

Dear Nelson Mandela University staff member or student

Project: Implementing the Student Entrepreneurship Support (SES) Assessment Tool at Nelson Mandela University

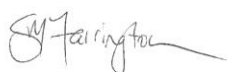
We would like to invite you to assist us in improving student entrepreneurship support at Nelson Mandela University by accessing the SES Assessment Tool and completing the survey. The results will be used by student entrepreneurship stakeholders at Nelson Mandela University to help them create awareness, gain insights into, and assess the student entrepreneurship support they offer. You can also request a report on the results of the survey via the SES Assessment Tool website (<https://student-entrep-support.co.za/>). Once the survey period of four weeks is over, this report will be sent to your university email address only.

The information gathered in the survey will be related to seven elements of the university-based student entrepreneurship ecosystem, namely (i) university environment and culture, (ii) co-curricular entrepreneurship support activities, (iii) formal entrepreneurship education, (iv) incubator and accelerator programme, (v) technology transfer office, (vi) university venture fund, and (vii) internal and external collaborations. The questions posed to you will depend on your role/position in the university.

The data is collected using an online survey administered through QuestionPro. The survey consists of closed-ended questions, including Likert-type scales and yes/no questions, and requires approximately five to ten minutes to complete. To the best of our knowledge, there are no foreseeable risks associated with this assessment tool, and all reasonable steps will be taken to ensure confidentiality and anonymity. Participation is completely voluntary, and you have the right to withdraw your participation at any point during or after submitting the survey. Any information regarding illegal activities brought to the researchers' attention will be omitted from the results and reported to the relevant authorities. The results generated from this survey are not for research purposes but for the internal use of Nelson Mandela University to inform their strategies for improving student entrepreneurship support. Your responses will be collated with those of other participants from your university, and the overall findings will only be available to individuals from Nelson Mandela University. The ethical integrity of the study has been approved by the Research Ethics Committee (Human) of Nelson Mandela University. The ethics clearance number of this study is H22-BES-BMA-164 and the regulatory authority is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research Innovation and Internationalisation, Dr Thandi Mgwebi (Natalie.Slambee@mandela.ac.za). Any ethical queries, complaints or concerns relating to this study can be directed to the researchers (see contact details below) and Dr Dalray Gradidge, the REC-H Chair (rd@mandela.ac.za). Thereafter, they can be directed to the National Research Ethics Council.

Your participation in this survey will be valuable to the development of student entrepreneurship support at Nelson Mandela University. We would like to thank you for your consideration and participation. Kindly contact the research team should you have any further queries. Furthermore, if you have any questions concerning the study, please feel free to contact the primary responsible person or principal investigator (details provided below).

Yours faithfully



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