

# On behalf of The Clothing Bank, you are invited to attend the Poverty Stoplight Conference

## What's it all about

The Clothing Bank invites you to attend a one-day conference in Cape Town. We would like to share with you the findings and success of a pilot project we are running where we have been using an innovative approach called "Poverty Stoplight" to measure aspects of multidimensional poverty in the families of the beneficiaries that we serve.

The Poverty Stoplight approach is a self-evaluation, visual survey tool that was developed in Paraguay by Martin Burt and his team at Fundación Paraguaya (an established non-profit development organisation that works in Latin America and Africa). It's a practical methodology and tool that allows poor families to self-diagnose their level of poverty as a first step in developing a personalised strategy to lift them permanently out of poverty.

The Clothing Bank has been developing and localising this approach for a South African context, which is assisting us to create a clear line of sight into specific aspects of the challenges each family in poverty faces, as well as enabling us to encourage beneficiaries to make changes in those areas of their lives that they are in control of.

Depending on interest shown, we think it would be a good idea to form a Poverty Stoplight Forum to assist those organisations working in the area of poverty alleviation to aggregate data and offer a better perspective of the real issues at hand. A forum will enable us to measure our outcomes against a common framework as well as create referral pathways that will ultimately inform stakeholders of priority areas for engagement. Additionally, as Poverty Stoplight is gaining attraction in Africa and looks to becoming a global movement, a forum would enable us to collectively engage in the evolution of this tool.

## Who's coming

Our friends from Fundación Paraguaya will be joining us to present the success that Paraguay's government, non-profits and social enterprises are achieving with this approach. Not only is it a valid and useful monitoring & evaluation (M&E) tool for impact assessment but it has other applications and spin-offs that we are only just starting to realise.

Please join us for a fun day of sharing and engaging with colleagues and peers from non-profits and social enterprises, corporates, foundations, academics and government.

## Conference details

**Date:** Monday, 27 October 2014

**Time:** 9:00 – 16:30

**Venue:** Roof Terrace Room, Cape Town International Convention Centre, Convention Square, 1 Lower Long Street, Cape Town

**Dress code:** Informal

**Parking:** Free parking is available at the CTICC but we encourage you to use public transport or carpool

**RSVP:** To book your seat, RSVP via return email to Laura Bergh at [laurabergh@theclothingbank.org.za](mailto:laurabergh@theclothingbank.org.za)

**Dietary requirements:** If you have any dietary requirements, please include this information in your RSVP

**Please note:** Seating is limited; if you would like to extend the invitation to a colleague, please forward contact details to [laurabergh@theclothingbank.org.za](mailto:laurabergh@theclothingbank.org.za)

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# Poverty Stoplight Conference Agenda

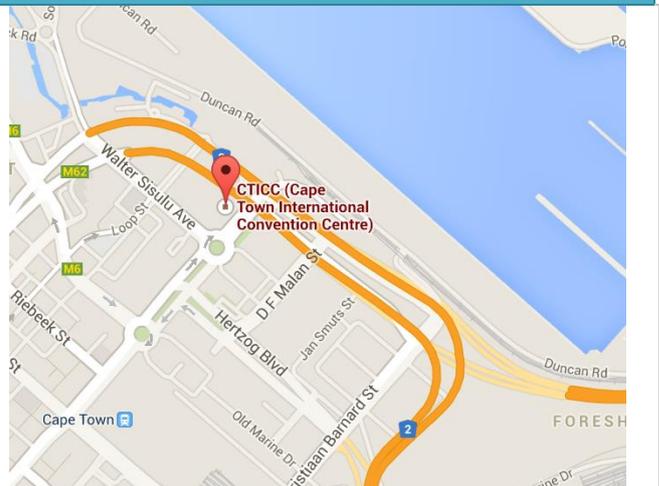
Monday, 27 October 2014

9:00 am to 9:10 am	Welcome	Gary Shearer, Saville Foundation	10 min
9:10 am to 10:00 am	Poverty Stoplight: context and history	Martin Burt, Fundacion Paraguaya	50 min
10:00 am to 10:30 am	Poverty Stoplight at The Clothing Bank	Tracey Chambers, The Clothing Bank	30 min
10:30 am to 11:00 am	TEA		30 min
11:00 am to 11:45 am	Poverty Stoplight: application in a South African context	Laura Bergh, Poverty Stoplight Project Lead for The Clothing Bank	45 min
11:45 am to 12:00 am	Using Poverty Stoplight as a process tool: from recruitment to exit at The Clothing Bank	Nicky Edwards, The Clothing Bank	15 min
12:00 pm to 12:15 pm	Poverty Stoplight at The Business Place	Emma Sexton, The Business Place Philippi	15 min
12:15 pm to 12:45 pm	Poverty Stoplight in Africa	<i>To be announced later</i>	30 min
12:45 pm to 13:00 pm	Perspective from a beneficiary	The Clothing Bank	15 min
13:00 pm to 13:45 pm	LUNCH		45 min
13:45 pm to 14:15 pm	Does Poverty Stoplight complement existing poverty indexes such as the Multidimensional Poverty Index and Social Progress Index?	<i>To be announced later</i>	30 min
14:15 pm to 15:15 pm	Introduction to the Poverty Stoplight Forum, followed by breakaway discussions	Laura Bergh, Poverty Stoplight Project Lead for The Clothing Bank	60 min
15:15 pm to 15:30 pm	Perspective from a PS survey facilitator	The Business Place	15 min
15:30 pm to 15:50 pm	TEA		20 min
15:50 pm to 16:30 pm	Feedback and way forward	Tracey Chambers and Laura Bergh, The Clothing Bank	40 min
Close of Conference			

## Map of Conference Centre Location

Roof Terrace Room  
 CTICC (Cape Town International Convention Centre)  
 Convention Square, 1 Lower Long Street, Cape Town, 8001, Western Cape, South Africa  
 +27 21 410 5000

**GPS co-ordinates:** -33.915141,18.425657



## About The Clothing Bank ...

Founded in 2010, The Clothing Bank (TCB) is an award winning, South African social enterprise that is internationally recognised as a best practice example of an Enterprise Development training programme. Their vision is to *“Inspire, skill and support unemployed women to eradicate poverty in their lives”*.

TCB's primary focus is their holistic 2-year Enterprise Development training programme which empowers unemployed mothers to start a small retail business so that they go from a life of dependence to becoming financially and socially independent, making at least R4,000 per month. Excess stock of clothes and retail items are donated by major clothing retailers and used as the tool of trade to teach and practically apply business skills. To date, TCB has trained 637 unemployed mothers to start businesses who have collectively generated profits in their business in excess of R20.9 million.

Additionally, TCB supplies non-profit organisations with clothing free of charge. Clothing is supplied on a needs basis, whereby charities and government make specific requests for clothing and TCB can meet those needs within a 48 hour turnaround time.

For more information visit our website at [www.theclothingbank.org.za](http://www.theclothingbank.org.za).