

BRIGHT NZUZA



One of Tongaat Hulett's primary socio-economic development (SED) focus areas is education and training, as the business continues to prioritise the development of students who are involved in the agricultural and agri-processing sectors. The company's operations rely on various skills and competencies, primarily in agricultural (sugarcane and maize), engineering, milling and marketing areas. Tongaat Hulett has over a number of years supported students from previously disadvantaged backgrounds through their tertiary education, following which they have been employed by the business.

An example of the individual impact that Tongaat Hulett's SED contribution has had on one student, is the case of Bright Nzuza. In 2009 Ogwini High School decided to have one of their learners, Bright represent them at a disability summit which was organised by the Department of Education and the office of the Premier in partnership with Tongaat Hulett in Durban.

Bright grew up in Durban and as a child, had dreams of becoming a successful football player. His transition from dreams on a soccer field to representing Ogwini High School at the disability summit, followed him being paralyzed by a stray bullet during an attempted hijacking. The bullet led to a fractured spine, and Bright was confined to a wheelchair, where he had ample opportunity to contemplate what he would do with his life. His first goal was to complete his matric and thereafter, he decided that he wanted to follow a career in Supply Chain Management.

Following the disability summit, Tongaat Hulett called him for a series of interviews. The Tongaat Hulett team was impressed by his intellectual capacity, competence and his keen interest in procurement. This led to him being awarded with an undergraduate bursary to a University of his choice. He began his undergraduate studies in 2010 at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, where he studied a B Com degree in Marketing and Supply Chain Management.

Following the completion of his degree at the end of 2014, he commenced a Graduate Programme in the Strategic Sourcing Department at Tongaat Hulett where he specialises in logistics. The company's training and development interventions are aimed at improving the skills of current employees while building future capacity through structured Graduate Development Programmes such as the one that Bright is currently undertaking.

Bright is keen on making his mark in the Strategic Sourcing Department and he wants to contribute to the future success of Tongaat Hulett. He has ambitions of growing and developing in his current role and is already looking at furthering his studies in the Supply Chain Management area.

Bright Nzuza is a shining example of scholar from a disadvantaged background who excelled once he had been given an opportunity through Tongaat Hulett's SED investment in the area of Education.