



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Pragmatic approach for Limpopo HRD Council as they visit Vhembe TVET College

The Limpopo Human Resources Development Council (LHRDC) took a pragmatic approach to its meeting of 22 March 2023 by touring the campus of the Vhembe Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College in Makwarela, Thulamela Municipality. The aim of the tour was to assess the impact of skilling the workforce within the college, especially looking at the partnerships that the TVET has established to improve their infrastructure and course content.

The Member of Executive Council (MEC) for Limpopo Department of Education, Ms. Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanye, who was representing the Premier of Limpopo Mr. Chupu Mathabatha, said: "As a Council we appreciate the principal and team of Vhembe TVET College for allowing us to have a practical view of work they do in this area. The Premier of Limpopo has always emphasised that we should not work in silos so that we realise and attend to the skills gap in the province.

"We were here to evaluate how the TVET and Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) assist us as municipalities and provincial government. We expect the input from these sessions to factor into the District Development Model. We saw and are pleased with how the Vhembe TVET College is enhancing the whole issue with greater impact on economic growth of our province."

The Principal of Vhembe TVET college, Ms Basani Hlekani, was ecstatic that the Council had chosen to host the meeting and tour her campus. She said the visit meant a lot to the campus because the LHRD Council is going to understand that there is something that the province can do in terms of skills that will have impact on the economy.

"The programmes here look at the skills that have impact on the economic factors of the province. We offer automotive engineering, civil engineering, tourism, and skills programmes that focus on cyber security, drones, 3D and we also have mega space for entrepreneurship," Hlekani said.

In its agenda, the LHRDC looked at the impact of the two special economic zones, Musina-Makhado and Fetakgomo-Tubatse and what they would require in skills development. The CEO of Musina-Makhado SEZ, Mr. Lehlogonolo Masoga indicated that they are looking forward to the beginning of the relationship between them and the Vhembe TVET College that will have one of its campuses within the SEZ. He said that

the current work at the MMSEZ has accommodated the new campus that will be built there to enhance skills in the province.

The LHRD Council creates a platform for institutions of higher education such as TVET colleges and the Department of Higher Education and Training to collaborate with government to coordinate a process to develop skills for the provincial economy. It also provides government with an opportunity to spearhead the process to ensure that skills development focus on skills for the future of work, especially those that have potential to enhance 4IR operatives.

The meeting also learned that the SETAs within the cluster have collectively contributed approximately R162 million in Limpopo skills development in the current financial year.

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