



ANNUAL REPORT 2019



EQUAL EDUCATION
LAW CENTRE

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Preamble of our Constitution declares that it was adopted “to establish a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights” and “to improve the quality of life of all people and free the potential of each person”. This is a noble vision, but more than 20 years later, there is much to be done to achieve it. Education is core to the achievement of that vision as is recognised in the main object of the Equal Education Law Centre (the EELC), which is to promote “equitable, adequately-resourced and high-quality education in South Africa”.



2019 was the seventh year of operation for the Equal Education Law Centre and it was a busy year. We bid farewell to longstanding members of the Board Yoliswa Dwane and Itumeleng Mahabane and I would like to thank them both for their unwavering support of the EELC in its early years. We welcomed Tatum Howie, Michael Mbikiwa and Michelle Norton to the Board. It is always sad to see good colleagues leave an organisation, but transition is part of the life of an organisation and often a measure of its health. And in this regard it has been heart-warming to see the passion for EELC's mission that the new members bring to the Board.

Together with the EELC team, the Board conducted a strategic review during 2019 which was a valuable opportunity for us all to reflect on the future of EELC. It enabled us to identify a new focus on quality in education, something which will inform the work of EELC in the years ahead. 2019 saw too the publication of EELC's State of Education report, which makes for sobering reading, but which provides an important resource to all who are committed to furthering equitable and excellent education in South Africa.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I should like to thank the executive team of Nurina Ally and Robyn Beere, for their hard work and dedication to pursuing the objectives of the EELC and for the constructive and open manner in which they work with the Trustees. I should also like to record our thanks to all those who work at EELC for what they do to achieve the objects of the Trust, and to all EELC's partners who share EELC's commitment to the constitutional vision of building a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights.

Kate O'Regan

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2019, the EELC celebrated 7 years of activist lawyering in the struggle for education justice. We are proud that this annual report reflects the continued growth and deepening of the EELC's movement lawyering, community lawyering and research work, with significant impact for individuals and communities across South Africa.

It continues to be privilege to serve our social movement partner, Equal Education, and its high school members, Equalisers. In addition to the strategic litigation support the EELC team provided on at least 8 matters, the EELC's activist lawyers and researchers facilitated 18 workshops with over 700 EE staff and members participating over the year. This deep engagement with our social movement partner, both in and outside of courts, is a key aspect of the EELC's commitment to movement lawyering.

The EELC's community lawyering work was also significantly deepened in 2019 with a newly recruited community engagement officer leading the EELC's community workshops. As a result of this dedicated focus, the EELC conducted a total of 14 workshops across various provinces with over 330 participants, including members of school governing bodies, parents, paralegals and university law students. This was alongside the continuation of the EELC's daily specialist advice clinic, which provided legal support and advice to 341 clients over the year.

The year also brought significant research and advocacy highlights, with the EELC launching its Report on the State of Education in South Africa, which provided a point of critical engagement with the challenges encountered in the education system over the period 2014-2019 and offered some proposals to reverse the regressive trends which characterised that period. The report formed the basis of a series of engagements with education stakeholders, including meetings with the Department of Basic Education and a presentation before the Portfolio Committee on Basic Education in Parliament.

A significant highlight of the year was our extensive process of developing our five year strategy as an organisation. This included consultation and input with internal and external stakeholders, and we appreciate the robust engagement we received. Our strategy serves as a roadmap for the role the EELC can continue to play in extending education justice in South Africa.



I must take this opportunity to welcome Robyn Beere who joined the EELC as Deputy Director in January 2019. Robyn joined the EELC as a leading education justice advocate, having served as the Director of Inclusive Education South Africa for eight and a half years. Robyn's passionate commitment to advancing equitable and quality education through community empowerment has immediately contributed to building the work of the EELC. It has been a pleasure and privilege to have her join the leadership team. At the same time, we have bid farewell to Daniel Linde, the former Deputy Director. Daniel has made remarkable contributions to both EE and the EELC and remains a comrade in the struggle for education justice.

Finally, whilst no statement of appreciation is enough, I thank the team members of the EELC who work tirelessly to ensure that the clients and communities we serve are able to access justice. We are also grateful to our esteemed Board of Trustees for offering their time, expertise and guidance without hesitation, and our comrades at Equal Education for grounding the work of the EELC in the lived experiences of high school activists working to craft a better future for us all.

Nurina Ally

ADVANCING EDUCATION JUSTICE

HOW WE WORK

MOVEMENT LAWYERING

The EELC provides legal support to its sister organisation, Equal Education (EE), a democratic social movement of parents, teachers and high school learners (known as Equalisers). As movement lawyers, the EELC provides legal advice and support, including but not limited to strategic litigation, to further EE's campaigns for equal and quality education.

COMMUNITY LAWYERING

Central to the work of the EELC is advancing access to justice through the provision of advice services to marginalised individuals and communities. The EELC runs a specialist education law clinic, providing advice to clients nationally. The EELC also runs a series of community-based workshops on education law and constitutional rights across the country.

RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY

The EELC uses legal research and advocacy to advance the right of access to education. This is done through participating in events around key issues in education, monitoring national and provincial legislatures, and making submissions on draft legislation and policy impacting on education. The EELC also publishes research reports to advance knowledge in the education sector.

THEMATIC FOCUS AREAS

Sanitation

Exclusionary practices in schools

Transport

Quality

Spatial Justice

Funding

Private Actors in Education

Early Childhood Education

Right to Protest

School Safety

MOVEMENT LAWYERING



WORKSHOPS

18

workshops

722

EE participants



LITIGATION

8

matters

(EELC support in & outside court)



RESEARCH & ADVOCACY

4

joint submissions



GENERAL SUPPORT

Support on **contracts, letters** to government & parliament, right to **protest** and **access to information** requests

A. MOVEMENT LAWYERING - LITIGATION

SCHOOL SANITATION - #JUSTICE4MICHAELKOMAPE

In January 2014, 5-year old Michael Komape tragically died after falling through a dilapidated pit latrine at his school in Chebeng Village near Polokwane. Michael's parents and siblings instituted a claim for damages based on the wrongful and negligent failure of state officials to ensure that the toilets at Michael's school were safe.

On 18 December 2019, the Supreme Court of Appeal handed down judgment in the case, awarding damages for, amongst others, the emotional shock and grief that the family suffered as a result of their loss. The EELC represented EE as an amicus curiae in the Supreme Court of Appeal and continues to represent EE in the Limpopo High Court regarding a structural interdict ordered by the Court, which requires the state to ensure adequate and safe toilets are provided in that province.



SCHOLAR TRANSPORT - #LONGWALKTOSCHOOL

The EELC has supported EE in its campaign for scholar transport for over four years. In November 2017, EE secured a settlement agreement (made an order of court) which secured relief for learners at 12 schools in Nquthu, KwaZulu-Natal, as well as broader relief regarding the finalisation of a provincial learner transport policy.

On 10 April 2018, the provincial Departments of Education and Transport provided scholar transport to approximately 3500 learners in Nquthu, KwaZulu-Natal.

The Department indicated in reports filed before the Court that a provincial transport policy would be finalised by December 2018 but this was not done. EE brought an urgent application which was set down to be heard on 23 October 2019. Shortly prior to the hearing, the State respondents filed an extensive report before the Court which addressed many, although not all, of EE's concerns with prior reporting.

On the day of the hearing, EE negotiated an agreement, made an order of court requiring the state to publish the draft KZN Scholar Transport Policy for public comment by 30 January 2020, failing which the state respondents must provide an "embargoed copy" to EE and the amicus curiae and report to the Court on the reasons for delay.



The appeal centered on the constitutional obligations of independent schools in relation to the right to basic education and the best interests of the child

CONSTITUTIONAL OBLIGATIONS OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS

AB and CB v Pridwin Preparatory

On 16 May 2019, the EELC represented EE as a friend of the court in an appeal before the Constitutional Court. The appeal centered on the constitutional obligations of independent schools in relation to the right to basic education and the best interests of the child. In this case, an independent school had effectively expelled two learners relying on a provision in the school's contract with the parents which allowed the school to terminate the contract 'for any reason'.

An initial High Court judgment was appealed to the Supreme Court of Appeal, which was handed down on 1 November 2018. The Supreme Court of Appeal judgment adopted a concerning approach in relation to the duties that private schools bear in relation to the right to education, as well as in relation to the best interests of the child principle.

On appeal to the Constitutional Court, EE intervened as an amicus curiae and made submissions on, amongst others, the approach to interpreting section 29 of the Constitution, and the meaning of "inferior standards" contained in section 29(3) of the Constitution. Judgment was reserved.

NM v John Wesley School and Another

On 19 December 2018, the KwaZulu-Natal High Court (Durban) handed down judgment in the case of NM v John Wesley School and Another 2019 (2) SA 557 (KZD). The case involved a

challenge to an independent school's practice of excluding learner's whose parents had outstanding fee payments (this was referred to in the case as the school's "exclusion policy"). The High Court held that the exclusion policy was unconstitutional and invalid on the basis that, amongst others, the policy results in the application of an inferior standard than in public schools and is humiliating to the learner. John Wesley School filed appeal in the Supreme Court of Appeal, where it seeks to set aside the decision of the High Court.

In August 2019, EE resolved to intervene in the case as a friend of the court (*amicus curiae*) in order to make submissions aligned to those in the Pridwin case. EE, represented by EELC, filed its application to intervene as *amicus curiae* on 12 August 2019.



THE RIGHT TO PROTEST FOR EDUCATION JUSTICE

In August 2018, EE launched an application against the KZN Department of Education and Police Services to challenge the unlawful dispersal of a creative protest by learners. The litigation followed the failure of the officials to engage and provide an effective apology for their unlawful actions in halting a protest by learners outside the KZN Department of Education offices. EE sought a declaratory order together with a public apology to vindicate the rights of the members involved.

The matter was heard on 2 August 2019 and judgment was handed down on 23 December 2019. The judgment disappointingly dismissed the case on the basis of a procedural issue, rather than an engagement on the substantive issues raised in the matter. EE has decided not to appeal the judgment but to continue to focus on ensuring that in future Equalisers' rights are not violated.

CHALLENGING REGRESSIVE EDUCATION LAW REFORMS

In November 2018, wide-ranging amendments to provincial education laws were made in the Western Cape, including the introduction of "intervention facilities", "collaboration schools", and "donor-funded schools". These reforms raise serious concerns and in August 2019 EE launched an application challenging aspects of the new legislation. EE argues that the impugned provisions are unconstitutional and invalid on various grounds, including that the provisions are variously irrational and unlawful and/or unjustifiably limit the rights contained in section 28 (best interests of the child) and section 29 (right to basic education) of the Constitution.



SPATIAL JUSTICE AND ACCESS TO EDUCATION

The Tafelberg Property in Sea Point was owned by the Western Cape Government and was initially identified as a site that could be used to facilitate transformation in Cape Town's inner city. Despite this, the Department of Transport and Public Works designated it as surplus and decided to sell the land to private buyers. The Reclaim the City movement, represented by Ndifuna Ukwazi, challenged various decisions relating to the sale of the Tafelberg property. EE was admitted as a friend of the court in the matter and made submissions highlighting the detrimental impact that the failure to ensure access to affordable housing in central Cape Town has on learners' access to, and enjoyment of, the right to basic education. The matter was heard in the Western Cape division from 25-29 November 2019. Judgment is reserved.

GOVERNANCE AT PRASA

In December 2017 #UniteBehind and Equal Education launched an urgent case to prevent the implementation of a resolution by an unlawfully appointed interim board of PRASA, which resolution sought to suspend PRASA's legal panel. The effective governance of PRASA has significant implications for the availability of public transport generally, including learners. In May 2018, an order was secured compelling the release of the relevant transcript and the record of the PRASA resolution. PRASA also provided an undertaking not to implement the resolution in respect of any existing cases. In 2019, the case was withdrawn following correspondence with PRASA and the Minister of Transport.



MOVEMENT LAWYERING

B. MOVEMENT LAWYERING - WORKSHOPS

In 2019, the EELC team conducted at least 18 workshops with over 700 EE staff and members, including Equalisers, Facilitators and Parent members. These workshops were held across various provinces and covered a range of topics aimed at empowerment and capacity building around the law as it relates to education, as well as updates of particular cases.

The EELC also conducted training with EE's Disciplinary Committee on EE's Constitution and disciplinary processes.



C. MOVEMENT LAWYERING - GENERAL LEGAL SUPPORT

The EELC also provides general legal support to EE. This takes the form of advice on contracts with service providers, access to information requests, protest support or input on topical issues and responses. Some highlights from 2019 included:

- Support to EE's campaign around the nomination of Zukisa Faku as Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Basic Education. Faku ultimately resigned.
- Submissions to the DBE and Commission for Gender Equality on sexist tweets by the DBE spokesperson.
- Supporting the development a legal advocacy strategy relating to violations of the right to protest of members.
- Supporting EE staff and members in protest actions in the Western Cape, Gauteng and Limpopo.

COMMUNITY LAWYERING



ADVICE CLINIC

341
clients



LITIGATION

Urgent application
success

3

schools &

600

learners secure
sanitation

EELC appointed as a
friend of the court in
matter involving ECD
centre



WORKSHOPS

14
workshops and

331

participants

(SGBs, parents,
paralegals, students)



PAMPHLETS

17

Know Your Rights
pamphlets



UNDOCUMENTED LEARNERS - ADMISSION OF OVER 100 UNDOCUMENTED LEARNERS SECURED

On the 21st of November 2019, the Equal Education Law Centre secured a commitment that over 100 children in the community of Matatiele in the Eastern Cape, would be admitted to school for the 2020 academic year. The children had been out of school owing to lack of identity documentation.

The EELC facilitated a meeting with the parents of the children, the circuit manager and principals from surrounding public schools. The resolution of the meeting was that the children would

be conditionally admitted for the 2020 academic year. This was a significant victory for access to education!

“In one of my cases, we assisted a grandparent whose two grandchildren had never been to school, she was elated when her grandchildren got admitted and said that we had changed their future.”

Pila-sande Mkuzo, candidate attorney at EELC

A. COMMUNITY LAWYERING - LAW CLINIC

In 2019, the EELC attended to 341 clients through its advice clinic, servicing clients across 8 provinces. The EELC has assisted clients on issues ranging from discrimination against learners in schools, unlawful disciplinary proceedings, irregular admissions, mismanagement of school funds and violence against learners. Some success stories are highlighted below:

LEARNER SAFETY - LONG-AWAITED PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE OVER MAJOR HIGHWAY CONFIRMED

In 2019, construction was confirmed to begin on a long-awaited pedestrian bridge between Garden Village and Somerset West in the Western Cape. The pedestrian bridge will ensure that learners from the Garden Village as well as the train commuters who attend Danie Ackermann Primary School and Gordon High School, safely cross the busy N2 road when going to the school in peak hour traffic in the morning.

The estimated cost of the steel arch bridge is R22 million and construction has been anticipated to take place over 15 months. The commitment followed continuous engagement between EELC, on behalf of Danie Ackermann Primary and the Gardencar Association, and the Western Cape Government since 2017. This demonstrated the significant community impact that the EELC's law clinic has.

“On a daily basis we see the impact of our law clinic on changing the lives of children and their families. Extending access to justice for communities is critical.”

Asiphe Funda, candidate attorney at EELC

“

We have learned a lot about the situations we face at school and how to use our rights.”

“This workshop taught us our rights! I learned more about protests and how to go about holding them.”

Equaliser feedback on EELC workshops

COMMUNITY LAWYERING



B. COMMUNITY LAWYERING - LITIGATION

SECURING ADEQUATE SANITATION FOR 3 EASTERN CAPE SCHOOLS

The EELC represented 3 Eastern Cape schools in an urgent application to secure adequate water and sanitation facilities in the Eastern Cape. A settlement agreement was made an order of court with both urgent short-term measures and long-term measures for each school. Over 600 learners benefit from the court order.



BEST INTERESTS OF CHILDREN - EELC APPOINTED AS AMICUS CURIAE

The EELC was appointed by the court as amicus curiae in a matter involving an Early Childhood Development Centre. The EELC's role is to ensure that the best interests of the children at the Centre are adequately considered.

C. KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WORKSHOPS

“You have changed the way I think, I will now look at people differently”

Feedback from Western Cape high school learner participating in a workshop on discrimination in schools

In addition to the workshops EELC conducted with EE members (see movement lawyering), the EELC conducted **14 workshops** with SGBs, parent and learner community organisations, paralegals, and university students.

The EELC engaged more than **331** participants through these workshops.

In addition, the EELC has developed and distributed over 17 different Know Your Rights pamphlets and materials, that are specifically prepared to be accessible to children and available in multiple languages.



PARALEGAL TRAINING

In 2019, the EELC conducted paralegal training in the Eastern Cape to build paralegal capacity to respond to education related queries. The EELC also joined Centre for Advancement of Community Advice Offices stakeholder workshop and is now part of the planning committee.



RESEARCH & ADVOCACY



REPORT & SUBMISSION HIGHLIGHTS

State of Education Report;

General Comment on Right to Protest in international law;

Access to Information report



OP-EDS

6

op-eds on education and children's rights



A. SUBMISSIONS AND REPORTS

In 2019, the EELC made **4** substantive submissions **jointly with EE** on issues relating to

- the link between **land expropriation** and **education justice**
- restricting **sale of alcohol at schools**
- effects of **corruption on education**, and
- ensuring that learners are fully able to express their **gender identity and sexual orientation** at schools.

The EELC also made written and in-person submissions on the draft **General Comment on Article 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**, highlighting the importance of the right to protest for children.

The EELC, together with members of the **Access to Information** Network, marked the 4th International #AccessToInfoDay by releasing the Network's annual report. The report tracks some of the challenges faced when seeking information from public and private bodies. [insert picture of report]



B. LEGISLATURE MONITORING AND ENGAGEMENT

In 2019, the EELC's Junior Researcher monitored both national and provincial legislature meetings relating to the right to education. When calls for comment or invitations to make written or oral submissions on draft legislation are opened, monitoring processes ensure that these invitations are identified and responded to timeously. In addition, monitoring allows the EELC to track legislation and policy implementation once comments or submissions have been made.



EELC's submissions highlighted the importance of the right to peaceful assembly for children, drawing on our experience supporting child activists and litigating on the right to protest.

C. ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS STATE OF EDUCATION REPORT

In May 2019, the EELC launched its Report on the State of Education in South Africa, which provides a point of critical engagement with the challenges encountered in the education system over the period 2014-2019 and offers some proposals to reverse the regressive trends which characterised that period.

Having conducted research across some of the EELC's central thematic areas of work, the report revealed shrinking education budgets, chronic underspending and a consistent failure to meet set targets as trends cutting across the entire education system. The report also reveals further system failures relating to the quality and availability of data, the lack of coordination and cooperation of government departments and other stakeholders, as well as severe legislative and policy gaps and implementation barriers.

The report formed the basis of a series of engagement with education stakeholders, including meetings with the Department of Basic Education. In October 2019 made oral submissions before the Portfolio Committee on Basic Education on the report, covering issues relating to education funding trends, school infrastructure, early childhood development, learner transport and exclusionary admission practices. The report was well-received and the EELC will be deepening its engagements over 2020.



PUBLIC INTEREST LAW GATHERING 2019 - SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS

In October 2019, the EELC co-hosted a roundtable on sexual violence in schools, together with the Centre for Applied Legal Studies, at the 9th annual Public Interest Law Gathering held at Wits University. The brainstorming session brought together individuals and organisations working on children's rights to consider strategic interventions aimed at tackling sexual violence in schools.

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE - RIGHT TO PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY

In March 2019, the EELC made written and oral submissions to the UN Human Rights Committee (HRC) on the drafting of a General Comment on Article 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (the right to peaceful assembly).

EELC's submissions highlighted the importance of the right to peaceful assembly for children, drawing on our experience supporting child activists and litigating on the right to protest.

Amongst others, the EELC asked the Committee to emphasise the positive and negative obligations of states to promote and protect the right to protest for children.

SOLIDARITY AND LEARNING EXCHANGE - OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

In April 2019, EE and EELC joined parent, teacher and student activists in Oakland, California for a solidarity and learning visit. The visit was an inspiring opportunity for education justice advocates from South Africa and the US to engage on issues impacting on education in our respective contexts and strategies for mobilisation and intervention. The EELC was grateful to all the organisations and individuals who shared their time and insights with us, including Educators for Democratic Schools, Kitty Epstein, Mike Hutchinson from Oakland's Public Education Network, Frank Adamson, Jaribu Lee from Journey for Justice Alliance, Public Advocates, Californians for Justice, Black Organising Project and the Open Society Education Support Programme. We were also grateful to the students and educators of Oakland Technical High School, McClymonds High School, Oakland High and Skyline Senior High School for allowing us an opportunity to engage and learn.



COMPARATIVE AND INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION SOCIETY CONFERENCE

Between 14 and 18 April 2019, EELC and EE attended and participated in the Comparative and International Education Society Conference in San Francisco, California. The EELC's Senior Researcher, Rubeena Parker, and EE Co-Head of Research, Hopolang Selebalo, presented their paper on Spatial Justice and Sustainable Access to Education in South Africa. The presentation drew on the work of EE and EELC to highlight potential mechanisms to disrupt rural and urban spatial and education injustice.



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - CONSULTATIONS AND DEBATES

Over the course of 2019, the EELC engaged in a series of workshops and dialogues with civil society and government on the critical announcement that two years of compulsory pre-Grade 1 schooling would be introduced, and that the primary responsibility for early childhood development would shift from the Department of Social Development to the Department of Basic Education.

These engagements included participation in a National Education Collaboration Trust dialogue on the function shift of ECD, a civil society engagement hosted by the Nelson Mandela Foundation on the announced ECD migration, workshops on proposed amendment to the Children's Act which impacts on to early childhood development, as well as consultative engagements with the Department of Basic Education.



RESEARCH & ADVOCACY

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION – SOUTH AFRICAN AND REGIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

In 2019, the EELC participated in various events focused on advancing inclusive education both in South Africa and regionally. In May 2019, the EELC participated in a UNESCO Regional symposium on the Right to Education and Inclusion in Policies and Practices in Africa. The EELC's Deputy Director, Robyn Beere, also contributed to an online course on the foundations of inclusive education sector planning offered by UNESCO.

In September 2019, the EELC held a focused engagement with the Department of Basic Education's Inclusive Education Directorate. In November 2019, the EELC participated in a disability advocacy workshop with civil society stakeholders hosted by the International Commission of Jurists.



SPRING SCHOOL – LAWYERING FOR CHANGE

In the last week of August, the EELC teamed up with the Centre for Law and Society to co-host a three day Spring School with Western Cape law students. The students engaged lawyers and activists from various public interest law organisations and discussed models for public interest lawyering.

This was the third annual Spring School co-hosted by the EELC and Centre for Law and Society. We look forward to hosting this initiative again in 2020.

MEDIA ADVOCACY

Media advocacy is an important component of the EELC's advocacy and awareness-raising work. In 2019, the EELC team published 6 op-eds on a range of education-related topics. In addition, the EELC team participated in media spokesperson training and conducted a number of radio and other media interviews on the work of the EELC and current education matters.

At the end of 2019, Africa Legal ran a three-part profile series on the work of the EELC. The EELC's movement lawyering, community lawyering and research were covered in the three articles of the series authored by Tania Broughton.



ABIDJAN PRINCIPLES ON THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION

In March 2019, the final text of the Abidjan Principles on the human rights obligations of States to provide public education and to regulate private involvement in education was published. The EELC was proud to serve on the secretariat of organisations which facilitated the consultative process that led to the Abidjan Principles being finalised, together with Amnesty International, the Global Initiative for Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, the Initiative for Social and Economic Rights, and the Right to Education Initiative.

The Abidjan Principles is a new landmark reference point in terms of understanding the right to education. The principles identify and unpack the existing obligations of states under international human rights law to provide quality public education and to regulate private involvement in education.

In addition to attending the adoption of the Abidjan Principles in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in February 2019, the EELC also joined a meeting in Nairobi, Kenya on the use of the Abidjan principles, facilitating a session around advocacy.

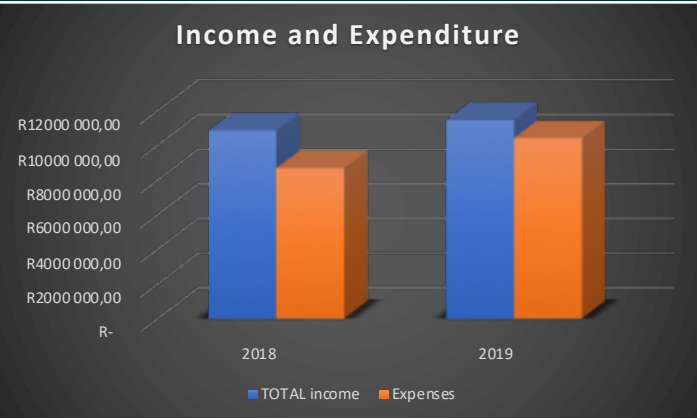


LOOKING FORWARD STRATEGIC PLANNING TO 2025

In 2019, the EELC team developed a five-year strategic plan following a series of consultations with internal and external stakeholders. The result of the process has been an exciting plan for the coming five years, deepening the EELC's unique position as a specialist education law and policy law clinic utilising a holistic combination of movement lawyering, community lawyering and research and advocacy.



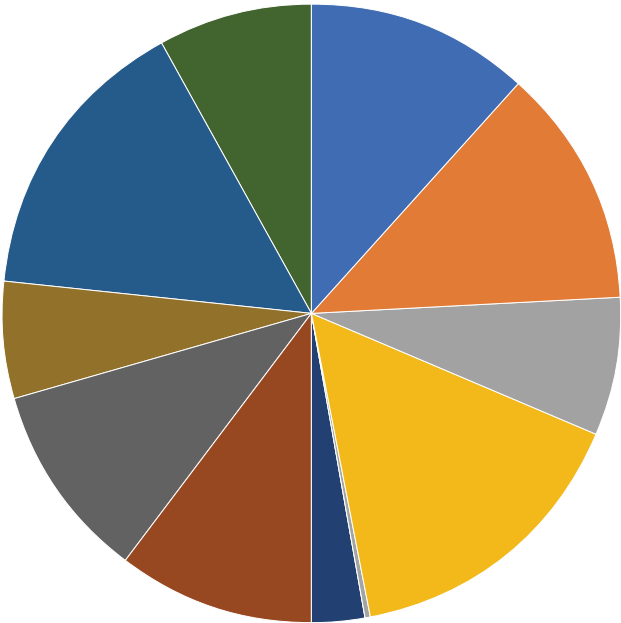
Extracted from the audited annual financial statement for the year ending 31 December 2019



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

FIGURES IN R	2019	2018
Assets		
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	217 161	112 234
Total non-current assets	217 161	112 234
Current assets		
Trade and other receivables	38 312	495 651
Cash and cash equivalents	14 721 859	12 602 847
Total current assets	14 760 171	13 098 498
Total assets	14 977 332	13 210 732
Trust funds and liabilities		
Trust funds		
Capital contributions	500	500
Accumulated surplus	2 090 691	3 149 449
Sustainability Reserve Fund	6 524 556	3 524 556
Total trust funds	8 615 747	6 674 505
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Provisions	64 509	59 260
Trade and other payables	130 654	1 994 819
Deferred income	6 166 422	4 482 148
Total current liabilities	6 361 585	6 536 227
Total liabilities	6 361 585	6 536 227
Total trust funds and liabilities	14 977 332	13 210 732

GRANTS AND DONATIONS UTILIZED DURING 2019



- Bertha Foundation
- Cameron Schrier Foundation
- Claude Leon Foundation
- Ford Foundation
- Foundation for Human Rights
- General donations



The EELC is pleased to report a stable financial position for the 2019 financial year. Despite increased expenses, due in large part to additions to our team and the upgrade of IT equipment, we were able to increase our sustainability reserves. Thanks to the ongoing support of our donors we have also secured sufficient funding for our 2020 financial year.

- Heinrich-Boll-Stifung Southern Africa
- Open Society Foundation for South Africa
- The Allen & Overy Foundation
- The European Union
- The Raith Foundation
- The Sigrid Rausing Trust

Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2019

Registration details:

Trust: IT 2966/ 2011

NPO: 099 – 658 – NPO

PBO: 930038683

BANKING DETAILS:

FNB:

Adderley Street

ACCOUNT NAME:

Equal Education Law Centre Trust

ACCOUNT NUMBER:

62338566584

Cheque account



THANK YOU TO OUR TEAM, SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

The work of the EELC has been made possible by our dedicated and passionate team. Our esteemed Board of Trustees have continued to provide clear guidance and support to the organisation for which we are appreciative. We must also thank the advocates who have provided support to the EELC's matters over the year. Finally, we thank our donors for their contribution to the struggle for equal and quality education for all, including:

Allen & Overy Foundation

Bertha Foundation

Sigrid Rausing Trust

Claude Leon Foundation

Open Society Foundation SA

Cameron Schrier Foundation

Ford Foundation

Heinrich Böll Stiftung

Raith Foundation

The European Union



EQUAL EDUCATION LAW CENTRE

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