

MEDIA RELEASE

Major boost for Nelson Mandela Bay learners ahead of their first-ever maritime studies class

[Gqeberha, 17 January 2024] Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) today handed over study materials to support grade 10 learners from Motherwell township schools that are introducing maritime studies as a subject of choice.

The initiative supports the Eastern Cape Department of Education Maritime Studies Programme, which has been introduced in township and rural high schools to foster pathways for future mariners and bring much-needed maritime education to disadvantaged communities. It targets the top-performing schools in mathematics and physical sciences subjects.

Speaking at the handover ceremony, TNPA Senior Manager for CSI and Stakeholder Relations, Simlindele Manqina said the organisation's involvement in the project stems from its commitment in supporting and enabling access to quality education and the promotion of maritime careers through its Maritime Career Awareness Roadshow rolled out annually in September.

"Our focus as TNPA is to develop a sustainable pool of future mariners in South Africa. The study material handover initiative will provide learners with theoretical knowledge to further deepen their understanding of the maritime sector."

The 220 learners who have benefited are from Cingani, Douglas Mbopa, Motherwell High Schools and Soqhayisa Senior Secondary School.

To further support this maritime education initiative, TNPA will help educators and learners with training programmes and open its commercial seaports for a real-time experience.

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About Transnet National Ports Authority

The National Ports Authority is responsible for the safe, effective and efficient economic functioning of the national port system, which it manages in a landlord capacity. It provides port infrastructure and marine services at the eight commercial seaports in South Africa – Richards Bay, Durban, Saldanha, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, Mossel Bay and Ngqura. It operates within a legislative and regulatory environment and is governed by the National Ports Act (Act No. 12 of 2005). For more information visit www.transnetnationalportsauthority.net.

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