

Zutari receives international recognition for Wild Coast toll road



Amelia Visagie, Technical Director, Zutari.

At the 2023 International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Core Values Awards, Zutari won the Member-at-Large Award in the Project of the Year Category and an Honourable Mention in the International Project of the Year category. This in recognition of its

Leading consulting engineering and infrastructure advisory firm Zutari has received global recognition for its involvement in the N2 Wild Coast toll road development.

role in the Wild Coast Toll Road project in the Eastern Cape province.

"Behind every successful infrastructure project is an effective stakeholder engagement strategy. This can begin as early as during the design and even concept phase," says Amelia Visagie, Technical Director at Zutari. "Listening to stakeholders is crucial to any project's success. It ensures that their interests are aligned with the project's objectives, builds trust and collaboration, and ultimately leads to better outcomes for all involved."

The South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL) appointed the Zutari Consortium to design and oversee the construction of the national route and associated access roads in Package 4

of the seven-package N2 Wild Coast Road development. The Zutari Consortium partnered with Africa!Ignite and Wild Coast Foods to implement the SANRAL Legacy Programme, focused on empowering communities near Package 4.

A community engagement process called Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) was adopted. It empowers communities to identify and develop their skills, knowledge, and talents. The approach focuses on community strengths and assets rather than on deficits and problems, stimulates active citizenship, promotes community accountability, and supports sustainable development.

Investing in proactive community engagement and development resulted in

well-informed and committed stakeholders, a broad buy-in and endorsement of both the N2 road construction project and the associated Legacy Programme.

The Zutari Consortium used the Spectrum of Engagement underwritten by IAP2. "We continually informed communities and actively consulted with stakeholders in ways that shaped and directed the Legacy Programme," explains Visagie. Communities were directly involved in setting project priorities and identifying community assets.

"What is more important is that we collaborated with communities, working as a single team to prepare funding presentations and create business support (WowBiz) centres. Communities were empowered and will continue to be empowered through mentoring, training, and on-the-ground business support," says Visagie.

Commenting on the successful project and its accolades, IAP2 International Federation Chair Rachel Fox stated in her citation: "This is a great example of how infrastructure projects can address deeper interests of communities and their leaders to develop more value for the investment. Those added values are building community capacity for engagement and meeting longer-term interests or capitalising on



The Zutari Consortium partnered with Africa!Ignite and Wild Coast Foods to implement the SANRAL Legacy Programme.

opportunities to address deeper community needs, in this case, economic opportunity. It shows what minding equity and relationships looks like beyond transactional engagement."

Zutari believes that infrastructure has unparalleled potential to create enduring impact, by planning, designing, delivering

and managing infrastructure in ways that maximise its value. The company's work in water, transport, energy, resources and infrastructure for the built-environment does just this – helping to nurture thriving communities, growing economies, and healthy environments.

www.zutari.com



A community engagement process called Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) was adopted.

CONNECT with your FUTURE

In the areas of **Mining, Electrical, Automation, Manufacturing, Power and Transport**

BOOK YOUR STAND

CONTACT OUR TEAM

Shalane Vorster, Exhibition Manager
T: +27 (0)10 003 3074 | C: +27 (0)82 554 6674
E: shalane.vorster@montgomerygroup.com

www.electramining.co.za

electra mining
mining • electrical • automation • manufacturing
africa 2024
Southern Africa's Biggest | SINCE 1972

2-6 SEPTEMBER

Expo Centre, Nasrec, Johannesburg, South Africa
9am - 5pm daily

There's simply nothing like it for building connections for business growth.

SEVEN TOP REASONS TO EXHIBIT

- generate** on-site sales and pre-qualified sales leads
- connect** with quality buyers and decision-makers
- build** new and existing relationships
- launch** new products and services to industry
- increase** your product and brand awareness
- strengthen** your business growth
- invigorate** your connection with industry

#EMA24
#electraminingafrica24

Organised by:
MONTGOMERY GROUP
SPECIALISED EXHIBITIONS