



**Deutsche Bank South Africa Foundation**  
3 Exchange Square, 87 Maude Street,  
SANDTON, 2196  
Private Bag X9933, SANDTON, 2146  
Tel: 27 11 775 7407

10 February 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

To whom it may Concern

Endorsement of The Youth Citizen Action Programme known as YCAP

The Deutsche Bank South Africa Foundation is the long-term partner of the Youth Citizens Action Programme (YCAP) currently managed through the Empowervate Trust, and the founder of YCAP, Amanda Blankfield-Koseff.

The DBSAF has been involved with this initiative since inception, which started as youth dialogues in 2008. In 2010 Amanda took the initiative from talk to action by creating a competition-based active citizenship and social cohesion programme that empowers Grade 10 high school learners to find solutions to social issues and take action, through school-based projects, that address issues of concern and relevance in their specific environment.

We are proud to be associated with the project, as it mobilizes the youth to take ownership, and to involve their school and community, over and above expanding their individual skills in project management, time management, confidence, organisational skills, simple budgeting, financial management and public speaking. It is a good example of partnerships amongst Government, the Private Sector and the NGO Sector, where Empowervate, and the funding partners, work closely with the Department of Basic Education at local, provincial and national levels, and the competing schools, to ensure the success of the programme.

As the programme links directly with existing infrastructure in the Department of Basic Education, it can manage a full national footprint without significant staff and logistics costs. This has the added benefit of building capacity within the education system itself, enhancing public institutions, rather than running parallel to them at a much smaller scale at higher expense.

Amanda can be commended for her vision, and professional implementation of Y-CAP. It sends a strong message to the youth and provides a vehicle for the learners to be the change in our society.

Yours Sincerely

Kirsten Koetsier

Head: Deutsche Bank South Africa Foundation