



W&RSETA at the forefront of community skills development



Invitation

W&RSETA Inaugural Research Conference
5 October 2022, Cape Town

"Building Wholesale and Retail Sector competitiveness through digitisation for effective skills development"

**Only Virtual Seats
Are Available**



**higher education
& training**

Department:
Higher Education and Training
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NEW BEGINNINGS

Spring has sprung

We have concluded the second quarter of 2022/23 which has proven to be yet another eventful period. The season ahead is blooming with new opportunities for a higher level of impact.

The sod-turning event to mark the beginning of the construction of the KwaMpumuza Skills Development Centre in partnership with the Construction SETA, in this month, is a milestone gifted to us by Spring. Minister Nzimande broke ground to signal this historic collaboration on 9 September 2022. While the construction is in the early stages, we will be engaging the sector on possible collaborations to ensure that the centre addresses the skills needs of the sector while benefiting the rural community of KwaMpumuza. We are making a lasting difference, one rural community at a time.

Our CEO concluded his stakeholder engagement programme for the calendar year, in the Eastern Cape after having spent the year visiting stakeholders and project sites from all nine provinces. It has been a worthwhile programme which has allowed the CEO to reflect on the contribution of our stakeholders in various corners of our country as we join hands to make skills development a reality in the Wholesale and Retail Sector. The programme will resume in the first quarter of 2023.

On an exciting note, our two groups of the 2021/22 International Leadership Development Programme have now commenced with the programme with the Advanced Diploma starting their first module on 29 August 2022. The Postgraduate Diploma delegates will depart for their African immersion in November 2022.

We are geared up for the gathering of role players in the skills development fraternity for our inaugural Research Conference on 5 October 2022. A few seats on the virtual platform are still available for those who have not confirmed attendance.

The next quarter promises to be as demanding with various activities and importantly, training that is happening across many workplaces demonstrating the Wholesale and Retail Sector's commitment to skills development.

I invite you to read up on the various updates prepared from the month of September for your reading pleasure.

I look forward to engaging with you in October with highlights from the conference and other skills development updates.

Until then, enjoy this issue.

Wishing you a beautiful Spring season of renewed hope and zeal.

Yours in skills development,

Martha



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Our values

o Accountability

o Agility

o Integrity and Trustworthiness

o Mutual Respect o Quality Services



W&RSETA AT THE FOREFRONT OF COMMUNITY SKILLS DEVELOPMENT - KWAMPUMZA SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE SOD-TURNING

The W&RSETA reached another milestone in a historic intra-SETA collaboration with the Construction SETA, to build the KwaMpumuza Skills Development Centre in Elandskop, Pietermaritzburg. This is the W&RSETA's second skills development centre in support of government's objective to produce 30 000 artisans annually by 2030, in alignment with the National Skills Development Plan. A sod-turning ceremony to mark the construction of the centre was conducted on 8 September 2022, led by the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Dr Blade Nzimande. The R85 million KwaMpumuza Skills Development Centre, will



Programme director of the event, W&RSETA CEO, Tom Mkwanzani

benefit the communities of Harry Gwala and uMgungundlovu, upon its completion in 2024. The W&RSETA will contribute R50 million towards the centre. The construction of the skills centre is in response to a request from Chief Zondi of KwaMpumuza, for government to provide skills development opportunities to his community. The centre will comprise of a retail business hub, engineering and construction trade test centre, a retail and agricultural hub, cooking/hospitality trades, hair and beauty workshops, as well as the entrepreneurship lecture room. Over 175 jobs will be created during the construction of the centre to the benefit of the locals.

Chief Zondi welcomed the construction of the centre as a manifestation of his vision. He appealed to community members to look after the centre which would benefit not only the KwaMpumuza village, but the entire KwaZulu-Natal province. "Our people will no longer go to towns for education. They will be trained here in KwaMpumuza and they will be able to find employment and also start their own businesses", said Chief Zondi.

In his delivery of the keynote address, Minister Nzimande highlighted that the construction of skills development centres is in line with the goal of the government's National Development Plan, which has recognised the importance of investing in artisan development to grow the economy. He also emphasised on the benefits that the centres will yield to the communities. "The skills development centres are located within rural and township communities, thereby broadening access to skills, learning and training opportunities, especially for our unemployed youth", announced the Minister.



Chief Zondi during his address



Minister Blade Nzimande speaking during the official programme



Reggie Sibiyi thanked stakeholders on behalf of the W&RSETA and CETA

Amongst the dignitaries was uMgungundlovu District Mayor, Mzi Zuma, who thanked the W&RSETA and CETA for this initiative which will bring change to the people of uMgungundlovu and the surrounding areas.

Reggie Sibiyi, Chairperson of the W&RSETA Board, thanked stakeholders for supporting this important milestone. "We are contributing towards increasing access to education and training opportunities to where they are needed the most." uttered Sibiyi

W&RSETA CEO CONCLUDES 2022 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN EASTERN CAPE

The W&RSETA's CEO, Tom Mkhwanazi, pursued his stakeholder engagement programme in August 2022, this time, focusing on the Western Cape. In his first visit to one of the W&RSETA's most successful and impactful partnerships, The Clothing Bank (TCB), he met its CEO, Tracy Chambers, and her team. The SETA has supported the TCB programme since 2013 through funding the Informal Small Business Practice Learnership as part of the comprehensive programme that aims to empower vulnerable women to become self-sufficient by starting or improving their own businesses. Chambers expressed gratitude for the collaboration with the W&RSETA, which has benefited over 1800 women, and in extension, their families. The CEO took time to listen to remarkable stories on how the programme has impacted the lives of some of the women. The W&RSETA is currently funding 325 women on the programme.



Stakeholders at the session



W&RSETA Eastern Cape Provincial Manager, Mzamo Matyobeni presenting the province's allocations for 2022/23

To set the tone for the session and providing the provincial context, Abongile Halom, the Assistant Director from the Office of the Premier, presented the province's skills development report for 2021/22 and the 2022/23 skills plan. This was followed by a discussion on the W&RSETA's 2022/23 priorities, which entailed deliberations on the importance of collaboration between government, companies and institutions of learning

Mkhwanazi highlighted the W&RSETA's organisational priorities that are aimed at addressing skills challenges and other societal issues. He acknowledged the contribution of stakeholders in realising the SETA's mandate, before engaging in robust discussions on challenges facing the W&RSETA and receiving feedback on possible solutions



W&RSETA CEO, Tom Mkhwanazi engaging with stakeholders at the session

Dean Moldenhauer of Moldenhauer Group provided an employer's perspective on the delivery of education and training, commending the W&RSETA for enabling companies to contribute to the betterment of the country through skills development. Moldenhauer shared his company's focus on skills development for the youth and encouraged other companies to join hands in fighting youth unemployment



Dean Moldenhauer sharing a stakeholder perspective on behalf of employers



"I am so grateful for the opportunity. This is a great start to fulfil my goals which I want to achieve as a young entrepreneur."

- Siyanda Lwana

W&RSETA Youth Entrepreneurship Development programme beneficiary, Siyanda Lwana shared her story of how she had improved her fresh produce small business which she started after retrenchment during the COVID-19 pandemic, through the programme.

The Eastern Cape programme was concluded with company visits in Mthatha starting with SuperSpar Savoy, during which the company shared their vision for developing their employees. The SuperSpar Savoy, a subsidiary of Paxinamix Consultancy Group currently has 148 of the 215 learners on learnerships.



Tom Mkhwanazi at SuperSpar Savoy with the Skills Development Manager, Fikile Thwala and learners



A visit to Viedgesville Wholesalers and interaction with learners

The last visit was to Viedgesville Wholesalers where Mkhwanazi met with Managing Director, Ross Lawlor. While Lawlor highlighted challenges they experienced with unemployed learners, he was positive about the impact that the programmes have on the unemployed and shared some success stories, some highlighting permanent employment of young people.



Developing globally competitive leaders for the Wholesale & Retail Sector

The 2021/22 International Leadership Development Programme commenced in August with both the Postgraduate(PGDip) and Advanced Diploma (AdvDip) groups embarking on this transformative journey having completed a few modules , respectively. The W&RSETA has enrolled 90 leaders on the programme with the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS) business school as the delivery partner.

The highly acclaimed ILDP, in its 13th year, is the W&RSETA's flagship programme that exposes senior leaders from the sector to best practices in wholesale and retail locally and internationally, through specially crafted immersions that include interactions with global thought leaders.

Since 2009, the programme has benefited over 350 delegates and produced senior and executive leaders who now occupy decision making positions in leading wholesale and retail companies in South Africa. Some of the delegates have pursued entrepreneurship aspirations which have created several job opportunities. The growth of participating small and medium companies has been

largely attributed to the programme.

"I am very excited to be here as we embark on this journey with W&RSETA and GIBS. I am looking forward to the opportunities to learn and gain experience."

- Agmad Kriel - Head of Customer Experience Zando

"I am so happy to be on this prestigious programme. I am very grateful for the opportunity provided by GIBS and The W&RSETA. There are so many people from the Wholesale and Retail Sector whom I am hoping to learn from. "

- Joshika Ramlall
Diplomatic Distributors

The PGDip group will depart for the African Immersion in November while the AdvDip group will undertake its study tour in January 2023.



W&RSETA AT THE FOREFRONT OF COMMUNITY SKILLS DEVELOPMENT



As part of capacitating the new additions to the skills development system, the Community Education and Training (CET) colleges, the W&RSETA has committed R118 million towards supporting these institutions. The SETA's support includes infrastructure development, equipment, lecturer capacitation, and implementation of learning programmes.

The W&RSETA is investing in strengthening the CETs that are aimed at skills development through education and training programmes for adults, youth, the unemployed, and those employed in semi-skilled occupations. This initiative also provides an opportunity for people who wish to improve their skills for employability and/or advancement opportunities in TVET colleges and university education.

The W&RSETA has committed to support the 9 CET colleges nationally through refurbishing 54 Community Learning Centres (CLC) to establish ICT laboratories. An amount of R50 million will be spent towards this project by the completion date of 2025.

The project commenced in 2021 and the following centres have been completed:

- Gauteng: Setlakalane CLC, Soweto,
- Mpumalanga: KwaGuqa CLC, Siyabuswa
- Free State: Boitumelo CLC, Kroonstad and Letjhabile CLC, Welkom

The SETA is currently working on over 20 CLCs in Gauteng, Mpumalanga, and Free State while planning for the other provinces. .



ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY EMPOWERS SMMEs AT ANNUAL FAIR



The eThekweni Municipality hosted the 24th edition of its premier business empowerment expo, the Durban Business Fair on 19 to 25 September 2022. This is the biggest business engagement in South Africa, whose aim is to empower small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) with information, support programmes and opportunities to grow their businesses. The fair creates a platform for these SMMEs to showcase their businesses and interact with potential clients, government departments and entities. The Durban



Business Fair also serves as a capacitation platform for SMMEs and large businesses on how to remain active participants of KwaZulu-Natal's economy.

The W&RSETA, together with other institutions, partnered with the metro to host the event under the theme "Connecting Durban businesses to opportunities". The event embodied programmes such as Youth Connect, International Trade Seminar, Business Indaba, Women Economic Empowerment, as well as masterclasses on various sectors, including wholesale and retail.

Delivering the key note address, eThekweni Municipality Speaker, Thabani Nyawose, highlighted that the metro's objective of the fair is to empower businesses in township and rural areas. Nyawose committed that the municipality would allocate 30% of its procurement spend to benefit businesses owned by women, youth, and people living with disabilities.



“

The municipality has adopted a 'Mayoral 10 Point Plan' to reshape the economic future of the people of eThekweni. At the heart of this bold plan, is the establishment of the Enterprise Supplier Development Fund, which was launched in October last year. The municipality pledged R50 million to capitalise this fund,” said Nyawose

The Speaker addressing delegates at the Business Engagement

The W&RSETA Provincial Manager: KwaZulu-Natal, Peter Cleophas, was part of the panel discussion that unpacked various opportunities in government, where he provided an overview of the W&RSETA's SMME development programmes.

A key feature of the W&RSETA's participation was an SMME masterclass conducted by Regent Business School. Dr Shahiem Patel, Head of School: Commerce and Management, focused on "Just in time – skills in developing entrepreneurship" equipping participants with topical skills required to upscale their businesses. The South African Revenue Services, represented by Martin Naidoo, who is the KZN Taxpayer Education: Education Specialist, addressed tax compliance for SMMEs.



A gala dinner and Excellence Awards ceremony was hosted on the evening of 23 September to recognise the journey, hard work and outstanding achievements of SMMEs. The W&RSETA's Marketing and Communications Manager, Martha Shingange, conveyed a message of support and highlighted the SETA's contribution to SMME development in the Wholesale and Retail Sector through skills development.

From 21 – 26 September, the fair included an exhibition by various government and private companies at which SMMEs also showcased their products and services.



W&RSETA team engaging with stakeholders at the exhibition



Martha Shingange speaking on behalf of the W&RSETA at the dinner and Excellence Awards ceremony



An SMME sponsored by the W&RSETA to exhibit at the fair



Ethekewini municipality mayor Mxolisi Kaunda, officially opening the exhibition joined by the KZN Acting Premier Nomagugu Simelane-Zulu

15 August 2022

NOTICE TO STAKEHOLDERS: DISCONTINUATION OF PPE GRANTS FOR THE DG22/23 PROJECT

Following the promulgation as per Government Gazette Notice 46590 published on 22 June 2022 repealing the regulations related to the COVID-19 lockdown, including the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), the W&RSETA will no longer allocate a PPE grant as part of the Discretionary Grant funding.

This notice serves to inform stakeholders that are participating in the DG22/23 projects, that contracts for the various programmes will not include a PPE grant allocation. The W&RSETA will still honour Contracts concluded for DG20/21 and DG21/22 with a PPE grant and pay out related claims where deliverables stipulated for this grant are met.

Queries related to this notice should be directed to the relevant **Provincial Managers**

Yours in skills development,

W&RSETA

SUBMISSION OF SUCCESS STORIES EXTENDED

CELEBRATING THE GAINS OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL SECTOR



2022 Success Stories Publication

Stakeholders are invited to submit success stories from various programmes (learnerships, workplace exposure, bursaries, ILDP, RMDP, entrepreneurship and rural development) of the W&RSETA that have been implemented in partnership companies, training providers, institutions of learning and other partners. These stories will be covered in the 5th edition of the W&RSETA's success stories publication.

Submissions must be emailed to Rhulani Mavunda on rmavunda@wrseta.org.za by **16 October 2022**



Provincial Stakeholder Forum Meetings

PROVINCE	DATE	RSVP
Mpumalanga	21 October 2022 18 November 2022	sshokwane@wrseta.org.za
Gauteng	18 November 2022	charis@gpretail.co.za



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[Click here to RSVP](#)



Consumer Goods Council of South Africa Summit 12 October 2022

2022 Annual General Meeting 24 November, Kimberley & Virtual



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