



**KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**

**TREASURY**  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# E-DIALOGUE

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**HON. NOMUSA DUBE - NCUBE**  
MEC: FINANCE

*Theme: Provincial Budget 2022/23*



# E-DIALOGUE



## EXCITING TIMES AHEAD AS KZN FINANCE MEC NOMUSA DUBE-NCUBE TABLES HER PRO-POOR PROVINCIAL BUDGET SPEECH 2022/23 MTEF



**MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube presenting the 2022/23 Provincial Budget Speech.**

KwaZulu-Natal Finance MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube, tabled the 2022/23 MTEF Provincial Budget with huge emphasis on the economic recovery, improved fight against unemployment and paving the way for new jobs.

Taking a cue from Minister of Finance, Enoch Godongwana, MEC Dube-Ncube also gave additional allocations to some critical departments whose work impacts hugely on service delivery and social relief programmes.

"We are excited with this tabling of the 2022/23 Budget Speech Policy Statement. For us, it is a very important occasion as it charts the way in as far as outlining the government spending is concerned. We've taken stock of where bottlenecks are and have devised ways to dismantle those with the proper use of the public purse," said MEC Dube-Ncube.

MEC Dube-Ncube added that our new pledge of accelerating efforts to work efficiently and optimally with all departments will assist the government to firm up its efforts to curb over-spending and under-spending.

Presenting the budget speech MEC Dube-Ncube said: "We want this budget to help thousands of people who have been retrenched and condemned to rural villages and peri-urban informal settlements with no means of survival.

"We want each cent allocated from this budget to touch the life of a mother in a remote rural village whose children walk more than 20 kilometers to school. Each rand allocated from this budget, must change the lives of an aspiring group of women who have formed a co-operative."

MEC Dube-Ncube said that the Budget must be viewed within the context of ending the history of apartheid-designed economic exclusion.

"Resources have been allocated to the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs to strengthen small business development through various packages including incubation, mentorship and access to micro finance," she said.

## EXCITING TIMES AHEAD AS KZN FINANCE MEC NOMUSA DUBE-NCUBE TABLES HER PRO-POOR PROVINCIAL BUDGET SPEECH 2022/23 MTEF



**MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube presenting the 2022/23 Provincial Budget Speech.**

The MEC pronounced that the Department of Education will ensure that schools that are part of the National School Nutrition Programme procure food for school feeding schemes from the local village subsistence and emerging farmers. Stating: "We established RASET precisely for this reason to augment the efforts of the emerging farmers. This provides a market for the small scale farmers and inject millions to the rural economy."

The MEC emphasised that through Provincial Treasury, the department will use its procurement spend to intensify the KZN Buy Local Campaign.

"In addition, we will continue to encourage South African and global retail suppliers to source most of their products and services from emerging entrepreneurs from this great province. We are partnering with EDTEA, Proudly South African and the private sector to advocate for buying of local products. This is to ensure that the buying power of KZN promotes buying local."

The tabling of the Provincial Budget Policy Statement is then followed by the tabling of the Appropriation Bill, 2022 which, when passed, gives the legal basis for departments and public entities to spend their 2022/23 budgets.

***"We have a duty of creating awareness and educating our people to refrain from buying imported illicit goods which causes long term damage to our local economy as dumped goods kill jobs we so desperately need."***  
**-MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube**



**MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube gives a warm welcome to the newly appointed HOD, Mrs Carol Coetzee.**

KZN Treasury has received a shot in the arm through the appointment of a seasoned public sector tactician with a passion for clean governance and creativity.

Ms Carol Coetzee, fresh from a creative industry as Chief Executive Officer of the KZN Film Commission, has eagerly grabbed the baton from the former acting Head, Ms Neli Shezi, with a sharpened vision to take KZN Treasury to better heights.

HOD Coetzee became the CEO of the KZN Film Commission in October 2013 where she was required to set the strategic foundation and establish the systems, processes and policies in order for the business to begin operating from 1 February 2014. HOD Coetzee's role as CEO required her to provide strategic guidance and advice to her executive team; build solid partnerships and relationships with the industry and government organisations to co-ordinate the efforts in developing the film industry in KZN and to ensure that the mandate of the commission is achieved through demonstrative good governance and ethical business practices.

A qualified Chartered Accountant, HOD Coetzee is also skilled in Business strategy, Business Development, management consulting, financial management, Strategic and Business planning as well as project management. Prior to heading up KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission, she worked as the HOD and Accounting Officer for Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs in KZN for 5 years. HOD Coetzee also worked for KZN Provincial Treasury as the Accountant-General and Accounting Officer, where she was driving financial management reforms with the introduction of the PFMA from 2000.

"It feels great to return to an environment I once contributed to shaping in my previous capacity. For me it's home-coming. I have since met a fantastic team of senior managers who share the same vision I have for Provincial Treasury as a strategic arm of government excellence," stated HOD Coetzee.

Finance MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube was equally ecstatic with the arrival of HOD Coetzee saying getting senior qualified people in the public service was becoming a challenge.

"Ms Coetzee's appointment could not have come at a right time as this Sixth Administration was on the halfway mark, a critical period that defines our tenure, its successes and its challenges. We welcome her back to Provincial Treasury. With her hands-on approach, she brings with her a wealth of experience in financial management as an accounting officer.

In the same breath, we wish to thank DDG Neli Shezi who held the fort for some time while the post of Head of Department was vacant," said MEC Dube-Ncube.

***"It feels great to return to an environment I once contributed to shaping in my previous capacity."  
- HOD, Carol Coetzee***

## NEW HEAD OF DEPARTMENT, MRS CAROL COETZEE MEET AND GREET WALKABOUT

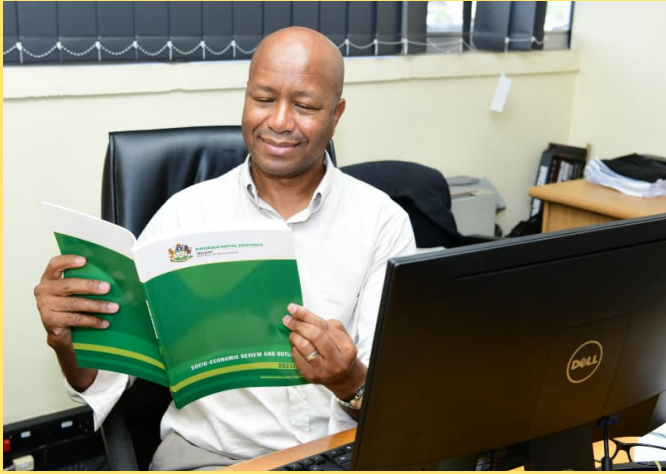


### **"IT'S GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK!"**

Colleagues who have worked with Mrs Coetzee before she left Treasury couldn't contain their excitement as she walked into their offices to introduce herself as the new Head of Department. Staff were happy to welcome Mrs Carol Coetzee saying: "It's good to have you back."

HOD Coetzee dedicated the morning on her first day at Treasury to meet and greet all Treasury employees office to office.

During the introductions, the HOD said jokingly: "My name is Carol, but you can call me whatever you like."



The Economic Analysis Unit, Acting Director, Mr Jacob Twala with his team published the SERO report for 2022/23.



The 2022 KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Socio-economic Review and Outlook (SERO) publication presents a broad overview of various socio-economic changes over the recent past, using a wide range of data sources.

SERO focuses on the socio-economic dynamics in KZN and makes policy recommendations to enable the achievement of the goals articulated in various national and provincial strategic policy documents.

In 2011, South Africa (SA) adopted the National Development Plan (NDP) Vision 2030. The primary aim of the NDP is to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030. In addition, the NDP reflects the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

The compilation of the publication is therefore guided by the solid foundation from the NDP, KZN Provincial Growth and Development Plan (PGDP), the revised 2019 to 2024 Medium-Term Strategic Framework, 2022 State of the Nation Address and the KZN State of the Province Address (SOPA).

The analysis in this publication is primarily on the population trends, development indicators, economic performance, the labour market dynamics in SA's provinces and the growing concern surrounding the effects of climate change.

The publication further disaggregates these socio-economic indicators by population group, sex, national, provincial and district municipalities. Finally, the report presents an evidence-based analysis using data from various credible and reliable sources.

As outlined in SERO, the adverse effects of the devastating COVID-19 pandemic, poverty rates have soared, inequality has widened across and within countries, and KZN is no exception. Subsequently, most of the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups with limited financial resources, lower levels of education, young people and women are the most hard-hit segments of the population. The pandemic has led to millions of deaths, job losses, business failures, and school closures and triggered globally the most encompassing economic crisis. Furthermore, SERO outlines the economic performance

and outlook and highlights priority interventions areas. Though the economy shows signs of recovery, the COVID-19 pandemic has severely hurt the global economy.

Like most countries, SA has vigorously expanded the roll-out of the national COVID-19 vaccine programme, with doses administered rising to 56 per 100 people as of 5 April 2022. However, this is counted as a single dose and may not equal the total number of people fully vaccinated, depending on the specific dose regime.

The aggressive roll-out of the vaccine has enabled the economy to open fully after close to two years under a state of emergency and economic lockdown since March 2020. However, economic recovery is further hindered by the continued electricity shortages.

In addition, despite the development and implementation of the National and Provincial economic recovery plans, a rise in social unrest in KZN and other parts of Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces in July 2021 was an unfortunate setback to the economic recovery in the country.

Therefore, economic growth in the country expanded by 4.6% in 2021, compared with a contraction of 6.4% in 2020. However, this growth is short-lived as the country is expected to moderate to 1.9% and 1.4% in 2022 and 2023, respectively.

***“Considering that most people have given up searching for jobs, the expanded unemployment rate in SA and KZN is almost double the official estimates, particularly among the youth.”***



The SERO report provides policy recommendations on managing the pandemic's negative impact and turning around the economy.

Furthermore, KZN continues to rebound from the contraction of 6.4% induced COVID-19 in 2020. As a result, the KZN's economy expanded by 4.2% in 2021. However, it is expected to remain at 1.7% in 2022 and 2023. Therefore, economic growth in the country expanded by 4.6% in 2021, compared with a contraction of 6.4% in 2020.

However, this growth is short-lived as the country is expected to moderate to 1.9% and 1.4% in 2022 and 2023, respectively. Furthermore, KZN continues to rebound from the contraction of 6.4% induced COVID-19 in 2020. As a result, the KZN's economy expanded by 4.2% in 2021. However, it is expected to remain at 1.7% in 2022 and 2023.

The inflation rate remains within the South African Reserve Bank's (SARB) targeted band of 3% to 6%. However, inflation is escalating rapidly and is currently at 5.7%, up from 4.5% in 2021. The SARB expect it to be 4.2% in 2022 and 5% in 2023. This high inflation prompted the central bank to increase interest rates to a cumulative 75 basis points from November 2021 to March 2022. As a result, the prime interest rate is currently at 7.75%, up from 7% in October 2021.

The high inflation is exacerbated by the rand's weakening against major currencies and increased commodity prices, including crude oil. In addition, global inflation accelerated significantly in 2021, reaching decade highs in other countries due to the rebound in global demand and economic activity, supply disruptions, and rising food and energy costs.

Finally, SERO illustrates that the labour markets, at both global and local levels, suffered severely from the adverse effects brought about by the COVID-19 crisis. As a result, unemployment in KZN remained high in the fourth quarter of 2021. However, considering that most people have given up searching for jobs, the expanded unemployment rate in SA and KZN is almost double the official estimates, particularly among the youth. This high unemployment rate implies that about five out of ten or 48.7% of economically active people are unemployed in KZN.

Therefore, SERO offers new insights into the effects of the pandemic and its interconnectedness on the potential spillover effects across sectors. Based on these highlighted socio-economic dynamics, the report provides policy recommendations on managing the pandemic's negative impact and turning around the economy.



## MEC DUBE-NCUBE LEADS ROBUST ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DISCUSSIONS AT POST-BUDGET BUSINESS BREAKFASTS WITH THE ETHEKWINI AND UMGUNGUNDLOVU BUSINESS FRATERNITY



MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube, Deputy Minister for Finance, Dr. Masondo, MEC Mavimbela, Cllr. Mxolisi Kaunda and MP KK Nkosi.

ENGAGEMENT with business is part of the culture of growing the economy and tapping into new opportunities as conditions change almost every day, said MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube.

The MEC for Finance and Leader of Government Business, Hon. MEC Dube-Ncube shared this message when she was addressing the business fraternity, academics, stakeholders in the social sector and influential professionals during the post budget business breakfasts held in Durban and Pietermaritzburg.

"This day for us really marks a very important occasion as government of KwaZulu-Natal, it is a day to engage with members of business, academia and other stakeholders that we work with around the social sector following the tabling of the budget for 2022/23," said MEC Dube-Ncube.

The Post Budget Business breakfast, is a key strategic engagement as it creates a platform to engage various captains of industry on the Provincial Budget. The business engagements further aim to solidify the commitment of an inclusive and consultative government.

The MEC said: "Today is the day where we felt its really important for our stakeholders to interact with what we presented during the budget speech. We do believe in a two way engagement as the government of KwaZulu-Natal. Our task is to engage with stakeholders

but also to find synergies in the work that we are doing as government, the academics as all other stakeholders."

In Durban, MEC Dube-Ncube was joined by the Deputy Minister of Finance, Dr. David Masondo, Ethekwin Municipality Mayor, Cllr. Mxolisi Kaunda, MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture, Mrs. Hlengiwe Mavimbela and the Chairperson of the Finance Portfolio Committee, Mr. KK Nkosi.

Speaking during the engagements, the Deputy Minister for Finance, Dr. David Masondo gave a national context of the Budget Speech presented by the Minister of Finance, Mr. Enoch Godongwane.

The Deputy Minister commended MEC Dube-Ncube on her budget stating: "There's a lot of synergies which demonstrate that we are working together very closely as the Finance team of this country. The MEC really presented a credible budget."

The Deputy Minister also gave an economic perspective on the impact of the Russia and Ukraine conflict and how it's going to affect this country's economy. The Deputy Minister said: "Yes our trade with Russia and Ukraine is very small, both imports and exports are less than 1% respectively but I think the concern here is that it will affect the performance of the global economy because we are not only talking about this country."



**MEC DUBE-NCUBE LEADS ROBUST ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DISCUSSIONS AT POST-BUDGET BUSINESS BREAKFASTS WITH THE ETHEKWINI AND UMGUNGUNDLOVU BUSINESS FRATENITY**



**Panelists: Luke Muller, Thandi Ngxongo, Dr. Yalezo, Mr. L Hlengwa, Palesa Phiri and facilitator, Alex Mthiyane.**

The Deputy Minister said that the supply of oil, is going to be affected because there will be disruptions globally. "We are already seeing it now, one litre of petrol is R21.00."

Giving a glimpse of hope, Dr. Masondo said that there is also an opportunity that the supply gap left by Russia can be filled by South Africa.

"We may see a demand for coal and other commodities to a point where there is a commodity boom, should this happen, we may have more tax revenue than estimated. Once we get that tax revenue, we need to use it in a manner that will have fiscal sustainability to deal with our debt in social services but also invest in growth enhancing activities."

He further said that the demand for gold can also increase because usually in this crisis people treat gold as a safe asset. He said: "The demand for gold can be a safe asset for some investors and South Africa is one of the countries that is producing gold."

During the engagements Dr Masondo also addressed the issue on the judgment on the preferential public procurement, PPPFA.

The Deputy Minister said: "We said that the state organs can continue to procure goods and services but they have got to seek exemption from National

Treasury. We have not stopped procurement but you have to apply for exemption and the email for exemption is cpo@treasury.gov.za."

He said that National Treasury has received a lot of requests for exemption from the PPPFA, it takes usually two days for the team to look at it and for the Minister to give an exemption.

"Make sure you have proper procurement policies, SCM policies and the reason why we say get exemption from us is so that you don't incur irregular expenditure as government because if you incur irregular expenditure at the end of the year, the Auditor-General is going to come very hard on you."

The Deputy Minister said that National Treasury is committed to deal with this matter as soon as possible, but in the meantime procurement continues under these conditions.

The Ethekwini post budget panelists were Mr. Luke Muller, Independent Economist and Businessman, Ms. Thandi Ngxongo, Chemical Engineer and Business Woman, Mr. L. Hlengwa Chairperson of ABASA - (Association for the Advancement of Black Accountants), Dr. B. Yalezo, Senior Lecturer: UKZN Graduate School of Business, Ms. Palesa Phiri, CEO of the Durban Chamber of Commerce.

## MEC DUBE-NCUBE LEADS ROBUST ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DISCUSSIONS AT POST-BUDGET BUSINESS BREAKFASTS WITH THE ETHEKWINI AND UMGUNGUNDLOVU BUSINESS FRATERNITY



**MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube, Umgungundlovu District Mayor, Cllr. Mzi Zuma, Msunduzi Local Municipality Mayor, Mzi Thebolla and CEO of the PMB and Midlands Chamber of Business, Melanie Veness, and Mrs Neli Shezi.**

The Pietermaritzburg leg of the Provincial Treasury Post-Budget Business Breakfast was held at Golden Horse Casino. MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube hosted a high-level panel who dissected her Budget Speech, and who pointed where opportunities could be exploited. The business breakfast was hosted in partnership with the Pietermaritzburg and Midlands Chamber of Business, with the CEO, Ms. Melanie Veness programme directing the session.

MEC Dube-Ncube said in her department's pursuit of a working province, she has recognised that it was imperative for all social partners to come together. "This is so that we know where the gaps need to be plugged. Through our push for the infrastructure revolution we have expressed a need for major investment in public infrastructure to alleviate poverty and drive job creation," she said.

MEC Dube-Ncube said the Post-Budget Breakfast also provides an opportunity for the business sector to contribute in the government programme of action by defining opportunities that can be tapped into to keep the economy afloat. "There is so much we could tap into whether we are talking about improving the education outcomes in our Province, or accelerating the provision of essential services to our communities, or talking about deepening social cohesion in our Province, to bring Prosperity to KwaZulu-Natal through allocation of our Pro-Poor Budget," she said.

Joined by Umgungundlovu District Mayor Cllr Mzi Zuma and Msunduzi Local Municipality Mayor Mzi Thebolla, MEC Dube-Ncube also emphasised on the importance of revenue collection by municipality not only as a way of municipalities to bring services, but to help stimulate the local economies.

MEC Dube-Ncube said the capacity of Local Governance is essential for all of government to render effective and efficient services to our communities. "We have therefore allocated more resources to COGTA. The budget will be used to strengthen our Intergovernmental Relations Structures to ensure better alignment between national, provincial and local government programmes and projects.

"We are also focusing on improving the effectiveness of municipal governance and in particular technical and financial management to improve service delivery and audit outcomes. It is true that some KZN municipalities have failed to live up to their mandate, and have failed to handle the public purse with integrity, having had to be placed under administration. We want to make a firm undertaking that we cannot in all honesty allow that situation to continue," said MEC Dube-Ncube.

## MEC DUBE-NCUBE LEADS ROBUST ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DISCUSSIONS AT POST-BUDGET BUSINESS BREAKFASTS WITH THE ETHEKWINI AND UMGUNGUNDLOVU BUSINESS FRATERNITY



*Panelists Wayne Evans, Zinhle Sokhela, Dr Sanele Gumede, Tanya Stielau and facilitator, Nomthi Mjuza.*

Joining the MEC were top panelists with a wide variety of skills in finance, economy and investment. Panelist Wayne Evans from South African Institute for Charter Accountants said the MEC's roadshows were critical in creating understanding of the budgeting process. He also said that youth empowerment is critical in building entrepreneurship among the youth. He nonetheless cautioned about the criticality of financial governance as a catalyst for growth. "Commitment in financial governance is critical for growth and sustainability," he said.

Panelist, businesswoman and fuel stations franchisee Zinhle Sokhela said as business they usually have exciting engagements with government but that in certain cases, business continues to suffer.

"Let's hope this will not be a talkshop, but will translate into programmes that will empower business to create jobs. We need to look deeper into our Economic Recovery Plan and ask ourselves what is it that we want to achieve," she said. Mrs Sokhela said it disheartened her as a business person when she gets about 30 CVs from people who are way over qualified and looking to be petrol attendants. "We need to see how we can use these skills to grow our economy and create proper jobs. One of the most unfortunate things is that most of the labour has been replaced by technology but we are expected to create jobs," she said.

Panelist and academic Dr Sanele Gumede cautioned that if the structure of "our economy was not changed" things would get worse. "We have created this government-reliant communities. We need to change the structure of our economy. An example is with regard to the infrastructure investment we need to create an environment conducive for business growth," he said.

Panelist and Provincial Treasury Chief Director of Public Finance Tanya Stielau said the government has put aside R86 million for infrastructure to be utilised by various government departments.



**MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube speaking at the launch of the Overport-based Netcare Parklands Hospital.**

MEC for Finance Nomusa Dube-Ncube has said that government hospitals have upped ante and are no longer viewed as places where people go to die.

MEC Dube-Ncube was speaking at the launch of the Overport-based Netcare Parklands Hospital's new Emergency Department which incorporates a trauma unit. MEC Dube-Ncube had been invited as a keynote speaker to deliver the keynote address to management and staff. The Emergency Department will be led by veteran Durban-based physician, Dr Aresh Misra.

"Gone are the days when our own state hospitals are viewed as death traps and institutions where our people go to die. Our mission as a government has been to develop and implement a sustainable, co-ordinated, integrated and comprehensive health system at all levels. We do this while guided by trustworthiness, honesty and integrity, open communication and transparency.

MEC Dube-Ncube said the government's delicate work in healthcare has meant that "we are one of the most litigated departments together with the SAPS by virtue of being in the frontline when it comes to interacting with our people," she said.

MEC Dube-Ncube said having emulated the private health care sector the KwaZulu-Natal government has sought partnerships to raise the bar even higher. She said the Inkosi Albert Luthuli Hospital was a glaring example of how much can be achieved through public private partnership.

"We did not end there, but the construction of the state-of-the-art and soon to be commissioned 500-bed Dr. Pixley ka Isaka Seme Memorial Hospital [PKISMH] in the PINK area is another example and a department from the norm and establishment," she said.

She revealed that to date, PKISMH was 99% complete with a phased-in implementation process already having commenced in the last few months, with further aspects of the commissioning occurring incrementally going forward.

"We hope today's occasion as you commission officially your emergency department will mark a period heightened and superior health care unsurpassed by any of the other efforts you have employed to better your services," said Dube-Ncube.

She said that the government of KwaZulu-Natal and South Africa were grateful to the private health care sector for opening its doors to allow millions of our people to get treatment during the height of Covid-19 in the past two year.

"Like the government, the private health care sector bore the brunt of this deadly pandemic which saw your resources and personnel stretched to the limit. You did not only open your doors, but helped us with testing and the rolling out of vaccines," she said. MEC Dube-Ncube said the coronavirus left the country reeling and warned that we were not yet out of the woods.

"This is the reason why Finance Minister, Enoch Godongwana last month allocated an additional R15.6 billion to provincial health departments to support their continued response to COVID-19, and to bridge shortfalls in essential goods and services. Dube-Ncube said the government has looked hard and with serious determination at the private health care sector as a yardstick upon which as a government we should measure ourselves in terms of high standards, quality and professionalism. "This is what this government has aimed to emulate in our pursuit to providing quality health care to our people," she said.

***"Gone are the days when our own state hospitals are viewed as death traps and institutions where our people go to die. Our mission as a government has been to develop and implement a sustainable, co-ordinated, integrated and comprehensive health system at all levels."  
- MEC Dube-Ncube***



**MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube and Mr Bonginkosi Makhathini launch of the R35 million Makhathini Medical Waste Treatment Facility in Cato Ridge .**

Finance MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube has said that black entrepreneurs and black industrialists are full proof that the government's Black Industrialist Programme was bearing fruits of success.

MEC Dube Ncube was visiting the launch and viewing of the R35 million Makhathini Medical Waste Treatment Facility in Cato Ridge where she had been invited to give a keynote address.

The firm is owned by Mr Bonginkosi Makhathini, a transport mogul in the transportation of human specimen in KZN public and private healthcare sector.

"Our Black Economic Empowerment policies have not been in vain," said MEC Dube-Ncube. She said Mr Makhathini was a shining example of government's investment in black business. In just under 12 years, Makhathini was able to build a big business through public sector contracts awarded to him by the National Health Laboratory Services and the KZN Department of Health. He has expanded his footprint across several other provinces.

MEC Dube-Ncube said companies like Makhathini Medical Waste prove that this government's decision to afford black entrepreneurs a chance to participate in the economy is a right one. "Our belief in the ability and resilience of our people is unsurpassed and Mr Makhathini is a shining example of such. He is proof that you can start small, with one bakkie, one spade, one grass-cutter and from those meagre resources you can build a big business."

The Black Industrialist Policy which aligns with the Industrial Policy Action Plan the National Development Plan and the Nine Point Plan was approved by Cabinet in 2015. Its purpose was to leverage the State's capacity to unlock the industrial potential that exists within black-owned and managed businesses.

In KwaZulu-Natal, MEC Dube-Ncube said the KZN Growth Fund is meant to accelerate Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment to also driving the province's black industrial policy and programme, a policy approved by the KZN Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs.

"We intend to continue to fund enterprises that meet the qualifying criteria, including SMMEs aimed at ensuring the establishment and promotion of sustainable emerging enterprises," she said. "Why am I revealing all this? I am stating these successes in order to inspire and jostle into action many other Makhathinis out there to let them know that it is possible and it is doable. Ever a relentless entrepreneur, Mr. Makhathini realised that you don't have to place your proverbial eggs into one basket," she said.

MEC Dube-Ncube said after his start-up, NNK Logistics, Mr. Makhathini knew that the glass ceiling could and should be shattered and he identified a need for a new venture in medical waste treatment in South Africa. "His belief in joining forces as black business has seen him partnering with another black entrepreneur, Dr Skiti of Buhle Waste to create one of the biggest black joint ventures in South Africa. In the process Mr Makhathini has given work opportunities to hundreds of people," she said.

"We are very proud of this. We are proud because Mr Makhathini did not just rest on his laurels after a single contract but used it to open closed doors which were previously shut to black people in this niche field of medical waste and treatment. It is amazing how you have traversed and navigated such a highly regulated industry," said MEC Dube-Ncube.

In response, Mr Makhathini who said that his medical waste enterprise started by processing 40 tons of waste and it's now up to 800, thanked the MEC. "I thank the MEC's remarks and I thank the government's support in ensuring that we as black business thrive. It's about grabbing the opportunities that are presented to you and we did just that," said Mr Makhathini.





