

**LET OUR HOPES &
NOT OUR HURTS,
SHAPE THEIR
FUTURE.**

Linkage

#RiseUpSA Linkage Initiative Background Information

This campaign is aimed at providing a platform for the road to recovery for small businesses who have suffered massive setbacks due to the recent unrest and riots experienced in the country. The objective is to provide small businesses who have been impacted with the opportunity to outline what they lost and/or how their ability to continue to operate their businesses has been impacted by the unrest.

The comprehensive list with a detailed view of the nature of the loss suffered will be shared with participating corporates who in turn will either select small businesses they can support directly or where corporates do not have internal capacity they can make a financial contribution to the campaign for Linkage to assist with the recovery of affected small businesses.

This is an initiative developed by One Linkage (Pty) Ltd, a woman owned tech company that has developed a platform called Linkage. Linkage is a cloud based digital platform designed to make it easy for corporates and SMMEs to work together.

Linkage has opened a section of the platform to the public to facilitate the RiseUpSA campaign.

One Linkage is doing this at no cost to support SMMEs that have been devastated by the recent unrest. This is Linkage's way of playing its role towards contributing to the recovery of small businesses. Its sister company Zevoli Growth Partner will provide vetting services to meet corporate compliance requirements and validation of claims at no cost as its contribution.

As part of Mandela month, we intend to open the campaign for 67 days.

Follow Linkage on social media to keep up to date with developments on this initiative.

-  <https://www.linkedin.com/company/one-linkage/>
-  https://web.facebook.com/OneLinkage?_rdc=1&_rdr
-  <https://twitter.com/OneLinkage>





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Questions and Answers for Corporates

1. What is required from corporates?

Corporates are requested to register their interest to support SMMEs on the [Linkage platform](#).

2. What is required for registration?

General corporate information, industry, contact details and selection of the type of support preferred.

3. Where do corporates register?

Corporates can access the registration page at <https://www.linkage.co.za/riseupsa/>.

4. When is registration opened?

Registration will open from Wednesday 21 July 2021. In support of Mandela month, registrations will remain open for 67 days at least depending on whether we achieve critical mass to meet the SMME demand.

5. What happens after registration?

Zevoli Growth Partners, One Linkage's sister company, will conduct vetting of the SMMEs to ensure general compliance information typically required by corporates for their supplier or ESD onboarding process. Over and above the compliance, they will conduct a verification of the claims to minimize the risk and exposure to false claims.

They will match the SMMEs by industry, location, size, and any other useful categorization to make it easy to match with interested corporates.

6. How does a corporate select an SMME?

Registered corporates will be notified to access the platform and select SMMEs based on their criteria and will be prompted to directly engage the SMME.

7. What is the corporate benefit for supporting this initiative?

The broader benefit is getting the economy to recover from the setback caused by the unrest. The sustainability of any big business depends on its value chain. The unrest has destabilised most value chains. This contribution will help rebuild industry.

The other benefit is that the support will be aligned to Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) initiatives already familiar to most corporates. The platform will provide other means to source program participants.

8. What is the cost associated with participation?

There is no cost to participate in this Initiative.

9. How do corporates engage the SMMEs?

Once a corporate has made a match, they will be provided with a view of the needs of the businesses. Although Zevoli will conduct vetting as a first layer of authentication, corporates are required to satisfy themselves with the authenticity of the claims by conducting further due diligence as required.



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10. What do corporates do to support SMMEs post selection?

The information a corporate will receive on the SMME will include the list of the type of support required. The support includes categories such as infrastructure support, financial support, capacity support, psychological support, and an option to include others.

11. What happens outside the platform post selection?

Most corporates already have existing ESD programs and processes whether internal or through external intermediaries that they could leverage to manage the support of the selected SMMEs.

12. What happens if a corporate does not have internal capacity to manage the SMMEs?

Most corporates who do not have internal capacity typically make use of intermediaries to run and manage business development support for beneficiaries. Where corporates do not have internal or external management capacity, Linkage or Zevoli Growth Partners can be contacted for support.

13. How can a corporate access other functionalities on Linkage?

Currently only the onboarding functionality will be available. If there is interest in the rest of the functionalities offered, please contact One Linkage directly.

14. Who do we contact should we need more information?

The following contacts are available to answer any of your questions?

- **Email:** Riseupsa@linkage.co.za
- **Business Development:** Bilal Wing Yip bilal@linkage.co.za
- **CEO:** Hepsy Mkhungo hepsy@linkage.co.za
- **WhatsApp:** +27 (0) 60 551 4362011
- **Landline:** +27 11 100 4727

15. Is the Linkage compliant with POPIA and what are other security measures?

Linkage is compliant with POPIA. Linkage uses AWS infrastructure which has a data center in South Africa. Any other data security information can be provided on request.