



The vision of Bridge is to link successful practice and innovations, at a national, provincial and local level, around the key leverage areas in the education system in a way that optimises diversity, values and differences so that the whole is bigger than the sum of the parts. Where no innovation exists around key leverage points, Bridge facilitates multi-sectorial innovation to create optimal solutions. Innovation in the context of Bridge is not necessarily the creation of something new, but can also mean deepening, recombining and scaling. Thus, innovation is both scaling and relational.

A key objective of Bridge is, thus, to create linkages and to spread successful practice and Bridge is designed around two work streams to address this objective:

Information

Bridge views the creation of easily accessible information repositories as pivotal to decision-making for educational stakeholders on all levels.

Convening

Bridge has two types of convening, namely ongoing communities for effective practice to share learning's and shift systemic issues; and high-level dialogues to create common purpose and alignment within the context of national frameworks.

Bridge is a PBO and is registered as a non-profit Section 21 Company. Bridge has an existing board as well as an advisory council.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Bridge is seeking to appoint an Executive Director who is a Social Entrepreneur with a firm understanding of the notions of innovation and social transformation. While a background in education is desirable, it is essential that applicants are passionate about improving education. An ability to engage comfortably with very high-level stakeholders is essential and, while this is not a status-enhancing position, candidates should have an existing profile and the ability to use existing connections and networks to open doors for the advancement of Bridge's vision and mission.

Key responsibilities will include:

LEADERSHIP OF ORGANISATION

- To provide leadership and direction on programme, organisational and financial plans with the Board of Bridge
- To develop and facilitate the implementation of policies and procedures authorised by the board
- To keep the board fully informed of the condition of the organisation and all important factors influencing it
- To submit the annual budget and strategic plan for board approval
- To ensure legal and fiduciary compliance

NETWORKING, ADVOCACY, MARKETING

- To initiate, sustain and develop key stakeholder relationships to ensure that Bridge plays a role in the transformation of education in South Africa
- To network with government departments, education organisations and related development agencies to remain abreast of current issues impacting on the sector
- To present papers and take part in conferences related to the education sector
- To represent the point of view of the organisation to companies, other NGOs, the public, media and other relevant stakeholders

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- To review continuously the organisational design and structure to best facilitate Bridge's vision
- To involve board, staff and management in strategic planning
- To build the team and support the staff
- To provide the appropriate processes for managing change in the organisation
- To work on developing organisational effectiveness, learning and growth
- To promote and sustain shared organisational values and culture
- To enable the board to fulfil its governance function
- To ensure the building of the institution that is Bridge

STRATEGIC POSITIONING

- To scan the education environment and position Bridge appropriately, introducing changes where necessary to enable Bridge to deliver on its vision and mission
- To facilitate the implementation of the strategic goals of the organisation
- To monitor the progress of the organisation against its strategic goals
- To develop strategic partnerships which are beneficial to Bridge and the promotion of innovative education
- To play a key role in the education policy environment
- To promote Bridge at a strategic level through participation in appropriate related forums

LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF BRIDGE

- To ensure that adequate funds are available to allow Bridge to carry out its work and future plans through:
 - continued promotion of relationships with national and international donors
 - identifying and sourcing potential income streams
 - resource mobilisation
 - finding and closing leads
- To ensure that Bridge's finances are well-managed and accounted for in consultation with other management staff and the Board

- To develop and implement risk management and change management strategies to enable the organisation to sustain and contribute within the sector