

AWARDING THE YOUTH OF FREE STATE

71 Young people from Mangaung and Matjhabeng Local Municipalities were awarded certificates for their participation in Social Enterprise Business Plan Competition. The ceremony which was organized by the Department of Social Development in partnership with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) was attended by Premier Ace Magashule, MEC “Sisi” Ntombela and MEC Olly Mlamleli.

The programme started in 2010 with 500 young people identified to undergo training by the National Youth Service on Child and Youth Care Services, however only 237 remained for the duration of the training. ILO also came on board and trained them for eight months on social enterprises and business plans. They were also required to critically examine their community needs and challenges they face on a daily basis.

The International Labour Organization provides assistance in different sectors of the economy, those include Agri-business (which add value to agricultural products); (Construction; Tourism and Waste Management .

Addressing the youth Premier Magashule said the programme is the step in the right direction where young people are trained to become job creators not job seekers and better prepare them as good entrepreneurs to eradicate poverty in the country.

“They will bring change in their society and sound business in the province, I hereby commit R2 million in this project so that these young people strive to be self-reliant, the economy will only be changed by these young people” said Magashule.

