



**MINISTRY
PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION
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**MINISTER NOXOLO KIVIET SPEECH ON THE HAND OVER OF 33
CLASSROOMS, 6 COMPUTER LABS AND 3 SCIENCE LABS BY
KOUGA WINDFARM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST ON THE
28TH JULY 2023 AT LUNGISO PRIMARY SCHOOL IN KOUGA**

Programme Director

Mayor of Kouga Municipality

Councillors

Principal of Lungiso Primary School

Educators

Kouga Community Development Trust Chairperson

Trustees and Board Members

General Manager

Government Officials

Community Members

Leaners

Members of the Media

Distinguished Guests

As a public representative, I have always conducted constituency work, primarily, by visiting schools because I sincerely believe that improving education is the best way of impacting a community in the most sustainable way. Of course, this is also a way of understanding a community because school is a microcosm of the community in which it is found.

Education is the most sustainable, long-term way of impacting/developing a community. The youth and children of any society represent both the future and continuity of that society. Therefore, if you take care of the youth, you are securing the future. As OR Tambo put it “the children of any nation are its future. A country, a movement, a person that does not value its youth and children does not deserve its future”.

I am so pleased to be part of this ceremony as a passionate person about improving and promoting the use of ICT infrastructure in our schools. I am therefore delighted to be here today at the handing over ceremony with people who share my enthusiasm for ICT and education. In a world where information and communications technology has made it possible for more people to have access and be able to access, generate and share information worldwide, we need to consider how basic education can maximise these new possibilities. I must reiterate however that our educators are traditionally and importantly the primary facilitators of learning.

We live in a highly globalized world, influenced by technology and innovation. Today you are presented with the opportunity to fulfill your dreams of becoming doctors, scientists and IT technicians. Today the government of the people makes it possible for you the disadvantaged to benefit from the prestigious right to education.

When we said the doors of learning and culture shall be opened to all we meant that and here we are today fulfilling that dream that was made by men and women during the Congress of the People.

The growth and development of our country has made it possible for women from disadvantaged rural communities to be equipped with skills as outlined in the National Development Plan. Indeed, the government of today plays a role in rectifying past imbalances through science and innovation skills for the young people.

Thomas Sankara has this to say “**Inequality *can be done away through an establishment of a new society where both men and women enjoy equal rights , meaning that the status of women will only improve with the elimination of the system that exploits them* “**

The democratic government is striving towards creating the exact same society for you, a society that is democratic, non- racial , non-sexist , and prosperous made possible by every one of you. The ANC government carries on the spirit of Tata Nelson Mandela by ensuring that there is maximization of educational opportunities to the learners, youth, through the handover of these 33 classrooms, 6 Computer Labs and 3 Science Labs. It is thus your responsibility as learners and the community to protect and take care of this Science and Computer Labs to stand against anyone who abuses this privilege, and to say no to vandalism of such valuable assets.

Tata Nelson Mandela once said “ ***Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world* “**

In today’s advancing technological environment we need to work smarter and better to ensure that our educators have the tools to provide our learners with good quality education. Today’s handover is exciting in the sense that it integrates ICT into the classroom environment. I was thrilled in the past few days I have spent in this area to have an interaction with Kouga Windfarm Community Development Trust.

I was very impressed about the impact they are making in this area in changing the lives of the people for the better through improving not only the quality of life but impacting skills revolution in society at large.

This is informed by the strategic interventions the trust has made in addition to today's hand over. I would like to express my appreciation for the collaborative partnership with strategic role players and the impact that has made in changing the lives of the people for the better. What is impressive is not skills impact but is also about jobs that have been created in the interventions that have been made.

This happens at time when we are celebrating Nelson Mandela Month which has united the people of the world in giving back to their communities. This initiative is no different as it will equip the learners with skills and knowledge to advance the struggle for better economic opportunities. Computers and technology innovation should be guiding in the facilitation of education and skills enhancement of the youth in the country.

As we celebrate the milestones and achievements of the Kouqa Windfarm Community Development Trust we should be mindful of the fact that nothing can be done without key strategic role players in building resilient, self - reliant, and sustainable communities. We must appreciate the impact that has been made by the private public partnership of all strategic role players in this area, the community, the municipality and government in ensuring that they walk together the path to change the economic outlook of this region.

Investing in education is the best investment one can make in our country and contributions from the private sector and civil society to the improvement of education outcomes are invaluable not only as government but also to the **learners**.

The handover of these 33 classrooms, 3 Computer Lab and 6 Science Labs is a great achievement. . Computers and technology innovation should be guiding in the facilitation of education and skills enhancement of the youth in the country. You should grab this opportunity with both hands as student, take advantage of this opportunity and contribute to the growth and economic development of our country.

Be inspired and continue to be the shining example for building a better society.

I Thank You !