Minister Rob Davies launches first phase of revitalised Seshego Industrial Park

21 July 2016

The Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr Rob Davies, the Premier of Limpopo, Mr Stan Mathabatha and the MEC for Economic Development, Environment and Tourism in Limpopo, Mr Seaparo Sekoati will officially launch the completion of the first phase of the revitalised Seshego Industrial Park in Polokwane on Thursday, 28 July 2016.

The Seshego Industrial Park will be the second park to be launched following the completion of the first phase of revitalisation. Minister Davies launched the Botshabelo Industrial Park in the Free State last month. The revitalisation of Seshego Industrial Park is part of the R189 million invested in covering six prioritised parks under the Department of Trade and Industry's (the dti) Industrial Parks Revitalisation Programme, to promote industrialisation and increase the contribution of the parks to job creation and the country's economic growth.

The revitalisation is implemented in phases focusing on various areas. the dti spent R21m for the first phase of the Seshego Industrial Park's revitalisation project.

"the dti has recognised that industrial parks have the capacity to serve as catalysts for broader economic and industrial development in their host regions, mainly townships and rural areas. We would like to see them contributing to economic growth, diversification of economic activity, attracting investments to the areas they are located in, job creation and addressing the problem of inequality," says Minister Davies.

He adds that industrial parks represent an opportunity for stimulating local economic development, growth and job creation. They further offer an opportunity for the influx of foreign direct investments.

"There is a need to stimulate industrial growth within these regions, including the current operating areas of the industrial parks some of which operate close to townships, distressed mining towns and labour sending areas," adds Minister Davies.

MEC Sekoati says the revitalised Seshego Industrial Park will promote the growth of small businesses and co-operatives, attracting investments, and encouraging manufacturing.

"Our department welcomes and appreciates efforts of the dti to revitalise the Seshego Industrial Park. We are confident that the revitalisation will go a long way in improving the infrastructure and facilities at the park. This will provide companies located in the park with more than a sense of security but also with upgraded facilities that will encourage them to invest more in their businesses in order to grow and expand them," says MEC Sekoati.

He adds that the upgraded infrastructure and facilities will also attract other investors to set up operations in the park. All of these will assist in growing the economy of Polokwane in particular and that of Limpopo in general.

"Our efforts of creating employment and transforming the economy will also receive further boost," says MEC Sekoati.

Enquiries: Sidwell Medupe-Departmental Spokesperson Tel: (012) 394 1650 Cell: 079 492 1774 E-mail: <u>MSMedupe@thedti.gov.za</u> Twitter: <u>@the_dti</u>