



## Media Statement

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### **FNB boosts efforts to create excellence in North West local government**

**SunCity Rustenburg** – The Bokone Bophirima MEC for Local Government and Human Settlements Collen Maine has commended the FNB Academy for Municipal Excellence - FAME as one of the important programmes that can assist the department in transforming municipalities. MEC Maine said this during the launch of FAME in the province, in a three day programme which is intended to contribute towards improving administrative and financial skills among senior officials in participating municipalities.



MEC Maine has expressed the provincial government's support for the programme and encouraged the private sector to continue playing a key role in bringing much needed interventions that are aimed at improving service delivery in municipalities and making local government function better.

"The quest to achieve excellence in local government is best captured in the National Development Plan that by 2030, we should have a developmental state that is accountable, focused on citizen's priorities, and capable of delivering high-quality services, consistently and sustainably, through cooperative governance and participatory democracy. Therefore private and public sector programmes remain critical in achieving this", said MEC Maine.

The FNB Academy for Municipal Excellence project is aligned to the National Development Plan (NDP) and COGTA's Back to Basics approach, which aims to set clear benchmarks of performance to ensure that all municipalities perform their basic responsibilities.



The first priority of Back to Basics Transformational Agenda is to get all municipalities out of a dysfunctional state and at the very least ensure that they are able to perform the basic functions of local government. Proper financial skills and management is necessary to achieve this and other Back to Basics priorities. We believe that creating knowledge-sharing platforms for private and public sector officials, such as this one, will contribute to capacity building and strengthen governance”, concluded MEC Maine.

Kgosi Ledimo, CEO of Provincial and Local Government Business at FNB Public Sector Banking says the Bank's commitment is based on its belief that local government officials are at the forefront of advancing service delivery.

“Over the years, we have had extensive banking relationships with various tiers of the North West Provincial government and our aim is to continue playing an active role in addressing some of the challenges which are faced by municipal officials. We believe that this programme will provide the officials an opportunity to find alternative solutions to some of their day-to-day administrative challenges,” he says.

The first phase of the programme started in Gauteng in the presence of Minister Pravin Gordhan, incorporating municipalities from Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Free State, Northern Cape and Limpopo Provinces. The second phase took place in the Eastern Cape, including municipalities from the Western Cape, followed by sessions with the cluster of municipalities in KwaZulu Natal. **ENDS**

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