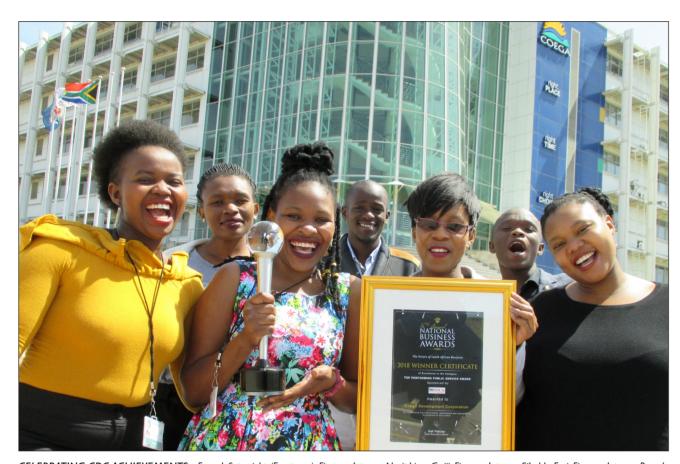
## COEGA WINS TOP AWARD AT THE OSCARS OF SOUTH AFRICAN BUSINESS - Top Performing Public Sector Award



CELEBRATING CDC ACHIEVEMENTS: From left to right (Front row): Finance Intern - Nosiphiwo Gwiji; Finance Intern - Sibahle Fosi; Finance Intern - Pamela Mzilikazi; (Back row): SMME Intern - Sinazo Tumshe; Corporate Intern - Nwabisani Duma; Finance Intern - Avela Mzofana.

The CDC danced to victory, following a close call between the fierce rival finalists- City of Tshwane, Coega Development Corporation (CDC), Durban ICC, Gautrain Management Agency, Transnet Port Terminals and uShaka Marine World- during the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual National Business Awards, the Oscars of South African Business, held at the Emperors Palace in Kempton Park on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2018.

The CDC took home the Top Performing Public Sector Award, a prestigious award, which acknowledges and congratulates national, provincial and local

government departments, parastatals and/ or agencies that have achieved remarkable performance results in the last financial year. A stringent criteria was used to evaluate the finalists, which includes financial management, environmental and sustainable development, meeting targets, positive contributions to the economy, innovation and brilliance in fulfilling their service.

"2018 marks another year of great performance and delivery by the CDC, despite it being a challenging year in all fronts, especially in investment promotion.

Swimming against the tide, the highly committed CDC team have shown persistence, resilience, and managed to maintain the momentum in ensuring that the organization continues to achieve its strategic objectives and vision as a leading pioneer in reducing the socio-economic barriers that hinder development and growth," said a very confident CDC's Head of Marketing, Brand and Communications, Dr. Ayanda Vilakazi.

The CDC has recorded 43 operational investors (tenants), who have invested an impressive R7.079 billion private sector investment in the Coega SEZ.

In addition, there are currently 5 new investors that are busy with construction, who have pledged a private sector investment of R12.1 billion, these include BAIC SA (R11 billion), OSHO Cement (R600 million), MM Engineering (R350 million), Akacia Medical (R100 million) and Hella (R53 million). Most of these companies are expected to be operational next year. We expect more private sector investors to stream into Coega next year to take advantage of the excellent infrastructure, government incentives, excellent business environment, and being among some of the top 43 investors in Africa.

As regards SMME development and support, it is commendable that the CDC's overall procurement spend/ payment for the 2017/18 financial year amounted to R707 million out of the total spend of R1,9 billion. This achievement is due to the organisation's responsibility to facilitate the buying of goods and services from qualifying Small and Medium Enterprises.

Since its inception in 1999, the CDC has created a total number of 112 974 jobs, contributing immensely towards reducing unemployment in the region of the Eastern Cape, in particular.

CDC's performance has also been acknowledged by the Department of Trade and Industry as, "the flagship programme we are very proud of, effectively the best functioning and most successful SEZ in the country."

Various world leaders have also zoomed in to congratulate the CDC on the sterling performance, some of whom include the Vice President of the People's Republic of China, Dr. Ll Yuanchao, during his visit to South Africa, where he remarked "I've been to many developing countries and industrial development zones, the Coega Special Economic Zone is by far the best of them all."

The CDC is the only State Owned Entity in South Africa that has won the Top Performing Public Sector Award three times in the past five years, i.e., 2014, 2016 and 2018. Being amongst the best organisations in South Africa is humbling and could be attributed to visionary leadership displayed by our Board of Directors, Executive Management and the hard working CDC staff. Our Executive Authority and various oversight committees have ensured that the organisation operates efficiently whilst maintaining higher than expected level of good governance, adds Dr. Vilakazi.

Finally, this Oscar brings the total number of awards received by the CDC this year alone to five: Vision 2030 - Infrastructure Development Award; Exporters Awards - IDC Job Creation Award (Merit Award); Top Employer 2018 - Certified Excellence in Employer Conditions; Standard Bank Top Women Award - Top Gender Empowered Public Service; and Best Provider of Service to Exporters (Merit Award for Major Accomplishments), concludes Dr. Vilakazi.











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