



tourism

Department:
Tourism
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Tourism House, 17 Trevenna Street, Sunnyside. Private Bag X 424, PRETORIA · 0001
Tel + 27 (0) 12 444 6000· Fax + 27 (0) 12 444 7000. Call Center: 0860 121 929

Caravan Park to boost tourism in Kai Garib

27 October 2016

“Tourism brings entrepreneurship opportunities, creates employment and has the potential of alleviating poverty in rural communities,” said Deputy Minister Xasa speaking at the launch of the Kai Garib Caravan Park in Keimos – Northern Cape.

More than five hundred members of the local community and tourism business owners attended the event to witness the ribbon cutting ceremony and the official handover of the Caravan Park to the Kai Garib municipality.

The Caravan Park is a Social Responsibility Implementation (SRI) project funded by the Department of Tourism under the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP). It is envisaged that the Park will create employment opportunities, develop a vibrant, equitable and sustainable economy that will assist the local community to share in the benefits of tourism.

“Some of South Africa’s top tourism destinations, national parks and cultural sites are located in rural areas, and yet these areas are the hardest hit by poverty and unemployment.”

“When we invest in infrastructure projects such as this park, it is with the view of bringing tourism closer to rural communities, boosting the local economy and ultimately creating jobs that will alleviate poverty,” said Xasa.

Through SRI, the Department promotes the growth of tourism products through infrastructure developments in rural tourism nodes to ensure economic empowerment, sector transformation, and the transfer of skills development to local communities.

Forty one (41) people from the surrounding communities were employed and paid stipends during the construction of the park. The construction includes perimeter fencing; paved pedestrian walkway; ablution blocks; conference hall; reception, caretaker office and tuck shop; landscaping; water supply and reticulation; 36 parking bays; swimming pool and area lighting and recreation equipment.

Kai Garib Mayor, Mr Marius Louw, thanked the department for bringing tourism closer to the people of Keimoes.

“We are honoured to have been bestowed as custodians of this tourism facility. We will embrace it and utilise it to advance tourism in our area,” said Marius Louw.

Acting Head of Department for the Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism, Ms Drinie Samson, lauded the efforts the municipality to ensure that members of the community were employed to build and maintain the facility.

“We are proud of the work you have done to ensure that this facility was built and completed in the allocated time. As the Northern Cape Department, we commit to assisting the municipality with management and marketing plans to ensure the successful management of the park, said Drinie Samson.

Enquiries:

**Mr Trevor Bloem - Chief Director - Communications
National Department of Tourism**

Telephone: +27 (0) 12 444 6607
Cell: +27 (0) 82 771 6729
Email: tbloem@tourism.gov.za

Issued by The National Department of Tourism