GE creating shared value through public private partnership

**Business Overview**

GE Steam Power is proud to be part of GE’s group of companies encompassing healthcare, aviation and energy. GE generates nearly one-third of the world’s power—more than 1,600 GW of electricity—in 140 countries and helps equip 90% of the power transmission utilities on the planet.

At GE Steam Power, we work every day to transform the future of steam technology, help our customers create extraordinary outcomes for tomorrow, and keep the power on for everyone whenever and wherever it is needed. As an industry leader in cleaner power generation, we work collaboratively with our customers, helping them improve access to reliable and affordable power by harnessing local energy resources as well as implementing innovative power generation technologies to reduce environmental impact. Our goal is to help countries meet their energy and economic developmental goals given their local needs.

**Promoting sustainable development**

We believe that access to affordable, reliable, sustainable electricity is critical to reducing poverty and hunger, as well as promoting access to education and healthcare. As a company that has paved the way in innovation for more than a century, GE can deliver technology that helps achieve long-term sustainable development in an effort to meet the world’s emissions reduction targets as defined by the 2015 Paris Agreement.

At GE Steam Power, we place emphasis on the notion of creating shared value by working to strengthen public-private partnerships. For us to make meaningful impact, we must be socially aware. These partnerships allow us to identify key social challenges within various communities that we can address.

We also recognise that for us to make a sustainable impact, we must be deliberate in our efforts to support social change. Over the years, large infrastructure projects have provided opportunities to create jobs and develop the critical skills needed to drive continuous growth in the energy sector. As a responsible corporate citizen, we strive to uplift the communities where we do business through various initiatives such as skills training, employee volunteer programmes and school infrastructure upgrade projects.

**COVID-19 Social Relief efforts**

Creating a healthy and safe working environment is a collective responsibility. When the lockdown was announced, we refocused our attention with the support of Eskom to see what role we could continue to play in supporting both local communities and government during the pandemic.

The initial approach was to provide PPE and other relevant equipment to hospitals, after noting that healthcare workers were unable to carry out their duties in the most effective way due to limited protective gear.

To date, over 10 000 units of much needed PPE have been donated to hospitals in Mpumalanga, Free State and Gauteng. Additional COVID-19 efforts were also identified to support hospitals in the Western Cape.

Research shows that a healthy and safe learning environment aids learning and enhances educational outcomes. In the past seven years, GE Steam Power has worked with local municipalities and communities within Mpumalanga to refurbish, upgrade and build new schools.

Taking the environment into consideration, these projects are designed to incorporate ecologically conscious solutions like rainwater harvesting, energy efficiency fittings, “enviroloo” water-free toilets, low-maintenance landscaping and creating self-sustainable vegetable gardens to assist the National School Nutrition Programme run at schools. Each project also benefits the communities by providing employment and contracting opportunities with local suppliers.

GE South Africa
**Hector Peterson Secondary School**

This science laboratory was built in collaboration with Eskom, as part of the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station Retrofit project alongside the Western Cape Educational Department and South African Medical and Education (SAME). It benefits 618 students between grades 10-12 who have chosen to pursue STEM subjects.

**Thushanang Primary School**

GE Steam Power committed R20 million toward the removal of asbestos classrooms and infrastructure upgrades that benefit more than 1,000 learners at Thushanang Primary School in Mpumalanga. The scope of work include upgraded asbestos-free classrooms as well as new kitchens, classrooms, administrative buildings and environmentally conscious ablution facilities. The removal of the harmful material from the building helped the school meet government-defined regulations.

**Chief Ampie Secondary School**

The aim of the Chief Ampie Mayisa Secondary School science laboratory upgrade project was to address the lack of access to science laboratory. To execute this project, GE Steam Power once again teamed up with Eskom as part of the Kriel Power Station Retrofit project to find solutions to bridge this gap. The new state of the art equipment lets teachers conduct prescribed science experiments, providing experiential learning opportunities and practical exposure that better prepares learners for examinations. The laboratory is benefiting 350 learners registered in 2019 between grades 10 to 12 who are pursuing STEM-related fields of study.

**Breaking ground on new school in Senegal**

In 2019 a new school was built in Kaolack, Senegal, providing a safe learning environment for 150 learners. This marks the fourth of five schools to be built in Nepal and Senegal bringing the total to 47 schools worldwide.