



# GAUTENG PROVINCE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### **Mohlakeng Enterprise Hub launched to support local entrepreneurs in light manufacturing**

15 April 2014

Gauteng Premier Nomvula Mokonyane together with the MEC for Economic Development MEC Mxolisi Xayiya launched the Mohlakeng Enterprise Hub at Mohlakeng Township in the West Rand on Tuesday, 15 April 2014.

Township Enterprise Hubs are aimed at stimulating entrepreneurship, revitalizing township economies, fostering skills development and reducing unemployment amongst the youth.

The Mohlakeng Hub will incubate 36 cooperatives and small businesses specializing in light manufacturing and grant open access to many more entrepreneurs in Randfontein and surrounding areas.

The hub will provide on-site support to businesses with various areas of focus including carpentry, sewing and embroidery, construction and steel works, upholstery, baking and confectionaries.

This support includes the following:

- Machinery and equipment to make their enterprises in the manufacturing sector more competitive
- Free use of the operational premises for the entire period of incubation
- Training in business development and management
- Shared facilities such as internet, training rooms, boardrooms and administrative support services

Addressing the community, Premier Mokonyane emphasised that support for small businesses and cooperatives had been the cornerstone of government's focus in the past five years.

"We have committed immeasurable support to SMMEs over the past twenty years and more so in the previous five years. Our aim is to improve the competitiveness of small local enterprises and enable them to run sustainable businesses and participate meaningfully in the mainstream economy."

MEC for Economic Development, Mxolisi Xayiya said that small business support was a key element of Gauteng's job creation strategy.

"Our focus on small businesses that are productive and innovative has produced tremendous results by supporting people's livelihoods at a time when the economy is undergoing one of the most difficult periods in history. We will continue to develop tailor-made support that is geared at assisting small businesses to grow and create jobs" said MEC Xayiya.

Randfontein Mayor Sylvia Thebenare said that the initiative was a sterling example of cooperative governance.

"We are looking forward to demonstrating what impact public-private partnerships and cooperative governance can make in changing the lives of the people in this area" she said.

The Mohlakeng Hub will be managed by the Gauteng Enterprise Propeller (GEP) in partnership with the Randfontein Local Municipality. Private sector partners, in this initiative include Gold One Mining, Filpro Busmark and WESTCOL further education and training college.

**For more details and media enquiries please contact Ms. Phindile Kunene, Media Liaison Officer for the Department of Economic Development on 082 494 2409 or (011) 355 8443, email address [Phindile.Kunene@gauteng.gov.za](mailto:Phindile.Kunene@gauteng.gov.za)**

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