



EThekweni Maritime Cluster was proud to partner with Durban International Convention Centre (ICC) and EThekweni Municipality and Independent media in hosting the KZN Careers Expo and Youth Employability Indaba last week, from 24-26 May 2018, at the Durban Exhibition Centre. The main aim of the whole event was to enlighten the youth with the knowledge and skills that will make them employable and also to inspire them to take opportunities and use their skills to start their own businesses instead of looking for employment. As an ambassador for the development of the maritime sector, EMC hosted the Maritime Careers Expo which saw more than 20 schools enjoying presentations based on maritime career options as presented by industry representatives. The presentations flaunted the nature of different maritime careers and the requirements to pursue different and the nature of the job entailed.

Speakers at the maritime careers expo included among others AIMI, South African Maritime Safe Authority, Durban University of Technology, Norton Rose Fulbright and AMSOL.

‘We are excited that this event has been a success. We are hopeful that eventually every learner and community member will be aware of the opportunities and careers that come with our ports and make use of them. EMC is looking to facilitate and ensure more beneficiation from ocean economy through our programmes which include among other Maritime Skills and Training and Maritime Enterprise Development. We are proud to play a role in the development of people’s lives.’ Said EMC Acting MD Mrs. Nomalanga Sokhela.

Zanele Sibeko, a business woman who is an MD for Opoint Investment encouraged



The three day event was segmented into Youth Employability Indaba, Maths and Science Careers Expo, Maritime Careers Expo and the Careers Exhibition which were all running parallel.

Among dignitaries in attendance was MEC Nomsa Dube who was also a Keynote Speaker. The event saw more than 8 thousand learners from around the province in attendance. The Youth Employability Indaba afforded unemployed youth from around Durban communities to engage in interactive discussions about youth unemployment issues and to enquire directly from Municipal official, businesses leaders and youth representative institutions like National Youth Development Agency.

youth to start their own businesses instead of looking for employment. She also warned the youth especially young women that they should avoid compromising themselves while looking jobs.

The maritime sector was highlighted as an area with opportunities to be considered by the youth in terms of careers options in order to explore the blue economy as stipulated in the Operation Phakisa. Mr Ngubane of EThekweni Municipality encouraged the audience to take advantage of the coastal location and embrace opportunities that comes with the ocean.

‘I would like to challenge UKZN to consider implementing a junior degree in maritime skills so that we can have relevant skills that will enables our youth to make use of opportunities that comes with our coastal geographical location.’ Said Mr Siphon Ngubane.



EMC Exhibition desk at Kzn Careers expo2018