

Joining hands with business leaders to drive our economy

The North-West University's Business School recently amplified its initiative to share expertise even more, by reaching out to the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce in the North West Province (NAFCOC). This followed after discussions between the NWU and NAFCOC concluded that it was necessary to utilise the NWU to develop and conduct suitable capacity building programmes for NAFCOC members.

The NWU will play a vital role in addressing capacity challenges associated with small and micro-enterprises and the reliability of SME data in the North West Province. Among other things, this will be done by offering NAFCOC members a subsidised enrolment into a range of valuable, business-oriented short courses.

According to the Business School's acting director, Prof Jan van Romburgh, the signing of the cooperation agreement is another step in the right direction to empower and stimulate the South African economy. "We are proud to collaborate with NAFCOC in order to shape executive minds in Africa."

The NWU's deputy vice chancellor, Prof Robert Balfour, also thanked NAFCOC for reaching out to the NWU Business School and said such joint ventures are imperatively important for the province. "Now, more than ever, we need these kind of collaborations in order to relief the economic damages caused by Covid-19. We value your commitment and look forward to joining hands with you," Prof Balfour said.

The cooperation between the two parties also provides opportunities to identify research projects in order to increase community exposure for the benefit of both NAFCOC and the NWU.

Edgar Kolozi, president of NAFCOC, said in their pursuit of a renewed vision, they want to partner with stakeholders to embark on programmes that will help small business to gradually become meaningful participants in the mainstream economy. "Our strategic programmes focus on the revival of small to medium-scale enterprises in agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, green energy and technology innovation. I would like to thank the NWU Business School for its enthusiasm and we look forward to this exciting collaboration," Kolozi said.

A ceremonial signing of the agreement took place in Potchefstroom, where after role players from both parties enjoyed a social lunch to discuss future plans and engagement.

During the ceremonial signing of the cooperation agreement, role players from the NWU and NAFCOC were present. They are, from back left to right: Rapula Morake, Noko Kgafhe, Willy Modise and Tshepang Ramosepele.





In front: Edgar Moloi (President of NAFCOC NW), Prof Robert Balfour (Deputy vice-chancellor of the NWU), and Sandra Sefularo.

