



ECON NEWS

Quarter 1

2023/24

Official Publication of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism



economic development & tourism

Department:
Economic Development & Tourism
Northern Cape Province
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

FEATURED ARTICLES

Department of Economic Development and Tourism Budget Highlights 2023/24, 1. MEC meets Namakwa leadership to discuss the Green Hydrogen Project, Singapore outbound mission, Champs of champs, Tourism Indaba, Handover of Informal and Micro Enterprise Enterprise Development Programme (IMED) equipment in Pixley Ka Seme, Cabinet welcomes Namakwa Special Economic Zone (SEZ), Tourism Investment Forum, Economic Transformation and Job Creation Implementation Forum Certification Ceremony in Kgalagadi, Northern Cape Office of the Premier Empowers Communities through Exco Outreach, Cultivating and Entrepreneurial Mindset, June 16 youth day celebrations in Frances Baard, Onsite Business Support for Danielskuil youth, Economic Development Promotes Hygiene Awareness among Small Business Owners in Griekwastad, Digital Marketing Boot Camp, Appreciation dinner for Upington City FC, Handover of Informal and Micro Enterprise Enterprise Development Programme (IMED) equipment in Frances Baard, Women Empowerment Round Table Discussion, Record and Bookkeeping Training, Basic Business Sills Training in Carnarvon, Entrepreneurial and Compliance Information Session, Mining and Energy conference

MORE INSIDE

EDITORS NOTE | MS THANDI MODIBELA

Consumers received more bad news when the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to increase the purchase rate by 50 basis points to 8.25 per year, which took effect from 26th May. Motorists received a little relief as both 93 and 95 unleaded petrol price was cut by 71c a litre and diesel was lowered by 80c and 84c a litre on 07 June.

Many businesses have been compelled to operate at a lower capacity due to a loss in operating assets during load shedding, which has had an impact on productivity and the economy of South Africa.

The energy crisis has had an effect on investments in South Africa as well, deterring possible international investors. The difficult position is made much more difficult by the decreased investment, which further impedes economic expansion and job creation.

In the three months leading up to March, South Africa's unemployment rate remained the highest in the world as the nation faced numerous economic challenges.



Statistics According to statistics released by South Africa (Stats SA), the unemployment rate increased little, rising from 32.7% in the fourth quarter of 2022 to 32.9% in the first quarter of 2023. Data released by Statistics South Africa for the latest Quarterly Labour Force Survey shows the Northern Cape Province recorded a decline of 4.3% and now stands at 22.1%.

The received amazing news as cabinet welcomed Cabinet's decision to designate the Namakwa Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Aggeneys. The country celebrated National Youth Day and Youth Month under the theme: "Accelerating youth economic emancipation for a sustainable future" with the focus being around various youth development and empowerment initiatives to support young people. The department embarked on a career, job readiness and entrepreneurial programme. The MEC also delivered the budget speech in order to ensure that the unaddressed needs are prioritized in order of importance.

In the coming quarter, we will be commemorating Nelson Mandela's birth. Mandela Day is an opportunity for all of us to choose humanity, to roll up our sleeves and participate actively in the development of our communities. This is an opportunity for each of us to express our visions for a brighter future for everyone. We're also looking forward to commemorating National Woman's Day on August 9, 2023.



BUDGET VOTE 6 SUMMARY 2023/24

The department has been allocated a budget of **R328,185 million** for the 2023/24 financial year. Below we will outline how this appropriation has been invested to support the promotion of economic planning and drive growth through industry development.

Programme 1: Administration (of R78,898 million)

To provide strategic economic direction to the province and facilitate the implementation of our mandate.

Programme 2: Integrated Economic Development Support (R64,269 million)

- The Department will be hosting SMME engagement sessions in all districts across our province during the upcoming financial year that will serve as a platform for dialogue, collaboration, and knowledge-sharing between the department and provincial SMMEs operating in various sectors.
- 500 enterprises to be supported through a Virtual Incubation Programme in partnership with Sol Plaatje University, SEDA, MTN, FNB and municipalities. 300 of which concluded the formalization process last year.
- Northern Cape Enterprise Development Strategy to be concluded during this financial year - identifying key interventions in advancing SMMEs, cooperatives, informal traders and township economic activity.
- **R12,15 million** budgeted to support enterprises through the Township and Rural Enterprise Fund that received 1 836 applications. The process will be finalised by the end of the second quarter.
- Training sessions for women across the province, covering topics such as cleaning and hygiene, personal care (hair, skin, and nail training), confectionary and embroidery will be embarked upon. These will accommodate 20 to 25 participants at a time and will last for 5 to 10 days each. rist guides, which will make it easy for registrations and renewal as well as to offset the vastness of the province.

- A grant of **R1,90 million** resulted in a total of 162 employment opportunities (EO's) being created through the following towns EPWP projects in:
 - Kharkams Hydro-phonics production project resulted in 33 employment opportunities,
 - Rehabilitation of communal land in Lekkersing provided 31 employment opportunities.
 - In the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, the Restoration of Sol Plaatje Langley project generated 60 employment opportunities.
 - Additionally, the Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality oversaw two projects: the Cutting and Removal of Invasive Trees in the Pixley Ka Seme roll-over project, which created 24 employment opportunities (Prieska and Marydale).
 - The Pixley Ka Seme Schmidtsdrift roll-over project (Completion of stormwater infrastructure) resulted in 14 employment opportunities.
- Training sessions in key areas such as record-keeping and bookkeeping, basic business skills, and beads training for persons living with disabilities Springbok, Carnarvon, and Upington covering each district, ensuring a broader reach and inclusivity.
- **Northern Cape SMME Blended Fund**
 - A total of one hundred and seventy-eight (178) applications
 - Nine (9) transactions have been approved for grant funding from inception to date.
 - Nine (9) transactions are currently undergoing the due diligence process,
 - Thirty-eight (38) deals are at screening stage.
 - A total of eighty-three (83) deals have been declined primarily due to lack of commercial viability
 - Thirty-six (36) deals have been withdrawn due to insufficient and/or no information received.
 - The nine projects have:
 - created 588 jobs ;
 - Costing **R 81,136 million**; cost per job - **R 138 000**.
 - Grant portion transferred - **R 26,68 million**.
 - These projects are located in the following districts:
 - **John Taolo Gaetsewe** - 4 projects creating 387 jobs
 - **Z.F McGawu** - 2 projects creating 149 jobs
 - **Frances Baard** - 2 Projects creating 26 jobs and
 - **Namakwa** - 1 project creating 26 jobs

Programme 3: Trade and Sector Development (R75,414 million)

- Out of this amount a total of **R19,883 million** designated for the acceleration of economic growth through catalytic projects and other initiatives to be transferred to NCEDA and NCTA.
- Kathu Industrial Park: Positioned to trigger SMMEs to participate in the value chain servicing the mining sector.
- Upington Industrial Park: Phase 1 of implementation underway to the value of **R50m**
- Namakwa SEZ: Designation approved with **R29 billion** in investments already committed.
- Growing export base of the province through exporter training and market access opportunities.
- Boegoebaai Green Hydrogen Development Programme: Gazetted as a Strategic Integrated Programme which makes it a national priority.

- Boegoebaai Port and Rail Development: Announcement immanent on the final port location and Rail link to the NC hinterland which is imperative for our export of GH2 to global markets.

Programme 4: Consumer Protection and Business Regulation (R42,920 million)

- The Department is facilitating the process and consulting with the Legislature and all the affected stakeholders for a smooth transition on the incorporation of the Tourism Authority, and White Fleet Trading Entity into NCEDA, and for the merger of the Gambling and Liquor Authority.
- Educational Awareness was done in 5 districts. Through education programmes 2248 individuals were reached.
- 206 Complaints were received
- 157 Cases were resolved
- 290 Inspections on businesses were conducted
- 81 Noncompliance notices were issued
- The Northern Cape Gambling Board received an allocation of R16.8 million and the Northern Cape Liquor Board received R14.289 million for the 2023/24 financial year. These funds will empower the NCGB (Northern Cape Gambling Board) and NCLB (Northern Cape Liquor Board) to establish a fair and socially responsible business environment that promotes predictability and facilitates economic growth.
- The NGGB (Northern Cape Gambling Board) is actively collaborating with the Provincial Treasury to review licensing fees in accordance with Section 89 (1) (g) and (3) of the Act. This strategic step aims to enhance revenue collection for the NCGB (Northern Cape Gambling Board).

Programme 5: Economic Planning (R19,665 million)

Digital Transformation for the Knowledge Economy & Innovation:

- National Broadband Policy "SA Connect" 1599 sites to be implemented in the Northern Cape.
- Universal Services and Access Agency South Africa Complimentary SA Connect project 112 site to be implemented in PKSDM, with 44 sites currently live.
- e-skills training at mLab NC and implementation of a Virtual Living Lab in Barkley West and a Mecwi Living Lab (LL) in Tsineng all co-supported by the Department of Science and Innovation and its Technology Innovation Agency
- Afrovation Foundation WiFi hotspots, 20 sites are live, with a balance of 11 identified Youth Centre sites left

Programme 6: Tourism (R47,019 million)

- The province successfully hosted the International Tourism Investment Conference in Upington
- The Tourism Programme will continue to work for the recovery of the provincial tourism industry. This will be achieved through tourism infrastructure development projects and partnerships leverage to improve tourism facilities in our provincial nature reserves and selected museums.
- Successfully completed three significant tourism infrastructure projects that have contributed to the growth and development of our province
 - Construction of luxurious campsites in the picturesque Witsand Provincial Nature Reserve,
 - The successful waterproofing of the roof and related electrical works at the esteemed Northern Cape Theatre, and
 - An upgrade of the kitchen facilities at the historic Magersfontein Battlefield Museum
- NCTA has successfully achieved the broadening participation in the tourism value chain. They assisted 104 SMMEs, providing support in marketing, market access, trade platforms, online travel platforms, and media exposure.

- The SKA Carnarvon Exploratorium is now in its architectural design phase while planning will start for the Schietfontein walking trail and community square, as well as the establishment of a day spa in Riemvasmaak and a tourism precinct at the Upington 26 monument.
- Seven tour operators and activity-based tourism enterprises will benefit from a partnership with the Sol Plaatje University Centre for Entrepreneurship and Rapid Incubator and work will continue to develop six youth-owned astro tourism enterprises in Carnarvon.
- In its effort to encourage an optimal and efficient registration process and having in place an integrated digitilised database system, the province successfully developed a tourist guiding information management system to provide an online registration platform for tourist guides, which will make it easy for registrations and renewal as well as to offset the vastness of the province.
- For the purpose of creating an enabling environment for a sustained tourist visitation through tourism safety awareness interventions, Seven (7) tourism safety initiatives will be implemented throughout the province

MEC MEETS NAMAKWA LEADERSHIP TO DISCUSS THE GREEN HYDROGEN PROJECT



In his opening remarks at a meeting to present progress on the Northern Cape Green Hydrogen Project, MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Mr. Abraham Vosloo highlighted the importance of the renewable energy as the provincial and national priority and acknowledged the work that has already been done by all stakeholders. The meeting was attended by the political leadership from the Namakwa Region, HOD for Economic Development and Tourism, Mr. Thami Mabija, officials from DEDaT and Treasury.

MEC emphasised that the importance of the support from the political leadership is needed more than before because the project is far bigger than the province, that it is a national project which its impact will be felt globally. He said the area of Namakwa will become the hype of activities as the bulk of the catalytic projects are based there.

"Before pictures must be taken as they will paint a picture of what used to be prior to the implementation and success of the project", said MEC Vosloo.

He further indicated that the money needed for the project is R600 billion which the provincial leadership is working tirelessly to secure investment both in South Africa as well as internationally.



SINGAPORE OUTBOUND MISSION



As our people observed the 29th Anniversary of Freedom Day, the MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Hon Abraham Vosloo together with some team members who are currently on an Outbound Mission to Singapore and Vietnam, joined the South African High Commissioner in Singapore, Commissioner Charlotte Lobe.

This is part of a series of activities which are held at various South African Embassies and Consulates, making an important day in the calendar of our country in which it's people took part in the 1st democratic elections in 1994.

These elections ushered in a democratic state which represents the will of the people.

CHAMPS OF CHAMPS



ZFM CHAMP OF CHAMPS SOCCER TOURNAMENT WINNERS

The 2023 winners of the ZFM Champ of Champs Soccer Tournament are Amaleven Football Club. They walk away with R100 000 after defeating the Tsantsabane Stars 1 - 0.

Congratulations Amaleven . We look forward to you defending your title in 2024.

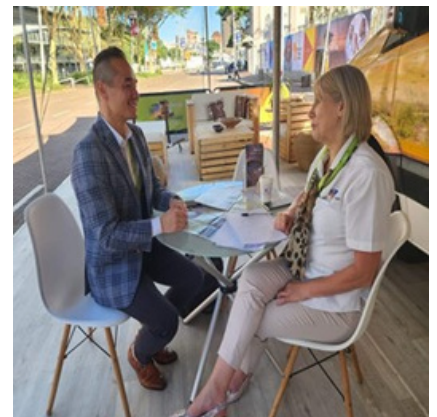




TOURISM INDABA

The Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism MEC, honourable Mr Abraham Vosloo wished all the Northern Cape exhibitors and SMME's attending the Africa's Travel Indaba at Durban ICC a success. This annual international tourism trade shows started on Monday 8 May with Bon Day program. While the show dates were from Tuesday 9 to Thursday 11 May 2023.

The Northern Cape tourism exhibitors showcased their products and experiences to thousands of national, African and international delegates that attended this year's edition. The variety of products offerings were from more established businesses from across the African continent who exhibited throughout the three-day show.





HANDOVER OF INFORMAL AND MICRO ENTERPRISE ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (IMED) EQUIPMENT IN PIXLEY KA SEME

On 18 May 2023 marked the end of the feedback sessions in the Pixley Ka Seme District. Provincial Government embarked on an Exco Outreach Programme to different towns across the Province, where Members of the Executive had interactive sessions with individual community members. The feedback sessions are aimed at addressing the general issues raised, different Departments are dealt with the individual matters.

• FEEDBACK;

- Hopetown Youth Centre and Friends in Praise Choir both received R30 000
- An ambulance and Patient Transport will be designated for Hopetown
- 960 serviced sites to be made available
- 150 houses to be built as part of the first phase of the housing project

Premier together with MEC Vosloo returned to Hopetown on the 15 June 2023 to hand over equipment and a cash donation of R10 000 each to 24 SMME's.

CABINET WELCOMES NAMAKWA SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE (SEZ).

MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism Welcomes Cabinet's decision to designate the Namakwa Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Aggeneys during its meeting earlier this week. The said designation is done in line with the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Act which regulates processes from the application stage to the actual designation.

Special Economic Zones (SEZs), are geographically designated areas of a country set aside for specifically targeted economic activities, supported through special arrangements (that may include laws) and systems that are often different from those that apply in the rest of the country. The 2014/15 – 2016/17 Industrial Policy Action Plan – IPAP identifies SEZs as key contributors to economic development. They are growth engines towards the government's strategic objectives of industrialization, regional development, and employment creation.

"The Namakwa SEZ will unlock mining beneficiation, production of Green Hydrogen, infrastructure development, renewable energy, and agro-processing. These sectors are critical to job creation and economic development of the Northern Cape and the country". Said Vosloo

More than R 29 Billion in investments has already been committed for phase one of the SEZ. These include commitments from Vedanta Zinc (R 16 Billion), Frontier Rare Earth (R 13 Billion), Hive Energy (R 200 Million), and RRS Trade and Investment (R 100 Million). "The said approval comes at a time when the province and the country are battling to reverse persistent triple challenges of unemployment, poverty, and equality which continue to bedevil our people from all fronts.

The sixth (6th) administration under the leadership of our Premier, Dr. Zamani Saul, is right on course to put measures in place to resolve these challenges. We are inspired, by all intents and purposes, by the vision of this administration of creating a modern, growing and successful province which we all desire. Apart from this ground-breaking announcement, we are also looking forward for the announcement of the implementation of the Bogoebaai Harbour which carries a massive investment of more than R 13 Billion and the completion of a feasibility study for the development of Green Hydrogen production in Boegobaai which carries possible investment of more than R 500 Billion". Concluded MEC Vosloo.

NORTHERN CAPE TO HOST THE INAUGURAL TOURISM INVESTMENT FORUM AFRICA

The Northern Cape Province hosted the inaugural Tourism Investment Forum Africa (TIFA) from 7-9 June 2023 at African Vineyard Guest House, in Upington.

The Forum was held under the theme, "Forging Global Partnerships for Inclusive Local Economic Development Through Sustainable Investment", which aimed to bring together the tourism and investment sectors, to create sustainable economic growth, job creation and employment opportunities, amongst others.

The MEC for the Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism, honourable Mr Abraham Vosloo welcome the opportunity to host the inaugural Tourism Investment Forum Africa in the Northern Cape, "The Forum presents immense opportunities to propel province towards job creation, economic growth and prosperity since tourism is important driver for socio-economic growth and development. As a destination we aim to venture into the Continental space, Africa. We are therefore blissful to welcome the Tourism Investment Forum Africa, the potential investors, and leaders from the African countries to the Northern Cape. I wish to encourage the investors and policymakers not to overlook the great potential this part of South Africa has to offer. We also believe that the Forum will certainly contribute to revitalise the tourism sector in the Northern Cape and reposition itself as an important instrument in challenging investments in the industry and further to position the Northern Cape as a competitive leisure and business events destination", mentioned MEC Vosloo.

The Northern Cape is one of the Southern Africa's fastest growing business events destinations. This Province, the largest within South Africa, is a modern growing region with a choice of meeting venues with sophisticated technology and accommodation to meet every price point. It further features a landscape brimming with dramatic beauty, a rich culture and history with ancient wisdoms, warm hospitality, and some of the world's greatest "Bucket List" experiences on offer.



In addition to promoting investment projects and opportunities in the travel and tourism industry across the SADC and other regions, the Tourism Investment Forum Africa will promote transversal projects and investment opportunities in critical sectors such as infrastructure, transport, real estate and the green economy, which are key to the development and growth of tourism through their stimulation of development in related sectors”.

The Forum created a market access for Small Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) from the ZF Mgcau District Municipality to ensure inclusive growth. At the Sustainability Village, the local SMME’s businesses showcased and sold their locally unique produced goods to promote sustainable tourism and supporting local businesses. The Sustainability Village was a dynamic corporate gifting option for delegates. A list of prominent speakers and thought leaders in the tourism and investment space were featured during the Tourism Investment Forum Africa at African Vineyard Guest House.

CERTIFICATION CEREMONY IN THE **KGALAGADI**

The Department of Economic Development Tourism held the Economic Transformation and Job Creation Implementation Forum, on the 17-18 May 2023, in Kuruman (JTG) district. This forum serves as one of the working Committees of the provincial Co-ordinating Committee, which is responsible for ensuring that the PGDP as its developmental objectives, the four drivers of change and the relevant paths to prosperity are addressed holistically in the province planning efforts. As part of the visit to the (JTG) district, the delegation visited the Seeding Community Network Project funded by the department to provide internet (wifi) access to the community.

NORTHERN CAPE OFFICE OF THE PREMIER EMPOWERS COMMUNITIES THROUGH EXCO OUTREACH

The Northern Cape Office of the Premier recently held an Exco outreach program in Richmond and Hopetown, showcasing its commitment to community engagement and development. The event brought together various government departments, providing an opportunity for citizens to receive assistance, ask questions, and interact with officials directly.

The Exco outreach served as a platform for the Office of the Premier to give feedback to the communities and address their concerns effectively. All government departments were present at the event, setting up stalls to offer guidance and support to residents. This initiative aimed to bridge the gap between the government and the people, fostering transparency and collaboration.

One notable highlight of the event was the presence of Mr. Abraham Vosloo, the MEC for Finance, Economic Development, and Tourism.



Mr. Vosloo played a crucial role in promoting entrepreneurship and economic growth within the province. As part of his commitment to supporting local businesses, he handed over equipment to successful applicants of the Township and Rural Entrepreneurship Fund. This fund aims to empower entrepreneurs in rural areas and townships, enabling them to establish and grow their businesses.

The Township and Rural Entrepreneurship Fund has been instrumental in fostering economic development and job creation in the region. By providing financial assistance and resources, it empowers aspiring business owners to realize their entrepreneurial dreams. The presence of Mr. Vosloo at the Exco outreach highlighted the government's dedication to nurturing a thriving business environment.

Additionally, Dr. Zamani Saul, the Premier for the Northern Cape, was present at the event. He played a significant role in furthering the aspirations of budding entrepreneurs. Mr. Saul distributed cheques ranging from R15 000.00 to R30 000.00 to aspiring entrepreneurs and groups. This financial support is aimed at helping individuals' kick-start their businesses, assisting them in overcoming financial barriers and turning their ideas into successful ventures.

The distribution of checks demonstrated the Northern Cape government's commitment to fostering a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation. By providing financial resources and support, they are actively promoting economic growth and empowering individuals to contribute to the development of their communities.

The Exco outreach event held at Richmond and Hopetown served as a reminder of the government's dedication to the Northern Cape's progress. Through collaboration and community engagement, the Office of the Premier, along with various government departments, ensured that citizens' voices were heard and their needs addressed.

These initiatives not only assist individuals in starting their businesses but also contribute to job creation and economic stimulation. The Northern Cape Office of the Premier's commitment to supporting entrepreneurship and community development sets a positive example for other regions, fostering an environment that nurtures local talent and fosters economic growth.

As the government continues to engage with its citizens and support aspiring entrepreneurs, the Northern Cape can look forward to a brighter and more prosperous future.

CULTIVATING AND ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism in Collaboration with National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), Department of Employment and Labour and SEDA conducted a Career, Job Readiness and Entrepreneurial Program on 22-26 May 2023 at various public schools and attend Career Fair exhibitions in Kuruman John Taolo Gaitsewe District.

The purpose of these sessions was to help learners to make a shift from the general understanding of life and work to a more specific understanding of the realistic and practical career options that are available to them and most importantly to cultivate an entrepreneurial mindset. This intervention was also helping learners understand their strengths and weaknesses and then match them with their skills so that they can get suitable career choice.

The Department joined the Department of Employment and Labour Career Fair at Thabo Moorosi Multipurpose Centre in Mothibistad. The purpose of this event was to expose work seekers to the different types of employment opportunities and avenues that they can explore furthermore it gave seekers a platform to meet with prospective employers and other organisations or departments that can assist with their placement in different forms of employment or learning opportunities.

“Entrepreneurship is not merely starting a new venture; it is a mindset. It requires a certain level of skills to be an entrepreneur. Some people are born with this mindset, others hone their skills and attitude through education and as a department we want learners to know that entrepreneurship can play a pivotal role in the growth of the economy” said Ms Moalekwa from the Economic Empowerment unit in the Department.

As a department one of our strategic objectives is to create an enabling environment in which the enterprises can be developed and flourish through the financial and non-financial support provided, therefore these sessions of cultivating entrepreneurial mindset has been identified as a platform to reach out to the youth, so that they take advantage of the opportunities, be part of the provincial economy and make informed decisions for their future.





YOUTH DAY CELEBRATIONS INSPIRE ECONOMIC EMANCIPATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Kimberley, South Africa, marked Youth Day on June 16 under the theme "Accelerating youth economic emancipation for a sustainable future." The event, held at the AR Abass sports ground, saw the participation of various government departments, private institutions, and tertiary organizations, all united in their efforts to empower the youth by showcasing bursaries, economic opportunities, and providing valuable services.

Youth Day in Kimberley served as a platform for government departments to actively engage with the youth and offer essential services. The Department of Economic Development and Tourism, SASSA, Education, Health, Justice, Water and Sanitation, SEDA, Home Affairs, Labour, Sports, Arts and Culture, and Roads and Public Works were among the government departments present at the event. Their active participation demonstrated a commitment to addressing the needs and aspirations of the youth.

The event also witnessed the involvement of private institutions and tertiary organizations such as Standard Bank, Vodacom, and TVET Colleges. These entities joined forces with the government departments to provide a comprehensive range of resources and opportunities to the young attendees. Through this collaboration, the youth had the chance to explore various sectors, including finance, telecommunications, and education.

The presence of the Premier of the Northern Cape added significance to the event. His attendance underscored the government's dedication to supporting young entrepreneurs. As part of this commitment, the Premier distributed cheques worth fifteen thousand rands to aspiring entrepreneurs, offering them financial assistance to kick-start their business ventures.

The financial grants provided by the Premier exemplified the government's belief in the potential of young entrepreneurs and their ability to contribute to the economy. By providing financial support, the government aims to break down barriers and encourage youth to pursue their entrepreneurial dreams. This investment not only fosters economic growth but also drives job creation and sustainable development in the region.

Furthermore, the Youth Day event in Kimberley featured an exciting highlight where the MEC for Finance, Economic Development, and Tourism, Mr. Abraham Vosloo, and the Premier Dr. Zamani Saul, along with MECs for other government departments, awarded one hundred thousand Rand to each group that performed at the event. This gesture recognized the talents and efforts of the youth and provided them with a substantial financial boost.

The generous grants to performing groups showcased the government's commitment to nurturing and supporting the youth in their creative pursuits. By providing financial rewards, the government acknowledges the importance of encouraging artistic expression and promoting cultural activities among the younger generation.

The Youth Day celebrations in Kimberley demonstrated the collective efforts of government departments, private institutions, and tertiary organizations to accelerate youth economic emancipation. Through the provision of services, showcasing bursaries and economic opportunities, and distributing financial support to young entrepreneurs and performing groups, the event celebrated the potential of the youth while fostering a sustainable future for all.

The government's dedication to investing in the youth's potential and recognizing their contributions is vital for the long-term development of the region. By empowering the younger generation with the resources and support they need, Kimberley is taking significant strides towards creating a vibrant and prosperous community.

As the spirit of Youth Day continues to resonate, Kimberley and its youth can look forward to a future where economic empowerment, innovation, and creativity thrive, ensuring a sustainable and prosperous society for generations to come.



CULTIVATING AND ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET



In a move to bolster youth entrepreneurship and economic development, SEDA Northern Cape organized an onsite business support services event for youth-owned enterprises in Danielskuil on the 21st of June this year. The event brought together a range of stakeholders committed to supporting young entrepreneurs, including the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, Kgatelopele Local Municipality, Absa, Mme Reka Thusa Trust Fund, NYDA, and Idwala.

The event aimed to provide much-needed support, resources, and guidance to youth entrepreneurs in Danielskuil, equipping them with the tools to thrive in their respective ventures. SEDA Northern Cape's proactive approach in facilitating onsite business support services underlines their dedication to fostering a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region.

The collaboration with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism showcased the government's commitment to creating an enabling environment for young entrepreneurs. By working together, both organizations can efficiently identify and address the specific needs of youth-owned enterprises, ensuring they receive appropriate support and opportunities for growth.

The presence of Kgatelopele Local Municipality further emphasized the significance of local government support in nurturing youth entrepreneurship. With a focus on community development, the municipality's involvement in the event signified its dedication to uplifting the youth and contributing to the overall economic prosperity of the region.

Absa, a prominent financial institution, played a pivotal role in providing financial expertise and guidance to young entrepreneurs. By offering advice on banking solutions, access to funding, and financial planning, Absa contributed significantly to empowering youth-owned enterprises to make informed financial decisions and achieve sustainable growth.

The Mme Reka Thusa Trust Fund, with its focus on women empowerment, added a dimension of gender inclusivity to the event. By supporting and mentoring young female entrepreneurs, the trust fund contributed to building a diverse and inclusive business landscape in Danielskuil.

The National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) brought its expertise and resources to the table, catering specifically to the needs of young entrepreneurs. Through mentorship, training programs, and financial support, NYDA played a crucial role in nurturing the next generation of business leaders and change-makers.

Idwala, an organization dedicated to fostering entrepreneurial skills, rounded off the group of stakeholders. Their involvement in the event further highlighted the importance of instilling an entrepreneurial mindset among the youth, empowering them to seize opportunities and overcome challenges in the business world.

During the onsite business support services event, youth entrepreneurs had the opportunity to engage directly with the various stakeholders, learn from their expertise, and seek guidance tailored to their individual needs. The day was filled with workshops, networking sessions, and one-on-one consultations, ensuring that each participant received personalized attention and support.

The event undoubtedly left a lasting impact on the youth-owned enterprises in Danielskuil. The provision of essential resources, expert advice, and collaborative networking opportunities will undoubtedly set these young entrepreneurs on a path to success. Moreover, the event's focus on youth empowerment will likely inspire more young individuals to take the plunge into entrepreneurship, bolstering the region's economic landscape.

SEDA Northern Cape's initiative in organizing the onsite business support services event, coupled with the active involvement of all stakeholders, exemplifies the power of collaboration and dedicated efforts in fostering a conducive environment for youth entrepreneurship. With such positive strides, Danielskuil can look forward to a bright future, driven by the entrepreneurial spirit and passion of its young business leaders.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROMOTES HYGIENE AWARENESS AMONG SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS IN GRIEKWASTARD



In a concerted effort to promote hygiene and safety in business establishments, the Economic Development department recently organized a training program in Griekwastard. The training focused on creating awareness and emphasizing the significance of maintaining proper hygiene practices in small businesses. By equipping entrepreneurs with essential knowledge and skills, the initiative aimed to enhance the overall health and well-being of the community while fostering a conducive business environment.

Hygiene plays a vital role in ensuring the safety and satisfaction of customers, as well as the well-being of employees. Recognizing this, the Economic Development department took the initiative to educate small business owners in Griekwastard about the importance of implementing and maintaining high standards of hygiene within their establishments.

The training program covered a range of topics designed to address the specific needs of small businesses. Participants learned about best practices for maintaining cleanliness in their premises, including regular cleaning routines, proper waste management, and appropriate storage and handling of food and other consumables. Additionally, the training emphasized the significance of personal hygiene for employees, highlighting the role of hand-washing, sanitation, and proper attire in preventing the spread of diseases.

The department worked closely with experienced trainers and experts in the field to ensure that the content delivered was relevant, practical, and tailored to the unique circumstances of small businesses in Griekwastard. Practical demonstrations, interactive sessions, and informative materials were used to engage participants and encourage active learning.

The training program not only provided participants with valuable knowledge but also fostered a supportive network among small business owners in the community. Through group discussions and networking opportunities, entrepreneurs were able to share their experiences, exchange ideas, and learn from one another. This collaborative environment proved invaluable in fostering a sense of community and encouraging ongoing support and engagement in maintaining proper hygiene practices.

By prioritizing hygiene, small businesses in Griekwastard can elevate their operations and create a positive impression on customers. This, in turn, contributes to the growth and success of these enterprises while ensuring the health and safety of all stakeholders involved. The Economic Development department's commitment to supporting small businesses goes beyond organizing training programs. They continue to provide ongoing assistance and guidance to entrepreneurs in Griekwastard, offering resources and mentorship to help them implement and sustain good hygiene practices in their establishments.

The training program's impact will extend beyond individual businesses, benefiting the wider community as well. By promoting hygiene awareness and practices, the initiative contributes to the overall health and well-being of Griekwastard residents, reducing the risk of disease transmission and creating a cleaner and safer environment for everyone.

The success of the training program in Griekwastard serves as a testament to the dedication of the Economic Development department and the commitment of small business owners to prioritize hygiene. The knowledge gained from the training will enable entrepreneurs to maintain high standards of cleanliness and safety in their businesses, leading to improved customer satisfaction, increased trust, and enhanced overall business performance.

As Griekwastard continues to develop its economic landscape, initiatives like this training program will play a vital role in nurturing a thriving business community. The collaboration between the Economic Development department and small business owners demonstrates the potential for positive change when stakeholders unite to address common challenges and promote best practices.

Moving forward, it is crucial that small business owners in Griekwastard continue to implement and maintain the hygiene standards learned during the training program. By doing so, they will contribute to the growth and success of their businesses, foster a healthier community, and serve as a shining example of the positive impact that effective hygiene practices can have on a local economy



APPRECIATION DINNER FOR **UPINGTON CITY FC**

The MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Hon Abraham Vosloo hosted a Constituency END of Season Appreciation Dinner in honour of Upington City FC, Amaleven FC and Hungry Lions FC. As a message of support, the MEC for Education Hon Monakali congratulated the teams for their outstanding work. He urged Hungry Lions to work hard to get promoted to the PSL and to remember the children of the Northern Cape and make them beneficiaries of their work.

In his keynote address, MEC Vosloo said "We know it can't be easy for the management of the teams. There are challenges, but you are able to deal with them. We have a lot of talent in the province, ours is to unearth, nurture and promote it." Each team received R100 000 to allow them to prepare for the next season.

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Record and Bookkeeping Training on the 22 - 24 May 2023.

The objective of this training was to empower disabled entrepreneurs with essential skills and knowledge in bookkeeping and financial management. The program was designed to address the unique challenges faced by disabled SMMEs in the Springbok community and aimed to enhance the financial literacy of disabled entrepreneurs, thereby improving their ability to manage their business finances effectively.

The training program was conducted over a span of three days and included a combination of theoretical sessions, practical exercises and interactive discussions specifically designed for people living with disabilities. The participants were provided with training materials, including handouts and computer software tools to facilitate their learning experience. The program also included individual mentoring sessions to address specific challenges faced by the disabled SMMEs. Special needs to support enterprises or businesses owned by people living with disabilities were identified these include but not limited to:

- Access to funding support
- Access to capacity building
- Access to markets support



Basic Business Skills Training in Carnarvon 12-15 June 2023



Training for people with disabilities in Carnarvon focused on Basic Business Skills training. The Persons living with disability transformation portfolio of the Economic Empowerment Sub-Programme engaged with LED of the Kareeberg Municipality and the SKA office and targeted to provide an integrated support mechanism to 20 formal and informal Persons living with disabilities. Eighteen (18) Persons living with disabilities were trained.

It is great that persons living with disabilities want to run their own business and provide services, and it's important to support their entrepreneurial aspirations. Therefore, there are additional ways to empower and support individuals with disabilities in starting and running their own business.

Entrepreneurial and Compliance Information Session in Alexander bay - 25 May 2023



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MINING & ENERGY INVESTMENT CONFERENCE 2023 SHOWCASES NORTHERN CAPE'S INVESTMENT POTENTIAL

The Mining & Energy Investment Conference 2023, held on June 29 in Kimberley, Northern Cape, proved to be a significant milestone in highlighting the investment potential of the region. Under the theme of "Realising Northern Cape's Investment Potential in Mining," the conference aimed to encourage and optimize private sector investment in the province, providing a platform to mobilize partnerships, galvanize support, and promote investment opportunities. The event was graced by the presence of key dignitaries, including the Member of the Executive Council (MEC) and Premier of the Northern Cape, and Tourism, along with the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy, Mr. Samson Gwede Mantashe. Their participation underlined the significance of the conference and showcased the commitment of the government towards the growth and development of the mining and energy sectors in the Northern Cape.

One of the primary objectives of the conference was to attract private sector investments to leverage the abundant mineral resources of the region. The Northern Cape province is renowned for its vast reserves of minerals, including diamonds, manganese, iron ore, and copper. These resources present immense opportunities for local and international investors to contribute to the economic growth and job creation in the province.

Through a series of keynote speeches, panel discussions, and networking sessions, the conference provided a platform for industry stakeholders, investors, and policymakers to engage in meaningful dialogue. The exchange of ideas and expertise fostered an environment of collaboration, enabling the exploration of innovative strategies and sustainable practices for the mining and energy sectors in the Northern Cape.

The Mining & Energy Investment Conference 2023 proved to be an important catalyst in harnessing the untapped potential of the Northern Cape.

By bringing together industry leaders, government officials, and potential investors, the event not only showcased the region's rich mineral resources but also fostered collaboration and innovation. The conference's success lies in its ability to galvanize support, mobilize partnerships, and pave the way for sustainable and inclusive growth in the mining and energy sectors of the Northern Cape.





FAREWELL

We bid farewell to Ms B Sebolai, May her soul find eternal glory.

We also bid farewell to Mr K Packirisamy and Ms A Davel during this quarter. We wish all the best in her future endeavors.

WELCOME

We welcome Mr L M Mabena, Ms T Motlhale and Mr Z Cader that joined the department. We wish Ms J Krieg well on her promotion and we wish them all a fruitful stay.

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