

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 1363

Mr S S Zondo (IFP) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

Given the benefits associated with the Aquaculture Development and Enhancement Programme, and in the interest of developing and enriching rural communities, what (a) rural-based (i) companies and (ii) cooperatives in (aa) KwaZulu-Natal and (bb) the Eastern Cape have benefitted from the specified programme in the past financial year and (b) number of jobs were created and/or sustained in the programme in the past financial year? NW1687E

REPLY:

(a) (i) and (ii) (aa)

During the past financial year (2023/24) no companies or cooperatives were supported through the Aquaculture Development and Enhancement Programme (ADEP) in KwaZulu-Natal.

(i) and (ii) (bb)

During 2023/24, R19 million was committed to a rural-based beneficiary of the ADEP to expand existing operations in the Eastern Cape in the Amathole District. The company plans to invest R65 million over the next 2-5 years, create 20 new jobs and retain 272 existing jobs. Funding was disbursed to a company based in the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality that received R1.18 million for investing R13.8 million. This company reported the creation of 13 new jobs and retained 17 existing jobs. No rural-based co-operatives were supported in the Eastern Cape.

(b) During the 2023/24 financial year, beneficiaries of the ADEP supported across all provinces reported 33 new jobs created and retained 165 existing jobs.

Since 2016/17, ADEP funded companies, reported at the final claim stage, the creation of over 1 600 new jobs and the retention of approximately 2 000 existing jobs.

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