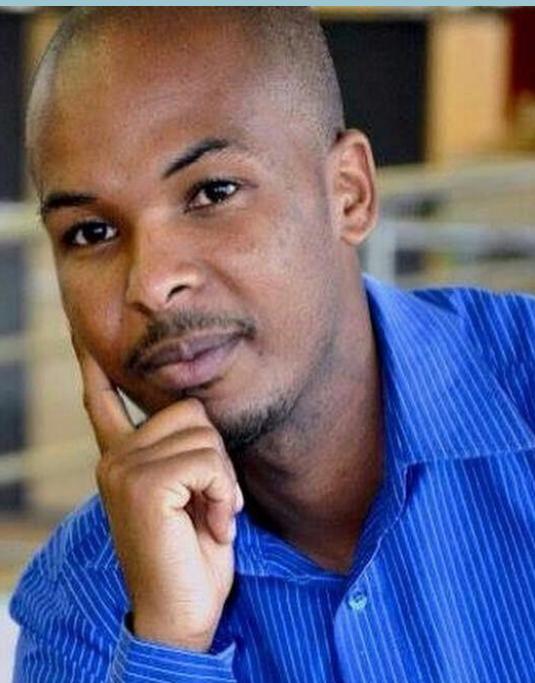


Tswelelopele

Kgolo go ya ka ponatshego- Growth through transparency

September 2018

Issue 3 • Volume 5



Tshegofatso Mekgoe

SMME Exhibitions



Funding Hub opportunities

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FundingHub

SA's Trusted Business Loan Market Place

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EDITOR'S NOTE

From the editor's voice:



September is probably one of the most interesting months in our calendar. We celebrate heritage, we celebrate humanity, we celebrate the true reflection of our forefathers. We are saying that we are proud of being who we are, we are proud of belonging to a certain ethnic group, we are proud of understanding and accepting each other's culture.

RBED is so delighted to support our local businesses that are in the tourism sector. We offer support to Lodges, B&B's and Shuttle services that takes people around Rustenburg. We also offer our support to the arts and crafts SMMEs who sells their stuff to tourists in and around Phokeng. Our support also cater for local cultural groups that keeps tourists entertained during their stay in our area.

We develop all start-ups including the ones who only have an idea of starting a business but not implemented yet. Tourism business is broad and I believe that young entrepreneurs can venture into the business and start generating income and job opportunities. In our community we have SMMEs that are well developed in tourism industry especially in the accommodation sector.

We can proudly say that we have SMMEs that are rated 5% star in grading where you can get the best service. We have Tshi Berry one of the locally 5 star rated B&B which is situated in the Capital region in Phokeng.

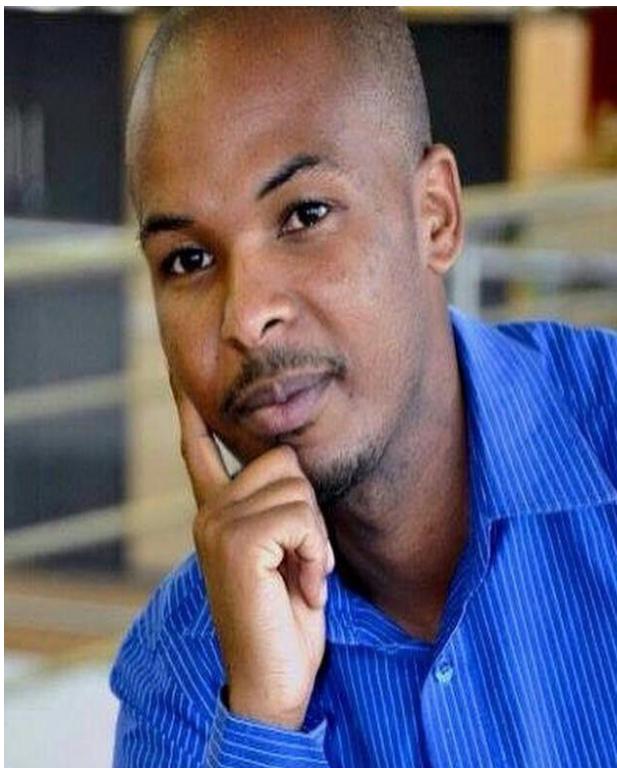
Let us be proud of where we come from and know our culture because it is imperative that when tourists visits our area that we know what to tell them, and we know all the answers that they are asking about our community.

“Re ipela ka segaetsho”

Editor: Tebogo Sedumedi



SMME OF THE MONTH – Mr Mekgwe



Q: Tell us about yourself.

A: I'm an innovative, state profession with years of experience managing all aspects of the state profession from state function for state company. I'm a person who thrives in a fast-paced environment so right now I'm looking for an opportunity to apply my technical experience and my creative problem solving skills at an innovative company like this one. I feel I'm now ready for a more challenging assignment and this position really excites me.

Q: When did you realise that you can start a business?

A: One of my biggest challenges is figuring out which ideas to pursue and which ideas to put on the back burner. I have had the luxury of working with a bunch of really smart people, so new ideas for things that we could do come up all the time. From potential partnerships to new product and marketing ideas, I feel like I'm swimming in opportunity.

But, like every other entrepreneur in the world, my challenge isn't a lack of new ideas, it's figuring out which ideas are worth spending time and money on.

Q: What motivated you to start your own business?

A: I realized that in order for me to make it into the "real world" I had to create a platform for people to know who I am and what I love – (state profession). My purpose for starting a business was to become my own boss and to create a path to success all while uplifting others. Like most Founders, I was inspired to start a business within an industry that I was working in. I saw a problem, tried to find an existing solution, realised there wasn't any available so I decided to create a solution.

Q: What makes you a successful business person?

A: To be successful in business, I needed outstanding leadership skills. To be able to command a room and inspire a team of associates to perform at their best. A great business leader has an entrepreneurial spirit and is not afraid to take risks to advance the business and improve revenues. I have thorough knowledge of the business world, as well as of technology, economics, politics, history, and other matters, as it is important for business leaders. Intellect helps to cultivate a global perspective and sparks creativity.

Q: What are some of the challenges you faced when you started your business?

A: I quickly realized that when you start a business, there's no one to tell you what's right, what's wrong, and what should be done—I had to experiment on my own and go forward with it. Because there was no one there to tell me how to structure my big idea, I found that I was completely disorganized at the start. It's important that you get this under control first thing. There's no single blueprint of how to build a startup—it's different every single time. And building your company can be especially difficult in the beginning because everything will feel like a priority, but I relied on myself.

Q: What contributes to the challenges that can result in failure within a business?

A: Management of a business encompasses a number of activities: planning, organizing, controlling, directing and communicating. The cardinal rule of small business management is to know exactly where you stand at all times. A common problem faced by successful companies is growing beyond

management resources or skills. Same applies for no planning. As the saying goes, failing to plan is planning to fail. If you don't know where you are going, you will never get there. Having a comprehensive and actionable strategy allows one to create engagement, alignment, and ownership within the organization. It's a clear roadmap that shows where you've been, where you are, and where you're going next

Q: If you have to advise an individual interested in starting a business what would you say?

A: Fund your startup yourself or request a small-business grant. Bootstrapping your business might take longer, but the good part is that you control your own destiny (and equity). Join a startup incubator or accelerator. These companies are designed to help new or startup businesses get to the next level. Most provide free resources, including office facilities and consulting, along with networking opportunities and pitch events. Some, also provide seed funding as well.

What are your aspirations?

A: While most people want to earn money, settle quickly and have a comfortable life, I aspire to do as much work as possible for the society and creating improvement for every type of person's life. I feel my part here on earth is to do this. I do charities every year and help people in some way very satisfying and I have the hunger to do more such things. I don't enjoy the the part where I want to be unique, help the society and don't follow others. This is my primary duty, to see where the young generation is heading.

Q: What are your plans for the future?

A: My future plans include growing as a philanthropist through the Tshegofatso Mekgoe Foundation and what it stands for. The Foundation is focused on youth development, thus far have implemented activities in various communities such as annual sporting events, sport academy which consists of soccer and netball to try and combat crime and get the youth off the streets. I have a vision to also be hands-on where charity is concerned, to have more blanket drives for the elderly, reach as many girls as possible donating sanitary towels and school shoes to the less fortunate so we can keep our children in school, they are the future of this country.



Company registrations

RBED offers a free internet café where you can have access to register your company, see the following:

CIPC

<http://www.cipc.co.za/index.php/register-your-business/companies/>

If your initial name reservation application is not approved, you will need to apply for new names. You may apply for between 1 and 4 names during each application process. Each name reservation application costs R50. A company registration may vary between R125 and R475 (R125 for a private company, R475 for a non-profit company registered without members).

ABSA

<https://www.absa.co.za/business/startng-my-business/setting-up-my-business/registering-my-business/>

South Africa's Companies Act requires that if you are setting up a private company (i.e. (Pty) Ltd) you need to register your company as a legal entity.

[Apply online](#)

FNB

<https://www.fnb.co.za/business-banking/cipc+bee/cipc.html>



Department of Mineral Resources Information Session



The Department of Mineral Resources invited SMMEs who were either providing a service or supplying to the mine to an information session that was held on the 29 August 2018 at the Rustenburg Civic Centre. The purpose of the event was to connect SMMEs with the mines and have knowledge regarding the short term and long term opportunities available at the mines. Amongst others the following mines/ stakeholders participated: Lonmin, Glencore, Samancor, Sibanye Stillwaters, Impala, Lefarge and Sephaku.

All these stakeholders had stalls where SMMEs had the opportunity to interact with their delegates.



Two of our SMMEs (**Thatego Holdings** and **Golden Cat holdings**) also had the chance to exhibit at the event. The mines/stakeholders gave insight on how you register on their database and highlighted the documents required. They also emphasised that by doing business with the mines, companies should have their documents in order and update them regularly. Impala shared their short term procurement opportunities with SMMEs as per request.

You need to use the information below in order to access opportunities with the mines:

- Lonmin - register on www.lonminprocure.com
- Tharisa - register on Innoven then market your business to end users.
- Impala - all SMMEs that are registered on the database and can provide a service to the mines have the opportunity to present at the vendor committee facilitated by the RBED.
- Sibanye Stillwaters - register on Arriba then market to end user.





Why Business Owners are turning to Alternative Lenders

International trends indicate that Business Owners are fast warming to the benefits offered by [Alternative Lenders](#).

From Australia to South Africa and beyond the big blue of the great Atlantic – Business Owners now have access to a host of reputable, accessible Funders – often through collection networks like [FundingHub](#) that provide a safe, hassle-free environment for parties to connect.

This shifts towards the alternative lending space driven by factors such as Loan Variety, Flexibility and Accessibility, Approval Speed, Convenience, Simplicity (usually via online application processes) . . . and Service Quality – often significantly better than received when going through traditional channels.

Below we unpack some of these considerations, fuelling the increasing popularity in Alternative Lending Solutions.

Loan Variety and Flexibility

Not all loans are equal and some, certainly, are more suited to your needs than others. [Knowing which options are best](#) for you and your business helps negate some unnecessary costs (and risks).

By connecting to Alternative Lenders through an aggregator network you gain access to a variety of different Funders, offering Flexible Repayment Options and [Business Loan Terms](#).

On top of that you also gain access to a Service Provider that helps point your application in the right direction – finding the right type of Lenders for your specific type of need.

And it's free...

Loan Application Speed and Convenience

Long, laborious and complicated application processes that take several weeks are fast becoming a thing of the past. One of the main advantages of [Applying for a Business Loan](#) from alternative lenders is that you get a quick response and the process is driven via an online channel that requires very little (if any) paperwork.

Most Business Owners do not have the luxury of waiting to meet challenges or take advantage of new opportunities . . . this is where quick access to the right type of capital makes all the difference in the world.

Loans with NO Capital Requirements

Typically when going through traditional channels business owners would need to put forward some form of capital in order to obtain a loan.

By contrast, most Alternative Lenders have products that do not require Capital Guarantees. Combine that with Flexible Payment Terms that suit your cash flow, e.g. taking a daily percentage of credit card sales, and you have a funding option that's geared to help your business grow – on YOUR own terms.

Of course any type of benefit and / or product offering has to be closely scrutinised to ensure you are fully aware of both sides of the story before committing to anything.

The basics of Financial Practice Management remain – and no loans are without risk.

However, with the right guidance and available options, you have every right to feel optimistic about your ability to access funds when your business needs it most.

[Connect with FundingHub](#) for more information on the [benefits offered by Alternative Lenders in South Africa](#).





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