggy explains that Craton Mining and Exploration (Pty) Ltd. is the primary funder of the Craton Foundation. In order to stretch the Foundation's reach and impact, the Craton Foundation also actively seeks partners for its social initiatives.

In terms of education, the trustees have

decided to build classrooms to provide an environment where children can be taught and will become motivated to learn. In terms of social upliftment, the eyes of learners are screened and glasses are provided to those who need reading glasses.

"We have already built three classrooms which can accommodate in excess of 40 learners each," said Ziggy Hartmann.

Tobich Optics is one of the Foundation's partners in the 'Eye see the World' initiative. "Eyesight may be a key factor in academic achievement. Children, who are not able to see properly, cannot read properly and may therefore not be able to reach their full potential. Providing reading glasses to learners will have a lasting impact on their lives. Together with eye screening, learners are also given information on eye care and hygiene as well as taking proper care of their glasses."

There is so much scope for beneficitation but the Craton Foundation is limited in its scope to



*2014 — Craton Foundation giving out glasses in one of the new classrooms built to Bethold Himumuine Primary School*

assist with all requests. In addition to our main donor, Craton Mining and Exploration, we also have other contributors such as Wispeco, Simonis Storm Securities and the Lions Club. We stretch our available funds to do as much

as possible. We involve these partners to extend the reach of the Craton Foundation," says Ziggy Hartmann.



*2015—Children from Tobias Hainyeko Primary School that received glasses. .*

"We try and keep in contact with schools who have benefitted previously from the Foundation. We believe that building relationships with principals and teachers will provide them with the needed support and remind them how valued they are and how much their work is appreciated. We follow up on eye tests every three years."

Ziggy says that the Craton Foundation has achieved so much in such a short time thanks to the selfless input of the trustees whom she describes as compassionate, skilled and willing to give their time and share their knowledge. "We make the perfect team. Kobus van Graan (Chairman) is an accomplished businessman, Margareth Gustavo (trustee) is a marketing expert and Sister Roswitha Pelle trustee) has wisdom, insight and compassion - together we form the heart of the Craton Foundation." Ziggy is the funder representative and company secretary.

"In order to really make a difference and a lasting impact on our community, we maximize our time and funds and try not to waste a single minute. We do as much as possible."



Wasting available skills and time annoys Ziggy. "We live in a competitive, achievement orientated, modern world. We cannot afford, not to become creative and maximize what we have available to us."

When reviewing the establishment and successes of the Craton Foundation, Ziggy says that establishing a Foundation is a process. We learn things along the way and go through all the stages. This is a natural process."

Ziggy's advice to companies who wish to start a Foundation, is to do their homework beforehand. "Do your research thoroughly, read as much as possible and define the activities of the Foundation. Talk to other Foundations and use their lessons learnt to build upon. Identify trustees and discuss the goals and beneficence processes of the Foundation in depth. Ideally, trustees should be compassionate, sensible and trustworthy. Transparency is also not negotiable. A Foundation works with donated funds, hence the need for auditors to draw up annual financial statements is an imperative.

Getting involved at different schools in the bigger Windhoek area also has other positive outcomes. "Craton Foundation arranged an opportunity in 2014 for a mathematics teacher from the Bethold Himumuine School to spend approximately two weeks at the Holy Cross Convent School in Windhoek. The mathematics teacher described her experience as 'life changing' as she became familiar with different mathematics teaching methods which she could implement at her own school," says Ziggy. "We would like to see opportunities like this on a national level to benefit the learners in the end."

"When thinking about the future, I would like to see the Craton Foundation grow and continue to make a lasting impact on the community."

Marlize Oosthuizen

## Trustees



**Kobus van Graan (Chairman)**

*Kobus is Group CEO of the Frans Indongo Group of companies, based in Windhoek. He received a BSc in Civil Engineering and an MBA from the University of Pretoria. He is registered as a Professional Engineer and is a Director of various companies and associations.*



**Margareth Gustavo (Trustee)**

*Margareth is owner of a Consultancy firm based in Windhoek. She received a BCom degree at the University of Namibia, and a Master's in Business Leadership from the University of South Africa in 2006.*



**Sister Roswitha Pell (Trustee)**

*Sister Roswitha is a retired teacher of the Holy Cross Sisters in Namibia and still involved in some training programs in the Cathedral Parish in Windhoek. She has 25 years experience in Africa on a Primary, High School and managerial level.*



**Ziggy Hartmann (Founder representative & Company Secretary)**

*Ziggy is a registered Chartered Company Secretary and holds a BCom degree in Business Administration. She thrives in a diverse and dynamic work environment.*

