

AUGUST 2023



Africa's  
Travel  
Indaba

Business  
Directory  
Launch

Operation  
Vula Fund



enterprise ilembe  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Maxwell Hadebe  
Digital Centre  
Launch







# Message from the CEO

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These projects include the establishment of the Invest SA One-Stop-Shop, the Maxwell Hadebe Digital Centre in Ndwedwe, the KwaShuShu Hotsprings & Ntunjambili Project in Maphumulo as well as several agricultural projects across the district. The iLembe Business Incubator continues to provide invaluable support to SMMEs in the form of workspace, training, and access to markets and capital.

The launch of the iLembe Business Directory is another highlight, the directory is aimed at supporting local businesses with a free 'live' platform to showcase products and services. If you have not yet registered, you are encouraged to not miss this opportunity.

Of concern is the negative business sentiment which resulted in the 2023 Mid-Year Business Confidence Index being recorded at 48.3 index points which is a decline of .7 index points when compared to the 2nd half of 2022, and a 1.8 index point decline year on year. This sentiment was mainly shaped by several macro and local factors - with more Gigawatt hours being load shed in the first 5 months of 2023 than in the whole of 2022, damaged electronic equipment, reduced production capacity and increased operational costs as businesses invest in load shedding mitigation measures. The cost-of-living crisis manifested itself in fuel, fertiliser, and stubbornly high food prices, setting the trend for headline inflation. Locally, delays in repairing road infrastructure following the KZN floods of 2022, the beach closures in the neighbouring eThekweni Metro, and business rescue interventions at Tongaat Hulett and Gledhow Sugar, formed the background to a challenging 1st half of 2023 (iLembe iBCI, August 2023).

Notwithstanding the negative business sentiment, the economic activity index in the District remained positive, which represents a fifth successive period of positive economic activity. The status of the District as an attractive investment destination was further reinforced by several large scale private investments that are at various stages of development. Notable investments such as the ALPLA recycling plant and Club Med resort are scheduled to commence construction in the second half of 2023 and early 2024 respectively.

During the preceding six months, we welcomed Ms Hlengiwe Hakata (Chief Finance Officer), and Ms Nobuhle Ngcobo (Marketing and Communications Officer) to the Enterprise iLembe family. We wish them a successful and fulfilling tenure.

**Linda Mncube**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

Ever since its establishment, iThemba has served as a pivotal platform for both the Entity and the iLembe family of municipalities. This platform has been instrumental in showcasing an array of projects, programs, and initiatives, all directed towards the realization of the overarching vision: the transformation of the iLembe District into a sustainable, people-centric economic nucleus. With a strategic focus on positioning iLembe as a centre of growth and development, the synergy between all stakeholders is consistently fortified.

Tourism is known to be a major contributor to the iLembe District economy and we are pleased that this sector is starting to show recovery. Prior to the COVID-19 global pandemic, total visitor expenditure GDP contributions in 2019 amounted to an estimated R2.2 billion. The following year in 2020 total visitor expenditure contribution to GDP decreased by 26%. The decline was primarily due to restrictions to travel and strict lockdown regulations. In 2021, efforts to ensure economic recovery in the tourism sector resulted in R2.6 billion in total GDP contributions. The impact of the July 2021 riots and April 2022 floods in the KZN Province resulted in an estimated decline of about 5% in GDP contributions for January to June 2022. The notable contribution of R3.4 billion in 2023 underscores the resilience and recovery exhibited by the iLembe District's tourism sector, signifying growth in a post-pandemic landscape. Highlights of the tourism industry report can be found on page 6 of this publication.

In line with the mandate of positioning and marketing the region as a premier tourism destination, the Entity participated in key trade, business and consumer tourism exhibitions which included Meetings Africa, World Travel Market (WTM) Africa and the Africa Travel Indaba.

Whilst the general rise in cost of living remains a major concern and affects most people across the country, the Entity as an implementing agent of various projects /support programmes remains at the forefront of driving economic development and continues to partner with communities, sector departments, local municipalities, and the private sector to ensure that projects are successfully implemented.

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## LET'S TALK TOURISM

# Exhibitions

In continuous effort to promoting iLembe North Coast as both a leisure and business destination, Enterprise iLembe and KwaDukuza Municipality attended the below trade shows to showcase the regions offerings to international and local buyers. The shows provided a significant platform in creating

brand relevancy to a more receptive audience and strategically aligning the brand with the rest of the key tourism trends as tourism continues to play a major role in driving the economy of the iLembe District.

## MEETINGS AFRICA

The Meetings Africa Trade Show took place from 27 February 2023 to 01 March 2023 at the Sandton ICC in partnership with the KZN Convention Bureau. This show serves as a primary platform to engage the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events (MICE).

As part of the trade show's post tours took place and the North Coast had the opportunity to host international buyers by showcasing first-hand what the destination has to offer. The delegation included buyers from India, Hong Kong, Poland, Botswana, Turkey and South Africa.







## WORLD TRAVEL MARKET (WTM) AFRICA

World Travel Market (WTM) Africa 2023 took place at the Cape Town ICC from 03-05 April 2023. The trade show presented an opportunity to connect and attend scheduled meetings with international and local buyers. WTM is a business-to-business travel and tourism event for African and International travel professionals.





## AFRICA'S TRAVEL INDABA

The iconic African leisure trade show "Africa Travel Indaba (ATI)" preceded by a dedicated Business Opportunity Networking Day (BONDay) on Monday the 08 May 2023 at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Convention Centre (ICC). The BONDay session aimed to create a platform for thought-leadership, knowledge sharing and obtaining the latest in global trends and local insights. Enterprise iLembe was a proud partner of the session.

The trade show commenced on Tuesday 09-11 May 2023 at Durban Exhibition Centre (DEC). Enterprise iLembe, KwaDukuza Municipality and iLembe tourism product owners shared the stand to exhibit and showcase the myriad tourism offerings that the North Coast region has to offer. Amongst the product owners were; Hampshire Hotel, Canelands Hotel, Sea-rendipity guesthouse, Tamane Bush Camp and Relax Inn. In attendance was more than 6 000 delegates from 21 African countries including 1 000 international buyers and 1 000 exhibitors showcasing 350 tourism products to regional and international buyers.





# Investment Summit

## NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL PARKS SUMMIT

The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition in collaboration with National Treasury and the National Cleaner Production Centre South Africa (NCPC-SA) hosted the National Industrial Parks Summit on the 20-21 of April 2023 at CSIR ICC Pretoria, themed: "Positioning Industrial Parks as Engines of Growth, Industrialisation and Investment: Through a Reimagined Implementation Framework". Enterprise iLembe attended the summit and connected with other Industry practitioners to foster discussions around investment opportunities available within iLembe region. The summit aimed to cement an ambitious collaborative approach for achieving competitive and sustainable industrial areas to underpin progressive industrial development in South Africa.



# Tourism Entrepreneurship Careers Expo

## TOURISM CAREERS EXPO

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental affairs in partnership with Department of Education, Enterprise iLembe and other stakeholders hosted a two-day interactive Tourism Entrepreneurship Careers Expo (TECE) on the 16 -17 February 2023 at Sugar Rush Park Ballito. The purpose of the Careers Expo was to equip Grade 11 learners with opportunities that exist within the tourism and hospitality sector.





**Enterprise iLembe Business Directory Launch**

# iLembe Business Directory

- The aim of the iLembe Business Directory project is to build a comprehensive business directory for the iLembe region. The development of this district business directory is expected to have the following benefits :
- Enhance the ability of residents and visitors to find verified local businesses, thus potentially decreasing costs and building the local economy
- Assist local businesses with marketing their products and services at no cost, thus assisting in business growth
- Enable municipalities to make use of the latest information and communication technology to enhance the delivery of government information to local businesses
- Assist in business-to-business networking through information sharing

Business within the iLembe region can list their businesses on the directory and members of the public can search for business services using various criteria including type of service and location. The information collected and published on the business directory is done in compliance with the POPI act. While all businesses in the iLembe region can list their services on the business directory, the businesses that are registered with CIPC and/or have trading licenses with local municipalities are listed as being verified to ensure consumer confidence. Business in iLembe are encouraged to utilise this free business directory to market your services and products. The website address of the business directory is <https://directory.enterpriseilembe.co.za>.

**Your Gateway to  
Local Business Growth!**  
Get Connected on  
iLembe Business Directory

**Sign up today!**

**directory.enterpriseilembe.co.za**



Only available to businesses in the iLembe District

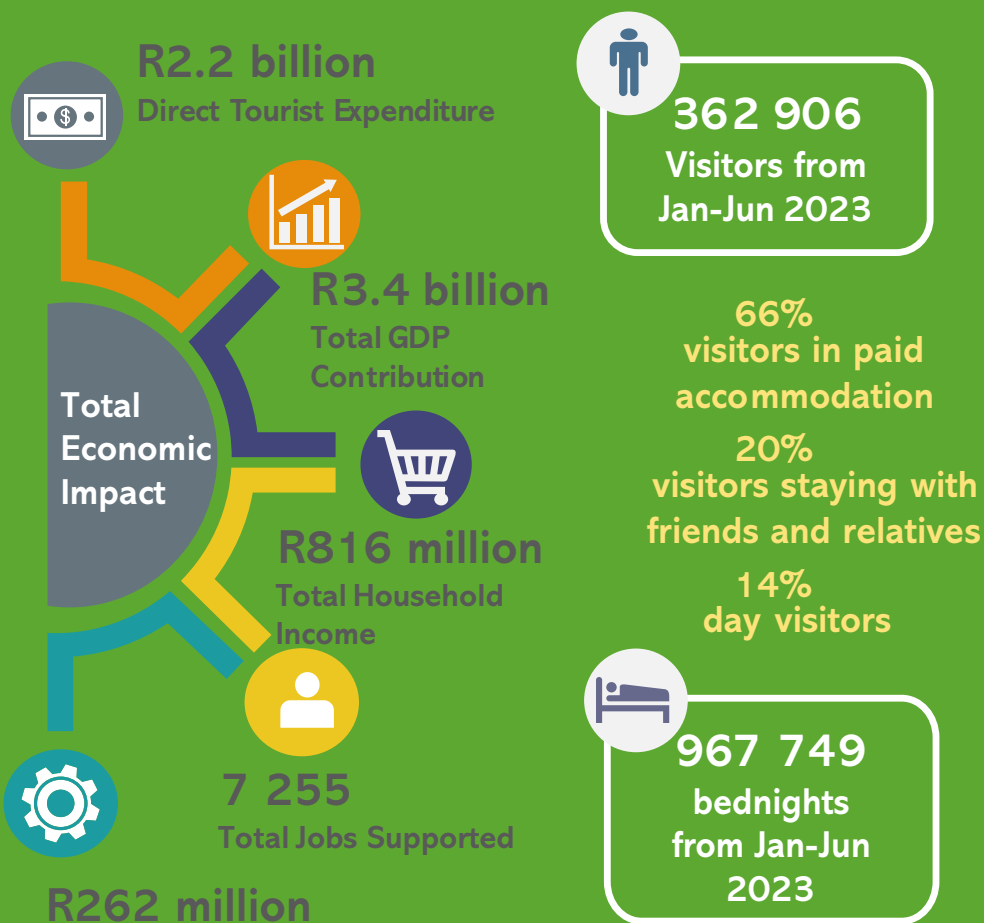
**#iLembeDirectory**



## Tourism a Major Economic Driver

Tourism continues to play a major role in driving the economy of the iLembe District. The recent tourism industry research shows that tourism numbers to the region has been increasing as tourists continue to choose the destination for leisure holidays. Some of the highlights of the survey for the period January – June 2023 shows that;

- The direct jobs created by the visitor spend from January to June 2023, potentially supported an estimated 1 973 jobs over a year.
- 2023 has shown remarkable growth in GDP contribution surpassing that of 2019, indicating that the tourism sector in iLembe has started to recover and is showing actual growth post-pandemic.
- The estimated total contribution to the GDP was R3.4 billion from January to June 2023. This means that over R2.3 billion in indirect and induced GDP impacts was added to the economy as a result of the direct expenditure of visitors.
- The estimated tourist expenditure was calculated by multiplying the average spend per visitor by the number of visitors. The total visitor expenditure amounted was calculated at R2.2 billion, which was 37% more than what was generated in 2022 (R1.6 billion) from January to June.





# Stakeholder Engagements

## KZN CONVENTION BUREAU STAKEHOLDERS' BREAKFAST ENGAGEMENT

Enterprise iLembe attended the KZN Convention Bureau Stakeholders' Breakfast Engagement that was held on the 25 April 2023 at the Maharani Hotel Sky Venue. The breakfast engagement aimed to discuss Business Events opportunities and the role of the KZN Convention Bureau in hosting of such events in the province. The strategic objective for the session was to enlighten the public and private sector partners on business events that they aim to host at the various regions and stimulate discussions on ways to increase the level of business events in the KZN region. It was an opportunity to meet-and-greet with partners post Covid-19 and present tourism business and related services that are available within the province of KwaZulu Natal.



## LET'S TALK YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP SESSION

Enterprise iLembe, the economic development agency for the iLembe District, successfully hosted the Let's Talk Youth Entrepreneurship session on 23 June 2023. The event aimed to foster an open and structured dialogue with young entrepreneurs, focusing on entrepreneurship opportunities with high job creation potential within the district and beyond.

The session witnessed a remarkable turnout of youth representing the four local municipalities. The distinguished presence of the Honourable Mayor of iLembe District Municipality, Cllr TP Shandu, and other representatives from the public and private sector added prestige to the event. Government representatives provided insights on available opportunities and programs within their respective departments, reinforcing the collaborative effort between Enterprise iLembe, businesses, communities, and government to drive economic development and ensure inclusive growth in the iLembe District.

A highlight of the session was a robust panel discussion centred around the theme of "thinking outside the box." Topics such as the green economy, digital marketing, and business innovation took centre stage. Youth attendees were encouraged to realign their thinking and embrace the opportunities presented by the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The importance of digital transformation, fostering ideation, and accessing various funding opportunities within government sectors were emphasised.

Enterprise iLembe CEO' Linda Mncube said that *"the Let's Talk Youth Entrepreneurship session exemplified Enterprise iLembe's commitment to nurturing young entrepreneurial talent and driving economic progress in the iLembe District. By engaging with the youth, providing access to knowledge and resources, and facilitating meaningful partnerships, Enterprise iLembe is working towards a brighter and more prosperous future for all".*





# YOUTH IN FILM AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP EVENT

The KwaZulu Natal Film Commission in partnership with Enterprise iLembe and EDTEA youth Directorate: iLembe District hosted a Youth in Film and Entrepreneurship Event on the 24th June at KwaDukuza Town Hall. The event aimed to celebrate youth that are involved in the various aspects of the film industry, and this was done through creating awareness of opportunities in the film industry.

The programme sought to promote a participatory process where local youth from all sectors within iLembe district to work together to stimulate local commercial activity in the region and for the development of a pipeline programme that will create training opportunities for aspiring to advanced filmmakers, to ensure that their skills are honed irrespective of the level they are in their filmmaking careers. In driving hype and promotion of the Shaka iLembe series the event was graced by the KZN born talented Wiseman Mncube who is one of the leading cast members in the series.





# SMME & CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT

## Meet one of the Business Incubator Project beneficiaries

**Heart Prints (Pty) Ltd** is an initiative of **Thobeka Zinhle Madela** a female South African social entrepreneur. **Heart Prints (Pty) Ltd** has developed expertise in the arts & culture products and services, printing business and other related services. Heart Prints focuses on celebrating & promoting art, culture & African heritage through products and services, it is a marketer of arts & crafts Non-Profit Companies', creative consultations & solutions. The management philosophy is to develop lasting pleased client relationships in arts, experience, printing, hospitality and virtual creative solutions.

The Heart Prints arts and craft shop is at Ilembe District in Mandeni Municipality, under the Youth Enterprise Park, which is a youth entrepreneurship skills centre. Heart Prints art and craft shop focuses on selling different art work by the youth, locals with disabilities, man and women Mandeni rural areas and NPOs.

The objective of the shop is to create sustainable income for these creatives, create employment for the youth, promote arts and preserve the beauty of our diverse culture. The shop is developing to empower creatives and create sustainable livelihoods to eliminate the levels of poverty in the community. The most exciting part about the shop is that it selects the best quality products, that are elegant, exclusive, attractive



and beautiful. The shop is around the business central area in Mandeni and plans on attracting more young people to learn about the arts and they become entrepreneurs themselves.

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## FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANUFACTURING SETA SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME INDUCTION

Enterprise iLembe in partnership with the FoodBev Seta hosted an induction session on Friday 17 March 2023 at the iLembe Auditorium in KwaDukuza, to congratulate and stimulate the 100 learners who have been selected to participate in the Food and Beverage Manufacturing Seta Skills Development Programme.

The programme will run for a duration of twelve 12 months, which will be theoretical training for 3 months and workplace learning for 9 months. The theoretical training commenced on the 06th of February 2023 across all Local Municipalities within the iLembe District, where learners are being trained on NQF Level 1: NC: Food and Beverage Handling Processes, NQF Level 1: NC: Business Practices and NQF Level 3: NC: Food and Beverage Generic Management.

The programme seeks to address economic growth, drive transformation and innovation, encourage employment creation, enable social development, and address the national government imperatives. With hospitality and tourism sector being one of the key economic drivers for the region it is important that opportunities are created for youth to enter and excel in this sector. This skills development programme will serve as an enabler in addressing the gaps that exist in local skills within the hospitality industry.





## MAXWELL HADEBE DIGITAL CENTRE LAUNCH

The Moses Kotane Institute, in partnership with Enterprise iLembe and Ndwedwe local Municipality launched the Maxwell Hadebe Digital Centre. The launch took place on a very significant day June 16. The event had a remarkable turnout with presence of the distinguished MEC of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs Mr Siboniso Duma, Honorable Mayor of iLembe District Municipality Cllr TP Shandu, and other key dignitaries and stakeholders.

The digital center is set to empower the learners with vital digital skills and knowledge, ensuring that they are well prepared for the rapidly evolving digital landscape. The centre will also be available to local businesses requiring access to IT infrastructure.

The centre comprises of 12 pc's and 5 laptops to help the youth from iLembe District to acquire computer skills and create applications. It is at this centre that young people will be taken through Information and Communication Technology training.



## GRADUATION CEREMONY - ILEMBE ICT YOUTH PROGRAMME

As part of the Let's Talk Youth Entrepreneurship event, a graduation ceremony was held to celebrate the completion of the iLembe ICT Project, a 12-month ICT training program. Led by the Vuthela iLembe LED Programme, the training aimed to create entrepreneurs within the iLembe District. The ceremony recognised the achievements of 27 youth who successfully completed the program and showcased their newfound skills in the field of information and communication technology.



## ENTERPRISE ILEMBE SMME BUSINESS SUPPORT (HANDOVER)

As part of Enterprise iLembe's mandate to support micro, small, and medium enterprises, Enterprise iLembe utilized the Let's Talk Youth Entrepreneurship event platform to distribute business support grants to small, medium, and micro enterprises (SMMEs) from the iLembe Business Incubator. The grants will provide crucial support and resources to empower the growth and success of these local businesses.





## KZN EDTEA OPERATION VULA FUND

An Operation Vula funding workshop was held on the 14 of June at Business incubator. Operation Vula Fund is a programme that enables cooperative and SMMEs owned by women, youth, and people with disabilities to access funding for the establishment and expansion of business. The programme operates under the auspice of KZNEDTEA and Enterprise iLembe as a local development agency was involved in the process of fund application by assisting

farmers with business plans and ensuring that farmers have and meet all funding requirements. The fund has three categories, tier one with funds ranging from R0 to R50 000, tier two with funds ranging from R50 000 to R300 000 and tier three with funds ranging from R300 000 to R2 000 000. The below mentioned project were assisted with funding applications.





# LET'S TALK ENTREPRENEURSHIP

## LUNGINHLANHLA PROJECT

### Business overview and background

Lunginhlaha Projects trading as Qandalami is an agribusiness that specializes in the production and selling of eggs. The company is a 100% B-BBEE female owned company established in 2020.

It started as a small home-based broiler business breeding up to 100 birds at a time and has a record of farming sugarcane as well. Lunginhlaha Projects operates on a fully paid privately owned sugarcane farm located in Mangethe on a long-term lease which is renewable every 10 years. A total of 6 hectares of the non-cane land has been leased and ample to accommodate future expansion plans of the poultry business. The business was fully grant funded by the Agribusiness Development Agency and is currently producing eggs on a 10 000-layer unit and plan to expand to a 30 000-layer unit in the next in 5 years (2028).

#### Business location and facilities

A business location refers to that place or structure occupied by a company to run its operations. This includes any structure or establishment that is used in conducting business. The farm location is in Mangethe area, in ward 3 of Mandeni local Municipality under iLembe District Municipality. The company leased the land from Izimpande Farming Cooperative with a lease term of 10 years. The area of the farm is 6 hectares.

#### Products/Services

Egg production – the plan is to initially produce eggs from a 10 000 layers system and supply to a direct market and expand the business in increments of 5 000 layers per year when market conditions improve.

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# LET'S TALK AGRICULTURE

## KWA-ZULU NATAL COGTA LEGISLATURE SERVICE DELIVERY IN NDWEDWE

Former MEC Sihle Zikalala for KZN COGTA invited stakeholders in the Kwa-Zulu Natal COGTA Legislation Meeting that was held at Sonkombo Thusong centre on the 10th of January 2023 in Ndwedwe ward 11. The aim of the meeting was to share ideas with different stakeholders on fast tracking service delivery but mainly in addressing the economic growth of Ndwedwe communities especially through agricultural interventions.



## PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL INDABA

KwaZulu-Natal Premier Ms Nomusa Dube-Ncube with MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development Mr. S Zuma launched the Provincial Agricultural Indaba at Msunduze Sport Field in Mandeni Local Municipality on the 04 March 2023. The aim was to engage on obstacles that the province face on a day-to-day basis, such as livestock theft, load shedding and food insecurity in KwaZulu-Natal.

During the launch of the Agricultural Indaba, the Premier unveiled a fleet of Yellow Plant equipment such as trucks, tractors, TLBs and Excavators. The equipment will assist farmers with construction of agricultural infrastructure and infield roads which will improve access to the market thus enabling farmers to transport produce.





## MINISTERIAL HANDOVER OF AGRICULTURAL INPUTS

Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development Ms.Thokozile Didiza and MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr. S Zuma handed over Agricultural inputs at Nced'omhlophe Sports Ground in Mandeni Local Municipality on the 3rd of April 2023. The aim was to engage on obstacles that the farmers face on a day-to-day basis, high cost of agricultural, market opportunities and handing over of agricultural inputs to households.



## LUNGINHLANHLA EGG PRODUCTION LAUNCH

KwaZulu Natal Honorable MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr. S Zuma together with Agricultural Development Agency (ADA), Launched and handed over Egg Layer project to Lunginhlanhla co-operative in Mandeni Local Municipality, Ward 9 on the 23rd of June 2023. The project was funded by ADA. Lunginhlanhla was funded with an installation and equipment of automotive 10 000-unit layer structure. The aim of the launch was to encourage youth to participate in agricultural projects to create job opportunities.



## CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Enterprise iLembe and the Church of Jesus Christ of The Latter-day Saints visited three projects that were assisted with infrastructural development. The aim of the visit was for the church's communication department to meet with beneficiaries and to measure sustainability of the project. The church's delegation was led by Mr Sandile Makasi who is an Executive director of Communications. Projects visited were KwaSkhonyane Co-operative (Mandeni), Groutville Farming Co-operative (KwaDukuza) and Siyathuthuka Nofuhla Co-operative (Maphumulo). These are some of the efforts to strengthen the relationship between the LDS Charities and Enterprise iLembe for the benefit of local farmers.





## ZIMBABWE ORGANIC FARMING MISSION

Ilembe District has been identified by Provincial Government to lead the introduction of organic farming practices, particularly targeting emerging farmers. Organic farming has potentially positive outputs for small-scale farmers, especially with growing consumer interest in healthy foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables. The pharmaceuticals industry is also a large market for various organic medicinal herbs. A visit to the LaRochelle organics in Zimbabwe was conducted by Enterprise iLembe and the District Mayor in June 2023. The visit mainly targeted community agri-projects that currently export organic produce to the European Union, particularly Germany. Enterprise iLembe will be rolling out the organic farming project in the district focusing primarily on rural communities.



### Enterprise iLembe Welcomes New Chief Financial Officer

Enterprise iLembe welcomed its new Chief Financial Officer, Mrs Hlengiwe Hakata on the 1st February 2023. Ms Hakata started her professional career at the Auditor General of South Africa (AGSA) in 2009 and qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 2014. She moved up the ranks as senior auditor, assistant manager, manager and acting senior manager during her tenor at AGSA. Last year she completed her Masters in Commerce Degree at UKZN.

### Chief Financial Officer: Hlengiwe Hakata





# MUNICIPAL NEWS

## iLembe District Municipality

### MAYOR SHANDU INTRODUCES NEW MUNICIPAL MANAGER

His Worship the Mayor of iLembe District Municipality Councillor Thobani Shandu introduced the new municipal manager, Mr Sazi Mbhele to council members. Mbhele's resumed his duties on the 3rd of January 2023. Mbhele was a ministerial representative (administrator) for the KZN Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs in Mtubatuba Municipality in northern KZN for six months. Prior to that he was a municipal manager in Ndumeni Municipality in Dundee and has also worked as a municipal manager for Umuziwabantu Municipality in Harding following a stint as a ministerial advisor to Dr Siyabonga Cwele first as Minister of Telecommunications and as Minister of Home Affairs. Mbhele was warmly welcomed and congratulated on his appointment.



### UMSHWATHI AND SONKOMBO WATER PROJECTS

A sod turning ceremony for the Sonkombo Water Supply Scheme took place on Thursday, 9 March 2023 at the Sonkombo Sports Field in Ward 11 of Ndwedwe. The Supply Scheme is aimed at improving the availability and capability of the existing water supply wards 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10,11 & 12 of Ndwedwe Local Municipality.

The MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Sibongile Sithole-Moloi together with the Mayor of iLembe District Municipality Cllr Thobani Shandu officiated the sod turning ceremony of the long awaited uMshwathi Phase 5 Regional Water Supply Scheme in Ndwedwe on Tuesday, 14 March 2023. Places to benefit from the Umshwathi Water Project includes; Nondabula, Bhamshela town, Ireland, Hlathikhulu, Gobinsimbi, Echibini, Newspaper, Gqolweni, Kho, Ngcongcongga, Nsuze/Dalibho, Gcwensa, Msengengeni, Onyazini, Mary-Gray, Esidumbini, Kwathayela-Luthuli and Bhidakhona.





## THUMA MINA CAMPAIGN IN GROUTVILLE

On 22 March 2023, the iLembe District took the Thuma Mina to Groutville in KwaDukuza with the aim of improving rates collection, instilling a culture of paying for services amongst citizens and addressing the challenge of low revenue generation and financial viability of council.

This initiative is part of the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Cooperative Governance ongoing Revenue Enhancement Campaign themed "Pay Your Levies - Nothing for Mahhala" launched in July 2018. The campaign seeks to encourage communities to pay for municipal services which are a crucial part of municipal revenue.



## CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

In the month of May 2023, 28 schools were visited by Environmental Health in partnership with other stakeholders from various Departments to commemorate Child Protection Week. Health education awareness was done on prevalent outbreaks such as Cholera, Rabies and standard precautionary measures for example, hand hygiene. Promotional material such as hygiene soaps, detergents including Jik and pamphlets with information were distributed to the learners.



## AMAKHOSI AND COUNCILLORS SPORTS DAY

The second instalment of the iLembe District Family of Municipalities engagement between Amakhosi and Councillors took place at the Stanger Manor Sports Ground in KwaDukuza.

The first soccer match of the day was between the KwaDukuza Golden Games team and the Maphumulo Golden Games team and ended in a single goal draw. The second match was between Amakhosi and councillors and ended in a 2-1 victory to Amakhosi. The third and last game of the day between Councillors and Officials resulted in a two-goal draw.







## MUNICIPAL NEWS

# Mandeni Local Municipality

### FARMERS WEEK YIELDS POSITIVE RESULTS

Mandeni Local Municipality, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture and Enterprise Ilembe hosted 'Mandeni Farmers Week' at the Mandeni Youth Enterprise. The aim of this initiative was to afford local farmers an opportunity to sell their produce, get introduced to new customers and sustain their businesses.

His worship the Mayor of Mandeni Local Municipality, Cllr. Thabani Mdalalose lauded the farmers for their work and urged community members to support small scale farmers from within Mandeni.



### EQUIPMENT HANDOVER PROGRAMME TAKES CENTRE STAGE

Mandeni Local Municipality with KZN EDTEA hosted the Business Support Equipment Handover Programme at Sibusisiwe Hall. The aim of this programme was to confer small business owners with necessities to help grow their businesses and to help them improve their services. 195 small business owners, most of which operate their businesses from Mandeni CBD received Gazebo's, Tables, Chairs and Coolerboxes. Other business owners received Printers, Hairdryers, Gas Stoves, Grass Cutting Machines, Laptop, Routers, Speakers, Radio Mixers, Amplifiers, Deep Fryers, Double Door Display Fridges, Deep Freezers, Sewing Machines (Overlock, Industrial & Vinyl Cut), Cylinder Gas and Cheffing Dishes to mention a few.



### YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs through its Youth Economic Empowerment Directorate hosted a successful Youth Entrepreneurship and Compliance Workshop at Sibusisiwe Town Hall. The workshop was attended by young people from different youth formations, and it was aimed at equipping them with information on entrepreneurial opportunities. The discussions were centered on how young people can actively participate in the mainstream economy and become the cornerstone upon which the province of KwaZulu-Natal builds a more prosperous and inclusive economy.







# MUNICIPAL NEWS

## Ndwedwe Local Municipality

### NDWEDWE MUNICIPALITY APPOINTS MUNICIPAL MANAGER

Mr Disco Khuzwayo has been appointed as the Municipal Manager of Ndwedwe Municipality, he comes with wealth of experience as he has served many years in local government. He began his career as a Town Planner for a consulting company before starting his stint in government. He has held various management positions in different municipalities including; Town Planning and IDP Manager, Acting Director EDP at Umzumbi Municipality, Manager PMS at Uthukela Municipality, Manager IDP & PMS, Director EDP and Acting Municipal Manager at Ndwedwe Municipality.



### IDP & MAYORAL IMBIZO

Mayor Cllr SZ Mfeka held his annual Mayoral Imbizo. The aim of these gatherings is to present the municipalities annual plan, budget and milestones achieved in regards to the invited wards. This also presents an opportunity for the community to echo their sentiments. In attendance was councillors from Ndwedwe and iLembe Municipality and traditional leadership. Critical issues of infrastructure development including water, roads and electricity were discussed during izimbizo. The community received vegetable seeds and other working tools. Local and national artists rocked the scores of people in attendance.





## PROVINCIAL YOUTH DAY CELEBRATION HELD IN NDWEDWE

At a Youth Day celebration held in Ndwedwe Friday, 16 June 2023, KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Siboniso Duma announced several ground-breaking programmes aimed at alleviating youth unemployment in the province.

The MEC, who represented Premier Nomusa Dube-Ncube at the celebration at the Ndwedwe Regional Sport Ground, said during this financial year, the Education Department created 58 000 jobs which benefitted the youth and the department of Economic Development Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) had identified 5 600 young people, who would receive monthly stipends to curb youth unemployment and economically empower the youth of the province.

“EDTEA added 15 000 jobs through the department’s expanded

work programmes, the Office of the Premier, through its R100 million Youth Empowerment Fund, had assisted more than 70 young people to start their own businesses or expand their existing enterprises. We encourage youth from the province to grab these opportunities aimed empowering them so that they are not left behind,” said Duma. Operation Vula Fund is one of the public-sector led funds aimed at supporting small businesses to create more than 10 000 job and business opportunities. Applications for assistance through Operation Vula Fund closes on 20 June. MEC Duma urged people to apply before the applications deadline reaches.

At the commemoration, the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government also awarded cheques worth over R600 000 businesses-owned by young people and cooperatives in and around Ilembe District municipal area.





# MUNICIPAL NEWS

## Maphumulo Local Municipality

### YOUTH IN BUSINESS WORKSHOP: EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENTREPRENEURS

Maphumulo Local Municipality held an informative Youth in business workshop on Friday, 9 June 2023 at the Municipal Council Chambers. The workshop was designed to empower the next generation of entrepreneurs by providing them with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in business. The workshop covered a range of topics including business planning, marketing strategies, financial management, and legal requirements. Participants were given the opportunity to engage with representatives from government institutions, state-owned enterprises and private institutions who shared valuable insights from business funding, company registrations and more. Maphumulo Local Municipality provided young entrepreneurs with the tools they need to succeed, and be helped to build a more vibrant and prosperous future for our municipality.







## MUNICIPAL NEWS

# KwaDukuza Municipality

### KWADUKUZA COUNCIL'S GRANT-IN-AID FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

The Mayor of KwaDukuza Municipality, Cllr. Lindile Nhaca recently announces the 2023 Grant- In-Aid Financial Assistance Programme beneficiaries at the KwaDukuza Town Hall where the Council ploughed back a total sum of R697 000 to 30 different community organisations. The 2023 Grant-In- Aid Financial Assistance Programme is designed not only to uplift communities but to ease the burden of poverty and to ensure that Council was able to redress the legacy of apartheid.



### KWADUKUZA MAYOR WELCOMES FIRST FEMALE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KwaDukuza Mayor, Cllr. Lindile Nhaca welcomed the appointment of the municipality's first female executive director for corporate services, Ms Pamela Mntaka. Ms. Mntaka is the former Executive Director for Corporate Services for Alfred Duma Municipality in KwaZulu-Natal where she had previously served as Manager for Legal services and acted as Executive Manager for Development, Planning and Human Settlements in the same municipality. She has also worked for the Department of Land Affairs as Senior Planning Project Manager and had a stint as a Candidate Attorney at the University of Natal Law Clinic where she specialised in Land Reform.



### YOUTH ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE BY KZN PUBLIC WORKS

The inaugural Youth Economic Empowerment Programme was launched by the MEC for Human Settlement & Public Works, Mr. S. Nkosi on 26 June 2023, in KwaDukuza.

The ground-breaking programme will give access to financial aid, education, career prospects and opportunities for young people to expand their businesses. Mayor Nhaca thanked the MEC for identifying KwaDukuza as a strategic area for launching this programme which seeks to open new economic development opportunities for young people. This occasion is a fitting expression where the government of KwaZulu-Natal has committed to improving the lives of its people to address the imbalances of the past.











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