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TAMDEV – Igniting economic growth, job creation and development in communities by supporting service delivery in local government

A business-led initiative arising out of the Presidential Jobs Summit to develop capacity in local government to improve service delivery and create job opportunities within communities.

Building the capacity of local government is critical not only to improve socioeconomic conditions in communities but also to provide functional infrastructure and the services necessary to support business growth. Businesses in regions where service delivery is weak often have to take on roles outside their core functions to support basic services for the communities around them. Where companies operate in a functional area, they can focus on growing their business, which in turn supports local job creation and economic growth. The **Technical Assistance and Mentorship Development (TAMDEV)** programme brings together a range of stakeholders from business and government to foster collective action that builds the capacity of the state to effectively deliver services for the benefit of business, government and, ultimately, broader society.

As the implementation partner for TAMDEV, the **National Business Initiative (NBI)** recently conducted workshops to raise awareness about the programme's mandate and its planned approach to improving service delivery. TAMDEV is a Jobs Summit deliverable that aims to stimulate collaborative action between business and government to collectively identify and understand areas of shared risk and opportunity for both the private and public sector. It builds on tested, workable practices and the deployment of appropriate expertise and technical skills from the private and public sector to strengthen vulnerable public institutions and address service delivery constraints.

The programme aims to mobilise resources seconded from government and business, and access skills in retired individuals, to provide:

- **Technical assistance** by providing skilled staff and resources to assist institutions to deliver on their mandates and effectively execute their core functions for an agreed period.
- **Mentorship** to enhance existing skills through guidance, technical support and leadership, with an emphasis on both hard and soft skills.
- **Development** of skills, informed by skills gaps identified in critical positions and developing these skills through formal training.

Focus areas include strengthening the capacity of counsellors and administrators, and providing technical support in the form of financial expertise to improve revenue management and engineering skills for infrastructure project planning and management. Water and energy are important priorities as these are key revenue generators for municipalities. Municipalities will also be supported to become compliant with lending requirements so that they can access further funds for development.

The TAMDEV office was established in the NBI and resourced at the start of July 2019. The pilot phase will implement projects in the areas identified by government needs and aims to establish the feasibility of the model by demonstrating successes and showing measured impact. Later phases will include developing a model to secure future funding and then to crowd in similar initiatives.

TAMDEV provides an opportunity for businesses and experienced individuals to contribute to socioeconomic development and job creation in under-resourced communities that will ignite growth across South Africa by helping to build skills and capacity in local government.

To get involved, please contact: [Ruth Troskie](#).



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The National Business Initiative (NBI) is an independent and voluntary coalition of South African and multinational businesses launched in 1995 by the then President, Nelson Mandela

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