




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
Asanda Vos	Atlantis Special Economic Zone (ASEZ)		25/02/2026	asanda@atlantissez.co.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
Matthew Cullinun	Atlantis Special Economic Zone (ASEZ)	Public Sector	083 303 8583	matt@atlantissez.co.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 Atlantis Special Economic Zone (ASEZ) is the first Greentech Special Economic Zone on the African continent and represents an innovative institutional response to the demands of climate-aligned industrialisation. Owned by the Western Cape Government and the City of Cape Town, the ASEZ advances a sustainable industrial precinct model that embeds green infrastructure at its core. The Zone incorporates net-zero energy and water principles, recycled road infrastructure,

water-sensitive urban design, and a zero-waste-to-landfill approach to enable low-carbon, resource-efficient manufacturing. Designed to support sustainable and green technology value chains, the ASEZ also aligns with the Just Energy Transition objectives. By integrating infrastructure, policy incentives, and investor support within a single ecosystem, the Zone has attracted approximately R3 billion in committed private investment and created more than 500 direct jobs, demonstrating the viability of sustainable industrial development in Africa.

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
<p>f. A state-owned Greentech SEZ and operational Eco-Industrial Park that integrates sustainability into investment, infrastructure, and operations through a living lab model, net-zero energy systems, circular materials, and CBAM-aligned export-ready infrastructure.</p> <p>g. It is the province's first purpose-built, state-owned Greentech SEZ and operational Eco-Industrial Park that embeds net-zero systems, circular materials, coordinated skills pipelines, and export-ready infrastructure into a single integrated platform, moving beyond traditional industrial areas by combining sustainability, incentives, and industrialisation in one model.</p>	<p>i. Was first made available through the formal designation of the Zone as an SEZ in 2018, supported by targeted marketing and stakeholder partnerships, and accessed via a sequenced model that includes formal investor application and approval process.</p> <p>c. Legacy firms already located in Atlantis before the designation of the Zone accessed the solution through the Zone's post-designation Greentech value proposition and evolving SEZ incentives, while post-2020 investors entered through a formal SEZ application process aligned to sustainability and export criteria, enabling access to applicable incentives, infrastructure upgrades, and turnkey green factory solutions.</p>	<p>a. Critical Greentech sectors supporting South Africa's Just Energy Transition, including renewable energy generation, energy storage, resource efficiency technologies, clean transportation, water and waste treatment, recycling and circular economy solutions, advanced materials and sustainable packaging, air and environmental technologies, and sustainable agriculture.</p> <p>b. More than 9 companies to date, with more in the pipeline; (to provide more information when required)</p> <p>d. Improved and efficient productivity, skills access,</p>	<p>j. The financial viability and sustainability are ensured by a robust project pipeline (Over 30 companies in advanced discussion), substantial committed public and private investment support, stable job creation and lease income, and long-term fiscal modelling showing cumulative net benefits exceeding R2.2 billion by 2034, supporting a 10+ year horizon of enduring impact.</p>

h. It lowers capital and operating costs, reduces carbon and electricity risk, protects EU market access, and accelerates project delivery through shared renewables, turnkey factories, coordinated skills pipelines, and streamlined regulatory support.		market readiness and scalability.	
		e. Increased investment, employment, lower operating costs and expanded market access across the world.	

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 reviews, and so forth	A first-of-its-kind Greentech SEZ in Africa, establishing a catalytic platform for sustainable industrial development.	<p>Provides competitive lease rates, applicable SEZ incentives, turnkey green factory solutions, and CBAM-aligned infrastructure, lowering operating costs and enhancing competitiveness.</p> <p>Facilitates access to skilled labour pipelines, regulatory support, and investment facilitation, improving productivity and market readiness.</p> <p>Promotes industrial clustering with feeder companies and participation in a living lab environment, driving innovation and operational efficiencies.</p> <p>Strengthens business resilience, scalability, and alignment with South Africa's Just Energy Transition and the global low-carbon economy.</p>	<p>While it is still early to measure full attributable impact, the Atlantis SEZ has to date:</p> <p>Attracted over R2.7 billion in investment commitments, strengthening green manufacturing and industrial growth.</p> <p>Developed critical eco-industrial infrastructure to support green technology manufacturing and clustering, with 35% SMME participation, R24.4 million spent on Atlantis-based SMMEs, and more than 500 local jobs created.</p> <p>Advanced social and economic development through enterprise development, skills training, and local procurement initiatives, benefiting over 5000 people to date.</p>	Decades to come.

5. Select the best category of award for this innovation

Sector	Award	Mark with "X"
Private Sector	6 x Catalytic innovations that contribute to growth.	
Public Sector	1 x Provincial- or National-government systemic innovation most impactful on economic growth	
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.	X
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!