

Our economy | Our Future

Media Invite and public statement by the Leader of Government Business | MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs Siboniso Duma ahead of handing over of business equipment worth more than R1 million

13 August 2023

Pietermaritzburg: On this day, 13th August 2022, I issued a statement informing the people of this province of my first public engagement as the executive authority responsible for this portfolio. Today effectively marks 365 days in office.

From today, myself and all categories of staff in the department, we will be reflecting on the progress we have made over the past 365 days in terms of driving socio-economic development in all corners of the province.

On Tuesday the 15th, we will be in Maphumulo Local Municipality to hand over new business equipment worth more than R1 million to more than 32 emerging entrepreneurs.

This is part of the revitalization of township and rural economies to ensure local economic development and job creation.

When I assumed my responsibilities, we undertook to deepen the support needed by the emerging entrepreneurs in the informal economy.

We have accordingly made available a brand-new equipment to street traders, hawkers, co-operatives, SMMEs and emerging entrepreneurs who are involved in construction, farming, catering, entertainment, carwash, saloon, bakery and clothing and textiles to name but a few.

As the department we are using the municipal employment initiative to capacitate the local sphere of government in order to achieve true economic empowerment for the marginalized.

We are fully aware that thousands of people are living in poverty as a result of challenging economic conditions punctuated by rising fuel and food prices. It is for these reasons we have heighten our tempo in order to turn around the situation.

On Tuesday I will be joined by the local leadership led by the Mayor of Maphumulo Local Municipality Cllr Zibuyisile Khuzwayo-Dlamini.

The handing over ceremony is scheduled as follows:-

Date: 15 August 2023

Time: 10h00

Venue: Maphumulo Town

Hall

Ends

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