

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the
Nelson Mandela Foundation

March is a month of reflection for South Africans as this is when we remember the Sharpeville massacre, a day that is now commemorated as Human Rights Day in South Africa.

The events that unfolded at Sharpeville on 21 March in 1960 had a pivotal role to play in the struggle. On this day, police in the township near Johannesburg opened fire on a crowd engaged in a peaceful protest against pass laws. By the time the firing stopped, 69 people lay dead. Sharpeville was not only the catalyst for an intensified struggle that led to our Founder's 27-year imprisonment, but it is also why apartheid was to become a burning human rights issue for the next 30 years.

March also marks two other significant events: [Madiba burned his passbook in 1960](#); and in 1999 [he addressed Parliament for the last time after having served just one term in office](#).

Our constitution has at its heart the rights of equality, dignity and, yes, the freedom of movement that was once restricted by those pass laws. It also includes the right to have basic human needs met, such as access to water, food and housing. Yet, in South Africa we are only too aware that when it comes to inequality based on disparity and poverty, we are not faring well.

Why is this and what can we do about it?

It is increasingly clear the pursuit of human rights and social justice have



greater potential for change than an aid-based model of development.

This is why the Foundation is participating in various consultative processes to raise awareness around critical social issues with particular reference to human rights and the eradication of poverty. Amongst these interventions, the Foundation has worked hand in hand with the UN in the global [MyWorld Campaign](#) to set a new and relevant post-2015 agenda following the end of the MDG period. In addition, the Foundation recently hosted a [Mandela Day Strategic Stakeholder Session](#) with Trevor Manuel on the key meaning behind the Mandela Day campaign.

Speaking at the stakeholder session, Manuel said the building of democracy and uplifting of communities must be an inclusive process.

"We can only be free when we understand that our freedom is bound by the freedom of others," he said. He added that the global financial crisis of 2008 had been caused by "infectious greed", and could only be solved by "infectious caring".

This is our collective responsibility.

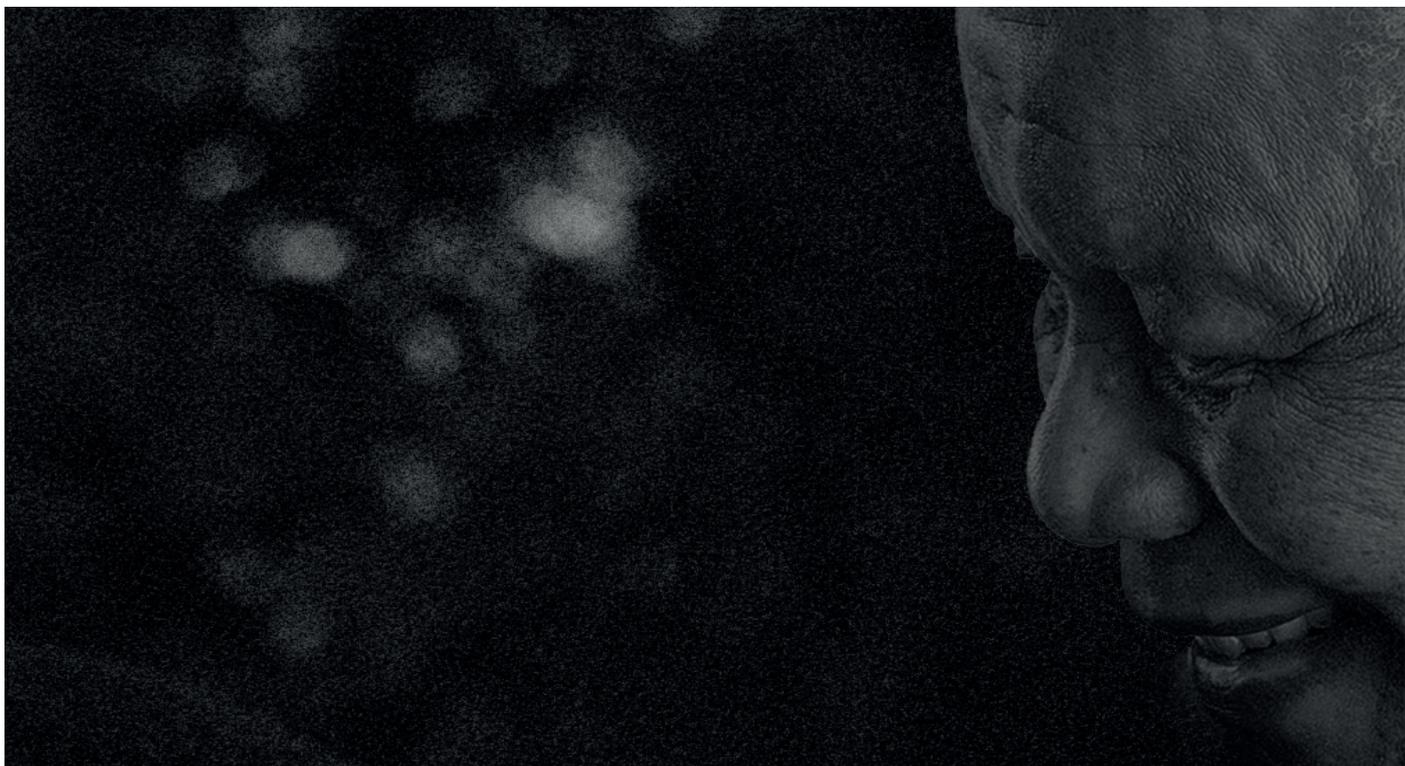
So, on a more personal level,

this is why I am taking part in the Trek4Mandela Kilimanjaro Challenge in July this year. My personal aim as the CE of the Foundation and as a Tutu Fellow in the African Leadership Institute is to help raise funds for girls who are not able to attend school because they do not have their most basic hygiene needs met. This is one of my core personal projects. Dignity is a right that belongs to all and education is a step towards empowering our youth to evade poverty. How, in this country with our history, can we fail to meet this very basic need?

Our target in 2015 is to assist 270 000 girl children, which we hope to increase to 2 million+ in 2016. [Watch our progress and see how you can help here.](#)

We know that Madiba cared deeply about young people and their future. We also know that the youth are looking for solutions to the problems that still bedevil us in ways that go way beyond the narrow world of politics. It's a common purpose that we share going forward while we pause to reflect on the sacrifices of those who have gone before.

Sello Hatang



NELSON MANDELA FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS FOR MARCH 2015

Mafikizolo and NMF team up with young stars in Tshwane

When 10-year old Sade Mokwena's voice rose in song to meet the rhythm of 10-year old drummer Justin Arendse and his young band, Free Born, at the Tshwane School of Music in Eersterust, in front of superstars Mafikizolo, the crowd gathered in the small school hall knew [something special was happening](#).

In the audience with Mafikizolo were Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture Rejoice Mabudafhasi and Nelson Mandela Foundation CEO Sello Hatang.

The event, held on Thursday 12 March, was part of a series of national youth dialogues held together with Mafikizolo's Reunited SA Tour 2015 to get young people talking about the issues they face.

Bringing the memory of Madiba to life

The Foundation has [updated its permanent exhibition](#) that illuminates the life and times of Nelson Mandela, and stands as a tribute to his legacy.

The original exhibition was launched three weeks before Madiba passed away in December 2013, therefore the upgrade needed to include elements that would enable visitors to glean special insight into his monumental journey and pay their respects with personal messages of remembrance. The updates include: interactive displays, a tribute portal, never seen before archival material and multimedia features that tell the story of Madiba's life.

Members of the public are free to browse the exhibition from 9am to 4pm on weekdays, to reflect on and experience Madiba's life and times. A trip to the Foundation's Centre of Memory makes for a great family outing and educational school trip.

Click here to [view highlights from the exhibition](#) and [click here to make a booking](#).

Kotane, Marks and Madiba

Nelson Mandela enjoyed a close relationship with the struggle icons [Moses Kotane](#) and JB Marks whose remains were repatriated to South Africa on 1 March 2015. Both men died in exile in Russia in 1970. [In his tribute](#) at a memorial service for the two men in the Johannesburg City Hall on 6 March 2015, Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa said the national struggle for them "had never been about private gain or personal exaltation". Kotane and Marks were reburied in their home towns of Ventersdorp and Pella, both in the North West.

Pan Macmillan acquires sequel to Nelson Mandela's Long Walk to Freedom

It was always Nelson Mandela's intention to publish a full account of his time as President of South Africa. A substantial, but incomplete, personally written draft of the book is housed in the [Nelson Mandela Foundation's archives](#). It is the wish of Mandela's widow, Graça Machel, to fulfil his intention to complete the sequel to his autobiography Long Walk to Freedom, and so this manuscript, together with extensive archive material, will

be published in 2016. The book will provide readers with an unprecedented account of Mandela's extraordinary presidency, coupled with a deep personal insight into the man behind the international statesman. [Click here to read more.](#)



Walk in Madiba's footsteps

On 1 April 2015, South African Tourism in partnership with the Nelson Mandela Foundation will launch a mobile app that invites travellers to follow in Nelson Mandela's footsteps as they journey through the country.

The app features 27 Madiba-inspired tourist attractions and sites of memory in South Africa, one for each year he spent behind bars as a political prisoner. Users can view the attractions on a map, build their own itineraries and share their journeys on social media.

The app will launch on [Google Play](#) and the [Apple app store](#) on 1 April as a free download. [Watch our website for details.](#)

Mandela Day Literacy for Leadership project update

The Foundation's Literacy for Leadership project has seen the collection of some 10 000 books. Thebe Investments, a key donor to the Foundation, will handover an additional shipment of books in April.

ABSA's tailored programme using the Nelson Mandela Authorised Comic Book and the film Long Walk to Freedom is currently rolling out in all nine provinces and will reach an estimated 4 500 high school learners and 1 000 educators.

Volunteers from across the world have taken up the call to action and are collecting reading material to send to the Foundation. Corporate partners have come on board, Rotary has committed to support the Mandela Day Libraries with international book donations, and a successful book drive took place with Vodacom's Change the World programme.

If you would like to donate books please contact Yase Godlo at yase@nelsonmandela.org.

State of the Archives report reveals SA record-keeping and archives in trouble

On March 25 the Nelson Mandela Foundation and the University of Cape Town launched its [report on the state of archives](#) in South Africa at an event hosted by Constitution Hill. The report is based on two years of research and analysis by the organisations' joint project the Archival Platform.

"The Report focuses on South Africa's public archives services," said Foundation Director of Research and Archive, Verne Harris. "The national system is in trouble, and requires urgent intervention from the highest levels. We have been in communication with the ministry of Arts and Culture around the report." Harris and Noma Pakade spoke at the event. [Click to read more.](#)

Foundation ensures the digital preservation of Madiba's legacy

The Foundation is currently busy with the digital preservation of Madiba archive materials, a project run by [Tenille Hands](#), professional curator and member of Australian Volunteers for International Development, under the guidance of the Director of Research and Archive, Verne Harris.

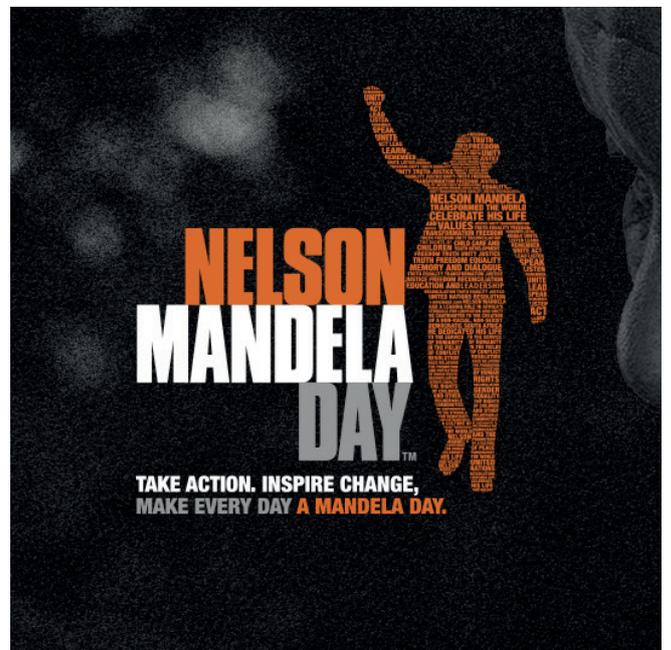
Converting archive materials into digital renditions is a vital part of memory work undertaken at the Foundation and ensures that Madiba's life work and elements relating to his life will be accessible by generations across the planet for years to come. [Click to read more.](#)

Race and identity in South Africa

The Foundation has been engaging in a focused way around the interlinked issues of reckoning with oppressive pasts, reconciliation, inherited societal divides, inequality, xenophobia, race and identity since 2005. This period has seen continuing dialogues on the imprints of South Africa's past, an international dialogue series (2013-2014) enabling us to view ourselves through the lens of comparative international experience, community dialogues on xenophobia (2008-2011), and dialogues focused on the question of race in 2009, 2014 and 2015.

Most recently the NMF has partnered with the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) in [convening three focus groups on race and identity](#) in an attempt to fashion a deeper intervention in this fraught terrain. The [position paper](#) draws heavily on these engagements, especially from the inputs provided by participants in the focus groups.

What will follow is a strategic roll-out in South Africa in the coming months.



TREK4MANDELA CHALLENGES SOUTH AFRICA TO KEEP A #GIRLCHILD IN SCHOOL

[The 2015 Trek4Mandela Executive Challenge](#) aims to raise R40-million+ to support 270 000 girls with sanitary pads for a year, thereby ensuring that they stay in school. Every donation will help the teams realise this goal. The climb takes place between 13 and 19 July this year.

You can support the South African celebrities and media personalities who have signed up as ambassadors by SMSing any of their names to 42513 and pledging R30. *Terms and conditions apply

BECOME PART OF THE LIVING LEGACY

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Help us keep the legacy alive

[Make an online donation](#)

www.nelsonmandela.org



GET INVOLVED AND MAKE EVERY DAY A MANDELA DAY

After 21 years our democracy is coming of age, however there are many South Africans who still do not enjoy access to basic human rights, citizens who are illiterate or suffer from homelessness or hunger. These are challenges facing us.

On 26 March 2015, Foundation CE Sello Hatang and Trevor Manuel held a strategic stakeholder engagement on the [2015 Mandela Day campaign](#).

How can you make a difference?

The Foundation asks all South Africans to get involved, to make a substantial change that improves people's lives, and ultimately to make a real difference. Nelson Mandela Day is not an act of charity; it is a process of driving change.

The four focus areas of Mandela Day are:

- Education and literacy
- Food security
- Shelter
- Volunteerism & participation

The 2015 Mandela Day campaign will officially launch in April 2015 with a unique digital campaign tool to support the global movement.

