



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
Ilse van Schalkwyk	<i>Western Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism</i>		4 March 2026	Ilse.vanschalkwyk@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
Tshegang Chipeya	<i>Western Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism</i>	Public Sector	083 663 4731	Tshegang.Chipeya@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)

Implementation is notoriously the pitfall of ambitious plans and strategies, more so in the public sector. The Impact Pulse is designed to support the implementation of the Western Cape Government's Growth for Jobs Strategy (G4J) by consolidating a wide range of robust data and delivering it to decision-makers and project managers in charge of budget, informing them on the state of the economy in a way that is dynamic and accessible. In this way, public officials, as implementors of G4J, are supported with economic intelligence and informed to make strategic decisions, course-correct, and ideate projects and interventions in order to deliver on their bold plans to improve the economy for the benefit of WC businesses.

It was designed as part of the G4J Implementation Plan by DEDAT HOD Jo-Ann Johnston and executed by the REPP unit, with oversight by Tshegang Chipeya and Ilse van Schalkwyk, delivery of presentations by Tshegang Chipeya, research and analysis by Romy Bogner and Shuray Bux, and data management and dashboard development by Andrew Perrins.

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 to 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 an enduring competitive advantage in the market. What is the expected longevity of 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. <i>(what is the innovation?)</i> The Impact Pulse supports public officials, as implementors of G4J, with a consolidated, wide range of robust data to make strategic decisions, course-correct, and ideate projects and interventions in order to deliver on our mission to improve the economy to the benefit of WC businesses.	i. It is shared directly with senior government decision-makers through presentations and Q&A at internal meetings and will soon be available as a dashboard, easily accessible for the whole of government.	a. The Impact Pulse serves senior decision-makers who allocate budgets to G4J projects, giving them a novel, real-time view of economic shifts. By transforming complex indicators into actionable insight, it enables smarter, more agile public	j. The Impact Pulse is financially sustainable because it uses existing data systems, internal analytical capacity, and established monitoring cycles, requiring no major new funding. Its

<p>g. (why this is new - novelty) Previous economic monitoring was static and separated, while the Impact Pulse is dynamic and integrated. It introduces a consolidated, province-wide economic lens, instead of segmented information.</p> <p>h. (why this is better – why the impact pulse?) The dynamism and accessibility of the Impact Pulse enable a two-way feedback loop, where WCG actions influence the economic environment and the latest economic signals guide how those actions and interventions should adapt. This improves the quality of decision-making.</p>	<p>c. As mentioned previously, businesses benefit indirectly through the improved policies and investments delivered under the Growth for Jobs Strategy.</p>	<p>investment that ultimately strengthens the province's business and investment environment.</p> <p>b. Because the Impact Pulse is an internal decision-support tool, it is primarily utilised by senior government decision-makers rather than businesses directly. To date, it has been actively used by G4J programme leads, budget holders, and provincial executives across multiple PFAs. While no businesses use the tool themselves, many are indirectly affected by smarter, evidence-driven public sector decisions.</p> <p>d. It helps businesses operate more easily by supporting a more stable, enabling economic environment that fosters economic growth.</p> <p>e. By giving decision-makers clearer insight into economic trends, the Impact Pulse helps sharpen the G4J projects that work towards improving conditions for businesses. These projects work towards enhancing energy reliability, water security, market access, and investment attraction, and ultimately, economic growth for job creation.</p>	<p>relevance is reinforced by ongoing leadership demand for evidence-based decision-making within G4J. The tool is expected to remain in use throughout the Growth for Jobs horizon, with longevity to 2035.</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 reviews, and so forth	The Impact Pulse presentation, prototype dashboard (not yet launched), and meeting recordings where it has been presented to decision-makers.	103 G4J projects informed by the insights of the Impact Pulse, to improve and enable the WC economy and business environment.	Meeting records from when the Impact Pulse was presented, listing the attendance of 30 senior government officials (including HODs, Ministers, and the Premier), and the attendance of Priority Focus Area (PFA) and technical leads who feed information down to the managers of 103 projects.	The Implementation Plan makes provision for the continuation of the Impact Pulse until 2035.

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!