



Gauteng experienced more than a week of uninterrupted rain after severe water shortages, the country plunged into darkness with stage six load shedding and rolling blackouts, and the Northern and Eastern Cape continue to battle drought. These uncertainties and realities negatively affect all of us but can cripple small businesses and cause devastation in hardest hit communities. Amidst despair seek out hope whether it be reflecting on reasons to be thankful, giving to others or celebrating Miss South Africa Zozibini Tunzi being crowned Miss Universe 2019.



THE HOLIDAYS | Services SETA Office Closure

The holidays will give us all a chance to reflect, give and celebrate. Enjoy quality time with your loved ones and be sure to press the refresh button so that you return ready for 2020!

The Services SETA offices will be closed from close of business on Friday 13 December 2019 until 08 January 2020.

THE DIALOGUE | Cultivating Communities of Practice

The Research and Dialogue Technical Task Team met on 04 December 2019 to reflect on successes, challenges and next steps for the Communities of Practice (CoPs) and GEW 2019 Online Conversations with Entrepreneurs.

The 4th round of CoP webinars will take place as follows:

- Business Advisory Services (BAS) CoP: 10 March 2020 from 11h00 to 13h00. The programme will cover strategies for improving the quality of business advisory services presented in the draft Discussion Paper and at the provincial stakeholder engagements. Anecdotal reports show variable degrees of understanding indicating the need for more dialogue!
- Research, Monitoring & Evaluation (RM&E) CoP: 05 March 2020 from 11h00 to 13h00. This will be a closed dialogue with public universities offering postgraduate qualifications in Entrepreneurship. The discussion will explore sharing of research and contributing to the development of the national research agenda.

GEW 2019 Online Conversations with Entrepreneurs – Part 2:

Despite all the obstacles experienced in reaching out to social and township entrepreneurs, the benefits of continuing these Online Conversations with Entrepreneurs are undeniable. Entrepreneurs benefit from having a platform to be heard, cultivating peer support networks and accessing valuable information. Intermediaries benefit from keeping abreast of demand, sustaining relevance and avoiding the risk of becoming trapped in a supply-side echo chamber. In preparation for part 2, a workshop with intermediaries will be convened for 11 February 2020 from 10h00 to 12h00. Invitations will be sent out in the New Year. Thereafter dates for part 2 will be set.

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THE COLLABORATION | ECDi-DHET InterSETA Committee

EWSETA hosted the EIC (ECDi-DHET InterSETA Committee) meeting on 05 December 2019. Competing priorities at this time of year affected attendance but not value.



Highlights include:

- The NSDPs increased emphasis on skills development and the promotion of entrepreneurship.
- Review of the new SETA performance indicators related to entrepreneurship.
- Plans to extend collaboration on Township and Rural SME Development and Cooperative Support. For this purpose, a joint workshop between the EIC and the DSBD-SEDA-sefa-Services SETA Joint Steering Committee was recommended for February 2020.

An exciting announcement can be expected in the next issue of the ECDi Newsflash!



THE ANNOUNCEMENT | TSHWANE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Dr Alufheli Edgar Nesamvuni, Executive Dean: Faculty of Management Sciences, Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) shares some exciting new developments:



In May 2020, TUT will launch a Certificate in Impact Entrepreneurship (ICE).

The Certificate will be offered as an Executive Programme at the newly named Tshwane School for Business and Society (formerly TUT Business School). The Certificate will be offered in conjunction E4Impact Foundation and the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore of Milan (UCSC). The 1st cohort is planned to graduate in November 2020, during Global Entrepreneurship Week. The Certificate is aimed at Township Entrepreneurs.

TUT will also be launching the Advanced Programme in Business Advising in 2020. This programme will be delivered in conjunction with the Institute of Business Advisors Southern Africa (IBASA). The programme is designed for candidates who plan to do business advising as a career. It is therefore aimed at practising business advisors with at least a NQF level 6 qualification.

THE MEMBERSHIP | SiMODiSA

Ms Matsi Modise, Vice Chairperson, SiMODiSA START-UP announced its transition to a membership based organisation and invited individuals and organisations that support the development and growth of start-ups and scale-ups to join for FREE. [CLICK HERE](#)



SiMODiSA brings together and represents organisations that support entrepreneurs, facilitates access to resources that support entrepreneurs and engages the government on policy related matters.

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