

STRENGTHENING FINANCIAL PRACTICES: NORTH WEST ARTISTS PARTICIPATE IN NDA'S BOOKKEEPING WORKSHOP



Zeerust - The National Development Agency (NDA) in collaboration with the Department of Arts, Culture, Sports and Recreation (DACSR) - through a memorandum of understanding - workshopped 50 artists from all four districts of the North-West (NW) province. The 3-day session was hosted at MmaBana Centre in Lehurutshe Zeerust within the Ramotshere-Moiloa Local Municipality and trained the participants on basic bookkeeping and financial management.

‘The Department has identified a number of interventions to enhance the development of various skills within the creative and cultural industries in our province. Within the coming financial year, we will train no less than 500 beneficiaries. We believe upskilling this sector will ensure that these professionals are able to independently run their enterprises and remain compliant’, says Mr Itumeleng Mogorosi, DACSR Head of Department.

The training covered topics including financial accountability, policies, how to set up a bookkeeping system, procedures of accounting, accounting for transactions in the books, budget management and more. Knowledge of these financial principles ensures that all the precautionary measures are taken to prevent misuse of funds and to keep funds and records relating to their enterprises secure.

As an agency of government responsible for contributing towards the eradication of poverty and its causes, the NDA in discharging its mandate, must empower and enhance the capacity of community owned enterprises and civil society organisations. *“The NDA’s capacity building programme intervention is aimed at enhancing capabilities of community owned organisations to registration requirements and reporting requirements to funders.*

At the end, the participants institutional capacity is strengthened to ensure that they can manage their organisations and operations efficiently through planning, organising and controlling their financial systems,” says **NDA NW Provincial Manager Mr Potlako David Ntlatleng**.

One of the participants from Makgori CAC, **Mr Jerry Mabotja** upon completing the course said, *“The bookkeeping and financial management workshop was an eye opener for many of the artists who participated, me included. I have learnt a lot about accounting and filing systems, budgeting and all the processes of recording the funds that come in and out of the organisation. During the training, I spotted several mistakes we are making in our NPO. I am now in the process of rectifying them”.*

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