



# PROGRAMME

INNOVATION AND IMPACT IN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMMES

**25-26 FEBRUARY 2026**

Lagoon Beach Hotel & Spa, Milnerton,  
Cape Town



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

# DAY ONE - WEDNESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2026

## REIMAGINING POSSIBILITY

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- 08h00 - 9h00 **REGISTRATION & ARRIVAL**
- 09h00 - 09h30 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**  
Musical performance from the **Ikamva Labantwana Bethu marimba band** to set the tone for the day with vibrant, youth-led energy.
- 09h30 - 09h40 **OPENING REMARKS**  
Opening remarks by TLT Board Chair
- 09h40 - 10h10 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**  
Titled, "**Courageous Change: Building Adaptive Systems for Youth Growth,**" Explore courageous approaches to change and adaptive systems that support youth growth and innovation in after-school programming.
- 10h10 - 10h25 **YOUTH VOICE SPOTLIGHT**  
"**My Path, My Power**" Hear directly from young people and discover the real impact of after-school programmes in shaping pathways to opportunity.
- 10h25 - 11h05 **TALK SHOW: THE STATE OF AFTER-SCHOOL IN SA**  
Join the conversation on **current challenges, opportunities and future directions for after-school programmes**. Participate in live polling and engage with interactive dialogue to explore sector insights.
- 11h05 - 11h25 **CONNECTION BREAK**
- 11h30- 13h30 **IDEA LABS (PARALLEL DEEP-DIVE SESSIONS)**  
**Choose your lab and immerse yourself in hands-on exploration:**
- Idea Lab 1: Reimagining Financial Freedom for ASPs - From grant-dependence to generative models**  
Explore sustainable income strategies and asset-based approaches that reduce grant dependence while deepening programme impact. Engage in live case clinics and practical exercises.
- Idea Lab 2: Measuring What Matters – Tracking SEL for Impact and Learning**  
Discover practical ways to measure and communicate social-emotional learning outcomes, and explore tools and indicators that make your data meaningful.
- Idea Lab 3: AI Readiness for Nonprofits**  
Dive into emerging technologies and explore how AI can be leveraged ethically and effectively to enhance after-school programme delivery.
- 13h30 - 14h30 **NETWORKING LUNCH & EXHIBITION ENGAGEMENT**  
Connect with fellow participants, explore innovative after-school initiatives and exchange ideas in the **After-School Zone**.

- 14h30 – 16h30 **IMPACT AMPLIFIED: WINNING MODELS & INNOVATION IN AFTER-SCHOOL**
- Be inspired by **real-world models of excellence**. Participate in interactive exercises, explore innovative approaches across literacy, technology and youth development, and share insights with peers to **design high-impact programme** components.
- 16h30 – 17h00 **CLOSING REFLECTION: HOLDING THE POSSIBILITY**
- Reflect on the day, capture key insights and leave energised with **practical ideas to carry forward into action**.
- 17:00 – 19h30 **AMPLIFY AWARDS & CELEBRATION EVENING**
- Celebrate changemakers and recognise excellence, innovation and leadership in after-school programmes. Enjoy live performances, networking and an **inspiring awards ceremony**.
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## DAY TWO - THURSDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2026

### COLLABORATE TO AMPLIFY

*Collaboration. Alignment. Action.*

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- 08h30-09h00 **ARRIVAL & MORNING REFRESHMENTS**
- 09h00-09h30 **COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT LIGHTNING TALK**
- Dive into short, dynamic presentations from community leaders, uncover creative approaches and connect in lively discussions on driving change.
- 09h30-09h50 **KEYNOTE: YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA**
- Discover how after-school programmes act as launchpads, opening pathways for youth into **employment pathways, education and entrepreneurship**, even in tough economic climates.
- 09h50 – 10h50 **OPENING PLENARY: CELEBRATING EFFECTIVE COLLABORATIONS TOWARD IMPACT**
- Engage in a visual and interactive exploration of **partnership successes**. Learn what works in scaling impact, from cross-sector examples about **alignment and collective action**.
- 10h50 – 11h20 **CONNECTION BREAK**
- 11h20 - 12h30 **PLENARY: BEYOND THE BRINK – PATHWAYS TO WORK AND LEARNING**
- Explore how after-school programmes **bridge the gap from education to employment**. Hear from organisations successfully placing youth, discover the **strategies that work** and participate in an interactive discussion on **scaling impact**.

12h30 – 13h30 **NETWORKING LUNCH**

13h30 - 15h30 **IDEA LABS (PARALLEL DEEP-DIVE SESSIONS)**

**Choose your lab and immerse yourself in hands-on exploration:**

**Idea Lab 1: Navigating Implementation Challenges – Real Talk from the Front Lines**

Dive into frontline realities and collaboratively tackle operational hurdles. Discover insights, test solutions and leave equipped with practical strategies.

**Idea Lab 2: From Placement to Pathways – Tracking Long-Term Youth Outcomes**

Explore long-term youth outcomes, uncover successful support systems and co-create actionable steps to extend impact beyond programme completion.

**Idea Lab 3: When the Data Breaks: MEL in the Messy Middle**

Engage in hands-on learning around monitoring, evaluation and learning challenges. Exchange peer-tested strategies and turn data dilemmas into actionable solutions.

**Idea Lab 4: Raising Quality Standards Through Strong School Partnerships**

Building on our 2024 conversation on quality standards in after-school programmes, this session introduces our new Quality Assessment Toolkit and explores how strong school partnerships can drive consistent quality.

15h30 – 16h30 **CLOSING : THE AMPLIFY AGENDA – A COLLECTIVE CALL TO ACTION**

Celebrate 15 years of The Learning Trust, explore the sector roadmap and leave inspired to take collective action for the future of after-school. End with a high-energy, celebratory youth performance that embodies the creativity and courage of the sector.

**Please note:** this is a high-level programme and some sessions may change at short notice to ensure an interactive and inspiring two-day experience. For the latest updates, visit:

<https://bit.ly/Amplify-After-School-2026>

Get involved in the conversation on social media! Your engagement is greatly valued.



## Contact US



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