

## **NOTES FOR CLLR SQI SHEZI at DUT FUNCTION**

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Programmed Director,

Vice Chancellor,

Academics,

Students,

Staff,

Honoured guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for inviting us to grace this occasion. We support the concept and any programme that seeks to promote business and job opportunities. Our vision is to see more you graduating from universities and becoming employees or employers. We need more people to create job opportunities instead of looking for jobs. We are looking for people who are prepared to take risk – risk takers are real entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurship is about changing lives of our people and seizing opportunities. We are glad that this university is embracing the concept of social entrepreneurs.

Social entrepreneurs drive social innovation and transformation in various fields including education, health, environment and enterprise development. They pursue poverty alleviation goals with entrepreneurial zeal, business methods and the courage to innovate and overcome traditional practices. A social entrepreneur, similar to a business entrepreneur, builds strong and sustainable organizations, which are either set up as not-for-profits or companies.

A social entrepreneur is a leader or pragmatic visionary who:

- Achieves large scale, systemic and sustainable social change through a new invention, a different approach, a more rigorous application of known technologies or strategies, or a combination of these.
- Focuses first and foremost on the social and/or ecological value creation and tries to optimize the financial value creation.
- Innovates by finding a new product, a new service, or a new approach to a social problem.
- Continuously refines and adapts approach in response to feedback.
- Combines the characteristics represented by Richard Branson and Mother Teresa.

Programme Director,

The introduction of the eThekweni Radical Economic Transformation Framework in February 2017 by Mayor Zandile Gumede, aims to demonstrate that the City's leadership is committed to accelerating service delivery, providing economic opportunities to poor and unemployed residents and growing the small business sector. The Framework aims to improve the economic and social wellbeing of poor communities by, among other things, setting aside 30 percent of work for emerging businesses.

The framework ensures that all service providers, contractors, suppliers up to the ward level are registered on its database, the bid specifications

are done in line with the amended preferential procurement legislation emphasizing on contract participation goals and enterprise development.

The empowerment initiatives like the incubation programme for business entities trading within eThekweni Municipality area have already commenced which seeks to address the following;

- Immediate concerns pertaining to sustainable SMMEs and Cooperatives, Poverty and Inequality, Unemployment and localization of business opportunities in order to develop a thriving and integrated local economy.
- It will also address immediate issues around food security, basic household nutritional needs and asset investment in all poorest households of the municipality in order to create sustainability and self sufficiency of these households .

To highlight the few targeted areas are supply of grocery for soup kitchens ; detergents manufacturing , supply of toilet papers ; office furniture ; uniform and protective wear; construction material ; community based contracts ; removal of illegal signs etc.

The Radical Agrarian Socio-Economic Transformation (RASET) programme is an initiative by government to transform the economy through addressing the structural constraints and imbalances in the food value chain. RASET is aimed at stimulating the participation of previously disadvantaged individuals (PDI) into the food production value chain. The target market is across age, gender and family composition.

I thank you.