



WHY NOT *YOU*? WHY NOT *NOW*?

SPARK

CHANGEMAKER NETWORK MAGAZINE

04 Introduction to
Ecotourism

07 Eco-business
& Green Jobs

masifundes
**CHANGE
MAKER**
NETWORK



Masifunde's Changemaker Network

Masifunde's Changemaker Network equips learners with knowledge and skills on key social issues such as leadership, gender-based violence prevention, creating safer schools, and environmental awareness.

Through the programme, learners are empowered to take initiative and drive positive change in their schools and communities.

The Changemaker Network now operates in all nine provinces of South Africa through partnerships with 40 civil society organisations. These partners have been trained and supported to implement the programme in their communities, reaching more than 200 schools nationwide.

With the support of the TUI Care Foundation, these young changemakers have grown into Eco Champions, leading meaningful environmental action and inspiring others to do the same. In 2025, the first National Eco-Champion Summit was hosted in Gqeberha, bringing together learners from across the country to share ideas, collaborate, and develop practical solutions to environmental challenges in their schools and communities. Today, Masifunde's Changemaker Network continues to empower Grade 9 learners to lead school campaigns, while also establishing Changemaker Clubs and supporting Community Action Projects that create lasting impact

This edition's Contents

Foreword	03
Introduction to Ecotourism	04
Think About Your Community	05
Why Choose Ecotourism?	06
Eco-business & Green Jobs	07
Code. Play. Change the World	08
Turning Stories Into Opportunities	10
Meet an Eco Champion	11



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More on Masifunde
www.masifunde.org
More on the Changemaker Network
www.Changemaker-Network.org





Fore- word

Alexander Panczuk | *Managing Director*
TUI Care Foundation

When people think about travel and tourism, they often think about time off and discovering new places. But tourism is much more than that - it connects people, cultures, and nature – and it can be a powerful force for protecting our planet and creating opportunities for communities. This is where responsible tourism comes in. It means protecting nature, respecting local cultures, and making sure that tourism brings real benefits to the people who live there. When done right, tourism helps protect wildlife and natural spaces, supports local jobs and businesses, and allows visitors to learn from the places and people they meet.

South Africa is one of the most naturally rich and beautiful countries in the world. Its landscapes, wildlife, and communities are the reason millions of people choose to visit every year. But with this

opportunity comes responsibility. Nature is not endless. Wildlife, water, forests, and coastlines need care and protection. When natural places are respected, they can continue to provide livelihoods, food and inspiration – not only for today, but for future generations.

Young people have a key role to play in shaping travel and tourism. Your ideas, actions, and choices matter. Whether you become an eco tour guide, a community entrepreneur, a conservationist, or simply an environmentally responsible citizen, you have the power to make a difference.

This magazine is an invitation for you to explore ecotourism, to think differently about your environment, and to see how caring for nature can create opportunities. The future of tourism starts with informed, motivated young people. And that future begins today - with you!

Introduction to

Ecotourism

South Africa is a world-famous destination, and tourism is a big part of our economy.

Did you KNOW?

10%

About 10% of our economy (GDP) comes from tourism

2m

Nearly 2 million jobs depend on it (like tour guides, chefs, rangers, and hotel staff)

Tourism is a major driver of jobs and growth. But why do people visit South Africa?



- ▶ Vibrant culture and friendly people
- ▶ Beautiful cities and rich history
- ▶ And most importantly: our natural environment



The Challenge

Tourism creates opportunities, but it can also harm the environment.

More visitors can mean:

- More pollution
- Damage to natural habitats
- Litter and noise
- Pressure on water and electricity

If we are not careful, we can destroy what makes these places special.

What is Ecotourism?

Ecotourism is a smarter way to travel.

It means:

- Protecting nature and wildlife
- Respecting local cultures and communities
- Using resources responsibly
- It's about enjoying places without damaging them.



Be an Eco-Champion

Ecotourism is about learning, caring, and acting responsibly. Protect the places you visit – for today and for the future

THINK ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY



Tourism is not only for big cities or game parks – visitors can come to your community too!

The key is to do it in a way that is eco-friendly and respectful.



Let's Chat

- 1. What places already attract visitors?**
Think of rivers, nature spots, markets, or heritage sites.
- 2. What hidden gems do you have?**
Maybe a viewpoint, local craft, special place, or community story.
- 3. What are the risks?**
Could there be littering, damage, or disrespect? How can you prevent this?
- 4. How could your community benefit?**
Community members as tour guides? Selling food or crafts? Income or donations improving schools, clinics, or public spaces?

By thinking about these questions, you are already ecotourism conscious! When a community works together to welcome visitors in a way that protects its environment and culture, everyone wins. Nature thrives, jobs are created, and the beauty of your home can be shared with the world.

You don't have to wait – you can start thinking like a tourism entrepreneur today.



ACTIVITY Good Tourist vs Bad Tourist

Tick which behaviours show respect – and which don't

Behaviour	Eco tourist	Irresponsible tourist
It's just one piece of gum – it's not a big deal to drop it on the ground.		
I pick up litter during my visit to help keep the area clean		
These wildflowers are so pretty! I'll pick some to take home.		
I support local shops and buy from local artists and craftsmen.		
I leave litter behind because I paid an entrance fee – someone else will clean it.		

WHY CHOOSE ECOTOURISM?



Imagine a trip where you not only see beautiful places and connect with people, but also make a difference by protecting the environment. This could be traveling to another country, visiting a new city or village, hiking in the mountains, exploring nature reserves, or even discovering a nearby village or township.



Experiencing these places allows you to learn, grow, and act as an Eco Champion.

Triple P in Ecotourism: People, Planet & Purpose

Travel is not just about reaching a destination — it's a chance to be a changemaker. The **Triple P** is a simple way to travel the right way:

People

(Respect for all people)

Ecotourism supports and respects local communities and their cultures. It also creates jobs, builds skills, and improves livelihoods.

Support local communities by buying from local shops.

Be respectful — always ask before taking photos

Planet

(Protect the environment)

It focuses on protecting nature, reducing harm to ecosystems, and fighting climate change — so future generations can enjoy these places too.

Leave places as clean as — or cleaner than — you found them

Pick up litter and protect nature

Purpose

(Travel with heart)

It's not just about profit, but about education, conservation, and making a positive impact for people and the environment.

Travel to learn, grow, and understand others — and yourself — better

Eco-business and Green-Jobs

Ecotourism doesn't just protect nature – it also creates jobs and business opportunities.

People can turn their skills and culture into small businesses.

This is called eco-business.

- Upcycling artist (turn waste into products)
- Local food seller or small restaurant
- Hosting visitors (accommodation / homestays)
- Walking tours or bicycle tours
- Local driver for tourists
- Beadwork, crafts, or clothing design
- Dance, music, or cooking classes
- Musicians and cultural performers
- Workshops (crafts, skills, storytelling)

Why it matters

If you love nature, people, or creativity, ecotourism offers real opportunities. You can create income, build your future, and protect your community at the same time.

Green Jobs You Can Do

- ▶ Wildlife ranger (protect animals and parks)
- ▶ Tour guide (share your area and culture)
- ▶ Urban farmer (grow organic food locally)
- ▶ Solar technician (install renewable energy)
- ▶ Recycling & waste worker (keep communities clean)
- ▶ Nature photographer / digital storyteller
- ▶ Eco-fashion designer
- ▶ Environmental educator
- ▶ Environmental scientist
- ▶ Conservation lawyer

Some jobs need skills and experience, others need Matric or further studies – but all of them help protect the planet.

Code. **Change** Play. **the World.**



Tangible is a fun, hands-on game that teaches you how to code – without needing a computer!

YOU PLAY USING:

- Game pieces (tokens)
- A mobile app
- Your brain and teamwork

It's all about solving problems together.

WHAT IS CODING?

Coding is the language we use to give instructions to computers.

But for **changemakers**, coding is more than tech:

- It's about solving real problems
- It's about creating solutions
- It's about innovation

WHAT MAKES THIS VERSION SPECIAL?

The **Changemaker Edition of Tangible** connects coding with real-world challenges.

Each level is linked to one of the **United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

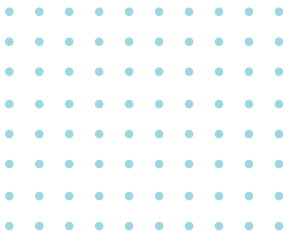
WHAT ARE THE SDGS?

The Sustainable Development Goals are 17 global goals the leaders of all countries have agreed upon to make the world better by 2030.

They focus on:

- Ending poverty
- Protecting the planet
- Creating equal opportunities for all

You'll explore these goals while playing the game!



LEARN BY PLAYING

In each level you will:

- Learn about a real-world challenge
- Solve coding puzzles
- Reflect on solutions for your community

You don't just play – **you think like a changemaker.**

Start Your Journey

HOW TO GET STARTED

1. Open your app store
2. Search for “Tangible Games”
3. Download and install
4. Open the app and start playing



WHAT DO YOU NEED?

- Tangible game pack (tokens) – reach out to your Changemaker Club or the organization running the Changemaker Programme in your schools
- A smartphone with the app

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT

- Create your own changemaker character
- Solve fun and interactive challenges
- Unlock new levels as you progress
- Answer reflection questions to move forward
- Every level makes you think about real solutions.



DID YOU KNOW?

Tangible Africa has helped thousands of learners across Africa learn coding – without expensive computers!

From player to changemaker

By the end of the game, you will:

- Understand all 17 SDGs
- Learn basic coding skills
- Think about how YOU can create change

This is not just a game. It's your first step to becoming a digital changemaker.



Watch Out and Sign up for 2026 Tangible Tournaments

Mandela Month
18 July - 18 August

National Tangible Championship Tournament
3 September

Tangible World Cup
5 November

Turning Stories into Opportunities

What if your community could create jobs by sharing its story?

In Walmer Township, Gqeberha, this is already happening:

Masifunde created the Uhambo Walk — a walking tour through the community, where local artists have painted powerful public artworks. These artworks celebrate local heroes, role models, and success stories.

This builds pride, shares positive stories, and shows a different side of the community. But it doesn't stop there.

How the Uhambo Walk creates opportunities

The Uhambo Walk connects many young people and local businesses:

- Local artists create the artworks and earn income
- Youth are trained as eco-tour guides
- Visitors stop at a coffee shop run by trained youth
- Young people prepare and serve local food
- Visitors join workshops like cooking or beadwork

Tourism becomes a chain of opportunities.



From Waste to Value

One special workshop is about upcycling. Old corrugated iron from broken shacks is turned into beautiful jewellery. This programme is called Izandla Zethu (“Our Hands”).

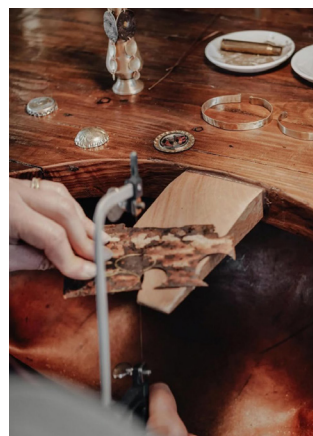
- Youth are trained to make jewellery
- They teach visitors how to do it
- Visitors take home a meaningful souvenir

What was once waste becomes art, income, and connection.

More than a tour

Visitors don't just “see” the community. They learn, connect, create and experience real life in the township - and young people don't just participate they lead, teach, and earn.





MEET ONE OF THE ECO CHAMPIONS

Meet Phelani Makinana, she is one of the young changemakers behind the Uhambo Walk. She is an eco-tour guide, a facilitator at Izandla Zethu jewellery, and a well respected role model in her community.

Q Why did you become an ecotourism guide?

A I love working with people and sharing my community's story. This work allows me to show visitors who we really are – not just what they see in the media.

Q How does ecotourism create opportunities in Walmer Township?

A It brings visitors into our community in a respectful way. Local artists, small businesses, and young people can earn income, gain skills, and grow their confidence.

Q What makes the Uhambo Walk special?

A It's real. Visitors don't just look – they interact with us. They walk with us, talk with us, and learn from us. It's a shared experience.

Q Tell us about Izandla Zethu.

A We teach visitors how to make jewellery from old corrugated iron. It's powerful because we take something broken and turn it into something beautiful. And we learn from each other.

Q What do you want young people to realise?

A Opportunities are not only outside your community – you can create them where you are. Your story, your culture, your skills – they all have value.

**NOW IT'S YOUR TURN
WHAT COULD YOUR
COMMUNITY OFFER?**

- Stories?
- Skills?
- Culture?
- Creativity?

**Think like a changemaker.
Create opportunities.
Be part of the solution**



Book your Uhambo Walk when you are in Nelson Mandela Bay | www.masisebenze.org



Check out Izandla Zethu's Instagram | [@izandlazethu](https://www.instagram.com/izandlazethu)

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CHANGE MAKER NETWORK

The Changemaker Network aims to capacitate learners with knowledge on various social topics through activation workshops and changemaker trainings so that they can spark positive change through campaigns in their respective schools and communities.



This project gets replicated nationwide in all 9 provinces of South Africa in partnership with 40 Civil Society Organizations, 200 SCHOOLS and ultimately training 1000 CHANGEMAKERS.

An initiative by:



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Find your local implementation partner organisation on our website in the "Partner Area"

www.changemaker-network.org

About TUI Junior Academy:

The TUI Junior Academy programme inspires young people to protect nature and wildlife and empowers them to become Eco Champions in their communities. It builds awareness for the fragility of nature by developing these competencies in schools and communities and brings the classroom to life through excursions and nature-based experiences.

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