

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER:** 1249 (NW1495E)

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**Mr M R Sayedali Shah (DA) to ask the Minister of Tourism:**

What measures has his department put in place to transfer the necessary skills to municipalities through the Local Government Tourism Capacitation Programme? NW1495E

**Reply by Minister of Tourism**

In December 2012, as part of the Local Government Tourism Capacity Building Programme, the National Department of Tourism (NDT) appointed the University of Pretoria to develop course material and deliver training to tourism practitioners at local government, on various aspects of tourism, including Visitor Information Centre Management

In January 2013, correspondence was sent to Municipalities inviting them to attend pilot training on both Capacity Building for Tourism Practitioners and Visitor Information Centre Management.

The pilot training, which covered various facets areas of tourism, including an introduction to tourism, tourism planning, destination marketing, tourism research and tourism legislation took place from the 11th to 15<sup>th</sup> March 2013. The training focused on tourism management at local government with a view to grow tourism. The training was attended by a total of thirty (30) participants from local government, including representatives from Provinces.

The training on Visitor Information Centre (VIC) Management took place from 8 to 12 April 2013. The training was intended at capacitating VIC staff to be able undertake effective tourism promotion and marketing including dissemination of information to tourists. It was also attended by a total of thirty (30) participants.