

THE HUB OF KNOWLEDGE- LAUNCH

STRETCHING THE BOUNDARIES OF EDUCATION FURTHER

Gemini GIS and Environmental Services (GGES) believes in sharing knowledge to underprivileged schools and stretching boundaries of learner's GIS knowledge. The aim is to give back to the community and try to stretch the boundaries of education further by assisting the youth in understanding the career and employment opportunities out there.

Special points of interest:

- How it all started
- The application
- Giving birth to THK
- Where to from here?

GGES started sharing this knowledge by identifying one of the needy school in Soweto(Bona Comprehensive School) and decided to create an application on Geographical Information System (GIS) with the help of Skhomo Technologies who developed the actual application. GIS is a computer based application that captures, stores, manipulate and analyse geographic data. Previously, the lessons that were given were paper based instead of computer based. As GIS is a computer dependent technology, this approach limited the scope that could be covered about the GIS technology. It made it very difficult to teach and engage learners in productive spatial thinking and data analysis of which the learners find it very difficult to understand. GGES realised the need for practical usage of GIS in the classroom or computer laboratory.



...And GGES gave birth to “The Hub of Knowledge” (THK)

Gemini GIS and Environmental Services (GGES) gave birth to the fascinating application called “The Hub of Knowledge”.

THK was launched at Bona Comprehensive School as a pilot on the 29th of May 2015. The event was graced by the following companies: Department of Education, Lekwa Consulting Engineers, Eskom, Orlando West High School, Fhatani Foundations, Gridbow, The Hope Factory (THF), and Mrs. Phakoare and PPM.

The aforementioned companies made this day a huge success. Ms Msiza from the Department of Education honoured us by cutting the ribbon, on her speech she emphasized on the importance of education and how fortunate this generation is by having companies such as GGES and Skhomo Technologies who value the quality of education referring to THK as it will have a positive impact on all the Geography learners.

The overall speakers stressed the importance of education and how the application will enhance the learners knowledge.



Both GGES and Skhomo technologies demonstrated how the application works, and also handed user manuals to make it easier for learners to understand how to use the application.

All of this wouldn't have been possible without the assistance of Mr. Hanyane who welcomed our initiative by allowing us to launch THK as a pilot at Bona Comprehensive School.

As a sign of gratitude from GGES to all the attendees and the learners, we handed each of them with a gift.

To GGES the success of the launch meant we have achieved our objective which giving back to the community by empowering the learners with something that has value. That is stretching the boundaries of education further.



Ms Tontsi (GIS Coordinator and THK Project Manager handing out gifts.)



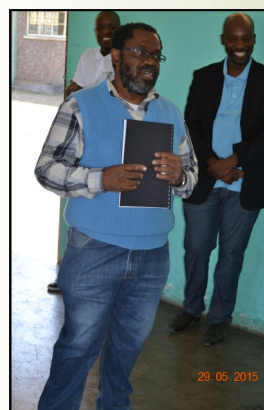
Mrs. S Kijothano
(Retired Geography Teacher)



Mrs. Phidza (OD of GGES)



Ms. Msiza (D.O.E)



Mr. Hanyane (Dep. Principal and Geography Teacher)



Mr. Machabe (MC)
(Environmental Practitioner of GGES)



Ms. Khambule (Principal)



Mrs. Silinga (MD of GGES)

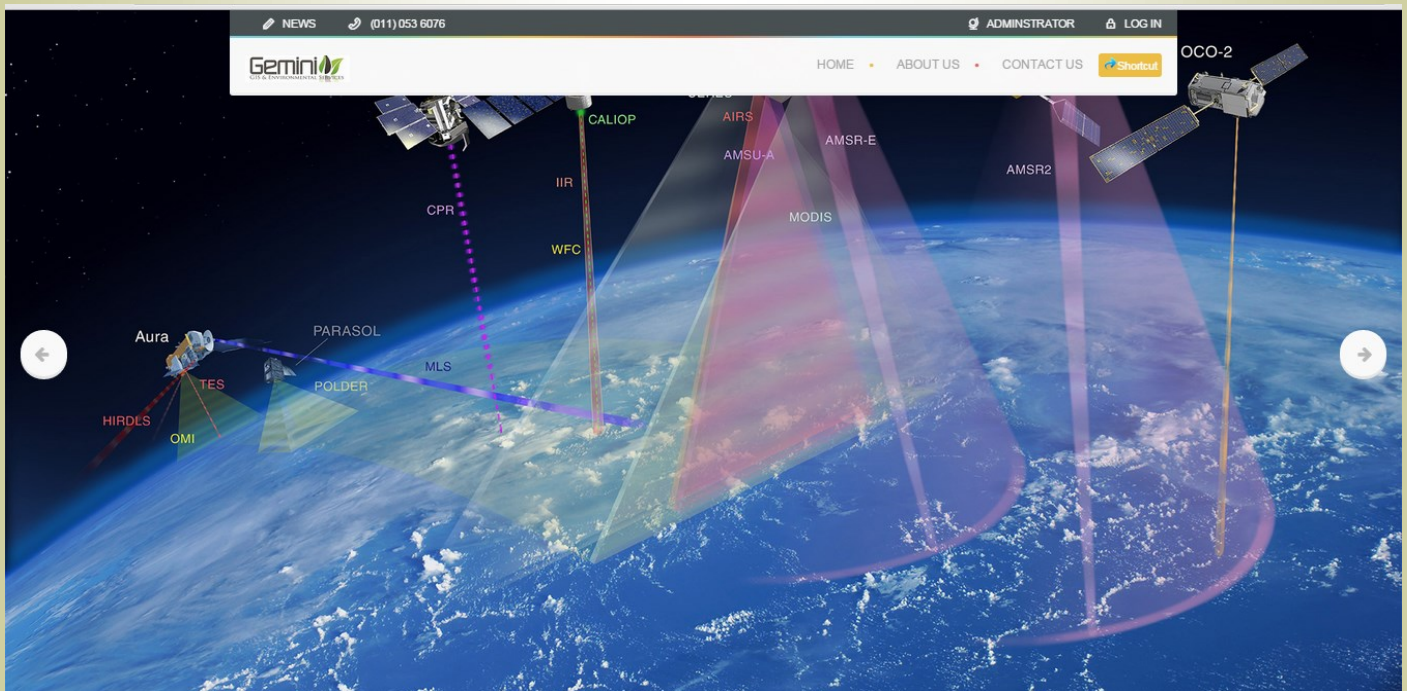


Mr. Matoti (MD of Skhomotech)



Mr. Khumbuzi (Developer)

The Hub of Knowledge (THK) Application



The Hub of Knowledge application is an online application (i.e. e—learning) . This application is designed in such a way that it is easy to manipulate and manoeuvre by both Teachers and learners.

This application will enhance the knowledge of the learners and give them insight of what GIS is really about. Not only will the application enhance their knowledge but it will also assist them in making reasonable career choices.

Should you be interested in the application do not hesitate to contact our Project Manager, Ms. M Tontsi at 011 060 6700 or you can email her at mandisat@gges.co.za or alternatively contact or Managing Director, Mrs. A Silinga via email at andiswas@gges.co.za



And here are some of our guests!!!

Where to from here?

As we have successfully launched The Hub of Knowledge application at Bona Comprehensive School (as a pilot), the next step is to roll out to all the schools in Soweto. However, the plan is to reach all the disadvantaged schools not only in Soweto but the whole of South Africa.

Currently what is on the application covers only the Grade 12 syllabus, the plan is to incorporate Grade 10 and 11 Syllabi.

THF is not only about offering lessons but also to create job opportunities by sourcing GIS graduates that will be in-house to offer support for each school.

As it has been stated that the focus is on the disadvantaged schools, the intention is to reach even the schools that do not have computer labs and electricity by developing mobile labs.

The ultimate aim is to make an impact by stretching the boundaries of education further.

We welcome any kind of help in terms of sponsorship since the aim is to nationalize the application.

Gemini GIS and Environmental Services (GGES) is a 100% black owned company.

GGES offers Environmental services such as Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA's), Environmental Management Plans (EMP's), Environmental Compliance and Monitoring (water and air).

GGES also offer Geographical Information System (GIS) Services such as Geospatial Mapping, Geospatial Data Management, Geospatial and Business data integration, Geospatial data analysis and modelling and database management.

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