



the  
**PULSE**

THE DSBD NEWSLETTER  
JULY 2026



small business  
development

Department:  
Small Business Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# CONTENTS

1.	Minister Ndabeni launches Peo Pele Fund .....	7 – 8
2.	DSBD continues to deepen economic inclusion .....	9 – 11
3.	Minister Ndabeni affirms government support for small business....	12 – 13
4.	MSMEs are the backbone of the Economy .....	14 – 15
5.	Consultation Workshop on the Revised Business Licensing Bill,.....	16 – 17
6.	Tyhopo Trading Enterprise (Pty) Ltd Business Profile .....	18
7.	Kwazikwakhe Trading Business Profile .....	19
8.	Monwabisi Zwelakhe Business Profile .....	20
9.	Mandela Month .....	21
10.	Embracing the Second Half of the Year .....	22 – 23
11.	Birthdays .....	24

07



12



20



# Abbreviations and Acronyms

4IR	Fourth Industrial Revolution
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
AFS	Annual Financial Survey
APP	Annual Performance Plan
ASGISA	Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative for South Africa
B-BBEE	Broad-based Black Economic Empowerment
BRICS	Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa
CIPC	Companies and Intellectual Property Commission
CDS	Co-operatives Development Strategy
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
CDSP	Co-operatives Development Support Programme
CBDA	Co-operatives Bank Development Agency
DFIs	Development Funding Institutions
DDM	District Development Model
DPME	Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
DSBD	Department of Small Business Development
DPSA	Department of Public Service and Administration
DIRCO	Department of International Relations and Cooperation
dtic	The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition
DBE	Department of Basic Education
EDD	Economic Development Department
ESIEID	Economic Sectors, Investment, Employment, and Infrastructure Development
E-governance	Electronic Governance
ERRP	Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan
ESG	Environmental, Social and Governance
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEAR	Growth, Employment and Redistribution
HSSP	Hospitality Sector Support Plan
IBDS	Incubation and Business Development Services
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IFC	International Finance Corporation

# Abbreviations and Acronyms

ISPESE	Integrated Strategy for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship and Small Enterprises
MSE	Micro and Small Enterprises
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MTSF	Medium Term Strategic Framework
NIBUS	National Informal Business Upliftment Strategy
NEDLAC	National Economic Development and Labour Council
NDP	National Development Plan
NISED	National Integrated Small Enterprise Development
NSEA	National Small Enterprise Act
NT	National Treasury
OCSLA	Office of the Chief State Law Adviser
PSC	Public Service Commission
PAYE	Pay As You Earn
PoA	Programme of Action
PFMA	Public Finance Management Act
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Programme
RIA	Regulatory Impact Assessment
SAMAF	South African Micro Finance Apex Fund
SARS	South African Revenue Service
SBC	Small Business Corporation
SBD	Small Business Development
SEDA	Small Enterprise Development Agency
SEFA	Small Enterprise Finance Agency
SEIF	Shared Economic Infrastructure Facility
SEIAS	Socio-Economic Impact Assessment System
SMME	Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises
SOE	State Owned Enterprises
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
TVET	Technical Vocational Education and Training
TREP	Township and Rural Enterprise Programme
VAT	Value Added Tax
WOE	Women-Owned Enterprises.
WECONA	Women Economic National Assembly



**The Department of Small Business Development and its agency, Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA) exists to champion the growth of small-scale businesses in South Africa.**

To access DSBD economic success initiatives, stories and voila welcome to the world of successful entrepreneurship.



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# July

THE MONTH OF

July represents the mid-year checkpoint and a critical period for recalibration. It is an important month for entrepreneurs to review their sales and adjust annual goals.



“Over the next three years, government will invest approximately R900 million into the fund, with it envisaged to close at R300 million this year.”



## Minister Ndabeni officiates the National Youth Entrepreneurship launch in QwaQwa

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA

On 27 June 2026, Minister for Small Business Development Stella Tembisa Ndabeni officially launched the Peo Pele Youth Fund at the Phuthaditjhaba Multi-Purpose Centre in QwaQwa.

Held as part of Youth Month commemorations, the event brought together young entrepreneurs, community leaders and government officials to highlight new opportunities for youth-owned businesses.

The launch reflects a renewed commitment to helping young South Africans overcome barriers to starting and growing sustainable businesses, especially in rural communities.

Minister Ndabeni launched the revitalised Peo Pele Youth Fund, designed and administered by the Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency. The name “Peo Pele” reflects a simple but powerful idea: planting seeds today to enable growth and prosperity tomorrow.



## Continuing...

The fund seeks to improve young entrepreneurs' access to affordable finance, practical business support and market opportunities. Many young South Africans struggle to secure the capital and guidance needed to turn ideas into sustainable businesses. This initiative aims to address that gap through more accessible and targeted support.

At the event, the Minister said the fund is intended to help young people build sustainable businesses, create jobs and contribute to economic growth. She stressed that young entrepreneurs are not only job seekers, but also job creators who can transform their communities.

The Peo Pele Youth Fund is specifically designed to tackle these barriers. It combines funding with business development support, mentorship and help to access markets. This holistic approach recognises that money alone is often not enough -- young entrepreneurs also need guidance and opportunities to sell their products or services.

"Since its launch in 2021, the Youth Challenge Fund received 4,828 applications from across the country. From these, 121 enterprises were approved for funding amounting to R362.5 million, with R224.6 million already disbursed to 83 youth-owned enterprises. Importantly, 25 women-owned enterprises received R57 million, while 60 per cent of approved funding supported businesses operating in township and rural communities," the Minister said.

"Over the next three years, government will invest approximately R900 million into the fund, with it envisaged to close at R300 million this year. Through this investment, approximately 750 youth-owned enterprises are expected to benefit," the Minister added.

The fund aims to increase meaningful participation of young people in the economy and reduce the high levels of unemployment.

The launch event was not only about the new fund but also about celebrating immediate support for young entrepreneurs. Minister Ndabeni handed over Asset Assist support to businesses in key sectors such as construction and agro processing. This practical assistance helps young owners acquire the tools and equipment they need to operate and grow. In her address, Minister Ndabeni stressed that the Peo Pele Youth Fund is about more than just individual success. It is about economic empowerment, building sustainable businesses and contributing to broader economic growth in the Free State and across the country.

Certificates were also awarded to young people who completed training programmes in areas such as artificial intelligence, robotics, baking, confectionery, nail technology and wig-making. These skills range from modern, future-focused technologies to practical trades that can quickly lead to self-employment or small business opportunities.



# DSBD continues to deepen economic inclusion and accelerate the participation of small businesses

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA



On 12 June 2026, Minister for Small Business Development Stella Tembisa Ndabeni, together with BCMM Executive Mayor Cllr Princess Faku and other officials, convened a Ministerial Small Business Clinic and Equipment Handover at Buffalo City Hall in KuGompo, Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality (BCMM), Eastern Cape. The event demonstrated an integrated approach to supporting small businesses.

The programme combined policy engagement with practical support, starting with a strategic briefing and site visits to beneficiaries of the Asset Assist Programme (AAP) and Business Infrastructure Support Programme (BISP). These visits offered the Minister first-hand insight into the challenges and opportunities facing small enterprises. The main session gathered Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), informal traders, cooperatives, traditional leaders, and business support organizations for stakeholder engagement, policy discussions, and the formal handover of equipment and assets under the Informal and Micro Enterprise Development Programme (IMEDP), AAP, and BISP.

This initiative aligns with the Department's broader goal to deepen economic inclusion and accelerate small business growth, particularly in township and rural areas. By integrating advisory services, funding, and operational support into a single platform, the

Small Business Clinic model improves access and efficiency for entrepreneurs.



## Continuing...



The initiative focused on reducing barriers for historically marginalized groups like informal traders and micro enterprises, the programme provides machinery, equipment, infrastructure, and grants to boost productivity, market competitiveness, and sustainable expansion. Overall, the event highlighted the government's practical, integrated approach to supporting enterprise development by bridging policy with on-the-ground implementation and delivering tangible benefits to local entrepreneurs.

The Executive Mayor welcomed the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), informal traders and cooperatives that attended the event. She emphasized the important role of government interventions in transforming local economic participation, particularly in historically underserved communities. She noted that the programmes introduced were not simply short-term support measures, but initiatives with the potential to reshape how communities participate in business.

She highlighted the need to give entrepreneurs access to productive assets, including machinery and equipment, to help them improve efficiency and expand their operations. She also emphasized the value of financial support in reducing start-up and expansion costs, making entrepreneurship more accessible to marginalized groups.

The Mayor noted that the programmes create new market opportunities, helping small businesses compete more effectively and become part of the wider economy. She added that, by creating a supportive environment, these initiatives empower local businesses, promote sustainable livelihoods, and advance inclusive economic growth in the municipality.

In closing, she urged beneficiaries to make full use of the resources provided and expressed confidence that these interventions would strengthen long-term prosperity and resilience for small business owners and their communities.

Chairperson of the BCMM House of Traditional Leaders, Nkosi Zwelizolile Toyi, emphasized the need for continuous expansion of outreach and awareness campaigns to ensure that more entrepreneurs gain access to these vital support services. Recognizing the increasing demand for such programmes, he called for an increase in funding allocations to effectively accommodate and support the growing number of beneficiaries. Furthermore, he stressed the importance of strengthening partnerships with municipalities and private sector stakeholders to create a more robust ecosystem for small business growth.

## Continuing...

Nkosi Zwelizolile Toyi, also underscored the need to enhance post-support monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track the impact of interventions and ensure sustainable business development. Lastly, he encouraged the continued integration of services through Small Business Clinics, which improve accessibility and provide a one-stop platform for entrepreneurs to receive comprehensive support. He concluded by reaffirming the collective responsibility of all stakeholders to sustain momentum in empowering small businesses as key drivers of economic transformation and inclusive growth.

The Minister opened her address by emphasizing the vital role that small businesses play in driving inclusive economic growth and creating sustainable employment opportunities, as outlined in the National Development Plan. She stressed that MSMEs and cooperatives are at the heart of South Africa's economic transformation and poverty alleviation efforts.

Highlighting the Department of Small Business Development's commitment, the Minister announced an ambitious target to support one million MSMEs and cooperatives during the current 7th Administration. She proudly shared that over 288,000 enterprises had already benefited from government support in the previous financial year, demonstrating significant progress toward this goal.

The Minister then detailed how the ongoing interventions are strategically aligned with the Department's seven key priorities aimed at creating a conducive environment for small business success. These priorities include, reducing red tape and improving the ease of doing business to streamline administrative processes and remove barriers that hinder entrepreneurship. Strengthening township and rural economies by focusing resources and support on historically marginalized areas to boost local economic activity. Expanding market access to

connect small businesses with broader commercial opportunities and supply chains. Improving access to finance by facilitating funding solutions tailored to the unique needs of MSMEs.

The Minister highlighted government efforts to simplify licensing and reduce regulatory hurdles through digital platforms and one-stop service centres, facilitating easier business operations for MSMEs. She also drew attention to complementary government programs, such as the Small Enterprise Manufacturing Support Programme (SEMSP) and the Township and Rural Entrepreneurship Programme (TREP), which aim to empower historically disadvantaged entrepreneurs and foster inclusive growth.

She emphasized that the Small Business Clinic serves as a practical embodiment of these priorities by consolidating multiple support mechanisms into a single, accessible platform. This innovative model enables entrepreneurs to receive comprehensive advisory services, funding opportunities, and operational support in a coordinated and efficient manner, thereby accelerating the growth and sustainability of small businesses across the country. The Minister concluded by reaffirming the Department's dedication to empowering entrepreneurs as key drivers of economic development, job creation, and social inclusion.

The handover of equipment and productive assets represented a direct investment in local economic development. Beneficiaries were said to have received tools, machinery, and resources necessary to expand their operations, improve efficiency, and create employment opportunities. A notable example mentioned was Kuisine Trading, a local catering company, which reportedly received a delivery truck to enhance its distribution capacity and expand its service reach across the city.





Minister Ndabeni indicated that the department was advancing the development of a one-stop digital business registration and licensing platform intended to reduce administrative burdens.



## Minister Ndabeni affirms government support for small business growth

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA

The Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) actively participated in and supported the Small Business Seminar hosted by the School of Law at Walter Sisulu University in Mthatha on 06 June 2026. The Department's involvement formed part of its broader mandate to strengthen institutional collaboration and enhance support mechanisms for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), particularly within underserved and rural regions such as the Eastern Cape.

The seminar was headlined by the Minister of Small Business Development, Ms Stella Tembisa Ndabeni, who delivered the keynote address, reaffirming government's commitment to fostering an enabling environment for small business growth. The Minister's participation elevated the strategic importance of the engagement, positioning it as a critical platform for policy dialogue, stakeholder engagement, and knowledge exchange.

Convened under the theme, "Strengthening SMME Resilience: Legal Pathways, Institutional Support, and Sustainable Enterprise Development in the Eastern Cape," the seminar sought to interrogate the role of legal and institutional frameworks in enhancing the resilience, sustainability, and competitiveness of small enterprises. The theme reflected a growing recognition that beyond financial and operational support, MSMEs require a strong legal foundation to navigate regulatory requirements, mitigate risks, and sustain long-term growth.

The seminar served as a strategic multi-stakeholder platform that brought together government, academia, legal experts, and the small business community to engage on the intersection between legal frameworks and enterprise development. It created an enabling environment for dialogue on how legal systems, policies, and institutional support structures can be better aligned to respond to the realities faced by entrepreneurs on the ground.

## Continuing...



The engagement provided an opportunity to bridge the gap between theory and practice by leveraging the academic expertise of the university alongside the practical experiences of entrepreneurs and policymakers. Discussions were anchored on identifying systemic challenges within the regulatory environment, while also exploring innovative and collaborative solutions aimed at strengthening MSME resilience. Overall, the seminar underscored the importance of integrated support systems that combine legal guidance, policy reform, and institutional coordination to drive inclusive economic growth and sustainable enterprise development in the Eastern Cape.

The Minister emphasised the importance of formalised partnerships in strengthening legal awareness programmes for MSMEs. She highlighted that collaboration between legal practitioners, universities, and government institutions was essential to ensure entrepreneurs had access to both business development support and legal guidance. She noted that such partnerships could significantly enhance enterprise sustainability by equipping business owners with the knowledge needed to navigate legal and regulatory environments.

Regarding legal literacy, the Minister underscored the need to strengthen entrepreneurs' understanding in areas such as contractual obligations, business registration processes, labour regulations, consumer protection legislation, intellectual property rights, and debt management. She indicated that targeted interventions in these areas would empower entrepreneurs to operate compliant, resilient, and sustainable businesses.



The Minister also outlined ongoing policy and regulatory reforms aimed at improving the operating environment for small businesses. These reforms focused on reducing structural barriers, simplifying compliance processes, and enhancing the overall ease of doing business. A key intervention she highlighted was the Business Licensing Bill, which seeks to streamline fragmented licensing systems across different government spheres and establish a more predictable and enabling regulatory framework for MSMEs.

Minister Ndabeni indicated that the department was advancing the development of a one-stop digital business registration and licensing platform intended to reduce administrative burdens, shorten turnaround times, simplify business start-up processes, and improve accessibility for entrepreneurs. In addition, she highlighted efforts to strengthen ecosystem coordination through the National MSME One-Plan, ensuring alignment and collaboration among government, private sector stakeholders, development finance institutions, and academic institutions.



**Localisation is not a slogan it is a strategy. When we buy local, we support jobs. When we build local value chains, we strengthen resilience.**



## MSMEs are the backbone of the Economy

BY: CLEMENT MOAGA

Minister delivered a commanding keynote address at the Four-Day South African Funeral Parlour International Convention under the theme “Raising Standards: Strengthening the Profession, Driving Innovation for a Sustainable Future.” The convention attracted delegates as far as the US, Colombia, and many African countries.

Minister Stella Ndabeni told a packed hall of funeral practitioners, industry leaders, government officials, and international delegates that the “The industry is not about generating income but to create sustainable businesses and to serve communities with dignity and respect,”

“Localisation is not a slogan it is a strategy. When we buy local, we support jobs. When we build local value chains, we strengthen resilience. When we support township and rural enterprises, we build a more inclusive and stable economy. This is why we continue to work with industry partners to deepen procurement opportunities, expand supplier development, and integrate MSMEs into formal value chains across the economy,” Minister said.

Deputy Minister of Department of Labour and Employment Jomo Sibiya said that as part of stringent measures to curb the rising unemployment and deal with illegal immigration in South Africa, his

Department has introduced the Job Reservation Bill in Parliament . The latest unemployment rate shows that more people are losing their jobs.

Delivering her keynote address, Minister Stella Ndabeni said DSBD department has introduced a Business Licencing Bill in Parliament that seeks to reserve certain sectors of the economy for locals, such as spaza shops. Furthermore, she promised to assist the burial industry and other small businesses by dealing with red tape that comes with compliance mechanisms from departments such as Home Affairs, Health, and municipalities. While assisting with the reduction of red tape, she urged small businesses, when new legislation affecting them is being drafted, to participate in public hearings. She explained that these red tapes they encounter after a Bill has been passed into Act would have been prevented had they submitted their input to the responsible parliamentary committee.

Minister Ndabeni highlighted the critical role of the funeral services sector in supporting township and rural economies. She emphasised that Without business infrastructure, there is no access; and without access, there is no growth.

## Continuing...

Sibiya said that with the rising number of unemployed people and the competition locals are getting from foreigners, the government, through his department, felt that there should be sectors where jobs should be reserved for locals. He said the Bill has been introduced and made a call to the public to participate in the consultative process, as their views would be considered. "As the government, particularly Labour and Employment, we are concerned about the rising number of unemployed people. Remember, it is our duty as a government to create a conducive environment for job creation and economic growth. Creating a Job Reservation Act is one of the tangible interventions to ease unemployment in the country," said Sibiya.

He further urged local industries, including the burial sector, to prioritise locals for employment before the Bill is passed in Parliament, warning that there would come heavy penalties for contravention. Sibiya stated that the Job Reservation Act will supplement the existing Act that requires local companies and the government to apply to his department to go outside the country and look for skills that are not available inside the country. "We have noticed that a government policy clearly stipulates that foreigners can only be employed if they have skills that locals do not possess. Companies are not doing that and just take foreigners from the street and make them waiters or waitresses, which can be easily done by locals. The Bill is addressing that and will come with heavy fines to discourage local companies from employing foreigners. We are calling on local companies to assist us by prioritising locals for employment, as the country faces illegal immigration protests," said Sibiya.

SEDFA Interim Board Chair Mr Patrick Makape highlighted SEDFA's contribution to strengthening funeral-sector enterprises, stating that "120 funeral-sector enterprises, including funeral parlours, coffin manufacturers, cremation services and burial societies, have received financial and non-financial support, helping improve operations, strengthen competitiveness and sustain livelihoods while providing dignity to communities." He added that interventions included business support, mentorship, market access facilitation and incubation to improve long-term sustainability across the sector.



# UNITING THE SPIRIT OF EN



## Consultation Workshop on the Revised Business Licensing Bill, 2026

BY: TANZA CHABALALA

The Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) hosted a consultation workshop on the Revised Business Licensing Bill, 2026, which was held at the Danny Van Zyl Hall in Randburg, Gauteng province. The workshop was chaired by the Deputy Director-General (DDG): Sector Policy and Research, Mr Vuyisa Dayile.

The purpose of the workshop was to engage stakeholders on the draft Bill released by the Department, gather public input and recommendations, and promote a better understanding of the proposed legislative framework and its potential impact on Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

The consultation workshop provided a valuable platform for participants to share diverse perspectives on the Draft Business Licensing Bill and discuss key issues affecting small businesses. The engagement between the Department's delegation and various stakeholders enhanced understanding of the Bill's implications and generated valuable recommendations aimed at strengthening its effectiveness in supporting small business

development, promoting economic participation, and addressing the unique needs of businesses operating in rural areas and townships.

The Director-General of the Department of Small Business Development, Ms Thulisile Manzini, outlined the purpose of the consultation workshop. In her opening remarks, she thanked the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality for hosting the engagement and acknowledged the participation of representatives from the business sector, organised formations, civil society, and government. She emphasised that the Bill cannot be finalised without meaningful stakeholder participation, reinforcing the principle of "nothing about us without us."

"This consultation process is extremely important because your voice matters. We cannot finalise this Bill without the meaningful participation of stakeholders. Our goal is to develop a business licensing framework that is practical, inclusive, and responsive to South Africa's evolving economic realities, particularly for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises," said Director-General Ms Thulisile Manzini.

## Continuing...

Members of the public who attended the consultation, both in person and online, were afforded an opportunity to indicate whether they supported or opposed the Bill and to provide comments on its provisions. While participants generally acknowledged the importance of the Bill, they also raised concerns about several challenges affecting small businesses that they believe require urgent intervention from the Department.

Following the public submissions, the DDG, Mr Vuyisa Dayile, acknowledged the concerns raised and responded to participants' comments. He assured attendees that several of the issues raised would be escalated to the Minister of Small Business Development, Honourable Stella Tembisa Ndabeni.

Mr Dayile also acknowledged concerns relating to the impact of foreign-owned businesses on local enterprises and assured participants that both the Department and government are actively working to address these challenges. He reiterated that the consultation process was intended to meaningfully engage stakeholders and ensure that their views inform the final Bill.

"We are not consulting simply for the sake of consulting; rather, we are consulting because we genuinely want to listen to and understand what people are saying. We must not insulate ourselves with our own feelings or opinions, but instead listen carefully to the concerns and views expressed by the public," said DDG Mr Vuyisa Dayile.

The Director-General concluded the consultation with her closing remarks and thanked participants for their active engagement throughout the consultation workshop. She assured them that all comments received had been carefully noted and would be considered during the finalisation of the Bill, where appropriate. She further encouraged participants to take pride in contributing to a process that will help shape legislation affecting South Africa's small business sector.

"There is nothing more encouraging than being part of a process. When you see the outcome, you can proudly say, 'I was part of this.' I have listened to many of the points that have been raised today, and they are all valid concerns and important issues. Forums like these are valuable because they provide an opportunity for us to discuss matters openly. Too often, decisions are made without consulting the people who are affected by them. That is why your participation today is so important," said Director-General Ms Thulisile Manzini.





## Tyhopo Trading Enterprise (Pty) Ltd

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA

Established in 2015 by Nokuthula Myeko-Mafikwana, the Mafikwana Project produces maize and soybeans. It currently cultivates 122 hectares of arable land and grows potatoes on an additional 1 hectare. The project is based in Sigubudwini, Baziya A/A, Mthatha, Ward 15 of the KSD Local Municipality, about 40 km from town.

The main aim of maize production is to generate income, reduce poverty, strengthen food security, create jobs, and promote self-sustainability. Most importantly, it seeks to make a meaningful contribution to the local economy of Sigubudwini village and surrounding areas, including Mthatha and Ngcobo.

The project provides about 3 permanent jobs (2 men and 1 woman), 16 casual jobs during the harvesting season (4 young men, 8 young women, and 4 adults), and 8 casual jobs during maize planting. Mafikwana said the goal is to expand the area under production from the current 122 hectares to 150 hectares or more by the next season. The project also aims to reduce poverty by employing more local youth, creating opportunities for agricultural graduates to gain practical experience, and involving young people so they can continue its legacy. In addition, it hopes to introduce innovative methods such as minimum tillage or no-till farming to reduce production costs.

King Sabata Dalindyebo has about 80% of its arable land covered by highly productive soils.

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## Kwazikwakhe Trading (Pty) Ltd

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA

The company was established in 2015 by a dedicated entrepreneur Andile Mfokazi. Kwazikwakhe Trading is based in Sibangweni, Mthatha, in the Eastern Cape. The business provides tent hire, chairs, and mobile freezers for events, functions, and business operations.

At Kwazikwakhe Trading, great events begin with careful planning. From the moment a customer makes contact, the company's experienced event team is ready to provide efficient support. Committed to exceptional customer service, the team works to ensure every delivery is successful. Whether customers need the elegance of marquee stretch tents, the classic appeal of pole tents, or the versatility of frame tents, Kwazikwakhe Trading offers a wide range of options to suit their needs.

Mfokazi added that supporting informal and micro enterprises is essential to building inclusive economies, expanding opportunities, and creating sustainable livelihoods across South Africa.



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HIRING

# BUSINESS PROFILE

TENT, CHAI

@ 068 /



## Monwabisi Zwelakhe Hiring Services

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA

Monwabisi Zwelakhe Hiring Services is a 100% black-owned, owner-operated equipment hire company. They provide quality, reliable event and cold storage solutions across Mthatha, Eastern Cape. Founded by Monwabisi Zwelakhe, the business focuses on punctual service, well-maintained equipment, and affordable pricing for individuals, businesses, and community events.

They are the most trusted hire partner for events and cold storage in their community. They are known for delivering clean, safe, and dependable tents, chairs, and mobile freezers with setup support that makes every event stress-free, on time and on budget.

### Their core services are as follows:

- Frame tents, stretch tents, marquee tents - various sizes
- Plastic chairs, Tiffany/Chivari chairs, trestle + round tables
- Flooring, linings, lighting available on request

### They also provide cold storage solutions:

- Mobile freezer units for hire - ideal for funerals, catering, meat storage, drinks
- Units are clean, temperature-controlled, and delivered to site
- Short-term & long-term hire options

The company cater for weddings, funerals, birthday parties, church events, schools, stokvels, caterers, butcheries, and community organizations.



Contact them on: 073 623 3068



# LET'S GET INVOLVED

NELSON MANDELA DAY

18 JULY

#MANDELADAY



#ItIsInYourHands

#MANDELADAY2026

## Mandela Month: Carrying Madiba's Legacy Through Public Service

BY: TAMRY ESIRI

Every year, South Africans celebrate Mandela Month in July to honour the life and legacy of former President Nelson Mandela. It is a time to reflect on the values that Madiba embodied: service, compassion, integrity, humility and the belief that each person has the power to make a positive difference. While many people mark the occasion by dedicating 67 minutes to community service, Mandela Month also serves as a reminder that meaningful change is often built through the small actions we take every day.

For those in public service, Mandela's legacy resonates deeply. At its heart, public service is about improving the lives of others, serving communities with professionalism, and ensuring that our work contributes to a better South Africa. Whether we engage with stakeholders, support colleagues, develop programmes or communicate important information to the public, every role contributes to this shared purpose.

### This Mandela Month, consider embracing Madiba's spirit through simple but meaningful actions:

- Lead with kindness by treating colleagues, stakeholders and members of the public with respect and empathy.
- Offer a helping hand by supporting a teammate or sharing your knowledge with someone who needs it.

- Serve with integrity by carrying out your responsibilities with honesty, accountability and excellence.
- Look for opportunities to make a difference, no matter how small. Every positive action contributes to stronger communities and better public service.
- Give back beyond the workplace by volunteering your time or supporting a cause that uplifts others.

These words were shared by Nelson Mandela during the 90th birthday celebration of his lifelong friend and fellow anti-apartheid activist, Walter Sisulu, in July 2003: "What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead." His words remind us that service is not limited to a single day or a single act. It is reflected in the choices we make and the impact we have on those around us.

As we commemorate Mandela Month, let us continue to serve with purpose, compassion and excellence, carrying forward Madiba's legacy in our work and in our communities.

# Embracing the Second Half of the Year

BY: MOSHALA JANE KOLANYANE

As we enter the month of July, we reach an important milestone in our journey through the year. The halfway mark offers a valuable opportunity to pause, reflect on how far we have come, and refocus on where we want to go. It is a time to celebrate achievements, acknowledge challenges, and embrace the possibilities that lie ahead.

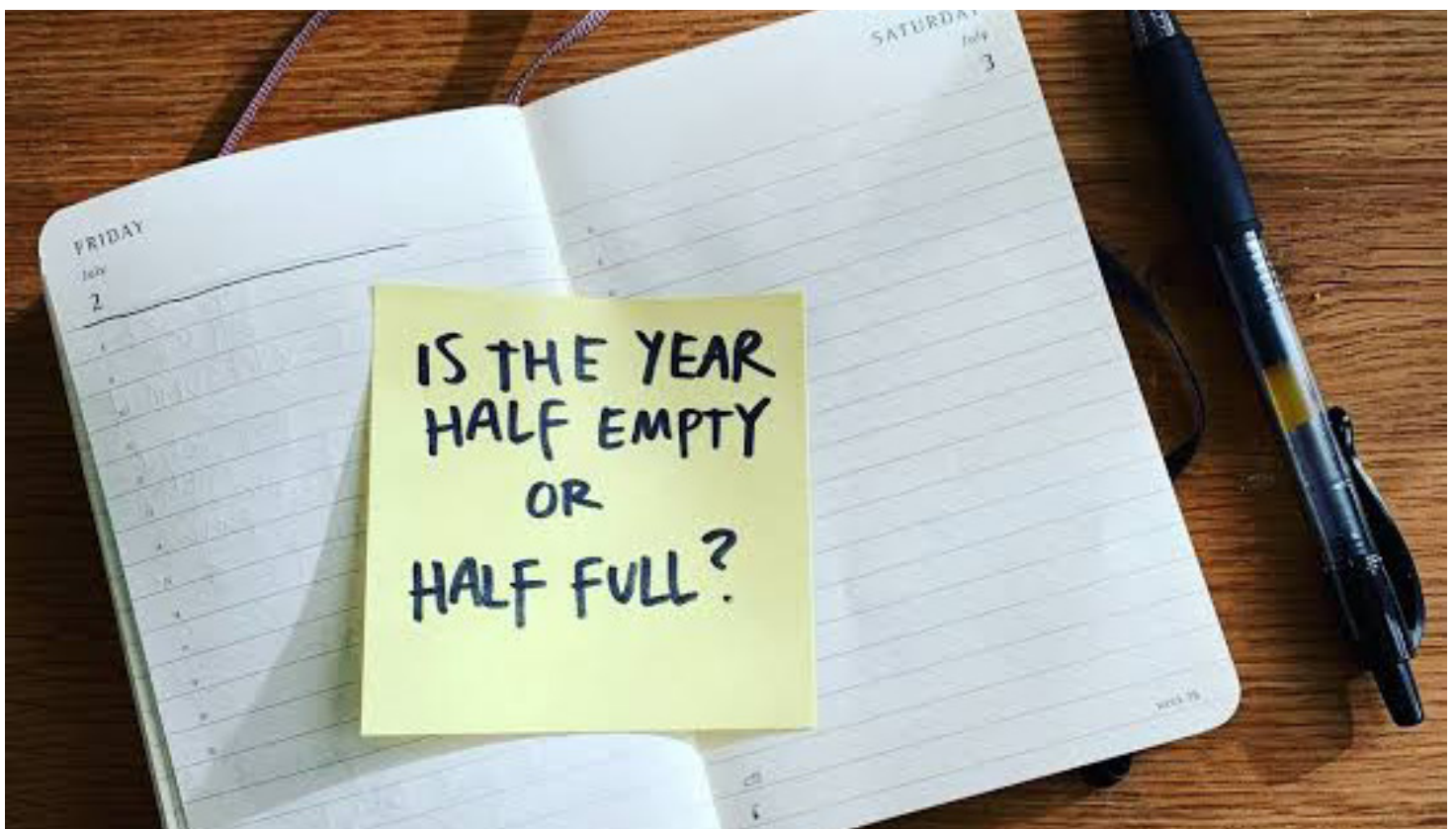
The first six months of the year have undoubtedly brought a mixture of successes, lessons, and unexpected circumstances. Throughout this period, employees have demonstrated dedication, resilience, and commitment in carrying out their responsibilities and supporting the goals of the organisation. Whether through completing key projects, improving service delivery, supporting colleagues, or overcoming obstacles, every contribution has played a role in shaping our collective progress.

Mid-year reflection is not only about looking back at what has been accomplished but also about identifying opportunities for growth and improvement. It allows us to evaluate our goals, assess our progress, and make adjustments where necessary. While some objectives may already have been achieved, others may still require renewed focus and effort. The good news is that there is still plenty of time to make meaningful progress before the end of the year.

The second half of the year provides a fresh start. It is an opportunity to renew our commitment to excellence and approach our work with energy and purpose. Small, consistent efforts often lead to significant outcomes over time. By remaining focused on our priorities and maintaining a positive attitude, we can continue to make a meaningful impact in our workplace and the communities we serve.

As we move forward, collaboration remains one of our greatest strengths. Success is rarely achieved in isolation. It is built through teamwork, mutual support, and a shared commitment to achieving common goals. By working together, sharing knowledge, and supporting one another, we create an environment where innovation, productivity, and growth can thrive.

Equally important is the need to prioritise our well-being. The demands of work and daily life can sometimes be overwhelming, making it essential to take care of our physical and mental health. Maintaining a healthy balance between professional responsibilities and personal well-being enables us to perform at our best and remain resilient during challenging times. Taking time to rest, recharge, and reconnect with what matters most is not a luxury but a necessity for long term success.





# HANG IN THERE, WE'RE HALFWAY THROUGH THE YEAR.

The second half of the year also presents an opportunity for personal and professional development. Learning new skills, embracing change, and seeking opportunities for growth can help us become more effective in our roles and better prepared for future challenges. Every experience, whether positive or difficult, offers valuable lessons that contribute to our growth and development.

As we embrace the months ahead, let us be inspired by the words of Robert Sobukwe: "There is no easy walk to freedom anywhere, and many of us will have to pass through the shadow of death again and again before we reach the mountaintops of our desires."

These words remind us that meaningful achievements often require perseverance, patience, and determination. Challenges are a natural part of any journey, but they should not discourage us from pursuing our goals. Instead, they should motivate us to remain steadfast, adapt when necessary, and continue moving forward with confidence.

The remainder of the year holds many opportunities to achieve success, strengthen relationships, and make a positive impact. Let us approach this next chapter with optimism, renewed purpose, and a commitment to excellence. By building on the progress we have already made and working together towards our shared objectives, we can ensure that the second half of the year is both productive and rewarding.

As we move forward, let us continue to support one another, celebrate our achievements, and embrace every opportunity to grow. Together, we have the ability to make the remainder of the year meaningful, impactful, and successful.

Here's to a strong and inspiring second half of the year.

HAPPY  
*Birthday*  
to you



01

- Ziqubu Luyanda
- Nong Tlou
- Tshitamba Mpfuzeni

07

- Qhum Mondli

10

- Msiya Unathi
- Mathibela Tshepo
- Kgole Khomotjo

12

- Tladi Molebogeng

13

- Sithole Nomagugu

14

- Maseya Precious

17

- Mbatha Muziwakhe
- Moshoeshe Emmanuel

18

- Tau Sabatho

19

- Ramonyathi Koketso

20

- Kekana Jane

24

- Ntsoane Gift

25

- Mokala Conty

26

- Baloyi Tinyiko Johannes
- Motsoeneng July

28

- Gwadiso Sinalo

29

- Mathabathe Caroline

30

- Phahla Mahlatse

31

- Strauss Chantelle



small business  
development

Department:  
Small Business Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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