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NWDC's Retail Economy & Library projects are transforming communities

The North West Development Corporation continuously streamlines its operational plans to deliver on its mandate of economic growth and transformation as an agency of the North West Province.

To actively expedite and enhance economic development in all corners of the North West, NWDC has a dedicated project management division that is aimed at implementing projects.

Two flagship projects are the **North West Retail Economy project** and the **Library Construction project** on behalf of CATA (North West Department of Culture, Arts and Traditional Affairs).

North West Retail Economy

The North West Retail Economy project aims to stimulate and grow the retail sector in the Province. The main objective of the project is the establishment of at least four wholesale warehouses, one in each provincial district, and refurbish South African owned tuck shops, Implementation designed container Tuck Shop, Hair Salon, Bakeries and Butcheries/Chesanyama/Car wash. Train entrepreneurs to cultivating a sustained entrepreneurial culture amongst participants in the retail economy.

The project also aims to curtail soaring poverty, unemployment and economic inequality particularly amongst young people in order to accelerate radical economic transformation to change the structure, system of ownership, management and control of the economy in favor of the disadvantage people of the North West Province.

The NWDC is proud to report that Phase One of the project has been fully completed in the Dr Kenneth Kaunda District. The district's dedicated wholesale warehouse, located in

Potchefstroom, opened in February 2018. The warehouse has directly employed 23 people, while 87 beneficiaries completed their training and received their NQF Level 2 qualification in retail.

During this first phase, nineteen (19) containers were delivered to beneficiaries and twenty (20) more existing tuck shop structures were refurbished. As a result, the precinct in Ventersdorp is operational with tuck shops, butcheries, hair salons, hardware stores, shisa nyama, car washes and fruit & vegetable hubs.

In moving this project forward, the NWDC embarked on the Second Phase of the Retail Economy Project in December 2018 when it called for retailers in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District to apply to be selected as beneficiaries. The Second Phase shall be executed during 2019. Qualifying beneficiaries from the Ngaka Modiri Molema



Work has begun in constructing the containers that shall be utilised as retail outlets by qualifying beneficiaries in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District.

District, selected via the application process, shall be trained on the intricacies of retail, distribution and warehousing as part of an NQF Level 2, W&R SETA qualification.

Through this formal qualification beneficiaries are empowered to trade from allocated or refurbished retail containers, supported by bulk buying to be made available by the district warehouse.

NWDC is executing this project with the assistance of a project partner and expects to open the Ngaka Modiri Molema warehouse and related retail precinct in the last quarter of 2019. The districts of Dr Ruth Mompati and Bojanala are scheduled to be rolled-out in subsequent years.

Library Construction Project

Another far-reaching project executed by the NWDC is the construction of two community libraries on behalf of North West Department of Culture, Arts and Traditional Affairs (CATA) in the towns of Derby and Stella.

Construction at both locations is at an advanced stage and what is more, these libraries are being constructed using low-cost building materials blocks manufactured from NWDC owned alternative building material factory. The blocks used to construct these libraries are light weight and durable, made from recycled materials, and are thus environmentally friendly and supporting a green economy.



Construction is well-underway in Derby where the NWDC is overseeing the building of a library using alternative building material panels. A second library is being built in Stella.

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