



NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
OUR YOUTH. OUR FUTURE.

**OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON**

**LAST MILE DELIVERY MOTORBIKE HANDOVER
AND GRADUATION CEREMONY – DURBAN,
KWAZULU-NATAL**

12 DECEMBER 2025

**SPEAKING NOTES BY THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON OF THE NYDA DR.
SUNSHINE MYENDE ON THE OCCASION OF THE NYDA & TETA LAST MILE
DELIVERY MOTORBIKE HANDOVER AND GRADUATION CEREMONY**

12 December 2025

Hon Minister Sindisiwe Chikunga
Mayor of Ethekewini, Cllr Cyril Xaba
Chief Whip, Cllr Snegugu Sishange
Cllr Zamazulu Sokhabase
Cllr Thanduxolo Sabelo
KZN Departments present
NYDA Board Member Mbatha
NYDA CEO Mr Ndumiso Kubheka
TETA CEO
Eyesizwe CEO
Takealot

Distinguished guests and esteemed partners, families, and most importantly - our 68 graduates

Good morning

Today is a day of profound pride. Not only for these young people, but for the communities that raised them, the institutions that supported them, and the country that urgently needs their talent and innovation.

We gather at a time when the struggle for youth economic participation remains one of our nation's most pressing challenges. According to the latest Quarterly Labour Force Survey, nearly 46,1% of young South Africans aged 15–34 are unemployed. This is not just a number - it is a lived experience, a daily reality for millions. And here in KwaZulu-Natal, the pressures are even more severe, with unemployment consistently ranking among the highest in the country.

And yet, in the midst of these challenges, hope emerges through action. Today's ceremony is not symbolic. It is a material intervention. A practical, deliberate step toward transforming barriers into pathways.

The partnership between the NYDA and TETA was designed with one conviction: that young people do not lack potential - they lack access, tools, and enabling ecosystems.

The Last Mile Delivery Programme carries the spirit that though conditions and circumstance may present as discouraging, hope is non-negotiable. Through this initiative, our graduates received comprehensive entrepreneurship development, New Venture Creation training, financial literacy, compliance support, K53 and full

motorbike licensing, and finally - the tools to start earning from day one.

This includes motorbikes, helmets, protective gear, insurance, data vouchers, stipends, and working capital - a complete ecosystem of support. But beyond the tools, what you receive today is an economic identity. A pathway. A stake in the future.

It is true that indeed young entrepreneurs thrive where networks of support, trust, and community care exist. This programme has intentionally built those networks - through partners like Takealot, industry collaborators, and our government colleagues who have ensured that training translates to income, and income translates to opportunity.

The author Thami Mazwai so powerfully teaches us that *“Entrepreneurship in the township is an act of courage - a deliberate refusal to be defined by circumstance.”* This courage is what we honour today. The 68 young people before us today are not just beneficiaries - They stand here as economic multipliers. They are community assets. They are future employers.

And so Programme Director, one may ask themselves - what does developing 68 young people mean?

- It means at least 68 households will experience a shift in income stability.
- It means dozens of younger siblings, cousins and neighbours will now see a living example of possibility.
- It means new micro-enterprises will emerge in Durban's townships, catalysing movement in local economies.
- It means reducing dependency and increasing dignity.
- It means breaking generational cycles of unemployment, one empowered graduate at a time.

In youth development, the transformation of one life often becomes the transformation of many. That is the exponential power of 68.

To TETA, thank you for your commitment to accredited skills and sector readiness. To our industry partners - thank you for unlocking market access, not just training. To the families, the friends, those who walked side by side with our graduates - your encouragement is the quiet engine behind today's success.

And to the graduates: You have demonstrated resilience. You have shown courage. You have proved that potential is universal, and that opportunity must catch up. You stand at the beginning of an extraordinary journey. Carry your motorbikes not as machines, but as symbols of mobility - economic mobility, social mobility, and generational mobility.

Success stories from our townships prove that brilliance is evenly distributed - it is opportunity that is not, but today Programme Director, opportunity begins to close that gap. The NYDA remains committed to walking this journey with you - through

continued access to mentorship, and market linkages. Congratulations to each of you. Your success is South Africa's hope. Your journey is our country's future.

Thank you.