

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## DEPARTMENT OF SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (DSBD) TOGETHER WITH GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEM (GCIS) TO VISIT A FEMALE YOUTH OWNED FARM IN ESHOWE, KWAZULU-NATAL

The Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) will be embarking on a profiling mission of beneficiaries that have benefited from the Department's financial support during the pandemic and SMMEs and Co-operatives from areas that were battered by heavy rains and floods.

The DSBD will be supported by GCIS on this mission as they seek to create awareness about government support to the small business fraternity but in particular those that received support during the most difficult period in their business lives. The pandemic undoubtedly impacted most businesses negatively, especially the small to medium as well as informal trading.

The Department had to reprioritise its budget for the 2020/21- 2022/23 financial years as it sought to rally resources for the affected businesses during the pandemic, July 2021 unrests and floods. Wenzokuhle Holdings (PTY) Ltd is amongst businesses that were funded through the Flood Relief Fund and has since emerged out of the woods and shown some resilience anchored by the support from the DSBD and its agencies, i.e. Small Enterprise Finance Agency (**sefa**) and Small Enterprise Development Agency (Seda).

Members of the media are invited to cover the site visit of this exiting project taking place as follows:

DATE: THURSDAY, 02 MARCH 2023 VENUE: KWA-VUMA FARM, ESHOWE, KWAZULU NATAL TIME: 10:00 The site visit will start with a briefing on the support offered by the Small Business Development Portfolio (DSBD, Seda & **sefa**) and the Wenzokuhle (PTY) Ltd project overview. This will then be followed by a tour to all facilities within the farm and lastly, interviews with Ms Ayanda Zulu (farm owner).

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