

NEWSLETTER

Theme: Empowering Entrepreneurs, Inspiring Innovation, Building the Future



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The Minister of Small Business Development, Hon. Stella Tembisa Ndabeni, together with strategic partners, officially launched the Sekhukhune TVET College Centre for Entrepreneurship Rapid Incubator (CfERI) on 7 July 2025 at the CS Barlow Campus in Motetema, Groblersdal.

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Centre Manager's Corner

Dear Stakeholders, Partners, and Entrepreneurs,

It gives me great pleasure to share this Second Quarter 2025/26 edition of our Centre for Entrepreneurship Rapid Incubator (CfERI) Newsletter, a reflection of how far we have come, and a celebration of the dreams we continue to ignite across the Sekhukhune District.

This quarter has been one of the most defining in our journey. On 7 July 2025, we proudly hosted the official launch of our Centre, graced by the Minister of Small Business Development, Hon. Stella Tembisa Ndabeni, alongside our strategic partners and community leaders. The launch marked more than a ceremonial milestone, it affirmed our shared vision of empowering youth, nurturing innovation, and driving inclusive economic growth in our region.

Over the past four years, the CfERI has supported over 290 small businesses, incubated and graduated 99 MSMEs, and facilitated the creation of more than 120 jobs, contributing to over R18 million in turnover across local enterprises. These achievements are a testament to what is possible when we invest in the potential of our young people and provide them with the tools, mentorship, and environment to thrive.

Our partnerships with agencies such as Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency (SEDFA), National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa (NEMISA), and various public and private stakeholders continue to expand our impact. Through initiatives like the Ya Rona Digital Skills Programme, MakerSpace innovations, and entrepreneurship development training, we are building a pipeline of future-ready entrepreneurs equipped to compete in both traditional and digital economies.

I am equally proud of the individual stories featured in this edition, from Veron Sete's bold steps in turning a classroom idea into a thriving shoe-care brand, to the inspiring journeys of women entrepreneurs like Maapolang Mokala, Dorris Mokgabudi, and Tshagofatso Mabilu, who are proving that innovation and resilience can flourish even in the most challenging environments.



Ms. Martha Mamoepa
Centre Manager

As we look ahead, our focus remains clear:

- To expand access to finance for small businesses,
- To strengthen incubation and mentorship, and
- To foster digital inclusion through skills that prepare our entrepreneurs for the opportunities of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR).

To our stakeholders and partners, your continued support enables us to create lasting change. To our entrepreneurs, keep believing in your ideas, stay curious, and remain resilient. Remember, every small success contributes to a greater transformation in our communities.

Together, we are not only building businesses — we are shaping futures.

With appreciation and determination,

Ms. Martha Mamoepa
Centre Manager

Sekhukhune TVET College – Centre for Entrepreneurship Rapid Incubator

Editorial Letter



Ms. Kwena Mehale
Marketing Officer

Behind every story in this issue, from Veron Sete's inspiring journey with Sneaker Wide-Wash, to women entrepreneurs building wellness brands and sustainable farms, is a reflection of what is possible when passion meets opportunity. These achievements remind us that entrepreneurship is not merely about business creation, but about empowerment, resilience, and community transformation.

At CfERI, we remain committed to building an inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports creativity, digital readiness, and collaboration. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our partners, mentors, staff, and the Department of Small Business Development for their continued support and belief in our shared vision.

As we move forward, may this newsletter inspire you, whether you are an entrepreneur, student, or community leader, to keep innovating, keep learning, and keep lifting others as you rise.

Dear Readers,

It is with great pride that I welcome you to the Second Quarter 2025 Edition of the Sekhukhune TVET College Centre for Entrepreneurship Rapid Incubator (CfERI) Newsletter. This edition captures the remarkable energy, innovation, and determination that continue to define our Centre and its growing community of entrepreneurs.

This quarter has been a season of milestones. We celebrated the official launch of our Centre, a moment that reaffirmed our purpose of transforming potential into prosperity. We have seen students and community members not only nurture their business ideas but also turn them into real, sustainable enterprises that create jobs and drive local economic growth.

Enjoy the read and see you next quarter!

With entrepreneurial regards,

Kwena Mehale

Marketing Officer

Sekhukhune TVET College – Centre for Entrepreneurship Rapid Incubator

“Above all, I remain a trusted ally and true best friend to every entrepreneur”, Kwena Mehale

Official Launch of the Centre



This milestone represents the culmination of a vision that began on 25 February 2020, when Sekhukhune TVET College partnered with the SEDFA to establish the CfERI. The Centre was created to develop, nurture, and support emerging entrepreneurs from within the College and the broader Sekhukhune District.

The Centre's mandate is to transform job seekers into job creators, with a focus on empowering youth, vocational students, and graduates to become self-sustaining entrepreneurs. Through business incubation, mentorship, and skills development, CfERI plays a pivotal role in strengthening local micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) that drive economic growth and job creation.



ISSUE 2

Over the past four years, the Centre has achieved significant milestones:

- o 99 MSMEs graduated from the business incubation programme
- o 291 small businesses supported
- o Over R18 million in turnover generated
- o 120 new jobs created
- o R3 million in partnership funding unlocked



The official launch also served as a platform for CfERI supported enterprises to exhibit their products and services, living proof of the Centre's ongoing impact.

“As the Centre takes this bold step forward, it reaffirms its commitment to fostering an entrepreneurial culture that transforms lives and uplifts communities,” said Ms. Martha Mamoepa, Centre Manager speaking during the launch.



Success Story Spotlight: Naplntex – Innovating Safety, Driving Compliance

From Vision to Innovation: How Naplntex is Transforming Explosives Management in South Africa



A Bold Step Toward Safer Mining

In the heart of Tubatse, a pioneering enterprise is redefining safety and compliance within South Africa's mining and industrial sectors. Naplntex (Pty) Ltd, founded and led by Thabang Bogopa, is a youth-owned business specialising in hazardous goods compliance, explosives management, and petroleum fuel supply.

Through a blend of innovation, experience, and technological advancement, Naplntex has positioned itself as a trusted partner for industries where safety is not just a requirement, but a responsibility.

Our goal has always been to merge technology with safety, creating solutions that protect lives, property, and the environment," says founder Thabang Bogopa.

From Public Service to Purpose-Driven Entrepreneurship

Naplntex began its journey under the name Nape Innovative Projects & Consultant. In 2025, it rebranded to Naplntex (Pty) Ltd to reflect its broader service offering and its commitment to continuous innovation.

Drawing from over a decade of experience as an Investigator and Inspector of Explosives, Thabang Bogopa identified a critical gap in how explosives were tracked and managed in the mining industry. Determined to develop a lasting solution, he transitioned from public service to entrepreneurship, transforming his insight into a commercially viable enterprise.

Today, Naplntex offers:

- Regulated explosives and accessories
- Specialised training on explosives control and compliance
- Petroleum fuel supply at a wholesale level
- And most notably, the Explosives ICT Control System™, a registered trademark and proprietary technology.

The Challenge: Competing Against the Odds

Like many emerging enterprises, Naplntex's journey was not without hurdles. The company faced:

- A lack of trusted buyers in a highly regulated industry
- Competition from dominant, established role players
- And insufficient funding, relying initially on personal fundraising efforts

Yet, these challenges became the foundation for resilience and innovation.

The Turning Point: Innovation as the Game-Changer

Through persistence and strategic support, NapIntex developed the Explosives ICT Control System™, a groundbreaking digital platform designed to enhance the tracking, control, and accountability of explosives across their entire lifecycle, from storage to disposal.

This proprietary technology not only improved compliance and safety standards but also positioned NapIntex as a thought leader in the field of explosives management.

“Technology allowed us to turn challenges into opportunities. We’re proving that local innovation can meet, and exceed global safety standards,” Thabang notes.

Growth and Achievements

- NapIntex’s innovative spirit has yielded remarkable results:
- Finalist for the GAP Innovation Awards 2025, hosted by The Innovation Hub
- Developer and trademark holder of the Explosives ICT Control System™
- Diversified services into petroleum wholesale and integrated safety training
- Achieved more than 50% growth in annual turnover since joining the business incubation programme.
- Created 5 contractual employment opportunities, supporting local job creation

This steady expansion reflects both the company’s technical expertise and its commitment to community development.

Support and Collaboration

NapIntex’s success story is also one of collaboration and mentorship. The company was incubated at the Centre,, where its concept was refined into a market-ready innovation. Through the incubation program, Thabang gained access to mentorship, business development resources, and networking opportunities that helped accelerate NapIntex’s commercial success.



Looking Ahead: Building a Safer Future

NapIntex continues to grow as a leader in hazardous goods compliance and safety innovation, serving as an inspiration for other youth entrepreneurs across South Africa. The company’s mission is clear: to uphold safety, accountability, and technological progress within high-risk industries.

“Our journey proves that with passion, discipline, and innovation, even the most regulated industries can be transformed,” says Thabang Bogopa.

NapIntex’s rise from a local startup in Tubatse to a nationally recognised innovator is a powerful reminder that safety and innovation go hand in hand. With the right vision and support, South African enterprises like NapIntex are shaping a safer, smarter industrial future.

From Dusty Streets to Bright Dreams: The Rise of Veron Sete

From the rural village of Ga-Masemola in Limpopo comes Veron Sete, a young innovator and proud Sekhukhune TVET College student who turned his passion into purpose. Veron is the founder of Sneaker Wide-Wash, a professional shoe cleaning and maintenance brand based in Praktiseer, Burgersfort.

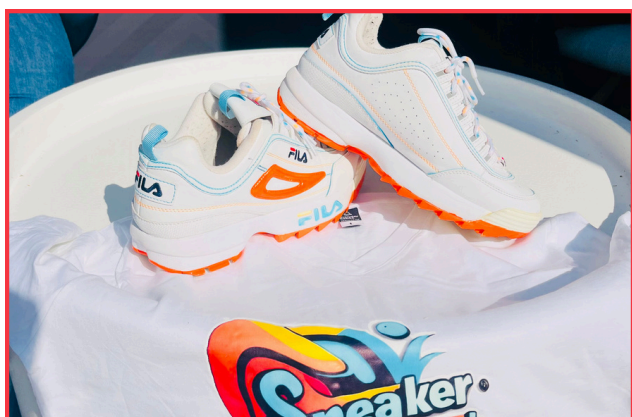
The Spark of an Idea

Veron's journey began during his N4 Marketing studies when a coursework assignment required him to draft a business plan. Encouraged by his lecturer and classmates, that plan evolved into a real venture — the birth of Sneaker Wide-Wash.

Recognition on a National Stage

Veron represented Sekhukhune TVET College and the Limpopo Region at the Allan Gray National Inter-College Entrepreneurship Competition held at Birchwood Hotel and OR Tambo Conference Centre, Gauteng. His confident pitch and creative business model propelled him from regional rounds to the national stage.

"For the first time, I saw my own potential. It was scary, but it was also one of the best feelings ever," — Veron Sete.



Looking Ahead

Veron plans to open Sneaker Wide-Wash's first physical store in Burgersfort, expanding his reach and inspiring other youth to believe in their own potential.

Contact Sneaker Wide-Wash

Phone: 078 522 0808 | Email: adashisetem01@gmail.com

The CfERI celebrates Veron's success as a reflection of resilience, innovation, and the transformative power of entrepreneurship.

Ya Rona for All – Bridging the Digital Divide

The CfERI, in collaboration with the NEMISA, officially launched the Ya Rona Digital Skills Programme on 26 August 2025 at the CS Barlow Campus.

This national initiative seeks to close South Africa's digital divide by equipping students and community members especially those in rural areas with essential digital and entrepreneurial competencies. Implemented through CfERI, the programme provides access to cutting-edge resources such as the Algorithm Living Lab, fostering innovation-driven learning.



"This programme will empower youth and communities with 4IR and digital skills, providing them with opportunities to transform innovative ideas into future-focused, technology-driven solutions," said Ms. Martha Mamoepa, Centre Manager.

"Ya Rona is more than training—it's a movement to empower rural communities and prepare them for South Africa's digital economy," — Mr. Thokozani, Programme Manager.



Expected Outcomes:

- o Launch of grassroots-level digital training
- o Improved digital readiness among youth and learners
- o Strengthened public-private partnerships
- o Enhanced visibility for CfERI's role in digital ecosystem development
- o Increased awareness of 4IR-driven career opportunities

Through this initiative, CfERI continues to build a digitally skilled, entrepreneurial generation ready to contribute to both the local and national economy.




Rooted in Tradition, Growing with Purpose

Meet Maapolang Matilda Mokala, founder of MNGP Trading (Pty) Ltd, proudly based in the Sekhukhune District and awarded 3rd Runner-Up in the recent CfERI Pitching Competition in collaboration with Stars of Tomorrow Projects.

Having completed the Entrepreneurship and Financial Skills Programme, supported by the Finance and Accounting Services Sector Education and Training Authority (FASSET), Maapolang now leads a brand dedicated to health, heritage, and sustainability.

MNGP Trading crafts nutritious, millet-based products inspired by indigenous grains blending traditional values with modern business insight.

Place Your Order

 082 745 9249 |  WhatsApp: 079 899 7800

Her journey demonstrates how heritage and innovation can merge to create both opportunity and impact.



MakerSpace on the Move

Creativity continues to thrive within the CfERI's MakerSpace, a dynamic environment equipped for design, prototyping, and small-scale manufacturing. This space enables students and entrepreneurs to bring innovative concepts to life while connecting with peers and potential clients.

Recent Highlights:

- o Produced 70 trophies for the Council of Stakeholders in Community and Student Affairs Provincial Academic Eisteddfod, hosted by Limpopo TVET Colleges at CS Barlow Campus.
- o Designed and manufactured kitchen units, TV stand and bedroom carboards for Letaba TVET College.
- o Produced tender boxes, key holders, and trophies for Waterberg TVET College.
- o Created engraved wooden signage and serving trays for local businesses.
- o Car ports for Sekhukhune TVET College Apel Campus
- o Personalized gifts, car parts, podiums and billboards for our friends and partners,

"Our fully equipped MakerSpace is open to the public, offering professional design and production services for trophies, podiums, key holders, signage, and more," said Mr. Marumo Talane, CfERI Technical Officer.

📞 **Contact us:** 013 110 3256 | For quotations, email talaniem@sektvetcol.co.za or visit the CfERI office.



Celebrating Women's Month with Inspiring Entrepreneurs



In August, the CfERI proudly celebrated Women's Month by spotlighting women who are driving change through entrepreneurship, creativity, and community upliftment.

One such trailblazer is Tshegofatso Mabilu, founder of Good and Healthy Life, a wellness brand born in Groblersdal, Limpopo. Her products are inspired by a family legacy of health, natural living, and self-reliance.

Product Range Includes:

- o Detox, Balance & Ginger Teas – Natural daily wellness support
- o Garlic & Herbs, Mediterranean Herbs & Kasi Flavor Blends – Flavorful, nutrient-rich seasonings

Beyond business, Good and Healthy Life uplifts local farmers, creates jobs, and promotes sustainable, community-based health practices.

“Start small—your story is your power,” says Tshegofatso, encouraging other women to take their first step toward entrepreneurship.



Where to Buy:

- 📍 Groblersdal Town Market – Open Daily
 - 📞 WhatsApp: 074 232 5413
 - 🌐 Website: www.goodandhealthy.co.za
 - 📺 TikTok & Instagram: @goodandhealthy
- Good and Healthy Life – Where Wellness Meets Local Empowerment.

From Historically Disadvantaged Beginnings to a Flourishing Farming Enterprise

The CfERI is proud to spotlight Dorris Mokgabudi, founder and director of Bomoshoeshoe Trading (Pty) Ltd, trading as Bomoshoeshoe Farm. From humble beginnings, Dorris has built a successful mixed-farming enterprise that serves as a model for sustainable agribusiness.

Bomoshoeshoe Farm focuses on both livestock and crop production, raising Large White pigs and cultivating spinach, green peppers, habanero chilies, tomatoes, onions, cabbage, beetroot, and yellow maize the latter used as pig feed.

The farm supplies Boxer Supermarkets (Moutse Mall and Moteti) and Watloo Supermarket (Sekhukhune), and offers slaughtering and cutting services to private clients.

In 2024, Dorris extended her impact by providing practical training opportunities to three students, giving them hands-on agricultural experience.

📍 Farm Address: Farm No. 1, Uitspanning A, Dennilton, 1030

📱 TikTok: @thabisangwaka715 | Instagram: @moshoshoe3895



Bomoshoeshoe Farm exemplifies rural transformation where resilience, opportunity, and skill converge to create lasting change.

Hack4Nature: Reimagining Water, Waste & Wildlife with Technology



Innovation took centre stage when five CfERI supported student innovators from Sekhukhune TVET College participated in the Intercollege Hackathon: “WEAP Hack4Nature – Reimagining Water, Waste & Wildlife with Technology.”

Held from 12-14 September 2025 at Welgevonden Game Reserve, the event was organised by the Welgevonden Environmental Awareness Programme (WEAP) in partnership with Relay Institute, the CfERI and University of Limpopo MLab.

Under CfERI mentorship, students collaborated to design tech-driven solutions addressing key UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- o SDG 6: Clean Water & Sanitation
- o SDG 12: Responsible Consumption & Production
- o SDG 15: Life on Land

This hackathon showcased how innovation, collaboration, and technology can combine to address environmental challenges while nurturing entrepreneurial thinking among youth.



Best Hub Manager of the Year!



where Ms. Martha Mamoepa, Centre Manager at Sekhukhune TVET College Centre for Entrepreneurship Rapid Incubator, was honoured as Enterprise Development Hub Manager of the Year.

These awards, named after the late Kelebogile Molopyane, celebrate excellence in entrepreneurship development across South Africa's colleges and universities.

Kele's legacy and her mantra "Lift as You Rise" continue to inspire entrepreneurial leadership nationwide.

Among this year's recipients were:

Ms. Basane Hlekani, Principal & CEO, Vhembe TVET College – Principal/CEO of the Year

Ms. Martha Mamoepa, Centre Manager, Sekhukhune TVET College – Enterprise Development Hub Manager of the Year



This recognition celebrates Ms. Mamoepa's exceptional leadership in driving entrepreneurship, grassroots innovation, and community transformation.

The Learning Lab 2025 also introduced resource awards, including:

R10,000 Free GrowthWheel Certification Award
R8,000 Two-Day Consulting Award

These initiatives strengthen institutional capacity to build vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystems in TVET colleges nationwide.

Success Story Spotlight: Naum Kwena (Pty) Ltd – From a Single Bucket to a Thriving Manufacturing Enterprise

Empowering Youth and Women Through Innovation and Determination

In the heart of Schoonoord, just outside Jane Furse, a young entrepreneur is proving that with passion, resilience, and the right support, small beginnings can lead to remarkable growth. Naum Kwena (Pty) Ltd, a 100% youth, and female-owned company, is led by Naum Mmamaro, a visionary businesswoman who transformed a modest idea into a successful manufacturing enterprise. “I started small, but I never lost sight of the bigger picture,” Naum reflects. “Every challenge was a lesson that helped me grow stronger.”

Turning a Grant into Growth

Founded in 2019 after receiving grant funding from the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), Naum Kwena (Pty) Ltd began its operations in Schoonoord Phase 4, Sekhukhune. The business started with limited resources and manual production methods mixing materials with just a bucket and a stick. Despite the challenges, Naum’s commitment to producing quality products and growing her business never wavered.

Starting with Limited Resources

Like many emerging entrepreneurs, Naum faced significant challenges, including:

- Limited access to markets and potential buyers
- Difficulty managing financial records and business growth
- Manual, time-consuming production methods that restricted output

These challenges made it clear that Naum needed access to structured support, mentorship, and training to scale her business.

Intervention: Support from CfERI and Sedfa

Naum’s turning point came when she joined the Centre and received additional support from Sedfa.

Through this intervention, she gained:

- Access to new markets and business networks



- Financial management training, improving her business literacy and record-keeping
- Opportunities to showcase her products and connect with potential clients

“CfERI and Sedfa opened doors I never thought possible. I learned to manage finances properly and reach bigger markets,” says Naum.

From Manual Labour to Mechanized Production

With the knowledge and opportunities gained through CfERI and Sedfa, Naum invested in production machinery, transitioning from manual methods to mechanized manufacturing.

This shift not only improved efficiency and quality but also increased production capacity, allowing her to serve larger clients and compete more effectively.

Growth and Impact

The transformation has been remarkable:

- Turnover Growth: Achieved an outstanding 56% increase in annual turnover—up from 30% since joining the business incubation programme—reflecting strong growth and enhanced production efficiency.
- Expanded Market Reach: Now serves larger companies and established clients, marking a significant step in market expansion.
- Job Creation: Generated new employment opportunities within the local community, adding 4 part-time and 2 full-time positions.

Naum's journey highlights how commitment, continuous learning, and the right support can transform a small venture into a thriving enterprise.

Community and Municipal Support

The Makhuduthamaga Municipality has also played an important role in Naum's success, providing ongoing support, especially during business exhibitions and local economic development initiatives.

This partnership between public institutions and small enterprises continues to strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Sekhukhune region.

Looking Ahead: Expanding Possibilities

Naum Kwena (Pty) Ltd is now focused on scaling production further, improving product quality, and creating more employment opportunities for young people in her community. "My journey shows that even with small beginnings, you can grow into something powerful," Naum shares proudly.

"With the right guidance and determination, success is possible." From stirring mixtures with a stick to managing a thriving mechanized production line, Naum Kwena (Pty) Ltd stands as a shining example of youth and female entrepreneurship in action—a testament to how perseverance, mentorship, and community support can turn a simple idea into a thriving enterprise.



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 REACHING GOALS TOGETHER
 SEKHUKHUNE TVET COLLEGE

Exciting news for staff and visitors!

The CfERI is launching a premium car wash service at the CS Barlow Campus, offering convenient, high-quality car care right at your workplace.

From only R80, staff can have their cars collected, cleaned, and returned while they work saving time and supporting a student-led enterprise.

Stay tuned to our social media pages for the launch date and grand opening specials.

Convenience, quality, and entrepreneurship all in one wash!

Hot Desking & Conferencing Services

CfERI now offers Hot Desking Services, providing affordable, professional workspace for entrepreneurs, freelancers, and small businesses. Enjoy high-speed internet, printing facilities, and networking opportunities within a collaborative innovation environment.

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