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INVITATION TO THE EDHE KICK-OFF EVENT 2021

#againstallodds

Greetings, Champions for Entrepreneurship at Universities!

As you are starting a new academic year at SA universities, the EDHE team takes pleasure in inviting you to the first in a jam-packed calendar of EDHE events and projects aimed at advancing entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial activity at universities. Through a virtual get-together from the **24th to the 26th of March 2021**, we would like to bring you the latest developments in entrepreneurship in Higher Education, along with a tonic to assist with your self-care, and of course, the significant engagement of the EDHE Communities of Practice (CoPs).

What is this all about?

We know that the new academic year brings with it a range of challenges and uncertainties, in the face of which we would like to focus on strengths and resilience, encouraging entrepreneurship against all odds – the EDHE theme of the year. This is the reason we choose to start off with an investment in your personal well-being through expert-led train-the-trainer workshops focused on **Strengths #againstallodds**.

Considering our strengths-focused theme, **entrepreneurship #againstallodds**, we bring you an exciting three-day experience aimed at equipping, supporting and inspiring you for your varied tasks in driving, teaching, training and developing entrepreneurial and innovative activity in the context of your institution. We hope to see you find your place in one of the five EDHE CoPs, where you would have the opportunity to inform the national agenda for entrepreneurship development in Higher Education, alongside equally dedicated and committed leaders from other institutions.

Who should attend?

This annual EDHE Kick-off event is hosted for university leaders, support professionals,

FAQ: What are the EDHE CoPs?

The national EDHE Communities of Practice started off four years ago as informal and open structures for champions for entrepreneurship in universities to share good practice, establish inter-institutional relationships, and influence and inform the national agenda for entrepreneurship development in Higher Education. These CoPs have since become the main voice from universities that speak into the EDHE programme, while also taking the lead in national entrepreneurship-focused projects, such as the annual Entrepreneurship Intersarsity, Student Entrepreneurship Week, the baseline study on the national university entrepreneurship ecosystem, the strategic positioning of entrepreneurship in universities, policy development work, and actions towards introducing entrepreneurship in the curriculum for all students, across disciplines. EDHE CoPs will become increasingly important in the new phase of the EDHE programme.



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academics, researchers and practitioners across disciplines and entities, specifically focused on entrepreneurship development in all its forms. This year, the invitation is specifically aimed at university stakeholders who wish to make a real difference in terms of entrepreneurial development and who wish to participate in the new formalised national EDHE CoP structures.

The first of the three days is open to all interested persons from the private and public sector, as well as media representatives. Day 2 and 3, however, are regrettably only open to university members of staff.

About the facilitators on day 2

The Being Human Group is the leading Gallup License Training Partner for Africa and will be using aspects of the strengths coaching curriculum to facilitate the work. Being Human Group delivers forward-thinking research, analytics and advice to help leaders solve their most pressing problems. The Being Human Group empowers people, positively disrupts workplaces and changes the way people lead by using the science of strengths.

Who/what is EDHE?

The EDHE Kick-off event is a project of Entrepreneurship Development in Higher Education (EDHE), a programme of the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) through the University Capacity Development Programme, in collaboration with Universities South Africa (USAf).

As we enter a new phase in the EDHE Programme this year, the EDHE goals are revised, yet remain true to its roots, i.e., to:

1. Equip every student and graduate for economic participation through entrepreneurial activity, with an emphasis on student women;
2. Support academics across disciplines to develop entrepreneurship through teaching, learning and research; and
3. Support universities as entrepreneurial and innovative ecosystems, which includes relevant policy development.

What can you expect?

DAY 1: 24 MARCH 2021, 9:00 - 15:00

The official opening of the annual EDHE Kick-off event

- **Intended audience:** All stakeholders who register by [date] or join in from social media
- **Format:** Livestreamed via Facebook and YouTube
- **You can expect to:**
 - receive feedback on the work of the EDHE CoPs in the past 2 years;
 - learn about the new format at mandate of EDHE CoPs;
 - learn about latest opportunities for university stakeholders in EDHE Phase 2;
 - discover the next steps towards launching the Student Women Economic Empowerment Programme (SWEEP); and
 - join in the excitement as we launch the third annual EDHE Entrepreneurship Intersarsity!



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DAY 2: 25 MARCH 2021, 9:00 - 15:00

Train-the trainer workshops: Strengths #againstallodds

- **Intended audience:** University stakeholders with a focus on entrepreneurship development in its many forms, who wish to participate in the new formalised national EDHE CoPs.
- **Format:** A closed event for the first 150 registered university delegates
- **You can expect:**
 - Expert-led strengths-focused train-the-trainer workshops, based on prior completion of the *Top 5 CliftonStrengths Assessment*;
 - The *Power & Edge* online short course;
 - A session on *Understanding Team Strengths*, in preparation for Day 3's CoP engagement and subsequent national contributions; and
 - **Joining us will be Dr Timothy Hodges, Executive Director of the Clifton Strengths Institute and Assistant Professor of Practice in Management from the University of Nebraska, USA.**

About CliftonStrengths

CliftonStrengths is a tool developed by Gallup to identify individual potential. The workshops are participative, interactive and practical and will serve as a platform for engagement and team interaction. CliftonStrengths is an invaluable opportunity to understand and apply the principles of strengths-based development for individuals, teams and organisations to learn, grow and develop.

DAY 3: 26 MARCH 2021, 8:30 - 15:00

National EDHE Community of Practice meetings

- **Intended audience:** University leaders, academics, support professionals and practitioners who develop and support entrepreneurship in all its forms
- **Format:** A closed event for those who have pre-registered. Attendees are requested to select and participate in only one CoP. Participation in the national EDHE CoPs will henceforth be limited to members only, as with other USAf CoPs.
- **You can expect to participate in:**
 - A morning session from 8:30 to 11:30
 - CoP for Student Entrepreneurship
 - CoP for Entrepreneurship in Teaching and Learning
 - CoP for Entrepreneurship Research
 - OR**
 - An afternoon session from 12:30 to 15:30
 - CoP for Entrepreneurial Universities
 - Studentpreneurs CoP (closed group, by invitation only)

In addition to the sharing of good practices and lessons learnt, CoPs will reflect on current needs, priority issues and matters to be addressed on a national scale in 2021. Membership and leadership of each CoP will also be formalised.



How can you participate?

1. Register

- Please register on our website, www.edhe.co.za.
- It is important that you register separately for each day you wish to attend
- Registrations close by 12 March 2021.

2. Complete the CliftonStrengths assessment online

- Registered participants in day 2 and 3's programme will receive pre-assessment links for the online CliftonStrengths assessment (valued at R390, but sponsored by EDHE for members of the EDHE CoPs.

3. Use your Zoom link to connect on the day

- You will receive a link once the EDHE team has received your online registration.

Important notes

- The workshop is based on the assessment prior completion of the online CliftonStrengths assessment is a prerequisite for participation in the train-the-trainer workshops on day 2.
- Please note that a limited number of spaces are available for the CliftonStrengths Assessment training – first come, first served.
- The EDHE Kick-off event will be hosted completely virtually, unlike previous years. Zoom links will be sent to registered participants

Why should you participate?

1. Learn more about the latest developments in entrepreneurship in Higher Education
2. Understand what EDHE is all about and get your university more involved
3. Network with colleagues from other universities
4. The opportunity to meet leaders in your field
5. Share new ideas and best practices
6. Have the opportunity to become an exclusive EDHE member
7. Collaborate with like-minded individuals
8. Foster individual growth

For further enquiries, please contact:

- Registrations: Zamaswazi Shabangu, zamaswazi@usaf.ac.za
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