



The Cape Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the Cape Higher Education Consortium

# WESTERN CAPE ECONOMY INNOVATION AWARDS NOMINATION FORM 2026

Please complete this nomination form accurately, completely but succinctly.

## 1. Contact details

Nominator (Person)	Nominating Organisation	Signature	Date	e-mail address
Ms Naadia Ismail	Provincial Treasury			naadia.ismail@westerncape.gov.za

Nominated Person	Nominated Organisation	Sub-sector one of the following: Private Sector or Academia or Public Sector or Non-Profit	Cell phone number	e-mail address
Taryn Van De Rheede	Provincial Treasury	Public Sector	0725828731	Taryn.VanderRheede@westerncape.gov.za

## 2. Short description

**+100-word description of what the innovation / solution is and who needs to be recognised for which parts of the solution.**

*(e.g. new service /product /solution /regulation /infrastructure /institutional capacity)*

**The Western Cape Government Alternative and Blended Finance Framework (ABF):** Amid growing economic and fiscal challenges and the urgent need for sustainable development, the Western Cape Government (WCG) has identified alternative and blended financing mechanisms as promising strategies to help contribute to financing critical infrastructure and funding public services. These mechanisms integrate public and private financial resources, mobilise institutional investments, and make use of innovative funding models. This is a first-of-its-kind Provincial innovation that provides a clear, legally compliant, fiscally sustainable system to unlock new capital for infrastructure, social programmes, and catalytic economic projects. By enabling the Western Cape to leverage private, donor, DFI and philanthropic finance alongside public funds, the Framework multiplies investment, accelerates service delivery, and strengthens the Growth for Jobs Strategy and Provincial Strategic Plan.

### **Who needs to be recognised**

Chad Capon - Research and Development of Framework/Solution  
Department of Infrastructure – Infrastructure pipeline

## 3. Detailed description

Please answer all the questions (a) to (j) below, and place answers in the prescribed place as indicated in the table below (to construct a results chain):

a. What is the target business group/s that this innovation serves and improves?

The beneficiaries of the WCG's ABF Framework are departments, municipalities and public entities who will use the guide to mobilise new sources of capital in support of the Province's socio-economic development objectives. The Province's emerging ABF options include organisational development support through grants and technical assistance, as well as loans, sustainable finance instruments, public private partnerships, and specialised bond structures.

ABF seeks to mobilise private sector, DFI, philanthropic, and donor financing and funding Institutions such as banks alongside public funds to bridge the provincial infrastructure financing gap.

- b. How many of these target businesses have already utilised this new solution?

Departments, Municipalities and entities are already pursuing different ABF initiatives in response to the framework

Off-balance Sheet Financing / Funding

<b>R'000</b>	<b>Alternative financing</b>	<b>Alternative funding</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Approved</b>	<b>490 000</b>	<b>19 467 000</b>	<b>19 957 000</b>
BFI		19 467 000	19 467 000
PPP	<b>490 000</b>		490 000
<b>Submitted</b>		<b>15 568 919</b>	<b>15 568 919</b>
BFI		15 568 919	15 568 919
<b>In preparation</b>		<b>10 618 409</b>	<b>10 618 409</b>
BFI		10 618 409	10 618 409
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>490 000</b>	<b>45 654 328</b>	<b>46 144 328</b>

The Department of Infrastructure has also successfully undertaken the development of the Western Cape Infrastructure Pipeline, inclusive of provincial, municipal, and private sector infrastructure projects, to ensure that infrastructure in the province is rolled out in a coordinated manner to support the long-term economic objectives. The most appropriate avenue of funding these projects, either off-balance sheet or on-balance sheet, must still be determined.

The key priority pipeline projects include the following:

- R300 Ring Road Project – R1.27 billion Department of Infrastructure (DOI)
- Wingfield Interchange Project – R11 billion (DOI)
- George Western ByPass Project - R1.1 billion (DOI)
- Oude Molen Precinct – R2.356 billion (DOI)
- Founders Gardens Artscape – R2.256 billion (DOI)
- Leeuloop Precinct Development – R918 million (DOI)
- Provincial Pavement Testing Laboratory – R356 million (DOI)
- Ecological Infrastructure – R3 billion Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP)
- Karwyderskraal Waste Facility – R80 million (Overberg District Municipality)
- Phillippi Stadium – R40 million Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport (DCAS)
- Provincial Archives Project – R1.22 billion (DCAS)
- Provincial Public Sector Strategic Offset Bank – (TBA) (DEA&DP)

Departments are also partnering with the private and public sector as a means to raise alternative and blended finance. In such cases, departments are leveraging private sector funding with public sector funding. These leveraged funds do not flow

through the provincial fiscus. The Department of Agriculture for example, has leveraged funding through the commodity approach to increase production and commercialization of land reform farmers. The Department of Agriculture has also partnered with various industry bodies in research to increase the production of produce with the aim of bolstering exports and jobs. The sum total of various larger ABF initiatives initiated by the Department of Agriculture in partnership with the private sector and the public sector amount to R71.8 million per annum currently.

The Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport follows a similar partnering approach of which the YearBeyond programme is its youth flagship programme. The Department has also leveraged NYDA funding through a partnership with Community Chest and Yebo Institute, which placed 4 000 youth in service, of which 3 000 are in the Western Cape and 1 000 in the rest of the country. The DCAS has a number of additional partnering arrangements with corporates, benevolent trusts, and civil society aimed at youth development.

Lastly, the WCG is also building its institutional knowledge through the establishment of an ABF learning network as coordinated by the Provincial Treasury with the support of the EDP.

- Number benefited: refer to above. Multiple departments have submitted ABF-screened projects spanning sectors, supporting hundreds of firms.

c. How did these businesses access and receive the new solution?

- Access: Toolkits and guidelines were given to departments to assist in implementation. ABF Working Group was also established to assist departments and facilitate sharing of best practices. Engagement through transparent procurement linked to ABF investment-ready projects.

d. What did this new solution help these businesses become better at?

- Improved capability: The framework is enabling departments and entities to leverage private, donor, DFI and philanthropic finance alongside public funds.
- Greater certainty, clearer pipelines, enhanced ability to participate in catalytic infrastructure.

e. How did this help to improve their business performance? *Increased sales, lower costs, increased investment, increased employment, increased exports?*

- Business performance: Reduced costs, improved reliability, increased confidence, job creation.

- f. What exactly is this new innovative solution?
- New solution: Comprehensive ABF Framework with instruments, governance, pipeline, and processes.
- g. What makes it new, compared what existed before? (Novelty in the WC economy)
- Novelty: First provincial ABF framework aligned to PSP, G4J, WCIF, IDMS.
- h. What makes it better than what existed before?
- Improvement: Stronger governance, early risk assessment, improved bankability, fiscal oversight.
- i. How is/was the new solution made available to the target market / business group?
- Market access: ABF pipeline, governance committees, and structured mechanisms.
- j. What will ensure that the financial viability / sustainability of providing the innovative solution and the beneficial consequences remain intact over this period? *E.g. profitable business with enduring competitive advantage in the market.* What is the expected longevity of this this solution? *E.g. 5yrs, 10 yrs, 10+ years*

Longevity: Embedded in WCIF 2050, WCIP, PSP and G4J ensuring 10+ year benefits.

<b>Output:</b> A new catalytic innovation established, serves the WC economy	<b>Outcome:</b> Improved business environment (for the target business group)	<b>Impact:</b> Which target group of businesses benefitted & what improved for them	<b>Longevity:</b> Duration of benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ABF Framework established.</li> <li>▪ First provincial ABF framework.</li> <li>▪ Improved capacity and governance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Access to bankable, transparent projects.</li> <li>▪ Transparent procurement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SMEs, contractors, developers.</li> <li>▪ Early ABF projects reaching firms.</li> <li>▪ Improved infrastructure reliability.</li> <li>▪ Lower costs, productivity gains.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Embedded into long-term provincial strategies.</li> </ul>

#### 4. Declaration of Evidence to verify results chain

What supporting evidence can you provide to verify the results stated above are as stated?

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<b>What evidence can be provided?</b> e.g. Records, reports, peer reviews, and so forth	Approved ABF Framework (2025); TPLCC & PLCC records; ABF process documentation.	ABF pipeline submissions; procurement documents; project bankability assessments.	Sector participation data; SME/contractor engagement records; infrastructure performance reports.	Integration with WCIF 2050, WCIP, PSP, G4J; governance committee continuity records.

#### 5. Select the best category of award for this innovation

Sector	Award	Mark with "X"
<b>Public Sector</b>	6 x Catalytic innovations that contribute to growth.	x
<b>Public Sector</b>	1 x Provincial- or National-government systemic innovation most impactful on economic growth	
<b>Public Sector</b>	1 x Municipal (LM+DM) innovation that is impactful on growth of their local economy	
<b>Public Sector</b>	1 x Public-sector innovation, enhancing good governance.	
<b>Safety &amp; Security</b>	1 x Innovation enhancing precinct safety & security.	
<b>Labour Market</b>	1 x Labour market efficacy award Reducing impediments to increased employment.	
<b>Academia</b>	1 x Research most impactful on competitiveness of Industry	
<b>Academia</b>	1 x Tertiary education best aligned to Industry / market needs	
<b>Academia</b>	1 x Most successful start-up / spin out	
<b>Academia</b>	1 x Entrepreneurship development in higher education	
<b>Industry Sector Bodies</b>	1 x Institution/s strengthening stakeholder cooperation to enhance competitiveness of their Industry.	

<b>Organised Business</b>	1 x Institution/s strengthening stakeholder cooperation to enhance competitiveness of their business precincts.	
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- 6. Check that you completed all that is necessary.
- 7. Submit this documented and/or video recorded to [innovation@capechamber.co.za](mailto:innovation@capechamber.co.za).

Thank you for helping us discover and celebrate the champions shaping a better WC economy!