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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

## **VOTE FOUR**

2021-2022

# **BUDGET SPEECH**



HONOURABLE MR RAVIGASEN RANGANATHAN PILLAY, MPL

## BUDGET POLICY STATEMENT FOR 2021-2022 DELIVERED BY MEC FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, MR RAVIGASEN RANGANATHAN PILLAY

21 May 2021

### Rising Above Constraints – Towards a Sustainable, Growing and Transformed Economy

Madam Speaker

The Premier of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal, Honourable Mr Sihle Zikalala

Honourable Members of the KwaZulu-Natal Executive Council

Honourable Members of this august House

Representatives of all of our social partner formations

**Members of the Diplomatic Corps** 

Your Worships, the Mayors

**Distinguished Guests** 

Members of the Media present

Ladies and Gentlemen

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

It is my singular honour and privilege to present this 2021/2022 budget policy statement for the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs.

Before I go any further allow me to quote a verse from the poem, *Still I Rise*, by one of the greatest American poets, Maya Angelou:

Out of the huts of history's shame I rise Up from a past that's rooted in pain I rise I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide, Welling and swelling I bear in the tide. Leaving behind nights of terror and fear I rise Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear I rise Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, I am the dream and the hope of the slave. I rise, I rise, I rise, I rise.

**Honourable Members,** we are rising to fulfil the dreams and hopes of all the citizens of this province irrespective of their class, race, gender and spatial location.

We are rising to fight inequality, poverty and unemployment. We are rising to radically transform this economy to equitably serve and benefit its entire citizenry.

We are rising to undo the devastation visited upon our economy and livelihoods by the Covid-19 pandemic.

We present this budget during a year we have dedicated to celebrating two outstanding icons of our country, Mama Charlotte Maxeke and Dr John Langalibalele Dube the founding president of the African National Congress. These outstanding leaders, born 150 years ago, dedicated their lives, resources and skills to the noble cause of the upliftment of the marginalized. It is well-known that Dube founded the Ohlange Institute which was modelled along the Tuskegee Institute in the USA as a vehicle of empowering young Black people. The same could be said about Charlotte Maxeke who also founded a school in Evaton.

We draw inspiration from the lives of these two leaders as we rise and roll up our sleeves for the work that lies ahead.

This task of transforming and growing our economy remains even more urgent now as the Covid-19 pandemic has laid bare the fissures that exist in our society.

We know the task will not be easy and will draw critics but we are spurred on by the words of Dr John Langalibalele Dube who said:

"Many are the difficulties I foresee in our way – enemies without, fierce and frank; dangers within, undersigned perhaps, but still more harmful. It will be an uphill fight, but our watchword shall be 'Excelsior!' – onward, higher; cautiously, ploddingly! By dint of our perseverance, our patience, our reasonableness, our law abiding methods and the justice of our demands, all these obstacles shall be removed and enemies overcome."

Although uttered in a different context, these words ring true today. We understand that the recovery will be gradual and will require our patience and perseverance.

**Honourable Members,** the Covid-19 pandemic, and the consequences of over a year of constrained growth and various forms of restrictions, have come at a huge cost not only to the KwaZulu-Natal economy, but to the entire country and globe alike.

Household incomes have drastically gone down, many small businesses have closed down, large companies have downsized, or even liquidated, revenues have significantly gone down. The painful reality is that valuable lives have been lost, livelihoods evaporated, dignity dissipated, opportunities disappeared, and many are unemployed. **Honourable Members**, we have been inspired by the resilience of our citizens in weathering this storm. People have refused to bow down and accept the ravages of this pandemic as their fate. Instead our citizens have risen up and partnered with their government in pushing back the frontiers of this monster.

They have done this firstly by adhering to the health regulations, which have greatly contributed to slowing the spread of the virus. Secondly, people have innovated in how they work, socialise and interact with each other – they have embraced virtual platforms of engagements. Lastly, they have rolled up their sleeves and worked to rebuild their lives and businesses. Still the people of KwaZulu-Natal continue to rise.

There can be no greater call than one that seeks to restore the livelihoods of our people, restore the dignity of people, and regenerate hope. In restoring the livelihoods, we have to be alive to the realities of high inequalities that exist in our nation. Hence, our unwavering commitment to radically transform the economy of our province to benefit all its citizens irrespective of race, age, gender and spatial location remains sacrosanct.

Honourable Members, in February the Premier of the Province, Mr Sihle Zikalala, outlined the Provincial Programme of Action in the State of the Province Address presented under the theme, "Quickening the Tempo to Economic Recovery and Job Creation"

Today I will outline the specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time bound plans of my department to resuscitate our provincial economy.

**Honourable Members,** it is befitting that this budget speech is tabled under the theme '*Rising Above Constraints – Towards a Sustainable, Growing and Transformed Economy'*. This theme is informed by the reality that while we are not out of the woods yet, we remain hopeful of rising above the economic constraints. Fuelling this hope is the vaccine roll-out programme and the resilience shown by some of the sectors of our economy. We remain convinced that the time to embark on the reconstruction of the economy is now.

**Honourable Members,** indulge us as we commence to transverse this journey by analysing the economic terrain which we have to operate under.

#### 2. ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

The global economic environment is constrained by a number of headwinds chief of which is the disruption in overall economic activity on the back of Covid-19. That disruption is strongly reflected in our recent economic statistical releases.

In KwaZulu-Natal, there were 890 000 people who reported willingness to work but could not find jobs in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2019. This figure rose to 1 034 000 in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2020 giving a narrow unemployment rate of 29.6%. When the 756 000 non-searching unemployed (discouraged work seekers) are included, unemployment increases to 46% by the expanded definition.

Even though the province reported a quarter-on-quarter net increase of 66 000 jobs following the gradual easing of lockdown measures, the number is too low to absorb the disproportionately rising demand for jobs.

On the output side, global economic growth is expected to rebound to 5.5% in 2021 before moderating slightly to 4.2% in 2022, spurred on by the expected rollout of Covid-19 vaccines and other additional policy initiatives.

China is expected to grow at 8.1% in 2021, while India will achieve a growth rate of 11.5% over the same period.

Sub-Saharan Africa is forecast to grow by 3.2%. In this context, the South African economy is expected to rebound by 3.3% this year, following a 7.2 per cent contraction in 2020, and average 1.9% in the outer two years. By our actions, we can impact on these projections for the better.

**Honourable Members**, there is a saying that not all storms come to destroy; some come to clear your path. What this pandemic has done is to force all countries to look inwards and in our case, this has cleared our path to implement localization that will hasten the transformation of our economy.

We are seeing the willingness of all social partners, including major companies with global supply chains, to localise their value chains.

#### 3. SOCIAL COMPACT FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY

**Honourable Members,** we are tabling this budget policy speech on the back of the historic signing of our social compact. The provincial compact was entered into by government, labour, business and civil society as a practical expression of a united effort towards economic recovery.

In the social compact we disaggregated our economy to 14 sectors namely:

- Agriculture and Agro-Processing
- Clothing and Textiles
- Creative Industries
- Finance and Services
- Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), ICT and Innovation
- Health Innovation and Manufacturing
- Industrial Development
- Informal Sector
- Infrastructure Development
- Trade and Investment
- Manufacturing (Automotive, Paper and Pulp, etc.)
- Mining and Mineral Beneficiation
- Oceans Economy
- Tourism

The social compact sets out clear priority objectives for each sector and also outlines specific commitments made by each social partner towards the attainment of those objectives. While the objectives differ from sector to sector, radical economic transformation and the development of rural and township economies cut across all sectors.

We were inspired by the frank but constructive inputs from all the social partners. We accept business' assertion, through Mr Nigel Ward, that as part of building a compact we have to ensure that policies and practices deliver on expectations and agreements because when this fails, these expectations and relationships suffer.

The call from labour, delivered through the provincial secretary of Cosatu, Mr Edwin Mkhize, was clear that we need to increase pace in ensuring inclusive growth, investment promotion, holistic support for the township and rural

enterprises, increased workplace equality and upgrading of skills and education.

We were also encouraged by civil society, represented by Mr Sithembiso Madlala who pledged commitment to the compact by reminding us that all of us as social partners have a symbiotic coexistence and that we need each other now more than ever.

Our message as government is clear. We understand that we must ensure that we build an ethical, capable state. Part of this effort requires us to intensify our fight against fraud and corruption and also to ensure an efficient public service.

As part of the social compact this is what we have committed to do. We are saying hold us accountable to this and all our commitments. In this regard we will be finalizing our monitoring and evaluation framework within the next few weeks. This framework will not only ensure accountability but will ensure that we are able to adapt our action plan to the fluid economic situation.

To labour, we want to say we understand there is a crisis of unemployment which is also linked to the Covid-19 crisis. A time of crisis like this one requires sacrifices from all of us. We make this call while remaining sensitive to the reality that the poor and the working class continues to bear the brunt of this crisis.

I am certain that labour will be pleased with some of the proposed changes to our industrialisation policy as they include proposed amendments to legislation to allow for more representation of worker interests in company decision-making structures and boards.

As we continue to concretise our pact, we challenge civil society to deepen the depth and breadth of its representation within the Economic Council. The important work we are undertaking will also require the involvement of our intelligentsia, academia and organised professional bodies as part of civil society.

We urge business to come on board and partner with us in defeating the narrative that there is an investment strike. We know that we have many patriotic businesses that continue to invest and undertake various social responsibility programmes for the benefit of ordinary people of KwaZulu-Natal especially the poor.

**Honourable Members** our hope is reignited each day with the new investments and developments taking place in the province. The following are just a few of the powerful confidence building examples we have witnessed in the recent past

- Nyanza Light Metals the construction of the first phase of the Nyanza Light Metals titanium dioxide (TiO2) pigment production plant commenced in March this year. The Nyanza Light Metals project will be rolled out in three phases. The total investment value of the project is R4.5bn. This project completely reflects our BEE objectives and is financed, inter alia by Afreximbank which you are going to hear much more about in the years ahead. (RBIDZ)
- Wilmar Processing the construction of the R1.3 billion crude vegetable oil refining facility at Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone (RBIDZ) commenced in October 2020. Currently civil engineering works are underway with piling and earthworks nearing completion. Once completed, the facility is set to create 202 permanent jobs. Earlier this week we met with the investor and they assured us that the workforce will be sourced locally.
- **Pepkor Logistics Facility** The R1.5 billion facility which is based at the Keystone Business Park in Hammarsdale was launched on 11 May 2021 by the Premier. Construction of the facility is currently underway and once operational, the facility will create 2200 jobs. Keystone is now being expanded to include a R10 bn Phase 2 and a R50 bn rollout of an inter-model hub that will help increase the port capacity by 30%.
- **Defy Warehousing and Distribution Centre** On Wednesday, Defy South Africa officially opened a R170 million warehousing and distribution Centre at Danskraal in Ladysmith. The facility has the capability of loading/unloading in excess of 200 trucks per day and a storage capacity of 100,000 cubic metre of products. It will create 130 new jobs.
- **Port Expansion** We were pleased with the commitment shown by Transnet to both the Durban and the Richards Bay ports. The R100

billion investment over the medium term into the expansion of the Durban port will not only reduce congestion and increase capacity of the port but will lead to job creation and a massive injection into the economy of the province.



Construction of the first phase of the Nyanza Light Metals titanium dioxide (TiO2) pigment production plant

#### 4. **REVIEW OF PREVIOUS BUDGET COMMITMENTS**

**Honourable Members,** in the previous budget speech the Department made some commitments to the citizens of this province. It is therefore appropriate that we begin this budget speech by providing a clear account on how we have performed against those commitments. As a government elected democratically by the people to represent their interests, our words must always remain our bond.

We must be able to communicate our achievements, concede where we have fallen short and clearly outline the remedial actions to mitigate such challenges.

#### 4.1 **PROGRAMME 1: ADMINISTRATION**

As part of our effort to build a capable state, the decision to rationalise provincial public entities was taken in order to streamline service delivery, eliminate duplications, create efficiencies and ensure that the mandate of government is executed in the most cost-effective manner.

The Province is at an advanced stage of implementing the resolutions of the Provincial Executive Council in respect on rationalisation. In this regard, the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs was instructed to:

- i. Merge the functions of the KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission and KwaZulu-Natal Tourism Authority
- ii. Merge the functions of Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife and KwaZulu-Natal Sharks Board
- iii. Merge the governance structures (the Boards), and selected transversal administrative functions of the KwaZulu-Natal Gaming and Betting Board and the KwaZulu-Natal Liquor Authority.

We can report **Honourable Members** that the necessary draft legislation has been prepared and is currently being discussed with the Office of the Provincial Chief State Law Advisor, in order to have the Draft Bills certified and translated, before they are submitted to the Provincial Executive Council for final approval. We expect to introduce the Bills in the Provincial Legislature by the end of the second quarter of this financial year, with an anticipated go-live date of 1 April 2022.

Ethical governance remains a key priority. Several investigations have been finalised and recommendations are being processed. Consequence management is non-negotiable. We will in due course fulfil our obligation to report to the Ad Hoc Committee on Investigations, established by this Honourable House, within the disclosure framework developed by the said Committee.

#### 4.2 PROGRAMME 2: INTEGRATED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

#### Enterprise Development

**Honourable Members**, the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs recognises the central role of small enterprises as we rebuild and transform our economy. In the previous budget speech, we committed to promote SMME and entrepreneurial development through improved access to financial services, establish small enterprise shared production facilities, provide business incubation, roll out the KwaZulu-Natal Enterprise Development Fund, and implement Comprehensive Cooperatives Development Support Programme, among other interventions.

Our support to SMMEs and Cooperatives is predicated against the following five pillars:

- Business Conceptualization and Planning;
- Business Registration and formalization;
- Training, Mentorship and Incubation;
- Access to Finance: Loans, Equity and Grants; and
- Access to Markets

**Honourable Members,** the Department is pleased to report that R250m was disbursed to over 953 SMMEs thereby creating 1 285 jobs through the Enterprise Development Fund. A further 217 jobs were created through the cooperatives support programme.

Other notable achievements in the area of enterprise development over the ensuing year include:

- Development of a database indicating operational and nonoperational small enterprises together with their individual needs;
- Identification of buildings and infrastructure in municipalities to be considered for use by small enterprises; and
- IDFC property in KwaMashu Township secured for the shared facility for the production of detergents. The renovation, refurbishment, installation of machinery and equipment and commissioning of this shared facility is very advanced and we expect to officially launch this facility by the end of July this year.



MEC RR Pillay receives a briefing at the KwaMashu Shared Facility

During the period under review, we have trained SMMEs in business and cooperatives management, technical skills in bakery, garment making, block making; furniture and chemicals and detergents. The breakdown of beneficiaries supported is as follows:

SMMEs Trained:		547	
•	Gender breakdown: Youth:	476 women and 71 males 110	
SMMEs Mentored:			
SMME	s Mentored:	420	

The above statistics demonstrate our unwavering commitment to support the priority groups such as women and youth. There is work outstanding with regard to the disability sector and consultations will be intensified to pilot an appropriate model.

#### **Operation Sakhinzuzo**

The challenges confronting the local sugar industry, particularly small scale famers, have been widely covered in various media platforms. In 2020/21 we

committed to continue providing support to small scale growers under Operation Sakhinzuzo, a multi-year project implemented in partnership with Tongaat Hulett.

**Honourable Members,** 139 small scale growers benefited from the programme ensuring that 691 hectares of cane were planted. These small growers supply various sugar mills in KwaZulu-Natal such as Felixton, Darnall, Amatikulu and Maidstone. Growers were assisted with various inputs and other tools and 492 seasonal jobs were created as a result of this initiative.

Both the above programmes will be evaluated this year for impact and sustainability.

#### **Operation Vula Fund**

The Operation Vula Fund is meant to enable KwaZulu-Natal entrepreneurs and enterprises with innovative and employment creating business ventures, to access grant funding from the department. A total of 1025 applications with a value of R322, 319 million were approved for funding. **Honourable Members**, 178 of these have already received business instruments to the value of R29.7 million. These SMMEs are located throughout the province in various sectors of the economy.

**Honourable Members,** it is encouraging to note that approved applications are equitably distributed across all the 11 districts of the province. 4229 applications were received. Putting in appropriate due diligence checks and balances meant a significant delay in concluding. We have now broken the back of this challenge. Roll out will be completed by the end of July this year.

Preliminary analysis of funding statistics reveals that approximately 42% of successful applicants are youth owned businesses. At the same time, there was an almost equal chance of securing OVF funds for both males and females as 50.5% of funded applications were by men whilst 49.5 percent were by women.

Over a third of the funded proposals were in areas such as baking, automotive repairs, clothing and textile, renewable energy, car washes, gardening, catering, cleaning, mobile kitchens, events management, fast food restaurants, shisanyamas, tuckshops, internet cafes and hair dressing among others. We intend to do an analysis of the reasons for those who are

unsuccessful and include same in an educational exercise before we open the next window for Vula applications.

#### Radical Agrarian Socio-Economic Transformation

The Radical Agrarian Socio-Economic Transformation (RASET) is a dedicated intervention which supports small scale farmers, especially subsistence farmers, through provision of implements, training and, in particular, access to markets. In the previous year we made commitments to scale up provision of inputs to historically disadvantaged farmers as well as improve access to markets. Of course there is a significant overlap with the work of the Department of Agriculture. We are currently in discussions with the Department of Agriculture as to whether this programme is best located there.

Honourable Members, I am happy to report that over the past year we saw:

- 228 farmers benefiting from RASET programme and as a result were able to sell their produce to the value of R7.3 million;
- A number of private markets were secured for historically disadvantaged farmers such as Fairfood who supply Unilever, Tsogo Sun Hotels, FedEx, Boxer Stores, Choppies, Spar, Massmart, PCK, Mecfair, Fieldcrest and the RSA group;
- 285 jobs were facilitated through the RASET programme as follows: Ugu (37); uMgungundlovu (41); iLembe (55); eThekwini (16) King Cetshwayo (20); uMkhanyakude (77); and Harry Gwala (39);
- In eThekwini, we are starting an egg Hub at Cottonland Farm and a market requiring 80 000 eggs a day has been secured; and
- A Poultry Hub in Cato Ridge has been secured and rehabilitated. The hub is operated by retrenched Rainbow Chicken employees. We have provided feed, chicks, and vaccinations.

The RASET programme has managed to enhance economic productivity in rural areas and it has now been extended to all districts.

#### Black Industrialists

**Honourable Members**, we are encouraged that a total of 35 KwaZulu-Natal Black Industrialists were approved to access more than R700 Million grant funding from DTI generating about 4000 job opportunities.

The KwaZulu-Natal Black Industrialists operate in the following sectors:

- Pharmaceuticals
- Steel fabrications and laser cutting
- Storage and logistics
- Manufacturing Automotive parts
- Manufacturing logistics
- Manufacturing Healthcare
- Manufacturing Cookware
- Paper and pulp
- Chemicals

To systematically support this initiative, we are currently compiling a provincial database of all black industrialists throughout all the sectors of the economy. This database is designed to indicate products or services offered by black industrialists and specify the scale and volume of such produce. This database is going to be very useful in our commitment to localise economic opportunities and ensure that our entrepreneurs penetrate the value chain of all industries

#### 4.3 PROGRAMME 3: TRADE AND SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

#### **Investment Attraction**

The Covid-19 pandemic has forced all countries to look inward and, in our case, this has translated into greater effort in supporting maximum localization of manufacturing production. Fostering an environment that is conducive to attracting and retaining foreign direct investment and export expansion is essential in our efforts to attain and sustain inclusive economic growth and job creation. The Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is a new frontier for export expansion. The rest of Africa presents tremendous opportunity to grow exports given the comparatively low logistics costs.

**Honourable Members,** despite the constrained environment that saw restrictions for the greater part of the year, we were able to rise above our constraints to attract substantial investment into the province. The most notable investment we secured is that of Metair's Hesto Harnesses who invested R900 million in the KwaDukuza Municipality and is set to create 3300

jobs. Hesto Harnesses manufactures wiring harnesses for the Automotive Original Equipment Manufacturers.

Among other projects committed during the 2020/21 financial year were the following:

- **United Heavy Steel** invested R350 m in a foundry in Isithebe which produces metallic wear part castings for the mining and aggregates industries. This operation will create over 225 jobs.
- **Frimax Foods** has invested R380 m in a high-tech processing plant in Verulam, which will manufacture products that include potato chips, corn chips, maize puffs and nax. Frimax Foods has grown to become a household name and a major player in the multibillion-rand potato and corn snack manufacturing sector.

**Honourable Members,** to streamline our investment and export activities the department through its Entity TIKZN, has formulated an integrated Trade and Investment Strategy which has been approved by the Provincial Executive Council. The strategy analyses key trading patterns and markets and identifies niche areas we should focus on.

Amongst other things the strategy directs us to focus more on Africa. This approach has been given a shot in the arm by the recently signed Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement which is geared to flourish the African market. With land mass bigger than China, the US and Europe combined and complemented by a 1.3 billion youthful population, indeed Africa holds incredible yet untapped potential.

To pursue this objective, through TIKZN we have undertaken five online trade missions with Botswana, Mozambique, Kenya, Nigeria and Ghana; though globally over 30 online trade missions were coordinated. A cooperation agreement was signed with the Botswana Investment and Trade Agency establishing collaboration in the development of opportunities for investments and market access for our exporters. We have had numerous engagements with Afreximbank on collaboration programmes to be implemented some of which relate to project funding and assistance with KZN companies wishing to export into the continent. The pandemic had a direct negative impact on KwaZulu-Natal exports, the consequence of borders being closed, and the curbing of physical exhibitions and trade missions convened. Many companies found themselves in survival mode and were not prepared for this global shock. Despite these challenges, Trade and Investment KwaZulu-Natal was able to facilitate product market access for 26 companies, resulting in more than R37 million in sales generated. A keen focus was applied to online trade and capacity-building events, which resulted in 76 companies accessing online trade platforms and more than 90 companies being trained to become export ready.

TIKZN also partnered with the Department of Small Business to roll-out a Covid-19 Relief Fund for the Creative Industry in the amount of R1,9 million, which saw disbursements during the year to 80 KwaZulu-Natal enterprises.

**Honourable Members** as part of our efforts in supporting SMMEs within the area of Film Production area, we are happy to report that ten SMMEs, all women and youth owned companies, have been incubated and supported during the past year and went into production by the end of March 2021. A further two have participated in a national incubation and are currently in post-production stage. The Procurement Spend year to date, is 66% women and 38% youth. We have also allocated R480 thousand for the Audio Describe Project targeted at people with disabilities.



Official opening of the woman-owned D-Chem Factory in uMsunduzi

78% of the Film Fund has been awarded to women (47%), youth (26%) and disabled (5%). We have further awarded 24 bursaries and two of the bursary recipients are disabled.

#### **Special Economic Zones**

**Honourable Members**, our citizens will be pleased to learn that the Dube Trade Port has the status of being one of the best performing Special Economic Zones in the country. This is another feather in our cap that should propel us to achieve more. To date, DTP has 43 operational investors who have ploughed more than R2 billion investments thus creating 3794 jobs.

Whilst the impact of Covid-19 has had devastating effects on the economy, DTP SEZ has so far secured investment worth approximately R79 m (machinery and building) with further investment projects worth approximately R524 m that are targeted for final approval before the end of the financial year. This will push the total investments attracted to DTP SEZ during 2020/21 to over R600 m. DTPC also expects to meet its target of 841 new jobs in this financial year.

**Honourable Members**, after a slow start, the Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone is excited to announce that construction has started on the R 1,3 billion edible oils plant by Wilmar. The project is expected to inject much needed jobs in the King Cetshwayo District. The plant is expected to be complete in the 4th quarter of the year 2022. The RBIDZ has also appointed the contractor for Phase 1 of the R 4,5 billion Titanium Dioxide plant, which will be operational in the 4th quarter of 2021 and Phase 2 (40,000 tons per annum plant) construction will commence in January 2022.

The RBIDZ is also keenly waiting for the announcement of the preferred bidder of the Risk Mitigation Independent Power Producers Programme as indicated by the President in his 2021 state of the nation address.

#### **Business Retention and Expansion Programmes**

**Honourable Members,** as we strive to rise at a time when attracting foreign direct investments is highly constrained, it is a given that focusing on retaining current businesses becomes paramount. Supporting current businesses in many instances leads to expansions – Domestic Direct Investment.

**Honourable Members**, allow us to share one good story of our drive to retain and expand businesses. In 2019, we received devastating news that one of the key foundry companies, Metso, located at Isithebe Industrial Estate was planning to disinvest, thus threatening the jobs of about 200 people. TIKZN worked around the clock to avoid this situation and even though this could not stop Metso from disinvesting, we managed to immediately secure a replacement company, namely United Steel which invested R350 m and created 225 jobs.



Isithebe Industrial Estate

Through Trade and Investment KwaZulu-Natal we supported 104 distressed companies to access Covid-19 business relief support, operator permits, business linkages and matters pertaining to municipality services and business continuity. Through our market access programmes we witnessed some of the distressed companies reporting a turn-around in their operations and thus retaining jobs. There were 52 companies which retained 2,765 jobs.

One of the growing economic sectors, even during the height of Covid-19, has been the Global Business Services Sector. With the country having been named the top destination for GBS, as KwaZulu-Natal we continue to support the growth of the sector as it has created job opportunities for thousands of young people especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds. Already the sector employs some 15,000 people with the potential for a further 55,000 in the medium term. One of the largest employers in this sector is CCI which is also South Africa's largest international contact centre, having created +9000 job opportunities for youth from previously advantaged backgrounds. It delivers business value and real through end-to-end customer management solutions, which include inbound, outbound, social web chat, email and digital engagements.

As part of our drive to retain investments, through our public entity Trade and Investment KwaZulu-Natal we have partnered with the KwaZulu-Natal Growth Coalition to facilitate eight-a-side engagements in Municipalities which are aimed at creating conducive investment environment in our localities. The eight-a-side involved eight leading business leaders meeting with leadership (political and technical) of the municipality to discuss in camera challenges and strategies to mitigate them.

We have also assisted a number of companies who have been engulfed by industrial conflicts which disrupted smooth functioning of their businesses. The most notable companies we have assisted include RBM, SAPPI and Illovo. **Honourable Members,** let me emphasize that the government of KwaZulu-Natal does not tolerate any criminal activities that some groupings adopt to make their demands. We are very clear that criminal activities will be met by the full force of the law. However, we are willing and available to engage with those who are genuinely looking for economic opportunities.

#### **Clothing and Textile**

**Honourable Members,** as per our announcement last year regarding our plans to establish a fully-fledged Clothing and Textile Special Economic Zone, I am pleased to report that we have achieved major milestones towards realizing this goal. Firstly, we have completed the development of a business case for the SEZ. Secondly, we have secured suitable industrial land at Ezakheni to host it. Thirdly, we have nominated Dube Trade Port to be its operator and most importantly we have successfully attracted investment worth R780 million from companies interested to locate within the SEZ. EDTEA together with TIKZN and the uThukela Economic Development Agency is currently engaging with the DTIC regarding the final business case for designation by the DTIC.

To avoid only one district benefitting from the SEZ, we came up with the Clothing and Textile Corridor Approach (*"The Textile Belt"*). The corridor approach will leverage comparative advantages of various regions in clothing and Textile value chain. This belt will start from Newcastle and link Ladysmith,

Mooi River, Pietermaritzburg, Hammarsdale, Durban, Isithebe, Dube Trade Port to Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone (RBIDZ).



*KhanyiTex in Hammarsdale – a 100% black owned and managed textile factory employing over 200 full-time staff* 

**Honourable Members,** the resuscitation of the Clothing and Textile industry in the province is gathering steam. One example of this is the story of a Msinga Factory which was established in 2012 following the closure of a shoe factory which used to employ 3000 people.

The Msinga Factory was born out of an idea to revitalise the factory. In 2012 Ms. Lelly Mntungwa approached the Department of Public Works to lease the structure and make use of it.

EDTEA has supported the factory with equipment (industrial machines) amounting to R460 000 while the Department of Public Works spent R1 200 000 refurbishing the structure and connecting electricity. The factory has created about 70 jobs. We will soon be disbursing more equipment to the factory to the value of R350 000.

We were also pleased with another example by Juanre Clothing, a Port Shepstone based factory founded in the year 2000. The factory is now a direct supplier to one of the major retailers (Woolworths) and has managed to increase the number of staff from 43 to 350.

#### **Industrial Parks Revitalization**

As part of the revitalization of the Township and Rural based industrial parks, the DTIC has already completed phase 1 of Isithebe revitalization. This phase included an upgrade of the security infrastructure, street lighting and critical electricity requirements. Isithebe's upgrade included the revitalization of the roofs, some of which were built in 1971 and were leaking. Phase two of the DTIC's commitment of R49.9 m will deal with fencing, engineering designs and revitalizing of existing roads, bulk water supply and sewerage treatment plants for industrial effluent control. The Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) is the implementing agent that has been supporting the programme with infrastructure project management. The DTIC and DBSA appointed a contractor in December 2020 for Phase 2. The contractor was introduced to the stakeholders in February 2021.

**Honourable Members,** we are currently awaiting budget confirmation for the revitalization of eMadadeni and eZakheni Industrial Parks. We have been assured by the DTIC that these are also in their plans for the next financial year.

#### **Economic Infrastructure**

The provision of economic infrastructure remains a key cornerstone of our economic development mandate. In 2020/21 we committed R66 million towards the construction of an airport terminal building at Mkhuze, as well as bulk infrastructure, electricity, access roads and parking areas. To date, more than 200 job opportunities have been created through fencing, runway upgrade and the construction of the terminal building. EDTEA is also working with the Ray Nkonyeni local municipality to upgrade Margate airport terminal building with an investment of R10.3 million and 30 job opportunities.

The plans to construct KwaMajomela Light Industry and Mixed Use Area in Zululand are at an advanced stage. Already a Project Engineer has been contracted as part of the panel of Engineers servicing the Zululand District Municipality (ZDM). The Main Contractor was procured and contracted in late October 2020. The site was handed over in early November 2020. Site office and site was established and earthworks had commenced. EDTEA signed a funding contract with ZDM in December 2020. Already the project has employed 15 people.

#### **Digital Hubs, ICT and Innovation**



With the Ambassador of Switzerland to South Africa, Dr. Nicolas Brühl, at the official opening of the MKI Digital Centre at the uMfolozi TVET College, Mandeni

As part of the implementation of the KwaZulu-Natal Digital Transformation Strategy, which has connectivity and digital skilling as Pillars 1 and 2 respectively, I am happy to report that significant strides have been made.

In the 2020/21 financial year, digital centres were established in Kokstad, Phongolo, Umfolozi, Bergville, Dube City, Estcourt, Umdoni and Jozini.

Our objective is to have a digital centre in each local municipality. The existing centres are operational, especially in innovation and capacity development where we train people in 4IR related skills.

We have conducted training in Enterprise Development, Web Design, Coding, Digital Marketing, Digital Literacy and Design Thinking. In the forthcoming year, we intend to add more courses such as Data Analytics and 3D printing.

#### Broadband

**Honourable Members**, we have established a Project Management Unit (PMU) to drive the broadband roll-out in the province. Broadband Infraco (BBI) has seconded a resource person to head the PMU Office.

As part of the broadband roll-out, eleven (11) school sites were connected in uMgungundlovu through the SA Connect program. Two Proof of Concepts (POCs) were undertaken at Vezokuhle Primary School in uMgungundlovu and Ohlange Secondary School in eThekwini. Seven public Wi-Fi hot spots have also been supported.

This sector has been identified as needing much more intensive work. Working with the National Department, SOEs and the private sector, we must make connectivity a competitive advantage for KwaZulu-Natal.



Inspection of a 5G Tower

#### 4.4 **PROGRAMME 4: BUSINESS REGULATION AND GOVERNANCE**

#### **Business Regulations**

**Honourable Members,** we committed last year to strengthen our business regulation services and ensure that all our businesses were operating within the applicable legal framework.

To strengthen our regulatory function, the department developed the KwaZulu-Natal automated online business information management system, which provides a platform for businesses in KwaZulu-Natal to apply for business licences and informal economy permits on-line and to track progress of each application. The System has been piloted in Newcastle,

Nongoma, Inkosi Langalibalele, Mandeni, Nkandla, Mtubatuba, uMlalazi, OKhahlamba, Mthonjaneni, Jozini, Maphumulo and Emadlangeni municipalities. Sustainability remains the key test.

Furthermore, EDTEA has also established the municipal business Licensing technical team to provide business licensing capacity to municipalities. Through this team, out of the 97 backlog, 82 business license applications were processed and 45 licenses were issued. The Department has strengthened the KwaZulu-Natal Integrated Regulatory and Compliance Forum and intensified outreach and education work to reduce business non-compliance. During the year under review a total of 400 inspections were carried out since the onset of the lockdown including inspections on businesses which had excessive price hikes on food. We also conducted investigations into allegations that retailers hiked prices of ginger, garlic and funeral services.

Inspections were also conducted on the trucking industry in order to ensure that trucking companies do not employ illegal and undocumented foreign nationals. Business Inspections at the Durban Harbour, our port of entry, were conducted in order to address illegal and counterfeit goods along with SARS and the National Consumer Commission.

**Honourable Members,** the KwaZulu-Natal Liquor Authority contributed in creating 949 jobs through 239 liquor licenses issued. The KwaZulu-Natal Gaming and Betting board contributed in creating 851 jobs through their various initiatives.

#### 4.5 PROGRAMME 5: ECONOMIC PLANNING

#### **Cannabis and Hemp**

The Department committed during the previous budget speech that we will ensure that historically disadvantaged entrepreneurs will be supported to penetrate the niche markets of hemp and cannabis.

We have to date received 238 applications for Hemp Cultivation Permits. The Minister of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has just announced that permits are expected to be issued from October 2021 onwards.

We have also received numerous applications for licenses for cannabis for medicinal purposes. We are currently assisting all applicants with packaging of the applications for either South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAPHRA) applications or for funding purposes.

The cannabis industry is highly regulated, particularly for medicinal purposes. The province has therefore established a Project Management Unit at MKI which has experts that support entrepreneurs with advisory services.

MKI has also appointed a company to construct three cannabis pilot sites in the province located in Ndwedwe, Umbumbulu and Empangeni.

#### 4.6 PROGRAMME 6: TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

The tourism sector is of prime importance to the province of KwaZulu-Natal buoyed by the warm hospitality of our people, the beautiful climate, flora and fauna and wildlife as well as the peace and tranquility prevailing in the province.

To maintain the attractiveness of the province as a tourist destination, the Department has made tremendous progress in building and maintaining tourism assets in the province. The development of Ngodini and Ndumo Border Caves at a cost of R15 million resulting in 400 job opportunities for the local communities, is almost complete.

We are also pleased to note that Transnet has commenced the construction of the Cruise Terminal and this catalytic project is envisaged to spur tourism in KwaZulu-Natal and create more than 1000 job opportunities. The department is also commencing the upgrading of the Bhanga Nek Campsite at an investment value of R20 million.

Understanding that tourism recovery will begin at a domestic level before we recover internationally, we used 2020 to run an intensive domestic marketing campaign to attract South Africans to KwaZulu-Natal shores. This resulted in a better than projected performance both during the 2020 festive and 2021 Easter seasons, with occupancies averaging 62.3% and 50% respectively, a good start for our road to recovery.

In 2021/22 we plan to further intensify our domestic marketing campaign, while we keep the destination top-of-mind in the continent and internationally.

On the business events front, we have a number of conferences confirmed for this year and the first part of 2022 will see us steadily reclaiming our Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) global positioning.

Critical to our tourism recovery is the empowerment of our small businesses, and this year we place a particular focus on boosting the rural and township tourism economy. This will see us working closer with Community Tourism Organisations (CTOs) in marketing Destination KwaZulu-Natal.

Initiatives that are geared towards service excellence, quality assurance, and compliance with Labour Law, Covid-19 Tourism Protocols, and business regulations for the sector will be implemented. We will also continue with Hospitality Business Skills Training, Service excellence, and Capacity Building programmes aimed at supporting and capacitating enterprises within the tourism sector. This will be done in partnership with relevant stakeholders.

Up-skilling and training of Tourist Guides will continue to be provided as part of professionalizing the Tourist Guide Sector, to ensure that our visitors are guided by qualified and knowledgeable Tourist Guides for memorable experiences. Inspections on unregistered guiding in tourism hotspot areas will also be intensified in partnership with our stakeholders to curb unqualified guiding and also to ensure compliance and safety of our visitors.

As part of the various SMME development interventions our entity Tourism KwaZulu-Natal is currently driving the process of screening applications for the R20 million KwaZulu-Natal Tourism Relief Fund, set up to assist struggling local tourism businesses to stay afloat as they journey on their road to recovery and sustainability. Applications are currently being screened and we aim to begin with disbursements in June. A total of 611 applications have been received.

Investment in our tourism infrastructure is of utmost importance to ensure that the supply side of our tourism offerings is taken care of in preparation for a greater opening up of the sector and we all adjust to the new normal. In this regard, there are a number of projects that the department is supporting in various municipalities including the upgrade of KwaXolo Caves in Ugu District Municipality, upgrade of Howick Falls in uMgungundlovu, completing upgrades at the Mandela Capture Site at uMgungundlovu District Municipality, as well as assisting with business plans and designs for the Durban Eye in eThekwini Municipality, Shakaland in Zululand District Municipality, Woodstock Dam Resort development in uThukela District Municipality, Balele Game Park in Amajuba District Municipality, King's Lodge in Umkhanyakude District municipality, Lumbatho Lodge in Zululand District municipality, and Amatata Eco-tourism development in eThekwini metro. All these projects will bring much needed economic activity and job opportunities for local communities.

Support will be provided to municipalities through Advocacy Workshops with the aim of capacitating their knowledge base on tourism frameworks and guidelines. As part of capacity building the Department will rollout workshops linked to Database Management, Importance of Planning for the Sector, Unpacking of Roles and Responsibilities, Tourism Educators Seminars/Webinars in high schools, TVET Colleges and universities, Students Enhancement Workshops for graduates, and Safety and Clean-up Campaigns.

#### 4.7 PROGRAMME 7: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The department continues to play a pivotal role in ensuring that there is a balance between economic development and preservation of resources for future generations. Over 86 000 hectares of land were rehabilitated through the Landcare and IASP Programmes by EDTEA and Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife.

In line with Government's commitment to improving the state of the ecological infrastructure, the finalisation of the Stewardship Proclamation Protocol is underway.

As part of the Department's promotion of proper environmental management in local government, the 2020 Greenest Municipality Competition was finalised.

As part of promoting the waste economy, technical and financial support was given to recyclers. The support provided included assisting recyclers with registration and compliance with environmental legislation.

**Honourable Members** we are pleased with the work we have done in so far as the coordination of our climate change responses is concerned. Two weeks ago we held the first sitting of the reconfigured Climate Change and Sustainable Development Council. As we move forward into the future, the work of the council will be key in guiding our responses.

Our work in this area is aligned to the national effort which this week shifted into the proverbial top gear with the unveiling of policy proposals to increase the production of electric vehicles. We agree with Trade, Industry and Competition Minister Ibrahim Patel that "We must not get left behind with stranded assets and a carbon-dependent economic model".

#### 5. COVID-19 INTERVENTIONS

**Honourable Members,** indulge us as we relate to the house how we had to adapt our plans in order to respond to the pandemic facing the nation. We have outlined how Covid-19 led to widespread job losses and business closures. Provincial government's focus was therefore on assisting SMMEs, including those owned by women and youth, to survive the pandemic and retain their businesses and employees. The following were the interventions:

- More than 600 business enterprises from eleven districts were assisted to apply and access various Covid-19 relief funds
- Tourism KwaZulu-Natal and EDTEA Tourism Development assisted small tourism enterprises in KwaZulu-Natal to apply for National tourism relief fund offered by the National Department of Tourism (NDT). A total of 606 KwaZulu-Natal businesses received the tourism relief grant of R50 000 each from the National Department of Tourism.
- In addition to that we also augmented the national fund with our own provincial Tourism Fund totaling R20 million. The fund will assist approximately 400 tourism businesses and tourist guides to keep their heads above the water during these tumultuous times
- In order to ensure eligible informal traders benefit from government programmes the province intensified provision of technical support comprising:

- A total of 4774 Special Spaza Shops Permits were issued and 21 915 special Informal/Street Trading Permits issued across the Province
- Traders were allowed back to their trading spots once issued with special permits
- 270 KwaZulu-Natal SMMEs were assisted to access the National Debt Relief fund (provision of working capital) totaling R97 710 426 and retaining 4596 jobs
- 401 Spaza shop owners accessed Spaza shop grant of R1 403 500 thus retaining 518 jobs
- Business inspections were conducted throughout the province focusing on excessive price hiking, adherence to regulations and labour laws
- KZNGF Payment Holiday (3 months)
- RBIDZ rent payment holiday (3 months)
- DTPC rent payment Holiday (3 months)
- Ithala Rent payment Holiday (3 months)
- Through TIKZN One Stop Shop Centre, a number of SMMEs and companies were assisted to claim UIF benefits from the Department of Labour and also to access Business Relief Funding Schemes. The OSS provided advisory services on which measures were available to smaller businesses, cooperatives or firms operating in the informal sector. Also assisted KwaZulu-Natal applicants to access national Temporary Relief Schemes which saw 1805 KwaZulu-Natal applicants being approved for TERS.



Integrated Business Inspections

#### 6. ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION AND TRANSFORMATION PLAN

The provincial Government had developed the KwaZulu-Natal Economic Reconstruction and Transformation plan which is aimed at recalibrating the economic growth trajectory of the province following the Covid-19 induced economic crisis. The Plan devises a programme of action to address the socioeconomic challenges caused by Covid-19 crisis and to avert further economic impact on the economy. The plan is aligned with the national Economic recovery plan, Presidential policy pronouncements, other national policy developments and recommendations by social partners and business. In formulating this plan, a number of policy discussions were undertaken with industry players at sector level through one-on-one meetings and webinars.

The objectives of the KwaZulu-Natal Reconstruction and Transformation plan are as follows:

- To recalibrate, revitalise, restructure and transform the economy of the province to achieve sustainable growth and employment creation;
- Reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus pandemic amongst workers and to devise a process of managing the socio-economic risks of Covid-19 crisis; and

 Formulate an actionable short, medium and long term plan to address the economic impact caused by Covid-19 crisis and the pre-existing low level of economic growth

Much work has been done and Premier will officially launch the KwaZulu-Natal Economic Recovery, Reconstruction and Transformation Plan shortly.

#### 7. INFORMAL ECONOMY

The KwaZulu-Natal Informal Traders Skills Development and mentorship Programme will be implemented to capacitate informal traders with business management skills to enhance their transition to the formal sector.

#### 8. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Honourable Members, around environmental management we commit to:

- Finalise the Green House Gas (GHG) inventory for KwaZulu-Natal, which will further improve the province's performance on Climate Change mitigation and adaptation as well as the just transition towards a low carbon economy.
- Finalise the Norms and Standards for River Crossing projects will be finalised in order to divert these critical projects from the EIA process.
- Further escalate both support and enforcement in order to improve the level of compliance by municipalities in managing their landfill sites.
- Further improve the state of our coast, and two more Estuarine Management Plans will be finalised.
- Implement its Invasive Alien Species Programme in order to improve our environment and contribute towards employment.



Engagement with a Wentworth resident after the Engen Refinery explosion

#### 9. **PUBLIC ENTITIES**

We have reflected on the work of our public Entities in the course of this statement.

Several are examples of credible and even outstanding performance while others are in the process of reorganisation and capacity building.

Our Entities are:

- KZN Growth Fund Trust
- Ithala Development Finance Corporation and Ithala SOC Limited
- Dube Trade Port Corporation
- Richards Bay IDZ
- Trade and Investment KZN
- KZN Film Commission
- Moses Kotane Institute
- KZN Liquor Authority
- KZN Sharks Board
- KZN Tourism Authority
- Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
- KZN Gaming and Betting

Each of these entities have a serious contribution to make to our economic recovery, reconstruction and transformation.

We are determined that both Ithala and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife fulfil their flagship status. Much urgent work needs to be done.

A new Board for Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife will be in place by July this year. The CEO vacancy will be filled. In the short term budgetary constraints will remain a serious challenge.

Working with the national Department of Environmental Affairs we will resolve issues of synergy with iSimangaliso Wetland Park and the commercialisation of identified facilities. Much more effort will be put into developing a stronger partnership with neighbouring communities. Tensions continue, aggravated by the poor economic climate and unemployment rate.

Ithala IDFC's significant property portfolio must be more efficiently managed and an even better economic return generated. This function is strategically placed to add significant value to our developmental mandate. Ithala SOC is well placed to claim state bank status. This is not automatic. There are both operational and legal obstacles to be overcome. We are very encouraged by the energy and enthusiasm of this Entity as they seek to restructure and reposition this important Entity.

We must strike the proper balance between being developmental and being sustainable. There is no bank that can be sustainable without proper risk assessment and mitigation measures. Indeed managing risk is the crux of a bank's business. No one should put the bank under pressure to grant loans that it will obviously not recover.

#### 10. CONCLUSION

**Honourable Speaker** in closing, Charlotte Makgomo Maxeke and John Langalibalele Dube teach us that during the darkest of times, upright leaders must offer hope to the downtrodden. I therefore call on members of this house and the people of the province as a whole to choose the side of the poor and rally behind our economic recovery and transformation effort.

The signing of the social compact last month in which labour, business, government and civil society made specific commitments towards ensuring the success of the Economic Reconstruction and Transformation Plan, is a major boost to our efforts to secure a united front championing a new and more just economic order.

We will only rise above the current challenges through the collective and conscious actions of all the citizens irrespective of race, social status or even political affiliation. Our deeds should be underpinned by the understanding that the economy will only prosper through hard work against a backdrop of stability, social cohesion and peace.

We must all put our shoulders to the wheel in support of local government. We will struggle to attract investment if our towns and cities are still beset with service delivery challenges. Water and electricity are key economic issues.

Just as we are reaping the rewards of the hard work put in by Charlotte Makgomo Maxeke, John Langalibalele Dube and many others, we are hopeful that our collective effort at this time of crisis will be remembered by generations to come.

**Honourable Members,** please allow me to conclude by extending my humble gratitude to the Portfolio Committee on Economic Development and Tourism, the Portfolio Committee on Conservation and Environmental Affairs, Members of this House, and staff of the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, including our public entities, for their consistent co-operation.

I thank my family and my organisation, the African National Congress for their unwavering support.

Let us all, unflinchingly commit to the building of our province as one people, united by a common vision of seeing a prosperous KwaZulu-Natal.

**Honourable Members,** I present the Budget for Vote Four, which is the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs for the year 2021/2022 according to the following programmes:

PROGRAMME		2021/2022 (R'000)
1.	Administration	372 143
2.	Integrated Economic Development Services	383 077
3.	Trade and Sector Development	923 779
4.	Business Regulation and Governance	187 846
5.	Economic Planning	26 299
6.	Tourism Development	279 364
7.	Environmental Management	1 169 167
TOTAL PROVINCIAL ALLOCATION		3 341 675

I trust that this Budget will receive the favourable consideration of this Honourable House.

Thank you.

#### President Ramaphosa on Covid-19, 21 April 2020

"Our economic strategy going forward will require a new social compact among all role-players – business, labour, community and government – to restructure the economy and achieve inclusive growth".

"We will forge a compact for radical economic transformation that advances the economic position of women, youth and persons with disabilities, and that makes our cities, towns, villages and rural areas vibrant centres of economic activity"

#### Declaration by KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala on Social Compact, January 2021

"The outbreak of Covid-19 that affected the whole world called for the reconfiguration of global economies. The province of KwaZulu-Natal developed a provincial reconstruction and transformation plan. This transformation plan identified specific priority sector interventions. Such priority sector interventions now form the backbone to the social compact. Social partners have committed to the implementation of these priority sector interventions. The expectation therefore is that this social compact should not be taken as a static document, but one that would constantly evolve. To this cause, all social partners have therefore resolved that this social compact will not be shelved to gather dust, but will be result driven in its implementation."



#### **KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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