



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

IASE Africa Launches the Ubuntu ESG Access Bursary to Expand Sustainable Economy Skills Across Africa

Johannesburg, South Africa — 2 December 2025

IASE Africa NPC, the Africa regional chapter of the International Association for Sustainable Economy (IASE Global, London, UK), has officially launched the **Ubuntu ESG Access Bursary**, a flagship initiative designed to expand access to internationally recognised ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) certifications across Africa.

The bursary aims to support emerging professionals, public-sector leaders, youth, and community practitioners who are committed to building Africa's sustainable future but face financial barriers to accessing formal ESG education.

“Africa needs more ESG-literate professionals to meet the demands of modern governance, climate transitions, ethical leadership, and sustainable development. The Ubuntu ESG Access Bursary is our contribution toward ensuring that cost is not a barrier to entering this critical field,” said Godfrey Nti, Vice President of IASE Global and Chairperson of IASE Africa NPC.

Partial Funding Designed for Impact and Affordability

The Ubuntu ESG Access Bursary provides partial financial support, enabling recipients to begin their ESG certification pathway through the ISB ADVISOR® or ISF ADVISOR® certification programs (Level 1). Most bursary awards fall between **20% and 50%** of the total program fees — typically between **R3,000 and R8,500 (≈ USD 160 – USD 450)** depending on financial need, application strength, and available funding.

Awards support three specific components of the ESG certification journey:

1. **IASE-endorsed online ESG training** (for Level 1 ISB ADVISOR® or ISF ADVISOR®)
2. **IASE Global Board Exam registration fees** (ISB ADVISOR® or ISF ADVISOR®)
3. **First-time IASE Global joining (membership application) fee**

The bursary does **not** cover optional study tools, resit fees, or non-essential administrative costs.



Why the Ubuntu ESG Access Bursary Matters

Across public institutions, companies, NGOs, and community organisations, there is a rapidly growing demand for ESG skills. Yet access to credible, globally benchmarked ESG certification remains limited for many African professionals.

With this bursary, IASE Africa seeks to:

- Expand access to affordable ESG tuition
- Increase the number of certified ESG practitioners across the continent
- Support Africa's transition to a more ethical, resilient, and sustainable economy
- Identify and nurture emerging ESG talent in underserved communities
- Strengthening Africa's representation in global ESG leadership

First Application Window Now Open

The inaugural bursary window opens on **2 December 2025** and closes on **4 January 2026** at 11 am SAST.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome between **7 January and 14 January 2026**.

Successful applicants will join the next IASE Africa learning cohort beginning **26 January 2026**.

Submissions received after 4 January will automatically roll into the next review cycle.

Who Should Apply?

The bursary is targeted at:

- Early- and mid-career professionals across Africa
- Applicants working in public institutions, NGOs, social enterprises, or grassroots initiatives
- Individuals without employer sponsorship
- Applicants with demonstrated financial need
- Young professionals and recent graduates pursuing ESG careers

Unemployed professionals and those from community-based organisations are strongly encouraged to apply.

Selection & Evaluation Process

All applications are reviewed by the IASE Africa Bursary Committee using a holistic and fair assessment framework that evaluates:

- Demonstrated financial need
- Motivation and commitment to the ESG field



- Potential for community, organisational, or sectoral impact
- Alignment with IASE values of ethics, equity, and excellence

All decisions of the Committee are final and not subject to appeal.

Strengthening Africa's ESG Pipeline

“This initiative is designed not only to provide financial support, but to build long-term ESG capacity across African industries and sectors. We are committed to developing the next generation of sustainable economy leaders,” said Johan Aucamp, Board member, IASE Africa.

IASE Africa also invites corporates, foundations, and development partners to collaborate on future bursary schemes, including women-in-leadership bursaries, youth-focused funds, and sector-specific ESG sponsorships.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted through the official portal: <https://iase.co.za/ubuntu-apply/>

Full bursary Terms & Conditions are available at: <https://iase.co.za/ubuntu-bursary-terms/>

For more information, contact: bursary@iase.co.za

About IASE Africa

IASE Africa is the regional chapter of the International Association for Sustainable Economy (IASE Global), the global professional body responsible for setting ESG competency standards, certification requirements, and continuing professional development for ESG practitioners worldwide. IASE Africa supports responsible leadership, ethical governance, and sustainability excellence across the continent.

To learn more about:

- a) IASE Africa: <https://iase.co.za>
- b) IASE Global: <https://iase-certifications.com>
- c) Ubuntu ESG Access Bursary: <https://iase.co.za/ubuntu/>