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Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTIONS NO. 821

Spaza Shop Support Fund

Ms L P Mhlongo (KwaZulu-Natal: MKP) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

(a) How many applications have been approved following the closure of applications for the Spaza Shop Support Fund, (b) what total amount has been disbursed to beneficiaries to date and (c) how many of the approved beneficiaries are located in (i) rural areas, (ii) townships and (iii) informal settlements? CW967E

REPLY:

a) The Spaza Shop Support Fund (SSSF) remains open and continues to accept applications from qualifying businesses. To date, the NEF has approved 1,053 applications to the value of R99.9 million, as outlined in the table below.

APPROVALS								
	#	%Female Owned	%Youth Owned	%Disabled Owned	Total Infrastructure	Total Inventory	Total Non-Financial Support	Total Request
Total	1 053	50%	21%	3%	R51 798 930	R38 410 430	R9 740 000	R99 949 361

b) Training of beneficiaries is a mandatory prerequisite component of the programme, and completion unlocks infrastructure refurbishments and bulk inventory deliverables. The total disbursement processed to date amounts to R25.4 million. Payments to the appointed Delivery Channel Partners (DCPs) are made on a milestone basis, upon submission of verified completion certificates and supporting documentation for work completed. A further R23.4 million is due for immediate



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payment upon receipt and verification of the outstanding completion certificates and related deliverables.

The NEF disbursed funds directly to appointed specialised DCPs to execute three core pillars following the approval of each application:

Workstream	Scope of Services	Value-Add
Bulk Inventory	• Aggregated procurement system • Supplier partnerships • Distribution coordination • Credit facility & alternative payment systems	• Reduced costs through bulk buying • Reliable stock availability • Enables cashless transactions- reduce cash handling risks • Job multiplier – additional roles along value chain (warehousing, logistics (last mile delivery) and retail)
Infrastructure Refurbishment	• Site audits & tailored upgrade plans • Structural improvements (walls, flooring, electrical, plumbing) • Installation of equipment incl POS systems • Post-installation support	• Upgraded, compliant trading spaces • Enhanced customer experience and operational efficiency • POS infrastructure enables digital sales and revenue diversification (additional revenue / commissions from value added sales (airtime, electricity, Lotto, DSTV)
Training	• 5-day SETA-accredited training • Topics: POS usage, business management, digital & financial literacy, food safety & compliance • Group delivery with attendance certification	• Enhanced business and digital skills • Supports effective use of POS for sales diversification • Promotes regulatory compliance (health & safety, food handling), reducing health risks and improving shop reputation • Increases owner professionalism and sustainability



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c) (i) &(ii)

Of the 1,053 approved applications:

657 (62.3%) spaza shops are located in rural areas.

396 (37.6%) are located in townships, some of which are in informal settlements.

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