



## MANDELA DAY 2017

On Tuesday, July 18, 2017, Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula in partnership with Armscor and the University of Fort Hare (UFH) officiated at the handover ceremony of mobile computer laboratories.

Since the advent of democracy, the Department of Education has put a lot of effort into addressing challenges faced by students and teachers, particularly from low socioeconomic status and previously disadvantaged schools. Nevertheless, teaching and learning subjects such as maths and science remain a solemn challenge in South Africa.

It is against this backdrop that Armscor embarked on a nationwide partnership with schools and institutions of higher learning to explore sustainable ways of assisting teachers and learners, mainly in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects.

In July 2016, Armscor collaborated with UFH also educated and created awareness about maintenance and development of defence capability. To further stimulate and maintain interest in learning STEM subjects, students were offered extra lessons every Saturday, as part of the Learner Intervention Programme (LIP). Resultantly, a total of 280 learners from 30 schools around Bhisho and Alice have thus far benefitted from the programme.

Throughout his life, former President Nelson Mandela held education close to his heart. As a contribution to keeping his legacy alive, Minister Mapisa-Nqakula officially handed over mobile labs to rural Eastern Cape schools associated with LIP. "Our hope is for every learner to have a solid education and we believe that such intervention programmes go a long way in empowering learners to reach their full potential", said Minister Mapisa-Nqakula.



<p>Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Nosiviwe Mapisa Nqakula with University of Fort Hare academics and Hare and Mr Kevin Wakeford( Armscor CEO)</p>	<p>Learners from schools around Bhisho and Alice and educators</p>
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<p>Teachers, school learners and students from UFH</p>	<p>Speakers- Prof Larry Obi (Vice chancellor: Academic Affairs) Armscor CEO Kevin Wakeford and Keynote address by Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa- Nqakula</p>
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Official handover of mobile labs(cutting of the ribbon) and presentation of academic blazers to the Minister and Amscor CEO by Deputy Vice chancellor: Institutional support, by UFH Prof Gilingwe Mayende



Learners walking about experiencing science technologies at the exhibition stands and mobile labs