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## PRESS RELEASE

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**EMBARGO: None**

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### **Mpumalanga Court completion replicates job creation and empowerment**

As the Mpumalanga High Court nears completion, the Independent Development Trust (IDT) is proud to have created over 1100 job opportunities during the construction phase of the project and to have contributed to economy of the Enhlazeni District in that manner.

The R665-million project is almost over and ready to be handed over to the government with only construction of the access road remaining.

The IDT is implementing the project on behalf of the Department of Justice with an aim to assisting government with its mission to deliver quality, sustainable and effective justice infrastructure that will provide effective justice to communities.

Once handed over, the iconic four storey premises will accommodate end-users under the Department of Justice and Correctional Services. It consists of 18 judge's chambers – including that of the newly appointed Judge President of the Mpumalanga High Court – six criminal courts, six civil courts and police holding cells.

In addition the premises will also be occupied by the State Attorney, Legal Aid South Africa, Master of the High Court, National Prosecuting Authority and the Family Advocate.

The completion of this court follows on the handing over of similar state-of-the-art premises in Polokwane, Limpopo, which was officially opened by the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Adv. Michael Masutha in November 2016, and thus this will be the second High Court

Construction of the Mpumalanga High Court commenced in September 2013, resulting in the creation of 1108 job opportunities, 676 of which were for the youth and 102 for women.

In addition 22 locals were trained in brick laying, tiling and paving while 15 small, micro and medium enterprises (SMMEs) were established and trained in financial management.

The locals trained in bricklaying were required to build a two roomed house in Matafeni Township, which was handed over to the Mbombela Municipality after completion, and is now being used as child daycare centre.

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Trustees: S Fikeni (Chairperson), N Rakolote (Deputy Chairperson), S Biniza, AA Makhado,  
OM Matloa, TE Motswaledi, P Nkomo, RAS Patel, L Zitha, ZAT Zitha, GC Zulu-Kabanyane  
Company Secretary: V Skosana

CEO: CBJ Pakade

Registration Number: 669/91



The successful completion of this project attest to the IDT's significant contribution to the government's development initiatives and its capability to facilitate much needed development programmes within communities.

It is also evidence of the organisation's social facilitation niche which enhances self-reliance at a community level and helps prepare communities to receive, participate in, own and sustain their development.

Throughout the contract period, the IDT has had continuous engagements with various stakeholders including the client department, Department of Higher Education and Training, Department of Public Works and Mbombela Local Municipality to ensure smooth delivery of the project.

IDT is looking forward to handing over the project and boost the government's effort to bring justice closer to the people.

**NOTES TO EDITORS:**

The IDT is an entity of the National Department of Public Works that is mandated to support all spheres of government with social infrastructure management and programme implementation.

In the past five years the IDT supported 40 government departments including building 97 new schools and 36 new health facilities while renovating hundreds more and created more than 360 000 work opportunities in various communities through its implementation of social infrastructure programmes and the Expanded Public Works Programme.

**PHOTOGRAPHS:**

Available on request.

**ENQUIRIES:**

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