



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
Brandon Paschal	SU LaunchLab		28/02/2026	brandonp@sun.ac.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
Dominique Rocher	Urobo Biotech	Private sector/Academia	+27 73 634 9498	drocher@urobobiotech.com

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)

Urobo Biotech creates enzymes that breaks down bioplastics in PET plastic recycling plants and food-based biogas plants. This enables bioplastics to be broken down into usable materials that can later be sold for revenue, rather than sent to landfills or incinerators.

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).

For instance, the answer to question (a) should be written in the third column next to (a).

- 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 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
<p>A plant that inserts into existing processes that provides enzymes that breaks down bioplastics into useful materials.</p> <p>Currently bioplastic is incinerated or sent to landfill. We do not recycle this.</p> <p>People think they are recycling, but in fact bioplastics just go to landfill or are burned.</p>	<p>Plants are set up an waste management facilities and new JV companies are created between WM companies and Urobo.</p> <p>Currently, businesses hear through word of mouth and Urobo sets up a plant at the client's facility</p>	<p>a. Waste management companies and biogas plants.</p> <p>b. 3 pilots currently in place</p> <p>d. This solution reduced bio-plastic to landfill and incinerators</p> <p>e. This lowers costs by \$7m and creates opportunity for \$3m+ in revenue</p>	<p>j. Once installed, minimum maintenance is required. Just keep the feedstock coming</p>

After completing the table, read from left to right. Check for coherence and improve if needed.

4. Declaration of Evidence to verify the results chain

What supporting evidence can you provide to verify that 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	Pilot client testimonials	Decreasing costs of disposal of waste Additional revenue stream that was not possible before	450 plastic processing facilities in Europe. Still new in WC, but the business is based in WC and creating local jobs	Continuous

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	X
Public Sector	1 x Provincial- or National-government systemic innovation most impactful on economic growth	
	1 x Local & District Municipal innovation that is impactful on growth of their local economy	
	1 x Public-sector innovation, enhancing good governance	
Safety & Security	1 x Innovation enhancing safety & security	
Labour Market	1 x Labour market efficacy award Reducing impediments to increased employment	
Academia	1 x Research the most impactful on competitiveness of Industry	
	1 x Tertiary education best aligned to Industry / market needs	X
	1 x Most successful start-up / spin-out	
	1 x Entrepreneurship development in higher education	X
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!