




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
Susan Holmes	<i>Shonaquip Social Enterprise</i>		27/2/26	susan@shonaquipse.org.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
Ronald Mukanya	<i>Department of Environmental Affairs and Demand Planning Western Cape</i>	Public Sector	0720617328	Ronald.mukanya@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)

Shonaquip's **purpose-built Waste Reclamation Trolley** was designed to replace home-made carts and pilfered shopping carts to empower informal reclaimers—especially

women, youth, and persons with disabilities. The program incorporated a purpose-designed reclaimer trolley, training (which is proven to increase reclaimer income by +/-20%), PPE, uniforms, and containerised agglomeration centres as micro-enterprise pathways for 500 informal waste reclaimers. The interventions enabled reclaimers to collect more recyclables, with the average increase in income of 240%, reaching minimum wage equivalent, and some superstars up to R7,000 a month, exceeding formal employment while contributing to South Africa's circular economy and municipal landfill airspace preservation. Recognition is due to **Shonaquip** for long lasting and resilient medical-grade design and manufacturing which increased capacity and reduced collection time frames allowing more trips in the available time frames, the **Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning** for commissioning and piloting the project, and the **Reclaimers themselves** for driving social, economic, and environmental impact through their participation and cooperative development.

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?
- b. How many of these target businesses have already utilised this new solution?
- c. How did these businesses access and receive the new solution?
- d. What did this new solution help these businesses become better at?
- e. How did this help to improve their business performance? *Increased sales, lower costs, increased investment, increased employment, increased exports?*
- f. What exactly is this new innovative solution?
- g. What makes it new, compared what existed before? (Novelty in the WC economy)
- h. What makes it better than what existed before?
- i. How is/was the new solution made available to the target market / business group?
- 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*

Output: A new catalytic innovation established, serves the WC economy	Outcome: Improved business environment (for the target business group)	Impact: Which target group of businesses benefitted & what improved for them	Longevity: Duration of benefits
f. Purpose-built Waste Reclamation Trolleys designed for durability, manoeuvrability, and accessibility Integration with training, PPE, and micro-enterprise pathways	i. Trolleys are available through government-funded programs such as EPWP and IDC employment programs. There is potential expansion via micro-	a. Informal waste reclaimers, especially women, youth, and persons with disabilities, emerging as micro-enterprises in recycling and also	j. Expected longevity: 10+ years, given durable design, ongoing demand, and integration into circular economy systems

<p>g. The solution replaced unsafe makeshift devices and pilfered shopping carts It is the first application of medical-device-grade standards (ISO 13485:2016) to waste management equipment</p> <p>h. The purpose-made carts are more durable while being easier to operate which increased carrying capacity and enabling faster collections enabling higher income potential from additional trips in the same time or more time for other pursuits. The trolleys are accessible for women, youth, the elderly and persons with disabilities</p>	<p>loans for unbanked reclaimers which Shonaquip is pursuing through lease-to-own repayment models for reclaimers through grant funding, to be used in a circular manner, and also pursuing traditional financing options on behalf of reclaimers.</p> <p>c. Reclaimer trolleys were provided through the pilot project funded by DEA&DP and EPWP which included stipends Trolleys were distributed on a no-cost lease-to-own basis during the project period Reclaimers received trolleys, uniforms, PPE, training, and access to agglomeration centres</p>	<p>recycling buy-back centres</p> <p>b. 500 reclaimers were equipped in the Western Cape DEA&DP pilot project 200 graduates formed a cooperative, and nine other individuals registered entities</p> <p>d. Increased collection capacity and efficiency Better mobility and safety compared to unsafe/pilfered carts The formalization of operations into cooperatives and micro-enterprises</p> <p>e. Income increased by 240% on average, with all reclaimers achieving minimum wage equivalent and some reclaimers earning up to R7,000/month, exceeding formal employment wages Job creation: cooperatives and SMEs formed Waste diversion: up to 24 tonnes per reclaimer per year, saving municipalities costs</p>	<p>Circular funding model: with repayments for trolleys on a rent-to-own basis, grant funds are available in perpetuity, with additional trolleys being added to the rental pool each time there is sufficient income from the rental book to deploy more devices so support a sustainable supply.</p>
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After completing the table, read from left to right. Check for coherence and improve if needed.

4. Declaration of Evidence to verify results chain

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

	Output: A new catalytic innovation established, serves the WC economy	Outcome: Improved business environment (for the target business group)	Impact: Which target group of businesses benefitted & what improved for them	Longevity: Duration of benefits
What evidence can be provided? e.g. Records, reports, peer	WCDEA&DP close-out report	WCDEA&DP close-out report	WCDEA&DP close-out report	WCDEA&DP close-out report

reviews, and so forth				
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5. Select the best category of award for this innovation

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

6. Check that you completed all that is necessary.

7. Submit this documented and/or video recorded to innovation@capechamber.co.za.

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