



PRESIDENTIAL JOBS SUMMIT

Address by Community Constituency Leader at Nedlac:
Thulani Tshefuta at the
Opening of the Presidential Jobs Summit,
Gallagher Convention Centre,
Johannesburg



Acknowledgements

- President of the RSA – HE President Ramaphosa
- NEDLAC constituencies

Intro, background and context



- In the 2018 SONA, HE President Ramaphosa asserted that: “At the centre of our national agenda in 2018 is the creation of jobs, especially for the youth. One of the initiatives will be to convene a Jobs Summit to come up with practical solutions and initiatives that will be implemented immediately”
- Firstly, we wish to commend the social partners for the collective effort we have undertaken in pursuing this mandate
- The 2018 Presidential Jobs Summit must distinguish itself from many other by making full commitment to take action and implement the agreements of the Summit

Intro, background and context



- For some time now, the South African discourse has been consistent on decrying the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality as being unacceptably high, deepening and persistent respectively.
- The NDP Diagnostic Report identified poor educational outcomes and lack of employment as the two main challenges of our society.
- The NDP is not a 30 year plan as some may think. It only has a remaining lifespan of 11.2 years now. Unless key catalysts are introduced, we may miss the critical targets of the NDP and thereby hold a false promise against it.

Intro, background and context



- These catalysts may include:
 - Attracting investments and reigniting economic growth
 - Stimulate and support economic activity through SMMEs and cooperatives including in townships and rural areas
 - Promote and support youth employment and entrepreneurship
 - Provide training and skills development to leverage the productive capacities of our people
 - Leverage the power of procurement as a stimuli
 - Social partners should take collective action to build confidence on our economy
 - Restore the integrity of the state and crackdown on corruption

Youth Employment



- The 2016 Stats-SA Report on The Social Profile of Youth 2009 – 2014 confirms the Youth Bulge
 - Opportunities and Threats
 - Demographic Dividend
- The Stats-SA Report highlights the following structural factors as the binding constraints:
 - Education
 - Skills
 - Race
- The phenomenon of unemployed graduates
- Society must be happy to have youth who demand free quality education
 - Tenders
 - Free Housing, Health, etc



Education and Skills Development:

- Our education and training system must create multiple exit points with articulation
- All education and training providers must provide compulsory school-to-work and job prep programmes
- SOCs, SETAs, FETCs and Private Sector must collaborate to deliver technical and vocational skills
- 100% Placements on WIL, Internships, Apprenticeships
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)
- Affirm the principle of Second Chances
 - Matric Rewrite
 - PSET drop-outs
- Skills Development Plan = EIA (Skills for and through)



Economic Sector Interventions:

- Leverage from Infrastructure Development, Green Economy, Digital Migration, etc.
- Competition Penalties / BEE / EE
- Beneficiation
- Localisation and buying local



SMME Support:

- Economic Development must focus on both formal and self-employment
- Promote genuine youth entrepreneurship through a coherent coordination of interventions including:
 - -Entrepreneurship
 - - Business Development Support
 - - Funding
 - - Market Linkages
 - - Mentorship and support
 - - Sustainability and expansion
- There must be a set target of procurement from Youth Cooperatives, supported by capacity building: Textiles, Bread, etc.

Education



General Factors To Enable Employment:

- Job Adverts with TVET Qualifications
- Experience vs Potential
- Practical costs of looking for employment



Guiding Principles:

- In order to achieve impact, the programmatic choice and design of youth development must be underpinned by the following considerations and imperatives:
 - Low entry barriers
 - Accessibility
 - Reach
 - Scale
 - Visible outcomes
 - High impact



Conclusion:

- Theory of Change
- As we shift the growth path, we also have to change the content of empowerment and that will only happen through skills development
- Outstanding tasks on the post Summit process
- Part of the solution