

Freedom Park: National Consciousness

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One of the Park's objectives is to become a major visitor attraction capable of securing substantial numbers of visitors locally, nationally, continentally and internationally. The Park will thus add to the critical mass of internationally known attractions in Gauteng and brand Tshwane as a cultural tourist destination.

Community engagement opportunities and impact

Underpinning Freedom Park is the articulation of an inclusive, multifaceted heritage that will represent, in a visible, experiential and interactive manner, South Africa's national consciousness, thus substantiating its culture and deepening its identity.

In carrying out its mandate on nation building and reconciliation, Freedom Park, through the protracted consultative process, has developed an interpretive framework that underpins and provides the intellectual structure for all its elements. The framework is based on the following key principles:

- emancipation of the African voice;
- corrective action in rewriting the South African history;
- lifelong learning and social inclusion;

- promotion of “parity of esteem” in official languages;
- foregrounding Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) as a way of knowing the world;
- bearing witness to historical events; and
- integrating history, culture and spirituality.

Below is a list of some community projects that were successfully implemented:

- Youth dialogue in partnership with the Voortrekker Monument and the Thabo Mbeki Foundation
- Solomon Mahlangu fundraising gala dinner
- 67 poems for Mandela in partnership with University of South Africa (Unisa)
- Mahatma Gandhi Freedom Walk
- I Can Be launch
- GALP classic cars
- Soweto Gospel Choir
- Lefofo Primary School visit
- Storytelling festival
- TUKS University of Tourism students research
- 67 minutes 2019
- Learnership programmes
- Community cleaning campaign
- Donations of food parcels
- Dialogues
- Educational programmes
- Involvements of other stakeholders in community involvement
- Donations of reading material

Community partners

Ditsong museums, City of Tshwane municipality, Marketing Department of University of Pretoria (UP), Architecture department UP, TUKS Residence UP, Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), Investec, Voortrekker Monument, Breaking down borders (dialogue) and Growing up without a father (event and dialogue)

