

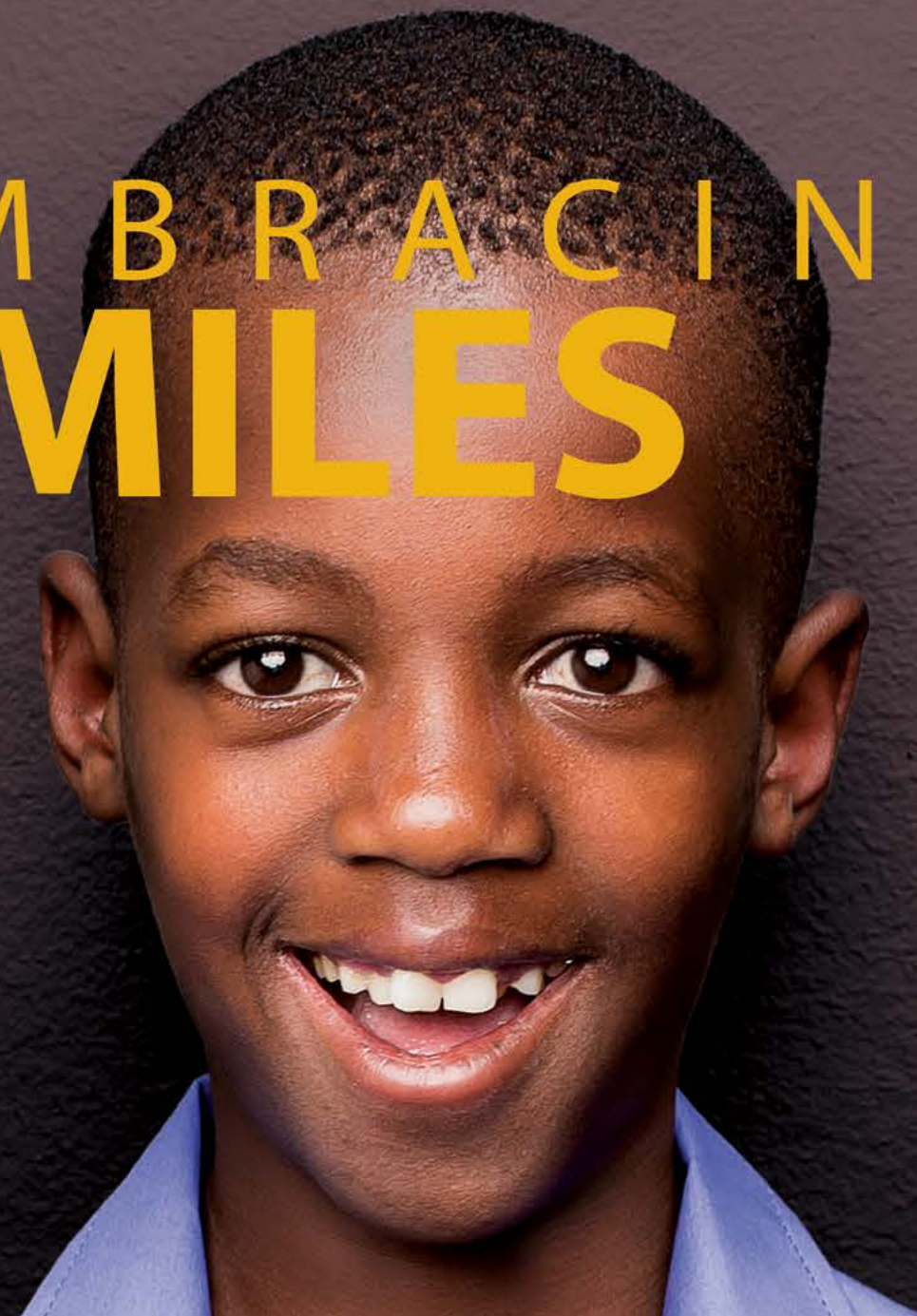
EMBRACING VISION



CSR REPORT



EMBRACING
SMILES



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Gagan Gupta

CEO Gabon Special Economic Zone

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Ever since GSEZ's founding, the prime pillar of all the Group business activities has been the **"grow with our society"** Philosophy. This reflects the way in which a business must coexist with other elements of society, as businesses are an important member of society. The value of a business's existence can be recognised by the benefits it shares with society.

We, the GSEZ Group, based on our total commitment to people and to the future, are determined to help create a higher quality of life for all people, and to do our part to help ensure that progress continues within the world community.

All of us in GSEZ Group work together so that we may continue to offer new value to customers and to society.

We take seriously our responsibility to be a good corporate citizen, not only towards society but also in how we conduct fair business practices. Whether in Gabon or abroad, we consider it our duty to respect the diversity of cultures, customs, and viewpoints, and play a pivotal role in the development of society.

The GSEZ Group is committed to helping build a more sustainable society through its main business activities and will achieve this through implementation of our philosophy. For example, we believe that every person has the right to an education and the right to work. Currently, GSEZ is providing support to the citizens of Gabon by providing a mobile eye clinic that aims to perform up to 1,000 operations, giving the freedom to people to be educated and to work.

MESSAGE FROM THE CSR HEAD



Bhavin Vyas

Head of GSEZ CSR / ESG

All the CSR interventions described in this booklet are implemented in close collaboration with government departments to ensure that we are fully aligned with national developmental priorities. We also engage regularly with local community leaders, residents and civil society organisations.

Potential barriers to achieving success for each CSR intervention are identified and considered carefully so that effective controls are introduced and monitored. The controls form part of a wider management approach that involves defining the intervention inputs (staff resources, capital spend, provision of equipment, etc.), identifying the expected developmental outcomes, and ensuring that a robust monitoring and evaluation framework is in place.

During 2019 GSEZ will develop a CSR Strategy which shall adopt a mixed implementation model that involves a series of projects consisting of:

- Philanthropic giving – a series of one-off donations of capital or equipment and materials that enables GSEZ to respond to sudden events and immediate needs.
- Creating value through individual projects associated with our CSR themes: enterprise activities and empowerment, healthcare, transport and safety.
- Support to our clients within the Special Economic Zone (SEZ): this may include, for example, the provision of vocational training to the workforce, advice on improving pollution prevention, restoring environmentally degraded areas, and free technical advice to improve their own environmental and social performance.

The strategy will be developed through an initial review of government development plans, completion of stakeholder engagement activities to listen and understand existing needs and expectations, socio-economic surveys to gather more detailed information within communities close to our areas of operation, and the formation of a CSR Charter and CSR Steering Committee.

The establishment of an effective monitoring framework is critical to the success of the strategy. This section of the CSR Strategy will specify, for each project, what parameters should be measured (environmental and social), how the parameters will be measured and analysed; the frequency of measurement; performance targets and how the outcomes are to be reported to our stakeholders. The framework will enable us to record in a more detailed manner, change that arises as a direct result of our CSR projects and this information will be included in a CSR Report prepared towards the end of 2019.

The CSR Steering Committee will be established to implement and monitor projects. The committee will be responsible for recommending the implementation of interventions, ensuring that projects are adequately defined and resourced. The Committee will also ensure that projects have appropriate entry and exit points; control capital expenditure, review progress, and approve an annual report that reflects the achievements made against a specific set of targets.

I hope that you enjoy reading through our list of achievements in 2018. We look forward to another successful year in 2019.

From 2019 we will develop and implement a CSR strategy covering the thematic areas of enterprise activities and empowerment, healthcare, transport and safety. The strategy will be developed in close collaboration with a range of stakeholder groups and include civil society, government departments, and local communities. My aim is to ensure that GSEZ sustains our current momentum, implements projects in a structured manner, and is able to record through an effective monitoring and evaluation framework the outcome of our developmental initiatives over time.



ENTERPRISE ACTIVITIES AND EMPOWERMENT

HEALTH CARE

TRANSPORT AND SAFETY



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE RESPONSIBLE?

From all times,
SOCIETIES have been
BUILT upon acts of **SOLIDARITY.**



GSEZ supports
DIRECT ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT of
ENTREPRENEURS & SMALL COMPANIES.



Acts of 
feeling **PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES**
RESPONSIBLE & ACCOUNTABLE
for one another.

We equip them with
KNOWLEDGE



We create
ENHANCED ENVIRONMENTS
for **YOUNG PEOPLE** to **LEARN**



We are implementing a three-year strategy that will include
EXTENSIVE ENGAGEMENT with
GOVERNMENT, CIVIL SOCIETY & COMMUNITY-LEVEL STAKEHOLDERS
to further understand regional socioeconomic conditions and local needs.



GSEZ is dedicated to
GROW WITH OUR SOCIETY






ENTERPRISE ACTIVITIES AND EMPOWERMENT

FISHERMEN TRAINING

GSEZ approached a local important fishermen association (the CAPAL) to identify ways in which we could improve their livelihoods and the economic activities of fishermen. After a series of collaborative meetings, GSEZ developed a project to provide three months of training that would involve up to 50 young, Gabonese fishermen. The idea behind the project was to increase the capacity of the fishermen so that they can improve their own standard of living, and even start up their own business and fishing operations.

At the end of the course, the students had an improved understanding of how to start up a fishing operation and enter the commercial market and be able to present a future business plan to attract capital investment.

The training had the following key objectives:

-  To increase the rate of Gabonese citizens involved in commercial fishing activities which is currently very low at just 1%
-  To improve the income of fishermen and improve the quality of their lives
-  To assist in the ongoing economic and social development of the country by starting new business activities



For me, the training program complements what the fisheries administration has been doing for years, particularly in terms of raising awareness. We have fishing activities throughout the country, especially in the coastal areas. It would be interesting for this program to go beyond CAPAL in the future.

Mikolo Jean Edgard
CAPAL Trainer/
Fishing Administrator



The training program that was initiated at CAPAL is a response to the call of Gabonese economic operators. We noticed that there were a lot of foreigners in the fishing sector and practically no Gabonese practicing this activity.



Yents Kumba
Fisherman



I learned a lot during this training. I really appreciated the fact that GSEZ helped us to strengthen our abilities. Without their input such things could not exist. Now we know the laws of fishing, we know how to behave as economic operators. So this training was something very beneficial to us as fishermen.

Maleva Stephane
Fisherman



To develop this program, we started with an observation... When we furrow the entire Gabonese coast, from cocobeach to Mayumba, through Libreville, Port-Gentil and many other cities, we realized one thing: nearly 80% of the commercial artisanal fishery was in the hands of expatriates. We are not against our expatriate brothers, but it was only natural that we could do everything possible so that young compatriots, nationals in particular, could actually know all the rudiments and have the knowledge associated with fishing. The goal is to professionalize them.



Sylvain Ndombi Alverste
Director of CAPAL



FURNITURE CLUSTER AND CARPENTER TRAINING

The 25Ha Nkok Special Economic Zone (SEZ) furniture manufacturing cluster was created to provide a business opportunity to local carpenters and craftsmen from areas surrounding Libreville, which include: Owendo, Akanda and the Ntoun. The aim was for carpenters to deploy their skills in the manufacturing of chairs, desks, tables and other wood products manufactured for sale within the domestic and international market.

At an early stage in the design of the project, GSEZ recognised that local carpenters may not have the capital funds to purchase the expensive equipment needed to generate a high quality finished product in sufficient volumes demanded by the export market. To address this issue, GSEZ decided to procure the equipment directly and rent its use out to local carpenters at a reduced tariff, enabling carpenters to enter the SEZ and start to grow their own business.

To celebrate the success of the furniture manufacturing cluster, GSEZ agreed with the Ministry of Education to purchase from the craftsmen's businesses at market price, without any profit to GSEZ, a total of 170,000 units of chairs, desks and tables for schools across the entire country. This initiative will enable the children's education to benefit from the craftsmen's skills and timber resources of the country, and assist the new businesses established by having a full order book for their first few months of operation.

The furniture cluster is an example of a successful, community-based business partnership that enables skilled craftsmen to work with the latest wood cutting technology available. The use of modern equipment protects their personal safety during the manufacturing process, provides them with valuable experience in working with modern machinery, and protects their livelihood using sources of timber that are harvested from Olam's sustainably managed concessions.



SCHOOL REHABILITATION

The Owendo School was established in 1971 in the name of OCTRA for the children of French engineers who used to work for SETRAG. The government of Gabon allotted an area of about 130 X 105 sq mt for the school. However due to lack of a boundary wall and security measures, encroachment by locals and theft of school property was prevalent. In 2017, the local newspapers and TV covered the despicable condition the school was in which came to notice of GSEZ. It incorporated renovation of the school in its scope of CSR initiative in Owendo area during July-August-2018. It refurbished the 3 school buildings along with the construction of a boundary wall with gates, and all necessary civil works, electrical works, etc. after which it was handed over to the school management. The present capacity of the school is 228 students in different grades with 16 members in the teaching staff.



During the summer holidays I received a phone call announcing that the school had started renovating. I could not go on vacation in my village, Franceville, because I wanted to see if it was true. When I arrived, I heard the hammer blows, I saw everything the carpenters were doing, some dilapidated roofs they replaced... It was really a master shot from GSEZ.

Ndjila Annie-Flore
Representative of the school



We are developing a range of initiatives because for us it is very important to have a positive impact on the lives of people where we operate. I am really proud to work in a company that not only invests in economic activities, but also invests in people by helping the country's population and its employees to grow.

Laetitia Yuinang
GSEZ Head of Legal



HEALTHCARE

AMBULANCE DONATION



During the 5th Edition of the OLAM Marathon our CEO, Mr. Gagan Gupta, announced the provision of twenty ambulances to be distributed across Gabon. This project has been designed and implemented in close alignment with the Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene and aims to improve rural citizen's access to quality medical services that can only be provided by larger hospitals in cities.

Five of these ambulances are located within the City of Owendo and a single vehicle is stationed at the Port installation. The ambulance was purchased already equipped with basic medical equipment and GSEZ has agreed to maintain the mechanical condition of the vehicles during the first three years.

The ambulance allocated to the Port can be used for any injured worker as well as by a resident of a nearby community who is now able to access emergency healthcare services. Until GSEZ's intervention, there was limited access to emergency services as the district hospital is a significant distance from the community, taking up to an hour before emergency services could reach them.

The donation of ambulances to rural communities is yet another example of GSEZ's commitment to work in close partnership with the government across a range of areas. Our activities in the country aim to contribute to the development of public infrastructure, generate socio-economic growth and skilled employment, and improve health conditions within rural communities.



VISION FOR ALL

The ophthalmologic campaign Vision Pour Tous (vision for all) aims to respond to an increasing frequency of ophthalmologic pathologies (eye diseases and eye disorders) amongst the Gabonese population.

GSEZ and our medical support staff has observed that a growing number of citizens are suffering from cataract, glaucoma, and other oculi-palpebral pathologies, such as eyelid tumours. These types of problems can cause blindness and other types of permanent disabilities, restrict people from seeking work and being economically active and, amongst young people, results in lower school attendance and educational attainment.

Rural citizens typically experience low levels of access to specialised medical eye treatments. This includes an initial screening and assessment use of the latest diagnostic technologies, prescriptions which includes the provision of glasses, and in some cases corrective surgery.

Given the above, Vision Pour Tous was designed in collaboration and under the patronage of the Minister of Health of Gabon to provide access to ophthalmologic services to all citizens. Vision Pour Tous provides screening, diagnosis and treatments (including glasses) to citizens at zero cost to the individual.

The Vision Pour Tous involves the use of a mobile clinic to enter rural areas where people are typically unable to reach for nearest hospital for these types of ailments. GSEZ has committed funding to enable the mobile clinic to provide services for an initial period of six months, which may be extended to nine months depending upon the level of demand encountered by the mobile eye clinic team.

A summary of our progress to date is presented below:

40,000 patients have
been screened and consulted with

3,000 cataract surgeries
have been completed

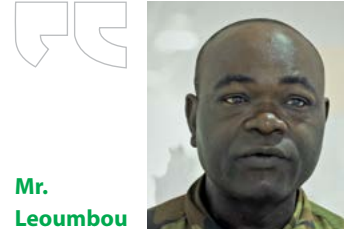
A representative from GSEZ visited Owendo Hospital to visit patients who had recently undergone medical surgery. The group were from a mixed age range, including children, adults and elderly people. People were very grateful to GSEZ for providing this service. Here is what they had to say about this CSR project.

Beneficiary of VPT:



Mrs. Christine

Daddy could not see anymore ... He was blind, he could not see anything.



Mr. Leoumbou

I was told that it was free and that there was a caravan.



Mr. Boukinda Bouassa

As soon as my right eye was operated I started to see again. I did not pay for the care, because it was free.

It limits your life when you cannot see... You are not able to work, you can't do anything, and you cannot be productive... Treatment is very limited in African countries and life can be changed by a single quick surgery that is not costly. It changes life a lot. We have completed 3,000 cataracts surgeries, so you can see that we have changed the lives of around 3,000 people. We have done school screening to almost 40,000 children; a lot of children had glasses. Giving them glasses will help them in their education.

Dr. Suyog Ughade
Chief Ophthalmologist
of Vision Pour Tous





MARATHON

In 2013 GSEZ signed a partnership agreement to become the main partner of Gabon's key sporting event: the Gabonese Marathon. The event encourages healthily behaviours amongst our staff, contractors and other stakeholders.

The majority of GSEZ staff takes part, including many of our senior management. You are welcome to join us!




IMPROVING ACCESS TO GROUNDWATER

GSEZ is developing Gabon's New Libreville International Airport (NLIA) at Nkoltang. A small number of families who will be impacted by the land acquisition are being resettled, in accordance with national legislation and international standards on environmental and social sustainability. To benefit the surrounding communities, GSEZ decided to install 30 handpumps at a depth ranging from 60-80 metres below ground to provide up to 800 litres of groundwater per hour.

An expert team were assembled by GSEZ and comprised geologists, surveyors and stakeholder engagement liaison officers to discuss with

the communities and their representatives the optimum location of the handpumps. The team worked hard to ensure that the handpumps were located away from potential sources of anthropogenic contamination and areas subjected to annual flooding and were accessible to as many people as possible.

GSEZ's role included the drilling of the tube well, testing water quality, installing the tube wells, recording the volume of water that can be sustainably abstracted from each tube well, and training local people in the maintenance of the equipment.

 To date, **26 of the 30 handpumps** have been installed.



J. Christian Manfoumbi

Representative of the populations of GSEZ Airport pilot committee



In our village there was a pump dating from Methuselah, a public pump. To have water, especially in the dry season it was complicated, difficult. The installation of pumps by the company GSEZ brought us a plus. I estimate that approximately 7 to 8,000 people have benefited from the installation of these pumps.



We believe that GSEZ should put more pumps in other villages and other communities in Gabon. Because, as you know, there are communities and villages that are very remote and have no drinking water to date. Water is life, it's very important. It's very important because a community or a village that does not have clean water, this community does not live.



Emmanuel Meyo Minkene
Representative of the populations of Ayeme Maritime



TRANSPORT AND SAFETY

FIREFIGHTING STATION

The nearest Fire Station to the Cargo Port was previously located more than 15km, and the location of a nearby community 'Alenakiri' is located at an even greater distance.

Through close engagement with the Director General of Fire Brigade under Minister of Defence, GSEZ partnered with the government to construct a Fire Station and supply fire trucks at the Cargo Port. This will assist the community with a fast reaction time of emergency responders and improve the capacity for emergency response at the Cargo Port.

The intervention is an example of GSEZ's shared infrastructure approach, where the needs of the company and local communities can be combined into a robust, sustainable solution.





**Calixte
Ntoutoume
Nguema**
Mayor of the 2nd
district of Ntoundou



It is GSEZ that donated this firefighter station which is needed as there are many factories and nearby homes. We are now reassured that we will have the arrival of the firemen as soon as possible in the event of disaster.



Today we are taking part in the inauguration of the Nkok Economic Zone Fire Station, which is a great sigh of relief. This rescue centre is timely as it will reduce response times in our interventions and even make them more efficient.



**Colonel
Mbadinga**
Commander of
the Firefighters



**General
Ferdinand
Ollame Ndong**
Chief of the
Gabonese Armed
Forces



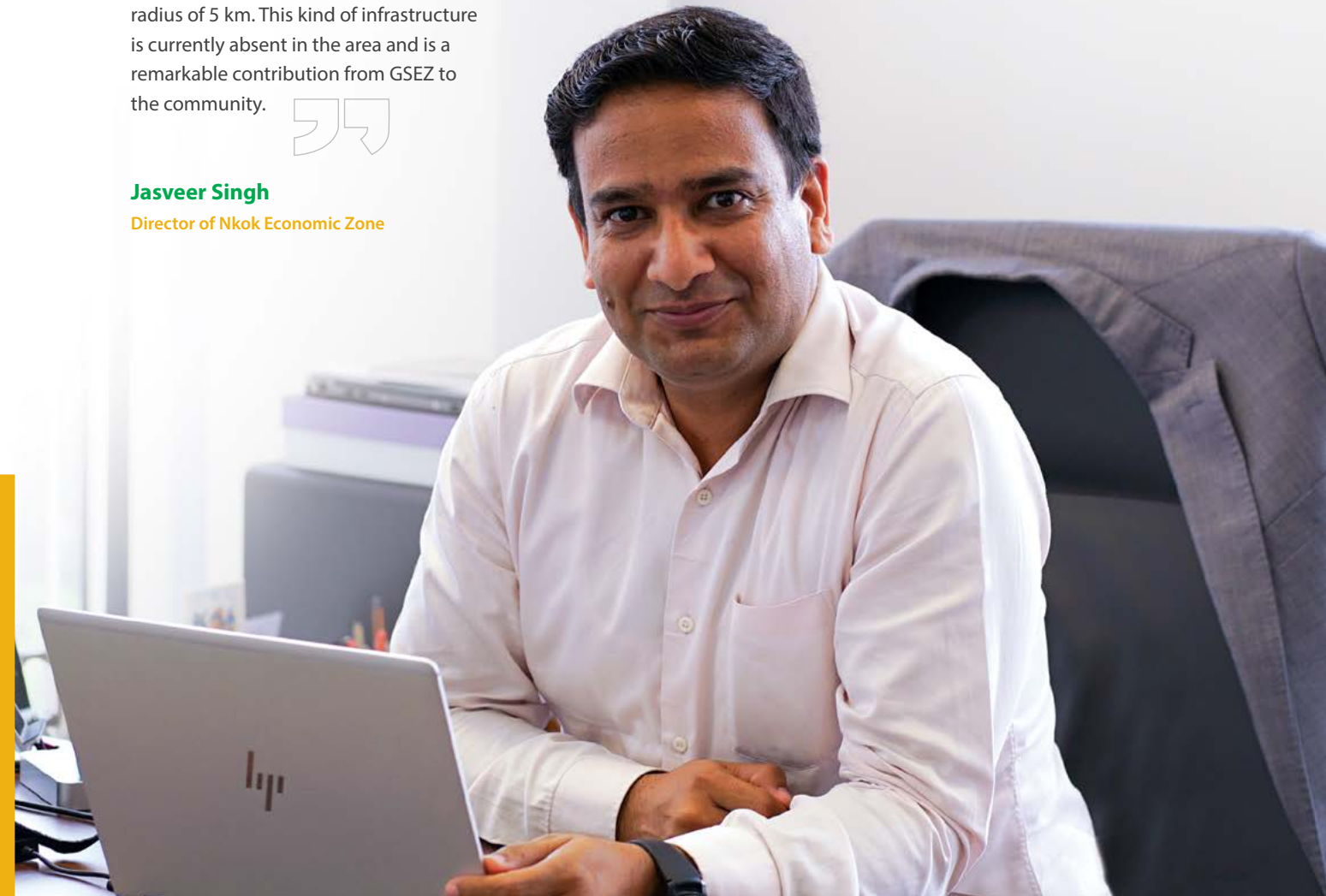
The firefighters will have here a staff of about fifteen people, with two fire extinguishing trucks that have been graciously made available to us by GSEZ.



I am very happy because it will not only serve the special economic zone, but also the surrounding areas within a radius of 5 km. This kind of infrastructure is currently absent in the area and is a remarkable contribution from GSEZ to the community.



Jasveer Singh
Director of Nkok Economic Zone



GSEZ'S GRIEVANCE PROCESS

The recording and timely management of grievances raised by stakeholders is an important part of GSEZ's commitments to environmental and social performance. GSEZ has designed and implemented a Grievance Process for managing grievances and has developed a digital Grievance Database system.

The Grievance Process defines how external parties including members of the public can raise grievances to GSEZ, and then describes the process GSEZ uses to investigate and resolve the concerns.

The Grievance Database has been built on a web platform, which allows the GSEZ team to access information through computers, tablets and mobile devices. The database is equipped with a dashboard screen, providing users with the information that is important to them and allows easy drilling-down of information contained in the system. This gives our GSEZ team real-time access to grievance information, allowing us to monitor and drive the process through to resolution.

CONCLUDING PAGE

GSEZ managed to make significant achievements during 2018 which has, collectively, impacted the quality of life for thousands of people. We have made this possible through a combination of capital investment and close collaboration with a variety of stakeholders, including government departments and local communities.

Moving ahead, we will continue to learn from our CSR activities to ensure that we continue to act as a good corporate citizen and continue to play a pivotal role in the development of society.



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