Attention: News Editors and Journalists
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For Immediate Release

DBSA INJECTS R182 MILLION INTO EKURHULENI METRO CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMMES

In its quest to address backlogs in socio-economic infrastructure, the Ekurhuleni Metro was granted a R182 million loan by the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) to drive its capital infrastructure programmes in water and sanitation, roads, electricity and housing related infrastructure.

This facility forms part of the DBSA’s continuous support to municipalities across the country in addressing infrastructure backlogs. Like any other metropolitan municipality, the Ekurhuleni’s multi-million capital expansion programme, aims to accelerate the implementation of its Integrated Development Plan and to drive its socio-economic development through the provision and rehabilitation of municipal infrastructure.

The Divisional Executive for South African Operations - Northern Cluster at the DBSA, Mr. Bethuel Netshiswinzhe said, “We are delighted to be part of this infrastructure programme. This facility will enable the Ekurhuleni Metro to address the challenges it faces in terms of service delivery. Currently, it is estimated that 19% of households have no access to electricity; 18% are without water and 32% without proper sanitation services in the Ekurhuleni municipality.”

“This loan facility signifies the Bank’s commitment to contribute towards the development of socio-economic infrastructure not only in the Ekurhuleni Metro but across the country to improve the quality of life for millions of South Africans”, he added.

This facility could not have come at a better time for the Ekurhuleni municipality because the costs of eradicating the existing infrastructure backlogs in municipalities are increasing on a daily basis. However, the Ekurhuleni municipality has made some significant strides in improving the universal provision of free basic services, road construction, housing provision, the combating of corruption as well as creating a safe and secure environment in the municipality.

“The DBSA has embarked on a process to package a comprehensive integrated development support for key infrastructure programmes with stakeholders in the municipal sector. These interventions will enable the Bank to support government’s national priorities through financing infrastructure programmes that are geared to reduce infrastructure backlogs, improve service delivery and accelerate the economic growth of South Africa”, Netshiswinzhe said.

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Notes for Editors
"About Development Bank of Southern Africa"

The Development Bank is a leading Development Finance Institution (DFI) in Africa South of the Sahara, playing the roles of Financier, Advisor, Partner, Implementer and Integrator. The Bank maximizes its contribution to sustainable development in the region by mobilising financial, knowledge and human resources to support Government and other development role-players in improving the quality of life of people in the region through funding infrastructure projects; accelerating the sustainable reduction of poverty and inequity; and promoting broad-based economic growth and regional economic integration."