

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation donate technical support to Solidarity Fund.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation have contracted Genesis Analytics to provide technical assistance services to the Solidarity Fund in order to aid effective and efficient analysis and decision-making across the Fund's initiatives. Genesis Analytics, a proudly African consulting firm operating across the private and public sectors, works alongside the Fund's workstream leads conducting background evidence reviews and stakeholder consultations to determine areas for the Fund to invest in. Thus far, they have supported the Fund's Humanitarian response by advising on investments in digital food vouchers, support for small farmers, and how to support efforts targeting Gender Based Violence. From a behavioural change perspective, they are assisting with the Citizens in Solidarity Campaign and COVID Connect.

Dr Saul Johnson of Genesis Analytics said of the relationship, "It is a privilege for Genesis Analytics to be able to support the Solidarity Fund in its urgent response to the COVID-19 crisis in South Africa. The Fund is making a material difference to the lives of hundreds of thousands of South Africans, and Genesis is able to increase the effectiveness of this response."

As the world's largest private charitable organisation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation does life-changing work across the globe. Guided by the belief that all lives have equal value, the Foundation works to identify and tackle global challenges, and to partner with key local institutions to effect positive change. Since the start of the pandemic, the Foundation has supported organisations and governments worldwide to strengthen their responses to COVID-19.

Within South Africa, the Foundation views the Solidarity Fund as a key vehicle for providing support to the most vulnerable.

Adrian Enthoven, Deputy Chairman of the Fund said, "The Gates Foundation has played a significant role in supporting the Solidarity Fund through providing crucially needed expertise and capacity so that we can respond rapidly and with targeted impact to the COVID-19 pandemic in South Africa."