

**EPHRAIM MOGALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**



**VISION: "A WORLD CLASS AGRICULTURAL HUB OF CHOIC**

**SPEECH BY HIS WORSHIP MAYOR CLLR GIVEN MOIMANA DURING THE  
LOCAL ECONOMIC SUMMIT HELD ON THE 28 JUNE 2023 AT MARBLEHALL  
TOWN HALL**

Hon Speaker

Whip of council

Exco members

Councillors

Municipal Manager

SEDA

LEDA

SDA

Cooperatives and Businesses

Members of community

Hon Speaker

We are meeting here today during the last day of Youth month. This year, 2023 marks 47<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the uprising where scores of students protested, against others, the use of Afrikaans as a medium of instruction.

The commemoration is part of the government effort to preserve the legacy of the class of 1976 for the key role they played in the struggle against apartheid.

Government calls on today's youth to awaken the spirit of 1976, where young people were actively involved in defining their future and the country they wanted.

The protest started in Soweto and spread to other parts of the country; Thousands of peaceful protesters were brutally killed by apartheid regime.

Unemployment has been caused by low growth, which has in turn resulted from a long-term decline in investment.

In the last year, we have benefited from a clear and stable macroeconomic framework, strong commodity prices and a better-than-expected recovery.

However, we have been held back by covid, unreliable electricity supply, inefficient network industries, high repo rates and

Covid has impacted negatively on both small and big businesses, as a result it caused lot of job losses.

We have been taking extraordinary measures to enable businesses to grow and create jobs alongside expanded public work employment in order to address the high rate of unemployed youth.

Around 80 per cent of all the people employed in Marblehall are employed in the private sector.

The key task of the Municipality is to provide services to the people of Ephraim Mogale and at the minimal create the conditions that will enable the private sector – both big and small – to emerge, to grow, to access new markets, to create new products, and to hire more employees.

Programme Director

This LED summit should not be seen as talk shows or ticking the boxes. We should do everything in our power to give small businesses an opportunity to access funding at market and funding.

These companies that are making business within our municipality should also assist the emerging business with relevant expertise and exposure to big markets.

Programme Director

Our LED strategy and policy are our guiding documents that should address the real issues on the ground and help us to curb the triple challenges and improve the living conditions of our people.

Programme director

The previous years we have fund thirty six (36) Small medium and micro enterprises, and some have created lot of job opportunities in our villages.

Porgramme Director

You would recall that SMMEs have formed an integral part of South Africa's economic development policy since the dawn of democracy. As it is the case in many developing countries.

And we are planning to fund thirteen projects this financial year

We need to closely monitor the performance of these projects to ascertain whether they are impactful and realistic.

Programme director

Gone are those days where the municipality would just fund without seeing the results of the funded projects.

Today as we have gathered in here, we need to take resolutions that are going to bind all the funded

businesses to report back to the institution In terms of their operation.

We need to assist those that are struggling to take off and give them necessary skills.

Programme Director

Small medium micro enterprises are seen as the engines of growth and sector that will provide the most job opportunities. We all know that government does not create jobs. Business creates jobs. As the Municipality we would do what is humanly possible to ensure that we budget funding for the small businesses to thrive.

I Thank you