



# EThekweni Maritime Cluster

Message from the MD



quite a journey with EMC will soon obtain their licences to do business with the port. EMC embrace their persistence and only promise to deliver on its mandate to ensure that communities from all walks of life benefit from the Oceans economy.

We are sure that women enjoyed their month and wish everyone a happy spring month in September.

I would like to start by acknowledging everyone that has made sure that EMC deliver on its mandate at all times for the betterment of the maritime industry and the communities we serve. This include our partners, sponsors, stakeholders and the maritime community at large. So far, EMC is proud of the impact and progress we are making as the custodian on the industry. This include the impact we have made under Skills and training programme, making sure that graduates get opportunities for internships and other initiatives aimed at uplifting young people like the Maritime Innovation Challenge. We have also made incredible strides in the Maritime Enterprise Development programme where we facilitating the stages of enabling SMMEs to do business with the port of Durban.

The month of August is always a special month with its exception being a women’s month. We therefore found it relevant to host a Women in Business Empowerment Breakfast seminar on the 30th August 2018 where women gathered to empower each other. We convey a word of gratitude to all our stakeholders that made the event a success.

EMC is also excited by the progress made on the Maritime Youth Innovation challenge which we pursue in partnership with Innovate Durban and Transnet Port Terminals. The initiative is making some significant progress and it is indeed exciting to see how much the youth is willing to take part in it. We also recognise the effort from institutions like Durban University students and other youth formations.

The month of August has also marked a significant progress in the Maritime Enterprise Development programme. This programme has now seen the participants forming consortiums as per their business interests. We are hopeful that these participants who have travelled

Inside this issue

◆ MD Message	1
◆ Galvanizing Women into the Maritime	2
◆ Maritime Embrace Skills Development within the Sector	3
◆ EMC Enterprise paves a way for SMMEs to do business with the port.	4
◆ Preparations in Place for the Maritime Youth Innovation Challenge.	5
◆ Upcoming Event: Durban Port Festival	6

# Galvanizing Women In to the Maritime Industry.



Article by Nomfundo Sithole

Women of all ages gathered in commemoration of the women's month on Thursday the 30th of August 2018, at the "Women in Business Empowerment Breakfast seminar". Which took place at the Durban history museum, hosted by EThekweni Maritime Cluster (EMC).

This is an initiative by EMC which aims to empower women in the field of maritime. This year's women's breakfast seminar was catered for women in businesses (SMME's owners) and women from dimensions as it has accommodates young graduates who have just entered the labour markets. Young graduates were also encouraged to shift their thought and explore more by looking in to Entrepreneurial opportunities within their field of study.

Among the speakers that were invited to this breakfast seminar, Department of Trade & Industry (DTI) representative Mr Wiseman Myeni highlighted various business opportunity that women need to explore while being innovative as possible. He further discussed DTI's programmes and funding model. Women who are already in business were encouraged to expand more by seeking for innovate idea in all business aspect.

Training and skills Manager of Durban Maritime Museum- Mrs Zandile Cele was amongst the speakers on this breakfast seminar. She sees this gathering symbolises the match that was conducted by the women of 1960 as to participate and make a change to the historic events. She further saluted all women's that attended for having to make a mark to history by having a meaningful contribution to the Maritime industry in leading the contemporary transformation of gender equality in maritime industry that is known as a previously dominated by males industry.

This informative sessions was also filled with many inspirational talks. Such positive talks were given by true leaders of this sector. A young former international ship driver, first ever female young dredge master, Mrs Londy Ngcobo shared a very inspirational story about her career journey in the Ocean transport that started at a very young age. This breakfast seminar gave insight to young graduates that attended." This informative gathering was actually long overdue, this is really an eye opener for us young graduates who really wants to dwell in the maritime industry. "Said Londiwe Shoji who's an IT intern at Bidports. It is mandatory to EMC to carry this norm and spirit as an everyday culture to bring about transformation in the Maritime industry.



## Maritime Embrace Skills Development within the Sector.



Article by Nomfundo Sithole

EThekweni Maritime Cluster in Partnership with Durban Maritime Museum joint forces with EThekweni Municipality in showcasing maritime career awareness through a programme called "Take a boy child to work". The programme aims to expose boy children from grade 10 to grade 12 to different work experience in different sectors. One hundred boys were equipped with this eye-opening and encouraging experience on the 26th of July 2018.

This programme requires community participation in various sectors to present different opportunities and give insight to young minds to eagerly flaunt their mind to particular fields. This is aimed to seek to provide awareness of possible career opportunities and mentorship for scarce skills. The hundreds of male students were categorized into different groups for a tour to different sectors, such as Metro policing; ombuds; cleansing; solid waste and Maritime industry.

EThekweni Maritime Cluster (EMC) Training and skills officer Mr Sibusiso Zondo facilitated the exhibition for the maritime industry. The students embarked on a brief information session outside the yard of the maritime Museum, followed by the Museum tour. The students were also advised on their subjects of choice in their respective grades as to be the subject that could grant them with opportunity to enter career fields that are highly in demand and bridge the gap in the industries that contain

scarce skills and any form of inequality.

Students whom were initially chosen to pursue careers in engineering were encouraged. They were also enlightened on how their career path could be aligned with the ocean's transport. Such initiatives at a low level are believed to assist in the industry with transformation and bring about innovation intervention for a faster economic growth.



## Preparations in Place for the Maritime Youth Innovation Challenge.



*Youth Innovation Challenge presentation at DUT*

Article by Nomfundo Sithole

Phase two of the Maritime Youth Innovation Challenge (MYIC) was of a great success. This is after a successful boot camp that was hosted on the 18th of August 2018 at the Durban University of Technology (DUT). The boot camp served as an official welcoming to the programme participants. The MYIC is a project identified by EThekweni maritime cluster (EMC) in partnership with various industry stakeholders that includes Innovates Durban and Transnet Port Terminals. MYIC purpose is to inspire the Youth of Kwazulu –Natal to come up with realistic and sustainable solutions that will ensure the Durban port continue effective and efficient in its operations.

Throughout the processes of this project, youth is expected to create innovative and sustainable solutions to the challenges that are presented by various partners of this existing programme. At a media briefing that took in place on the 18th of June, at the Innovate Durban offices the programme manager Mr Nkululeko Mthembu stated very clear that this programme will look at developing the maritime industry in infrastructure, transport, logistics, environments and capacity. It is in the hopes of the partners of this programme that the programme long term vision alleviate poverty and radically reduce unemployment and inequality to transform the lives of the unemployed young minds.

The vision of this programme is a clear distinct of the Innovate Durban Chief Executive Officer Aurelia Albert's statement in the

previous gathering of this challenge. "We are creating a platform for young people to create viable products, employment opportunities and also networking with business people and academics" said Aurelia. It is through the government involvement, skills transfer knowledge sharing, industry promotion, in-depth research and academia participation that this would be witness in the historic experience of the port of Durban.

Moving Forward this programme would seek to give it participants the environmental insight of the sector by organizing a tour to the port of Durban. This tour is aimed to equip MYIC participants with the experience and explore and identify more practical solutions to the challenges that are encountered. The champion of this Challenge is expected to be announced that the finale on the 5th of October 2018.

## EMC Enterprise paves a way for SMMEs to do business with the port.



Article by Thokozani Mngomezulu

It has been a long journey for EMC providing all sorts of training and business acumen for SMME owners under the EMC Maritime Development enterprise. Participants can now see the future as the programme gains momentum paving them a way to do business with the port which is an opportunity that was not open for marginalised communities especially black community.

The programme began by giving participants crucial business skills which include among others, business management skills, drafting business proposal, business financial management and others. EMC continued with the programme giving important opportunities to participants which included exhibiting in big events like the Annual Maritime Summit.

After gaining a sponsorship from Transnet Port Terminal, the programme has now started bearing more tangible fruits. After TPT came on board, the participants have engaged on insightful trainings giving them an in-depth scope of aspects of port business, expectations and compliant aspects. The training of doing business with the port started by TPT highlighting the areas with potential to do business on, which included

Stevedoring, Waste Management and other areas.

"We are excited by how far we have come with the programme and it gives us confidence that we have managed to keep the pace up and made the programme become a realistic hope for participants. We also convey our word of gratitude to the training providers that have walked the journey with us. We are not looking back now the programme will only continue to deliver and keep our sponsors satisfied that their funds went to a right place." Said the programme Manager, Ms. Zenzile Makelo.

The remaining participants have now broken themselves into consortiums as per their interests into business pursuits. There's consortium for Stevedoring, container management and waste management.

"We are now at a most interesting stage where we are getting closer to a promised land. We are grateful to our partners who found it relevant to sponsor this programme, especial Transnet. We guarantee our sponsors that this programme will continue delivering on a mandate." Said EMC

Acting Managing Director Nomalanga Sokhela.

The consortiums will from now on focus on putting heads together and find their own special approach into their area of choice which will include acquiring licences and compliant documents.

Speaking to one of the consortium on Wednesday, 4 September 2018, the Chair person and former port manager Mr Moshe Motlohi cautioned participants that there is no room for error in doing business with the port and encouraged them to strengthen their business values.

DURBAN PORT FESTIVAL 2018



*The eThekweni Maritime Cluster (EMC) is a non-profit company that was launched in 2009. The EMC provides a platform for collaborative engagement between different levels of government, state owned enterprises and the maritime community to implement programs of common interest that support the growth and improve performance and competitiveness of the maritime industry.*

For maritime related news or events that you would like published on this newsletter or our website please contact:

Thokozani Mngomezulu

Tel: 031-3010950/9

cell: 0783067549

thokozani@maritimecluster.co.za

or

Nomfundo Sithole

Tel: 031-3010950

Cell: 0827391994

nomfundo.sithole@maritimecluster.co.za

www.maritimecluster.co.za

1601 The Marine  
22 Dorothy Nyembe  
Street  
Durban  
4001  
www.maritimecluster.co.za  
info@maritimecluster.co.za



Ethekweni Maritime Cluster



@emc\_maritime

Newsletter compiled and designed by : Thokozani Mngomezulu