

Platfontein Youth Empowerment Graduation Ceremony for the students of the 6-months vocational training at the 'Hilltop Empowerment Centre'



Students



Premier of Northern Cape
Mrs Sylvia Lucas



PREMIER PRAISES PLATFONTEIN

Swiss invest

NOMUSA MVLUBU

THE history and development of the people of Platfontein is that of determination and passion, Northern Cape Premier Sylvia Lucas said yesterday. She was speaking at the graduation ceremony of 12 students who had completed their computer training.

The students are from the Platfontein area which is home to the Khaisan community.

Lucas yesterday congratulated the 12 men and women who completed the computer training course conducted by the Hilltop Empowerment Training Company.

Lucas also thanked the Swiss embassy as an international partner in the fight against poverty, unemployment and socio-economic challenges ravaging the province and the country. Lucas said the partners brought in the very skills the people of the Northern Cape and particularly those in Platfontein needed to secure the future of the country.

"The history and the development of the people of Platfontein is that of determination and passion and it was revealed here today during the award ceremony of the people of Platfontein. The people of this town have had setbacks but rose to the challenges presented in front of them.

"They share in the long history of the country and aim to ensure the well-being of the general population," Lucas said.

Platfontein is situated about 15km from Kimberley.

Lucas said: "The group has shown that together we can build a better country.

"We can achieve more and build on the foundations presented to us.

"They proved to us that those goals which were perceived as unachievable years ago, could easily be achieved today."

The premier said bringing education to the people of Platfontein would give them a sense of responsibility to develop the place and to further educate their own people.

"Education is a weapon we can use to change the world.

"We can use this weapon to improve the skills of the people and plough back into the community of Platfontein.

"We salute you and hope that you use the agricultural and computer skills gained to empower the community you live in and to overcome the challenges in your lives.

"We also thank the Swiss government for the role you have played as our partners in building South Africa.

"With these awards, you have created access to opportunities and allowed the community of Platfontein an opportunity to take this country forward," Lucas said.

nomusa@mthrenewage.co.za

