



18 August 2023

iSIMANGALISO WETLAND PARK AUTHORITY CELEBRATES CLEAN AUDIT



The iSimangaliso has consummate clean audit opinion from the Auditor General South Africa. The last time the Entity achieved a clean audit date back to seven years ago. This comes after a range of robust financial control and improvements in the internal control system and processes made by the current management of iSimangaliso.

The news coincided with the Board tour, Board members and the management of iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority on a five-day tour celebrated this huge achievement. Furthermore, the board of iSimangaliso Wetland Park has been recently appointed. Exhilaration was throughout the tour; board got an exposure of the Park, jewels, superlative natural beauty, infrastructure development in the Park and community developments etc. It is within the mission of the Park Authority to benefits the communities living in and adjacent through community development projects and programs

iSimangaliso has trained more than 250 enterprises, those enterprises created more than 1400 job opportunities in local communities, which makes profits of more than R10 Billion. In addition, the organization has also supported 47 tertiary students through its tertiary support program. Twenty-one of the cohorts have graduated in various institutions; four of them are employed by iSimangaliso in the Groen Sebenza program, five employed by other companies and six enrolled their postgraduate studies. iSimangaliso Wetland Park is within the uMkhanyakude district, this district is known to be a poverty node. The Park Authority implements community projects and programs that seek to benefit community members and alleviate poverty within uMkhanyakude District.



Exciting stories, Department Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, Ms Barbara Creecy re-appointed Mr Sibusiso Bukhosini as a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority. During his first term, Mr Bukhosini worked diligently, and the results have been witnessed. Clean audit opinion comes under his leadership. On his keynote address, Mr Bukhosini expressed his joy on the achievement obtained. He said, "It was not an easy task to obtain this clean audit, but through working hard and submitting all necessary documents throughout to Auditor General it was concluded that we have done everything we said we will do. On top of achieving the clean audit, iSimangaliso also achieved 100% performance on all its Annual Performance Plan targets, and this is for three years in succession now. One can now see that this train is indeed moving and it is moving very fast, just like I said when I took over as the CEO of iSimangaliso".

The following table shows the number of community members that have benefited from iSimangaliso through some of the projects that were implemented since the first term in office in 2019.

STATS ON SMMEs & JOB OPPORTUNITIES CREATED FOR THE IMPOVERISHED						
Item #	Project Name	#SMMEs	# of Jobs	# of Youth	# of Women	# of Disable
1	Park Construction Projects	38	304	165	148	0
2	EPWP	99	1588	611	869	47
3	Working for Programmes Guards	5	194	95	33	0
3	Environmental Monitors	N/A	130	117	58	1
4	Infrastructure Maintenance	31	402	265	213	0
5	Presidential Stimulus	19	608	386	314	0
6	Fence Maintenance	59	637	43	52	0
7	Wild Ocean Yes Programme	N/A	132	132	57	0
8	People & Parks Youth Champs	N/A	168	168	107	5
9	Tourism Monitors	N/A	170	170	114	1
10	Groen Sebenza	N/A	200	166	128	3
11	Municipality Cleaning & Greening	3	300	166	128	3
Total		311	4733	2484 (52%)	2221 (46%)	60 (1,27%)

The new Board members congratulated iSimangaliso management and expressed their excitement for being part of a successful organization. The Board challenged the management to always keep the bar high. This renowned World Heritage Park where conservation, sustainable tourism and benefit sharing prevails.

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Statement issued by iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority

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