

PG 3 - Makhura visits Germany, Netherlands on a trade and investment mission



# INVESTING IN YOUTH

## - GAUTENG ROLLS OUT SCHOOLS OF SPECIALISATION

• By Thembisa Shologu

**The Gauteng Department of Education has launched another School of Specialisation (SoS), the Ekangala Engineering School of Specialisation, focusing on mining.**

The school located at Bronkhorstpruit, will ensure the learners leave with relevant skills to go to university, join companies or even be self-employed. This is the 21st SoS launched by the department in the province.

Education MEC Panyaza Lesufi said Ekangala deserved a school specialising in mining because the area is surrounded by several coal mines.

Speaking at the school launch on Tuesday, 13 September 2022, Lesufi said the school would ensure that children are not security guards but active participants in the mining industry.

"We are preparing our learners for the future. Recent statistics show that 85% of matric learners go to universities after completing their matric and become academics.

"Schools of specialisation will change that. Learners in such schools will be able to either work immediately at industry-leading companies, or they will embark on entrepreneurship and start their own businesses."

The school will equip learners with various critical industry skills such as welding, fitting, and turning, automotive mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and excavation.

Learners are immersed in these high-demand skills and are exposed to the creation and operation of specific machinery and technical equipment.

The Ekangala Engineering School follows the recent launch of the John Orr Engineering and the Dr Molefi Oliphant

Maths, Science and ICT SoS.

The department launched the Dr Molefi Oliphant SoS with a focus on Renewable Energy and Climate Change in Bophelong, Vanderbijlpark, on 6 September 2022.

Learners at this school created a smart home which has a biometric fingerprint system and augmented reality headsets and contains virtual reality textbooks that can be stored on a single 3D printed object that learners scan with their smartphones.

Subsequently, learners introduced the BBC micro: bit, a pocket-sized computer that facilitates communication between software and hardware in multiple ways, exhibited a robotic car that they coded to be remotely controlled via a mobile app, created their own calculator, and also coded an app where other learners can access past exam papers offline; and three games.

The school is named after the legendary Dr Molefi Oliphant to commemorate his legacy in education, community development and football.

"I am part of this township and will remain part of it. Let us look after this beautiful infrastructure. Let us protect it. This school must serve many generations,"



**We are preparing our learners for the future.**

said Dr Oliphant.

At John Orr, Lesufi was presented with 'Voltage' - a fully operational solar car equipped with a sound system - built by learners.

Last month, another specialisation school - the first ever entrepreneurship school was opened in Johannesburg's east rand. Its primary focus will be tourism, hospitality and entrepreneurship.

Thembisa Commerce and Entrepreneurship School of Specialisation boasts its own hotel, with a reception, bedroom, bathroom and laundry room.

The department said they planned to launch many more schools of specialisation because they equip learners with the necessary skills to begin work, entrepreneurship or freelancing in industries with high economic activity. ■



Learners at Ekangala Engineering School of Specialisation demonstrate critical industry skills such as welding.



John Orr Engineering SoS is showcasing their solar-powered car, equipped with a sound system





# ON THE GO:

## RENEW YOUR DRIVER'S LICENCE AT A GAUTRAIN STATION

• By Rofhiwa Tshitahe-Marubini

**To reduce driving licence card renewal backlogs in the province, the Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport (GDRT) has opened the second state-of-the-art smart Driving Licensing Testing Centre (DLTC) at the Centurion Gautrain station.**

The centre is one of four new stations set to be delivered by the department, together with the Gautrain Management Agency (GMA) and the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC).

The department opened the first pilot DLTC at the Gautrain station in Midrand in June 2022.

The centre, built using alternative building materials, is completely off the grid, guaranteeing customers minimal disruptions, quick, and convenient service along the Gautrain line.

Speaking at the centre's opening on Tuesday, 9 September, MEC for Roads and Transport, Jacob Mamabolo said the services form part of the provincial government's commitment to exploring new technologies and process optimisation while addressing maladministration, fraud, and corruption, which has been reported at testing centres.

"The new generation testing centre offers efficient service standards and serves as models for future ones. It also gives us an opportunity to address various issues raised in the forensic investigation report into allegations of corruption at our testing centres," Mamabolo explained.

The new centre offers services such as applications for driver's licence and renewals, issuing temporary driver's licences, and paying traffic fines.

The centre will only offer cashless services and will operate from 8 am-5pm Monday to Friday and from 9 am-3 pm on Saturdays and Sundays.



*The centre, built using alternative building materials, is completely off the grid, guaranteeing customers minimal disruptions and quick, convenient service along the Gautrain line.*

Residents who wish to renew their driver's licences can download the Request a Slot app which allocates a booking slot within 30 days.

Online bookings are also available at: <https://online.natis.gov.za>.

Meanwhile, the department has flagged thirteen officials in connection with corruption at DLTCs after their assets and salaries did not match.

During lifestyle audit investigations, the thirteen officials failed to provide supporting information, such as bank statements, to justify assets.

This was revealed in a forensic report into corruption at testing centres.

"We conducted lifestyle audits on 912 Gauteng DLTC officials by considering assets owned by credit commitments and salary information of these officials.

"Our starting point was officials with multiple vehicles registered in their names which were also not financed. From this exercise, we identified 13 officials whose assets and credit commitments were not commensurate with their salaries," said Mamabolo.

The report found that some officials have multiple streams of income that were not declared to the employer, contravening the law.

The Office of the Premier commissioned the investigation as

part of building a capable, ethical and developmental state.

An independent firm, Ligwa Consulting, was appointed in 2021 to lead a forensic investigation into allegations of corruption, online booking process, allocations of slots for learners and drivers' licence testing, allegations around "fee dumping", operational deficiencies of the Live Enrolment Unit ("LEU") system currently utilised for eye testing and collusion between examiners.

The report noted that there were insufficient controls in place to ensure that fraud and corruption are identified or deterred whilst examiners conduct the drivers' tests.

In most instances, Mamabolo said there are no CCTV cameras in place in both the yard and within the DLTCs, especially over the computerised learner's licence testing venue, to flag potential irregularities.

Additionally, the introduction of the online booking system created new opportunities for "runners", who acted as intermediaries to profit from the system.

The report found that out of over 570 000 online bookings, 2304 mobile numbers were flagged to have made five online bookings in close succession.

Mamabolo said his department is dealing with the findings expeditiously and efficiently. ■



# MAKHURA VISITS GERMANY, NETHERLANDS ON A TRADE AND INVESTMENT MISSION

• By Thabo Bodibe

**Premier David Makhura has concluded a trade and investment mission to Germany and Netherlands to strengthen international relations and economic development plans.**

The two-week visit, which commenced on 5 September 2022 in the Free State of Bavaria in Germany, was held under the theme: Opportunities and Lessons from Green Industrialisation and focused on the ten high-growth sectors, such as economy, energy, environment, and innovation.

Premier Makhura was accompanied by MEC for Economic Development, Agriculture and Rural Development and Environment, Parks Tau, and a delegation of officials.

The delegation started the visit in Munich, where they held a series of meetings with government leaders, business executives, associations, and think tanks to discuss investment opportunities and how economies and societies are better prepared for a more sustainable and inclusive future.

He visited the giant car manufacturer BMW, which has a plant in South Africa and the multinational conglomerate corporation Siemens.

"Whilst we recognise the history between South Africa and BMW, we intend to look at the future of the automotive industry as climate change reshapes societies and economies.

"Gauteng province intends to build even stronger partnerships with BMW," said Makhura.

A new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Gauteng and the Free State of Bavaria was signed by Premier Makhura and Minister of International Affairs, Melanie Huml to strengthen relations.

The MoU focuses on climate change, energy, automotive, education, safety and security.

"We have reached an agreement with the City Region of Berlin to work together on the green economy and infrastructure for sustainable mobility, as well as being part of the Africa initiative to support ecosystems for start-up businesses and SMMEs in our townships," said Makhura.

The delegation also met with Hydrogenious LOHC Technologies, the global leading technology pioneer for Liquid Organic Hydrogen in Nuremberg, as well as the Munich Airport management team to discuss, among others, the reinstatement of the OR Tambo International Airport route and finding ways of collaborating to make airports greener and smarter.



*Premier David Makhura signs a Memorandum of Understanding with the Free State of Bavaria's Minister of International Affairs Melanie Huml focusing on climate change, energy, automotive, education, safety and security.*



*The Gauteng delegation visited Wageningen University to engage on finding ways to turn Gauteng province to a food system innovation hub.*



*The Gauteng delegation met with the Netherlands Enterprise Development Agency. The two sides will soon sign an all-encompassing MOU which includes agriculture, green hydrogen, waste energy and digital innovation.*

"We envision new cities and industrial nodes anchored on the deployment of hydrogen," said Makhura.

The delegation vigorously promoted its sister province, Northern Cape, as the hub for hydrogen production and export.

Gauteng's ambition is to deploy green hydrogen to industrial processes, mobility, and new smart city developments.

"We positioned ourselves strategically based on the abundant natural resources we have. More than 90% of the world's platinum group metals are in our country, and

these are critical raw materials to produce batteries for new electric vehicles. South Africa has great solar irradiation and wind for renewable energy", added Makhura.

Globally, the demand for green hydrogen and its-based products such as ammonia and synthetic jet fuel is rising.

It is estimated that the global green hydrogen export market could be worth USD 300 billion per annum by 2050. Green hydrogen's export potential and its potential

to decarbonise local industry have so far not yet been fully explored by South Africa.

The Presidency and Infrastructure South Africa are working with Germany's Economic Development Department to develop catalytic green hydrogen projects.

Green hydrogen will open new export markets for South African companies, lead to significant economic development, reindustrialisation, job creation opportunities and support a just transition in the South African energy sector.

Makhura's last meeting in Berlin was with Senator Stephan Schwarz, Minister in the Department for Economics, Energy and Public Enterprises, where they discussed, among others, hydrogen mobility in the automotive sector.

The next leg of the trade and investment mission engaged businesses, universities, and government stakeholders in the Netherlands. The key focus was on the economy, energy, environment, innovation and sustainable food security and regenerative urban agriculture.

In both Germany and the Netherlands, the delegation flew the national flag high in promoting South Africa's Hydrogen Strategy and Roadmap which has been central to the discussions on economy, largely due to the situation in both Germany and South Africa.

"We can and must set our own agenda and take full advantage of the renewable resources we have to develop new industries, while transitioning from fossil fuels in a way that is responsible", concluded Makhura. ■

# GAUTENG TIGHTENS ITS SCREWS IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

• By Lerato Mailoane

**The Gauteng Provincial Government is tightening the screws on public servants involved in corrupt practices.**

Gauteng government officials, including Members of the Executive Council (MECs), will be subjected to polygraph tests as part of the province's commitment to clean governance.

All MECs, procurement officials, managers, Heads of Department, and Director-Generals at high-expenditure departments, like the departments of health, education, infrastructure development, transport, and human settlements, will be on top of the list.

The polygraph tests will accompany lifestyle audits, tax compliance, and verification of academic credentials. These checks will be conducted by the State Security Agency (SSA).

Gauteng Premier, David Makhura announced this at the Legislature on Tuesday, 30 August 2022.

"As the Gauteng Provincial Government, we have decided that the executive council will undergo polygraph tests. This will set a precedent for every MEC, including the Premier, to undergo the test before taking office. I am pleased to announce that all MECs have agreed to take the polygraph test, and the process will commence in September of this year," said Makhura.

The Department of Public Service made lifestyle audits compulsory for all national, provincial, and government components from April 1, 2022.

Lifestyle audits are a powerful deterrent against unethical and criminal behaviour, as the Constitution of the Republic of South



Africa, Act 108 of 1996, Section 195 requires that a "high standard of professional ethics must be promoted and maintained."

The MECs have already complied with the first phase of the audits – a process that included vetting income and assets.

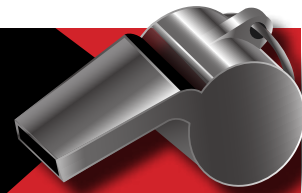
With the provincial government looking at better ways of protecting

whistle-blowers, Makhura called on public servants to report any acts of corruption within the service.

If you are aware of/or witness wrongdoing, whether financial irregularity, bribery, theft, or other wrongful conduct, you are encouraged to come forward and report it to law enforcement agencies ■

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# BATHO PELE STRATEGY TO PROFESSIONALISE SERVICE DELIVERY

• By Rofhiwa Tshitahe-Marubini



WE CARE



WE SERVE



WE BELONG

## September 2022, marks twenty-five years since South Africa adopted the Batho Pele Principles and the White Paper on Transforming Public Service Delivery.

Batho Pele, a Sotho word meaning “Putting People First”, requires all public servants to practice eight guidelines. These are consultation, service standards, courtesy, access, information, openness and transparency, dealing with complaints and giving the best value.

In March 2022, Cabinet approved the Batho Pele Revitalisation Strategy, which is part of the overall efforts of government to professionalise the Public Service in line with Priority 1 of government of Building of a Capable, Ethical and Developmental State.

The revitalisation strategy seeks to reaffirm the significance of Batho Pele in transforming public service delivery whilst securing maximum benefits for citizens in line with their constitutional rights to be treated with dignity and courtesy and to receive quality and sustainable public services.

It further provides the five pillars which

will guide government departments and give effect to a citizen-centred public service delivery programme to be adhered to by all departments.

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The operationalisation of the Batho Pele Revitalisation Strategy will bring about a public administration that personifies the democratic values and principles enshrined in the Bill of Rights and a timeous response to the voices of citizens calling for a public administration system that puts their needs and aspirations first.

The government says this Integrated

Public Service Month (IPSM) will bring the Batho Pele Revitalisation Strategy to life, reignite and reinforce public servants to be service-oriented, strive for excellence, and commit to continuous service delivery improvement.

The department describes the IPSM as a service delivery improvement mechanism that serves as a month set aside to honour men and women who serve the nation throughout the three spheres of government.

The theme for this year is “**Batho Pele Revitalisation - walking the talk.**”



### The five pillars of the strategy are:

1

**Taking the Lead:** by building capacity and learning from past and current Batho Pele implementation practices.

2

**Development:** of context specific Batho Pele standards and communication approaches in consultation with a diversity of stakeholders.

3

**Fostering Compliance:** with agreed to and publicised Batho Pele standards through appropriate monitoring of compliance tools.

4

**Reinforcement:** of Batho Pele standards through appropriate measures where there is evidence of poor or non-compliance with publicised standards.

5

**Redress:** for citizens who are the centre of government’s constitutional obligations.

# FIVE BOOKS CELEBRATE SOUTH AFRICA'S LIVING HUMAN TREASURES

**The Department of Sports and Culture has honoured Legends and Living Human Treasures by publishing their books this Heritage month.**

Minister, Nathi Mthethwa, unveiled five publications in honour of the late legendary poet Don Mattera; the living legends and music icons Abigail Kubeka, Letta Mbulu, and Caiphus Semenya; and Peter Magubane, an iconic photojournalist and a living legend.

Mthethwa said these icons have distinguished themselves in their chosen fields by putting South Africa on the map.

Addressing the launch of Heritage Month on Friday, 2 September 2022, in Tshwane, Mthethwa said to celebrate carriers of knowledge; the department will increase efforts towards ensuring that indigenous forms of knowledge are acknowledged and supported throughout the month of September and beyond.

This year's Heritage Month is celebrated under the theme, "Celebrating the Legacy of Solomon Linda and South Africa's Indigenous Music".

The theme gleams the spotlight on isicathamiya music and its immense contribution to the South African music landscape.

Mthethwa urged that all



sectors of society to use the month of September to elevate the status of indigenous music.

"Music in this part of the world has been a medium through which one can ascertain soul and their state of mind for centuries. Across all cultures, music is a common denominator of life itself and at a deeper level, our state of mind and consciousness."

According to Mthethwa, the Copyright Amendment Bill and the Performers' Protection Amendment Bill, recently passed by the National Assembly, will transform the sector and improve the lives of creatives.

The Bills clarify the

commercial rights of parties and address a challenge relating to the potential imbalance in power between parties in the contractual relationships between originators of creative works and owners of the copyright to those works and the adverse developmental outcomes that arise from this.

The Minister said the Bills will go a long way towards addressing legacy issues like royalties for repeat programme on television.

The national celebration of Heritage Day on 24 September 2022 will be hosted by Gauteng Province at the Union Buildings. ■







• By Barba Gaogamediwe

# TOURISM CONTINUES TO POWER UP GROWING GAUTENG TOGETHER VISION 2030

**Tourism is not a primary export item (like coal, copper or iron ore), but instead a final good with multiplier effects.**

It is the final touches (value) that make the destination memorable, whether it be a taxi ride from the airport, a fruit basket in the hotel room, wildlife viewing, binocular rentals, a night out experience with amapiano sounds, a hot air balloon ride, a flight simulator, or a meal in a township restaurant.

Accordingly, this means that the value added in the final stages of production is created in South Africa as represented by its provinces and sprawling cities. The consumption of travel takes place over one's lifetime. A holiday taken today does not reduce the demand for the holiday next year, next month, or next weekend. The potential tourism market will continue to grow.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the industry has experienced unprecedented low growth, revenue, and severe job losses in the past two years.

Global tourism markets plunged, forcing the closure of all borders, major local establishments and attractions—leaving the sector in an equal state of disaster and making it the worst affected industry and possibly the last to recover from the pandemic.

Fast forward to September 2022, the situation has improved drastically as the country is now out of the state of national disaster. Airlines have returned to the skies despite the liquidation of Comair, soaring airline prices and uncertainties associated with the national carrier South

African Airways (SAA).

More international and regional flights prefer the OR Tambo International Airport as their gateway into South Africa and the rest of the African continent. Gauteng also has Lanseria International Airport and four other private airports catering for charter flights, cargo, film crews, emergency services, and cross-border rescue and medical services.

Over 70% of international flights that used OR Tambo International Airport during pre-pandemic times are now back and contributing to growth plans. The Gauteng Tourism Authority (GTA), working with partners in Lanseria Airport, is lobbying for more domestic and regional flights into this critical corridor and home of the Lanseria Smart City and Special Economic Zone.

Gauteng welcomed just under 1 million international arrivals in 2021, accounting for 41.4% of the over two and a half million visitors to South Africa. While the province increased its share of visitors to South Africa by 8.5%, the number of international tourists stood at -19.5% from the previous year.

Total tourism contribution to the

Gauteng province stood at R26 billion, with an extra 5000 jobs resuscitated in the 2021-2022 financial year.

Significant events, conferences and exhibitions returned to Gauteng, such as Meetings Africa, Rand Show, Automechanika and Decorex. An additional R1 billion is expected as the province hosts the Africa Health Exhibition Conference, the African Netball World Cup Qualifies, Dstv Delicious International Food & Music Festival, Joy of Jazz, Spring Fiesta and equestrian lifestyle events.

According to the Global Business Travel Association (GBTA), business travel spending is projected to have increased by 21% in 2021.

The above rise is fuelled by revenge travel, with millions of people staying indoors for more than 24 months under global lockdown, the need for urgent travel and escapes that allow for association with other people, visiting friends and relatives while exploring business and further growth prospects.

GTA is trying its best to ensure that this exponential growth is not just realised in affluent spaces and neighbourhoods but across townships and tourism hubs.

The agency is training and reskilling tourism partners and small businesses to leverage the events hosting sector by promoting stay another day packages that include tours, activities, and experiences pre and post-events.

What is remaining is for the people of Gauteng to show their champion hosting prowess once again as they welcome visitors with a smile and complete appreciation of the visitor's contribution to economic recovery and people-to-people relations, a cardinal pillar of tourism promotion and growth.

With better city region-wide coordination, effective management, and decisive action around brand killers like crime, we can improve our visitor experience and attract more investments.

Gauteng is a value-for-money travel and tourism destination. We are set to experience a bumper Tourism Month and festive season in 2022 as we journey together in positioning tourism as the new gold in Gauteng. ■





# SOWETO GOLF CADDIES UPSKILL

• By Thembisa Shologu

**The COVID-19 lockdowns resulted in massive job losses, low revenues, and loss of skilled workers in the past two years. Several other critical sectors, including golf caddies, were also severely affected.**

To turn the situation around, the Gauteng Tourism Authority (GTA) is forging ahead with implementing the Tourism Recovery Plan in support of the Growing Gauteng Together Vision 2030.

The GTA and its visitor economy recovery partners recently launched a first-of-its-kind training programme for golf caddies as part of the sector reskilling and restoration of service excellence post the pandemic.

The partners include the Gauteng Enterprise Propeller (GEP) South African Caddies Association & Academy, South African Tourists Guide Association and Nedbank, and TT Mbha Caddies Golf Day.

The launch coincides with Tourism Month which is observed annually in September - to highlight South Africa's diverse tourism offerings and the sector's significant economic contribution to the country.

Tourism in Gauteng contributes just under 5% of the province's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and accounts for over 300 000 sector jobs.

The Soweto Country Club, the only golf course in a township in the country,

was identified as the first cohort to be enrolled in this ground-breaking pilot training programme of providing caddies with primary tourism promotion, entrepreneurial skills, financial education and guiding skills.

GTA CEO, Stembiso Dlamini said they had identified caddies as a virtual extension for the marketing of destination Gauteng as they spend much time with golfers, who are naturally travellers and go-getters.

"We are very much grateful that our partnership with the Soweto Country Club and the TT Mbha Golf Caddies Day has enabled us to birth this developmental and entrepreneurial project which is

synonymous with the spirit and tenacity of destination Gauteng.

"We are expanding the skills set of our caddies and empowering them to be future tourist guides and operators of destination marketing and sports marketing companies. Most importantly, we are allowing them to hone their people's relations and money-saving skills," said Dlamini.

A caddy's job is not bag carrier only. They also advise their player on strategy, yardages, the course, hazards and opportunities. Above all, a good caddy understands their player's game - their strengths and weaknesses and will provide encouragement and guidance on how they should best negotiate each hole.

Soweto Country Club Matthew Phahla said the caddies would greatly benefit from the training as many are unskilled.

"It means a lot to us. They did what we all need in the golfing industry because caddies are not seen as employees but as hustlers. This is helpful because it empowers us," added Phahla. ■

**We are expanding the skills set of our caddies and empowering them to be future tourist guides and operators of destination marketing and sports marketing companies**





# GAUTENG PUSHES FOR IMPROVED OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY REGULATIONS

• By Thembisa Shologu

## Intensified unannounced emergency evacuation drills in all Gauteng government buildings are in the pipeline to maintain occupational health and safety standards (OHS).

The evacuation drills are conducted by the City of Johannesburg (CoJ) as part of the Disaster Management Plan.

The aim is to prevent loss of life and destruction of property, as seen with the fire at the Bank of Lisbon that resulted in the death of three firefighters.

The first unannounced evacuation drill was at the Department of Economic Development's Umnotho House in Johannesburg on 30 August 2022.

Deputy Director-General for Corporate Management, Mpho Nawa told My Gauteng that it was an important exercise for employees to know what to do in an emergency.

"It is crucial for employees to know in a situation where there is a fire that they do not need to panic ...they must walk in an orderly fashion and be counted.

"More importantly, sometimes laws are written, but if they are not operationalised in a case of emergency or put in a simulation. What happened at the Bank of Lisbon should not have happened if we had these procedures and protocols

in place," said Nawa. City of Johannesburg Disaster Management Public safety, Nomsa Khumalo, said the drill was appropriate to test if the systems would be ready during an emergency.

"Looking at the Bank of Lisbon incident and how firefighters died and many people getting affected, we thought it would be appropriate to test the state of readiness by doing this exercise.

"After the fire safety officer has made sure that there is no one in the building, he has to go out after verification and communicate with the building coordinator when everything is declared clear," said Khumalo.

The Gauteng Department of Infrastructure Development (GDID) reports that the provincial government occupies 5 995 buildings. ■





# Here are some highlights of the work of the Gauteng Provincial Government



**After years of contractual and construction disputes, the Orchard's Clinic was officially opened on Monday, 5 September 2022.**

It will serve the community of Orange Grove, Orchard's, Hawkins Estate, Rouxville, Savoy, Highlands North, and Belview.

The clinic, which has 20 consulting rooms, will provide primary healthcare services such as emergency, acute care, chronic care, mother and child, HIV and TB treatment, mental health services, and adolescent and youth-friendly services.



**The Gauteng Department of e-Government, in partnership with the University of Johannesburg, has launched e-Ambassadors Learnership Programme as a bold step towards ensuring that services are promoted in every corner of Gauteng province..**

Under this programme, 50 young people have been appointed from the five corridors of Gauteng to promote and market Gauteng Provincial Government's (GPG) online services in their communities and surrounding areas.



**Gauteng police officers, who lost their lives in the line of duty, were honoured by the provincial government on 11 September 2022.**

As a formal SAPS memorial parade, names of the fallen officers were inscribed on the wall in the Garden of Remembrance, located at the Linden SAPS.

MEC for Community Safety, Faith Mazibuko said government, is ensuring that SAPS is adequately resourced to prevent, combat and investigate police killings and address crime in the province.

"As the Gauteng Provincial Government, we are determined to help you in this fight against crime, as we established the war room on crime and the provincial command centre. These resources will assist you in your concerted efforts in the fight against crime."



**Gauteng Provincial Government has congratulated MEC for Human Settlements and Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Lebogang Maile on his election as the Vice-President of the Forum of Regions of Africa (FORAF).**

FORAF is a Pan-African Organ, entrusted with the responsibility of advancing Agenda 2063 to build an "Africa We Want". It falls under the auspices of the United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLG Africa).

"We congratulate MEC Maile on his historic election as Vice-President of the Forum. We are certain that he will pursue his new responsibility with much dedication geared towards building a better Africa we all yearn for.

"We wish MEC Maile well in his new responsibilities, and as the Provincial Government, we will provide him with the necessary support," said acting Premier Panyaza Lesufi.



**As part of the Ntirhisano Service Delivery Outreach Programme, the Gauteng government visited small businesses in Kagiso, West Rand, to accelerate the implementation of the Township Economic Development Act.**

The Act, signed into law in April, requires provincial government departments to procure at least 40% of goods and services from township businesses, among other measures.

"The Township Economic Development Act must not just be a policy. It must be implemented so that we can see growth in the township economy. The Act seeks to open new



## Continued - pg10

procurement and market opportunities for township businesses and create financing facilities for township-based enterprises," said Premier David Makhura.

Government used the day to showcase the work of township industrial parks and value chain incubation in high-value growth sectors.



The Gauteng Departments of Community Safety and Education hosted the 2022 Provincial Road Safety Debate Competition at Indaba Hotel in Fourways

The debate competition aims to encourage learners to be aware of road safety issues and empower them with practical research skills while actively seeking solutions to road safety issues.

Soshanguve Secondary School and Landulwazi Secondary School advanced to represent the province in the national leg of the competition.



Gauteng MEC for Community Safety, Faith Mazibuko led a march in the Soshanguve policing precinct to promote the safety of women and children.

# GAUTENG NEWS

## in brief

The march, which took place under the theme "Reclaiming the Night" follows several incidents of violence perpetrated against women and children reported in the area.

"Reclaiming the night is a community-driven march, where women of all ages stamp their authority and send a message that women have the right to walk the streets freely at any given time without being abused or killed," said Mazibuko.

*women have the right to walk the streets freely at any given time without being abused or killed*



The Departments of Social Development and Sports, Arts, Culture, and Recreation hosted the Golden Games at Germiston stadium.

The games give a platform to older persons to display their talents in sports, indigenous and fun games while maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Activities included rugby ball throw, jukse, ring the stick, ball pass and kickball relay, goal shooting, duck walk, dress-up race, and the 100- and 800-meter run.



The Department of Social Development has launched the Agri-Youth 2022 Programme and hosted a graduation ceremony for 100 Hammanskraal youth who completed a six-month skills development program.

In her keynote address, MEC for Social Development, Morakane Mosupyo said that the youth could be the creators of their future, acknowledging the partnerships and stakeholders making sure that future is possible.

"Young people shouldn't inherit the poverty from parents and grandparents, as Gauteng Social Development there is always measures put in place for exit strategy through cooperatives," said Mosupyo.

*Young people shouldn't inherit the poverty from parents and grandparents*



# GAUTENG ESTABLISHES WAR ROOM SYSTEM TO

# RE-IGNITE THE ECONOMY

**The Gauteng Provincial Government has established a provincial War Room system, to re-ignite the economy, and strengthen service delivery in the province.**

Tabling the Office of the Premier's 2021/2022 annual report on Thursday, 15 September, acting Premier, Panyaza Lesufi said the provincial war room will see government and industry leaders join forces to drive economic recovery, unlock growth in every sector and create sustainable jobs as well to support SMME development.

"Moreover, in partnership with the Public-Private Growth Initiative (PPGI), we will work with businesses, organised labour, SOEs and relevant national government departments to revitalise the economy of our province", said Lesufi.

The provincial government's resolve in transforming the township economy is gaining traction amongst township entrepreneurs. The passing of the Township Economic Development Act (TEDA) is a step toward changing the spatial and economic landscape of the township.

With the onset of TEDA, townships will be metamorphosing into self-sustaining economic hubs. In the past year alone, 56 township businesses were incubated



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successfully at the provincial government eKasiLabs.

On the social compacting front, creating safer communities remains an apex priority for the provincial government.

"Our focus has always been on the trio priority crimes of violence against women and children, murder, and house robberies. As a result of our efforts, we have reached a total of 437 895 beneficiaries through a programme of no violence against women and children, including 16 days of activism", said Lesufi.

Another key priority for the provincial government is building a capable, ethical, and developmental state. At the centre of good governance is the promotion of and adherence to sound financial management as well as constant monitoring and evaluation.

To this end, the provincial government has worked with the Emfuleni Local Municipality to resolve the water and sanitation problems as well as the municipality's financial recovery, which resulted in the municipality being placed under administration in 2018.

Based on the progress made by the municipality to date, the provincial government has indicated its readiness to lift the administration on the municipality.

"We are now exiting because we are satisfied with our initiated interventions. At the same time, we will continue to be there to support the municipality. We will still maintain high vigilance to ensure that there are no lapses and that the progress made remains irreversible. We are doing the same across the region, specifically in the West Rand", said Lesufi. ■