




MY DISTRICT TODAY



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OUTCOME 6: AN EFFICIENT, COMPETITIVE AND RESPONSIVE ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK.

Minister launches plan to restructure and reindustrialise the economy

By Jacob Molete: GCIS, Gauteng



Minister Davies delivering a speech at the launch of Industrial Policy Action Plan (IPAP) 2016/17 – 2018/19.



Guestro Naledi Inhlanganiso Group Executive Chairperson Maphatiane welcoming guests.



Guestro Naledi Inhlanganiso Group Executive Chairperson Maphatiane welcoming guests.

Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies hosted the 8th Industrial Policy Action Plan (IPAP) 2016 media launch at Guestro Naledi Inhlanganiso Group on 9 May 2016.

Minister Davies said at the launch that IPAP 2016 was not yet another government strategy or policy document but an action plan to boost manufacturing and the reindustrialisation of the economy.

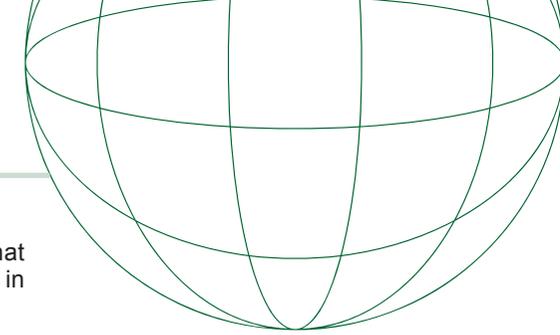
“Let me make a point I have often made before, because it bears repeating: IPAP 2016 is not – as is often suggested – yet another government strategy or policy document for the manufacturing sector, IPAP 2016 is simply the action plan to reindustrialise our economy,” he said.

Furthermore, he told the media that through IPAP 2016, government was taking serious steps towards addressing deep-seated structural challenges affecting the economy.



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“It is also worth repeating that this effort has to address the deep-seated structural problems that characterise our economy. IPAP 2016 again stresses the pressing need for structural change in the economy,” added Minister Davies.

IPAP 2016 will develop sector specific programmes with emphasis on labour-intensive sectors such as clothing, textile, leather and footwear, automotive and locomotive manufacturing and agro-processing.

Guestro Naledi Inhlanganiso Group Executive Chairperson Sibusiso Maphatiane, whose company is one of the beneficiaries of IPAP said, “Government is delivering on its promises, we have received a R34 million automotive grant from the Department of Trade and Industry and furthermore received R1.8 billion from Transnet to supply it with train wheels, under the locomotive rolling stock programme.”

Guestro Naledi Inhlanganiso Group is a black-owned manufacturing company competing successfully as a foundry in a very competitive market. According to Maphatiane, the company has 320 employed and hopes to employ 100 more people, while it has employed 150 engineers at the Port Elizabeth plant where it manufactures train wheels.

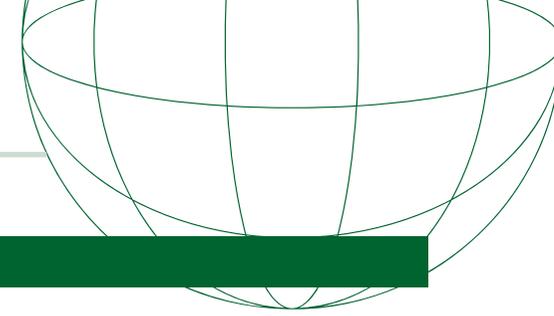
The benefit of hosting the IPAP 2016 launch at Guestro Naledi Inhlanganiso Group premises is that the company bears testimony to the success of IPAP. “Guestro Naledi Inhlanganiso is therefore a very good company example of what can be done to build strong links between a state-owned company like Transnet, global original equipment manufacturers supplying into government’s rail procurement programme and local



Guestro Naledi Inhlanganiso Group Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Pieter du Plessis showcasing automotive drums to Minister Davies, Minister Ebrahim Patel, dti Director-General Lionel October and Proudly SA CEO Leslie Sedibe during the company’s plant tour with media personalities.



Minister Rob Davies said:
“So let me take this opportunity to congratulate Mr Maphatiane and Mr Du Plessis, the management and workers at Guestro for their efforts and for the lead they have taken in showing that the emergence and growth of black-owned manufacturing companies is not a pipe dream.”



Deputy Minister Mabudafhasi, Matyumza from the National Centre for Books and Canadian Peace Corp Jonathan Perkins and other dignitaries during the National Book Day celebration at Tlakale Primary School.



Some of the learners from Tlakale Primary School displaying some of the books given to them.



A book exhibition at Tlakale Primary School.

OUTCOME I: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION.

Deputy Minister celebrates World Book Day with learners

By Nkopodi Mokgoma: GCIS, Limpopo



Tlakale learners demonstrating how to raise the South African Flag while Deputy Minister Mabudafhasi looks on.

The morning of 22 April 2016 was an exciting one for the learners of Tlakale Primary School at Ga-Nkwana village, Fetakgomo Local Municipality, when the Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture, Rejoice Mabudafhasi, celebrated National Book Day with them.

The Deputy Minister did not waste time during the morning assembly when she started teaching Tlakale learners about the national symbols. She also taught them how to conduct themselves when they sing the National Anthem. “You need to be attentive, stand straight with your hands at the sides when singing the National Anthem,” she said.

Deputy Minister Mabudafhasi also indicated that learners should be encouraged to read books all the times. Mandla Matyumza from the National Centre for Books urged the school to have a reading corner if they do not have a library. He stressed this after handing over books to the school.

Selected learners were offered the opportunity to read in front of the Deputy Minister, the Mayor of Fetakgomo Local Municipality and other dignitaries. The Deputy Minister ended her visit by touring the local library at Fetakgomo Local Municipality.



Beneficiaries of the skills development programme with Deputy Minister Holomisa and local leaders.

OUTCOME 5: A SKILLED AND CAPABLE WORKFORCE TO SUPPORT AN INCLUSIVE GROWTH PATH.

Government provides funds for youth development

By Ndyabo Kopo: GCIS, Eastern Cape

The Deputy Minister of Labour, Phathekile Holomisa, launched a building and civil construction training programme beneficiaries for Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) beneficiaries at Alfred Nzo District Municipality on 22 April 2016.

About 100 young people in the Alfred Nzo District will benefit from this programme, which will be implemented through the Ingwe Technical, Vocational, Education and Training (TVET) College and 50 of them will be trained at Siteto campus in Mbizana and the other 50 in Maluti campus of Ingwe TVET college.

Each campus will receive an amount of R1,8 million which will cover the costs of the training programme.

This is a countrywide initiative called Labour Activation Programme wherein the Department of Labour make funds available through the UIF and partner companies for training and placement of the unemployed and UIF's beneficiaries in companies.

Ndumiso Msomi, one of the beneficiaries of the programme said, "As you are all aware that one of the reasons young people do not get employment is due to shortage of skills, this training programme will open up opportunities for us to start our own businesses using skills gained from this programme."

In addition to this 100, there are also 34 young people to be trained on refrigeration and air-condition by the Alfred Nzo Development Agency (ANDA) and another 28 young people, through engagements by the development agency.

"The launch was as a result of an initiative taken by the ANDA when they approached the Department of Labour seeking assistance in skilling the youth in Alfred Nzo Region, in air-condition and refrigeration fields. When we asked them what other training opportunities that they have at their disposal, the department presented this artisan training programme that is launched here today. The agency became a catalyst of the process and ensured that Ingwe college is one of the colleges that partake in this programme for the benefit of the youth of Alfred Nzo," said the Chief Executive Officer, Ingonyama Madzikane II.

Deputy Minister Holomisa said that it was a very important day for the department because working with different government stakeholders, the department was responding to lack of job opportunities in the area of Mbizana and Alfred Nzo District Municipality by equipping the youth with skills demanded by the economy.

"Our children do go school and acquire knowledge but they are unemployable because they do not have the requisite skills by the economy," said the Deputy Minister.



Tommy Bezuidenhout said:

“Excellent government service for Nelspoort community. I have no service delivery issues, I just want to request a Thusong Service Centre for Nelspoort. There are a number empty government buildings that have not been used for the past years and I would suggest that they be used for a satellite Thusong Service Centre. We are currently paying up to R500 to travel to access government services in Beaufort West.”



Eden Anthony said:

“As the youth of Nelspoort, we mobilised ourselves to come and register to vote in order to take part in the upcoming Local Government Elections.”

OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP.

Government takes service to the people

By Jethro Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape

More than 200 community members from the rural town of Nelspoort and surrounding farms in the Beaufort West Local Municipality, Central Karoo District received access to various government services and information. People were able to apply for identity documents, birth and death certificates at the Department of Home Affairs, information on food security, from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), undergo health tests and conduct health screening, etc.

The communities welcomed the information products such as *Vuk'uzenzele* newspaper, DAFF learnership forms, information on how to start a business, forms from the Small Enterprise Development Agency and water-saving tips.

Youth from Nelspoort were able to register to vote for the first time after the Independent Electoral Commission in Beaufort West facilitated the registration process as part of the Thusong Service Centre mobile services. The young people who registered will be able to vote in the upcoming Local Government Elections on 3 August.



Marissa Wettels said:

“I came here as part of the young people from Nelspoort to make sure that I am on the voters’ roll. This is my first time to register to vote, and I am going to participate in the upcoming elections this coming August. It is important for us as youth to vote in the local government election.”



Chandre Hendricks said:

“I came today to learn more about government services, especially the court procedures with regards to child maintenance. I came here today to seek assistance with child maintenance and I hope to be assisted. I am very happy about the level of service that I received today and the officials promised to handle my case as a matter of urgency.”