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Growing Gauteng Together

3 April 2025

Programme

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GGT2030
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Main Plenary Session (08:30 – 13:00)

Main Moderator Nozipho Tshabalala

- **Conference Video**
- **National Anthem**

08:30 – 09:25 | Welcome & Opening Remarks

- Opening Remarks: Dada Morero Mayor of Johannesburg
- Address by Premier: Hon. Panyaza Lesufi
 - Gauteng's Economic Plan: Delivering a Modern, Inclusive, and High-Performance Economy
- Address by Hon. P Tau, Minister DTIC
 - **Suggested Topic:** Reindustrializing South Africa Through Gauteng: From Policy to Impact
- Keynote Address: Deputy President of South Africa, Hon. Paul Mashatile
 - **Suggested Topic 1:** Unlocking Gauteng's Economic Potential: A National Priority
 - **Suggested Topic 2:** Investing in Confidence: Gauteng as South Africa's Gateway to Growth

09:50 – 10:00 | Message of Support 1: Ambassador Wamkele Mene, Secretary-General of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)

10:00 – 11:15 | Panel Discussion 1: Gauteng's Place on the African Continent

Theme: Positioning Gauteng as Africa's Premier Investment Destination

Description:

Gauteng is South Africa's economic powerhouse, yet competition for investment on the African continent is fierce. This panel will explore how the province can strengthen its positioning as the gateway to Africa, leveraging financial services, technology, trade, and infrastructure. Experts will discuss intra-African trade, cross-border partnerships, and policies that can make Gauteng a competitive hub for foreign direct investment (FDI).

- **Moderator:** Prof Adrian Saville
- **Panelists:** (Mr Isaah Mahlangu (Chief Economist, RMB), Ms Busi Mabuza (Chairperson, IDC), Mr Saki Zamxaka (Acting Group CEO, GGDA), Ms Lizeka Matshekga (Chief Investment Officer, Mr Harith Group)

11:15 – 11:30 | Message of Support 2: Advocate Mtho Xulu, President of the South African Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SACCI)

11:30 – 12:30 | Panel Discussion 2: Driving Gauteng's Competitiveness through Infrastructure

Theme: Building World-Class Infrastructure to Accelerate Gauteng's Economic Growth

Description:

Gauteng's ability to remain competitive relies heavily on the strength of its infrastructure. Strategic investments in transport, energy, digital connectivity, and logistics are essential to attracting and retaining businesses. Robust infrastructure not only facilitates economic growth but also enhances investor confidence and business efficiency. By prioritizing world-class infrastructure, Gauteng can solidify its position as Africa's leading business hub, driving long-term economic resilience and global competitiveness.

- **Moderator:** Sam Rolland, The Economist
- **Panelists:** (Hon. Jacob Mamabolo (Gauteng MEC, Infrastructure & Development), Mr Hennie Heyman (Group CEO, DHL), Mr Sandile Dube (MD, Equinix Data Centers), Ms Masemara Masemola (Head, Infrastructure SA), Ms Phakama Mbikwana (EVP, Infrastructure Sector, Standard Bank)

12:30 – 12:40 | Message of Support 3: Mr. Khulekani Mathe, Chief Executive Officer, Business Unity South Africa (BUSA)

12:40 – 13:00 | Closing & Investment Pledges Summary

Closing Remarks | Investment Pledges Summary, Next Steps for Investment Implementation
Gauteng MEC Finance and Economic Development Hon. Lebogang Maile

13:00 – 14:30 | Lunch Break

Gauteng Growth Dialogues Round Table Discussions

The Gauteng Growth Dialogues are dynamic, sector-focused breakaway sessions designed to drive actionable insights and investment commitments across key economic sectors. These fireside chats bring together industry leaders, policymakers, and investors to explore strategic opportunities that can accelerate Gauteng's economic competitiveness. Covering critical areas such as infrastructure investment and public-private partnerships (PPPs), advanced manufacturing, transport and logistics, and the creative economy, the forums provide a platform for high-impact discussions, investment matchmaking, and policy recommendations. Each session is structured to identify challenges, unlock growth potential, and position Gauteng as Africa's premier investment and trade hub.



Breakaway Sessions

14:30 – 15:45 | Growth Forums & Fireside Chats

• Accelerating Infrastructure Investment & Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in Gauteng

Objective:

This session examines how PPPs can drive infrastructure rollout and overcome public funding constraints. It brings together treasury, banking, and development experts to discuss frameworks, risk-sharing models, and how to structure bankable projects. The focus will be on unlocking catalytic infrastructure in housing, energy, transport, and municipal services. It will also explore the role of national and provincial treasuries in de-risking projects and encouraging investor confidence.

Opening Remarks: Gauteng MEC for Human Settlements: Ms Tasneem Motara

Key Topics:

- Prioritizing high-impact infrastructure projects for economic growth
- Innovative financing models for infrastructure development
- Case studies of successful infrastructure PPPs
- Addressing legal and regulatory challenges in PPP execution

Moderator: Nozipho Tshabalala, The Conversation Strategists

- **Panelists:** Mr Boitumelo Mashilo (Head, National Treasury PPP Unit), Mr Zeph Nhleko (Chief Economist, DBSA), Ms Siyanda Mfathehlwa (Head, Sector PPPs, RMB), Ms Ncumisa Mnyani (HoD, Provincial Treasury).

• Advanced Manufacturing in Gauteng – Resuscitating Africa’s Industrial Powerhouse

Objective:

With the AfCFTA opening new trade opportunities, Gauteng has the potential to reclaim its role as Africa’s manufacturing hub, this panel unpacks opportunities in high-value manufacturing sectors such as pharmaceuticals, agri-processing, automotive, and heavy industry. Panelists will explore innovation, industrial policy alignment, localisation, and how to boost export competitiveness. The discussion is also expected to highlight industrial parks, value chain integration, and investment incentives available in the province.

Opening Remarks: Gauteng MEC for Education, Sports and Culture: Mr Matome Chiloane

Key Topics:

- Localizing production to enhance supply chains
- Adoption of advanced manufacturing technologies
- Energy security, infrastructure, and investment challenges
- Policy interventions to drive industrial competitiveness

Moderator: Fifi Peters, CNBC Africa

- **Panelists:** Mr Stavros Nicolau (Aspen Pharmaceuticals), Mr. Wandile Sihlobo (Chief Economist, AGBIZ), Mr. Tafadzwa Chibanguza (COO, SEIFSA), Ms Thandiwe Ngqobe (CEO, GIDZ).



• Transport & Logistics: Strengthening Gauteng's Trade and Investment Gateway

Objective:

Accounting for 60% of South Africa's trade, Gauteng's logistics and transport network underpins its role as Africa's trade hub. This session focuses on modernising Gauteng's transport and logistics networks to support its position as a trade and industrial hub. Panelists will explore investment in freight corridors, port access, public transport integration, and the digitisation of logistics systems. Special attention will be given to leveraging rail, aviation, and road infrastructure to lower the cost of doing business and support regional trade.

Opening Remarks: Gauteng MEC for Roads and Transport: Ms Kedibone Diale-Tlabela

Key Topics:

- Modernising transport infrastructure for global competitiveness
- Rail and road network improvements for efficient goods movement
- The role of OR Tambo International Airport in trade facilitation
- Improving logistics efficiency

Moderator: Professor Francois Fouche, GIBS

- **Panelists:** Mr. Tshepo Kgobe (CEO, Gautrain), Ms. Mpumi Mpofo (CEO, ACSA), Dr. Juinata Maree (CEO, SA Association of Freight Forwarders), **Ms Mitchell Williams (Group CEO, Transnet – Tentative)**

• Unlocking the Potential of Tourism & the Creative Economy in Gauteng

Objective:

Gauteng is Africa's leading creative and cultural hub, yet infrastructure gaps and regulatory barriers hinder its full potential. This panel explores the untapped economic potential of tourism, film, music, and the broader creative economy. Discussions will highlight Gauteng's cultural assets, the role of festivals and film production in city branding, and how to build inclusive ecosystems for creative entrepreneurs. Investment in tourism infrastructure, digital platforms, and creative skills development are also expected to feature.

Opening Remarks: MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development: Ms Vuyiswa Ramokgopa

Key Topics:

- Strengthening Gauteng's global creative and cultural positioning
- Technology, digital platforms, and content monetisation
- Public-private partnerships for tourism infrastructure
- Innovation-driven models for sustainable creative industries growth

Moderator: Ms Nastassia Arendse, CNBC Africa

- **Panelists:** Ms Sthembiso Dlamini (CEO, GTA), Ms Shola Sanni (Head of Public Policy, Netflix SSA), Mr Timothy Mangwedi (Executive Director, Joburg Film Festival), Mr Zakes Bantwini (Grammy Award-Winning Artist)

Closing Remarks (15:45 – 16:00): Mr Craig Cornish, Group Chair, Gauteng Growth and Development Agency (GGDA)