



MPUMALANGA ECONOMIC GROWTH AGENCY

Growing the economy in the place of the rising sun

The Mpumalanga Economic Development Agency (MEGA) is an entity of the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development and Tourism. The entity itself was borne of a merger of three institutions: The Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency (the former MEGA), responsible for funding small, medium and micro-enterprises, promoting trade and investment and property management; The Mpumalanga Agricultural Development Corporation (MADC),

responsible for financing and growing agricultural projects; and the Mpumalanga Housing Finance Company (MFHCo), which was responsible for housing finance.

The mandate of MEGA is to provide business loan funding; agro-processing, primary and secondary agriculture, home loan facility; to promote trade and investment; and property and infrastructure development and management in Mpumalanga. Furthermore, the Agency invests in strategic projects that require an equity partner, such as the Tekwane Citrus Farm, Nkomali Anthracite and Loopspruit Wine Estate.

Products and Services offered for enterprise development

MEGA offers the following products and services to enterprises:

- Loan funding, through term loans
- Bridging finance, linked to an existing contract
- Implementation of Provincial Government Programmes such as the Premier Youth Development Fund
- Provide home loan facility
- Financing of solar system
- Facilitate foreign trade investment and promotion
- Provide business aftercare and support
- Property management and development

Qualifying criteria

- Applicant with a viability business case
- Businesses must comply with all relevant industry laws and regulations
- The business must be owned by South African (SA) citizens who have a valid SA ID document and be at least 18 years of age and must have the necessary contractual capacity;
- The business must create a reasonable number of jobs
- The business must be located and operate within the borders of Mpumalanga Province
- Business with meaningful participation of women, youth and persons with disabilities will be viewed more favourably
- The applicant must exhibit a reasonable credit record
- The business must be registered with CIPC, except for emerging/ small-scale farmers
- The business entity shall not have been put under judicial management
- The applicant must have access to land (leased, communal, usufruct or owned) and/or access to production facilities

Message from Mr Thulani Nobela, Trade and Investment Promotion General Manager

The Trade and Investment Promotion Division, promotes the Mpumalanga Province as an Investment destination and Foreign Trade and Logistics Hub, within various sectors and numerous industries, as the world class investment destination. Foreign Trade Promotion focuses on developing and promoting export trade from the Province and facilitating trade along the MDC.

"Through the Trade and Investment Promotion Division, the focus is to promote the Mpumalanga Province to international investors who will contribute towards creating a positive economic impact within the Province, while also playing a pivotal role of providing export opportunities for the local businesses. The Division is planning to use the upcoming trade fairs during the year to promote more companies, the People of Mpumalanga must be on the lookout to ensure that they participate". **General Manager: Thulani Nobela.**



Message from Erick Nyathikazi, Properties and Infrastructure Division

The Division is responsible for three main functions, namely, properties and infrastructure division. The core purpose of the division is to utilise the MEGA/ Provincial property portfolio and infrastructure assets to advance growth and economic development within the Mpumalanga Province. While addressing the above: "Most of the properties under MEGA's management were inherited from the former self-governing administrations of Kangwane and Kwanabele and are old. Buildings and infrastructure were constructed in the 1980's and after being taken over were not properly managed and/or maintained. Currently a lot of them are dilapidated and require massive capital injection to be brought to their former glory.

"To ensure a vibrant property portfolio, the Entity has developed and adopted a property turn-around strategy that will ensure that MEGA owns and manages a profitable, financially sustainable, and a growing and diverse property portfolio. Amongst the major shortcomings to be addressed as a matter of priority is in (the area of) property and facilities management. Inadequate property and facilities management is directly responsible for the decline in rental and related revenue that the entity has been experiencing in the last 10 years. This deficiency also often leads to permanent damage or loss of assets. In response, senior management within the Properties and Infrastructure Division has developed and secured approval of a property and facilities management policy and detailed operating procedures that shall ensure effective management throughout each property's life cycle. These are currently being diligently implemented. The entity has also appointed a facilities and utilities management company to take over the operational aspects of managing Ekandustria industrial estate, which is MEGA's largest revenue generator by far. The Division is also being capacitated with the relevant technical expertise to enable it to better manage all existing assets and develop a strong pipeline of property development and infrastructure projects that will secure MEGA's long-term future". **General Manager: Erick Nyathikazi**



Message from Ms Cynthia Nkuna, Funding Division General Manager

The Funding Division is the core unit within MEGA which provides funding in respect of housing loan facility, solar system, business and agricultural loans and as well as implementation of the Provincial government programmes.

"The Funding team is focusing on the implementation of the Premier Youth Development Fund, to ensure that more young people get an opportunity to participate within the economy, build their legacy and help in job creation. One of the major challenges will always be budget constraints for direct lending, however, as a Division we are working on forming strategic partnerships to help raise funds. We are excited to be finalising the product development and implementation of the "solar system facility", which will be rolled out and available for the end-user before the end of the year 2024". **General Manager: Cynthia Nkuna**



Message from the CEO, Mr Isaac Mahlangu

It takes a while for us to address the elephant in the room, that is, youth entrepreneurship, the challenges faced by start-up business and the important role played by entrepreneurs within the Mpumalanga Province economy.

What we now need to re-consider earnestly is the strategies and or tactics to make agriculture attractive for the youth. The youth is an important player in society. MEGA seeks to fund and provide business aftercare to entrepreneurs who live a life of service, who recognise the gaps, the inequities, and the needs in our communities and then imagine how life could, or should be, and work toward that end – seeking change that brings human flourishing, wholeness, and harmony. I believe we are where we are today due largely to the consensus that working together we can do more. I believe it is in this context that we should respond to the call for cooperation.

We can do better. We must do better. Comfortable inaction is what we must avoid.

MEGA is responsible for the implementation of the Premier Youth Development Fund (PYDF). The fund targets youth-owned businesses operating within the Province. The Premier Youth Development Fund (PYDF) is one of the flagship projects to realise the Vision 2030. The strategic focus of the PYDF is on enterprise development as a key strategy that will increase economic opportunities for, and participation by Mpumalanga youth in nation-building.

Through the fund young people have benefited to start and also to scale up their business, through the fund the Province has been able to create sustainable jobs and help to curb the high youth unemployment rate.

There must be adequate youth empowerment programmes similar to PYDF, infrastructure investments and dedication to digital innovation to help stimulate job creation, lift communities out of poverty and reduce inequality within South Africa. Key success factors for youth economic empowerment, are as follows:

- A collaborative and participatory approach is necessary to ensure youth development and participation in policy formulation and instilling citizenship amongst youths;
- Youth must be the targeted group in all public and private interventions focused on economic development and empowerment;
- The responsibility of youth economic empowerment should be a shared obligation amongst all stakeholders and implementing agents to ensure strong coordination and cooperation for the success;
- The youth must have improved access to economic information to ensure their development and for them to contribute positively to the country's economic and social development.

As I said, we can only get it right by working together. This applies to all the areas that I have touched on: from strong capital injection into youth enterprises across various sectors today to better growth tomorrow, attracting strategic partners for the MEGA infrastructure refurbishment, forming collaboration with foreign investors to facilitate economic growth and access to broader market opportunities so that we live in today, to the better world we can create in the future. This new approach to youth development is urgently needed to boost growth and generate confidence in our common future.



Company details:
MEGA Office Park
02 Eastern Boulevard Riverside
Mbombela
1200 Mpumalanga
+27 13 492 5818

Buffelspruit address:
Jeppes Reef Road
Mhlambanyathi River Buffelspruit

Secunda address:
Grand Palace Building
Heunis Street
2nd Floor Suite C3
+27 017 654 8458 / 4199

Nkangala address:
215 Ilicium Street
Ekandustria
+27 13 933 3421

info@mega.gov.za

www.mega.gov.za

megampumalanga

MLCAMpumalanga

mega_mpumalanga