

PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

TSHWANE GREEN PITCH 2018
Green economy supplier development programme

Date: 5 September 2018
Issued: African Sustainable Development Association

As the administrator of the capital city, the City of Tshwane is very excited to share more information on Tshwane Green Pitch. This innovative sustainable procurement and green economy supplier development programme was initiated during Sustainability Week in June 2018.

The City of Tshwane has been a member of the Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement (GLCN) since 2016 and the Executive Mayor, Cllr Solly Msimanga, has been requested to become the chair of this network, taking over from Mayor Park of the Seoul Metropolitan Government.

The GLCN is a group of 14 city governments who are committed to drive a transition to sustainable consumption and production by implementing sustainable and innovative procurement. All members are acting as ambassadors of sustainable procurement so as to achieve a resource-efficient, low-carbon and socially responsible society.

“It is a privilege to participate in the network, as the network will ensure that the already initiated sustainable procurement drive increases the momentum of mainstreaming sustainability into the cities’ operations,” said Cllr Msimanga. He added, “The City is gradually integrating sustainable procurement into its processes, giving consideration to the availability of alternatives with enhanced sustainability performance.”

Through the Tshwane Green Pitch, the City is committed to show its support to green economy suppliers in various practical ways, such as:

- SME integration into the formal value chain by developing local markets for sustainable goods and services
- Continuous evaluation and consideration of sustainable supply business cases and technology
- Awareness raising around the environmental footprint and social impact

The City’s Supply Chain Management Division (SCM) and City Sustainability Unit (CSU) are driving Tshwane Green Pitch as part of its sustainable procurement programme, which

is gaining great momentum. The programme enables an innovative approach to mainstream sustainability into the City's operations and ensures sustainable service delivery with sustainable development outcomes for all stakeholders. The programme will accelerate green economy SME and supplier development in a way that stimulates green and inclusive growth for Tshwane's emerging economy, according to Raldu Nel, Chairman of African Sustainable Development Association (A-SDA).

Tshwane Green Pitch is a structured platform created to afford entrepreneurs/SMEs and suppliers an opportunity to close partnerships to enhance their business competitiveness on green economy aspects while presenting their differentiated value propositions to the City and the market. Through this programme, key suppliers of the City will be able to collaborate effectively, ensuring sustainable service delivery by implementing a sustainable procurement strategy to enhance the City's overall value chain performance. The event will ultimately showcase to business leaders across the industry sustainability through creativity and design thinking to bridge the gap between formal industry and entrepreneurs. It will link SMEs to formal value chains.

All Tshwane Green Pitch participating companies have to measure up to a robust Six Capitals Net Positive Contribution Scorecard for sustainable service delivery, demonstrating their net positive impact on their communities, ecology and the economy.

There were several build-up activities leading to the identification of the top 10 finalists:

- Through the Sustainable Procurement Dialogue during Sustainability Week in June 2018 the City of Tshwane set up an engagement platform to allow robust dialogue amongst various stakeholders about key aspects of sustainable procurement. The dialogue helped shape the approach to Tshwane Green Pitch.
- The City called for innovative green-related proposals from suppliers/entrepreneurs. More than 160 green economy SMEs and suppliers entered the City of Tshwane Green Economy Supplier Development Programme by 31 August 2018.
- Tshwane Green Pitch 2018 process till 20 September:
 - The Tshwane Green Pitch team, consisting independent cross-functional experts, are screening all registrations and will be in contact with all those who have participated to date if further information is required.
 - The shortlisted top 20 companies will be contacted by 10 September, formalising their inclusion in this year's Green Pitch Supplier Development Boot Camp on Friday 14 September. The Boot Camp will include mentoring sessions with top industry thought leaders and sharing toolkits for change.

From the Boot Camp the top 10 participants will be selected to pitch their Innovative Green Economy Value Propositions to key stakeholders of the City on 20 September 2018. They will be engaging with an impactful panel of specialist judges, including African Sustainable Development Association (A-SDA), City of Tshwane (City Sustainability, Supply Chain Management, Local Economic Development and Trade and Investment), National Cleaner Production Centre (NCPC), and private sector thought leaders and incubators.

All registered Tshwane Green Pitch companies are cordially invited to attend the Tshwane Green Pitch event on 20 September at Tshwane House. RSVP via VIP invitation.

The City of Tshwane Green Pitch team thank you, the participating companies, for your active and authentic participation and commit to working with you to ensure impactful green-economy value chain linkages.

ENDS

Words: 850

For more information:

Surisa Nel, A-SDA COO

Email: surisa@africansda.org

Tel: 083 459 1907