

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

cidb and University of Johannesburg Launch Construction Management Course to Strengthen Eastern Cape Contractors

East London, 8 July 2026 - The Construction Industry Development Board (cidb), in partnership with the University of Johannesburg (UJ), has officially launched its Certificate in Construction Management (CCM) learning initiative in the Eastern Cape, providing contractors with practical, industry-focused training to strengthen their businesses and improve infrastructure delivery across the province.

The course was officially launched yesterday at Walter Sisulu University in East London as part of three simultaneous provincial launches held in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and the Free State.

The Certificate in Construction Management is a flagship learning initiative offered under the cidb's B.U.I.L.D Programme. Developed in collaboration with the University of Johannesburg, the course combines academic excellence with practical industry experience to equip contractors with the skills needed to manage construction projects, grow sustainable businesses and compete in an evolving construction sector.

The Eastern Cape continues to face significant infrastructure and unemployment challenges, creating an urgent need for capable contractors who can deliver quality roads, schools, healthcare facilities, water infrastructure and other public assets. The CCM course responds directly to this need by strengthening contractors' expertise in project management, construction management, financial management and business leadership.

Addressing delegates at the launch, cidb Chief Executive Officer **Mr Bongani Dladla** said meaningful transformation begins by investing in the people who build South Africa's infrastructure.

"Real transformation in the construction industry doesn't happen only in boardrooms, but also on construction sites where most of our contractors spend their days. As the cidb, we want to partner with contractors for the long term."

Eastern Cape MEC for Public Works and Infrastructure **Hon. Ms Siphokazi Lusuthi** said the course represents an important investment in the province's economic future.

"We want your businesses not merely to survive, but to thrive. We want them to expand, create employment opportunities and become enduring pillars of our provincial economy."

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Directors: Mr Khulile Nzo (Chairperson) | Prof Susan Bouillon (Deputy Chairperson) | Ms Yvonne Mbane | Dr Karabo Siyila | Dr Julia Petla | Mr Johan van der Walt | Dr Deenadayalen Konar | Ms Thembisa Jimana | Dr Elizabeth Makgae | Mr Bongani Dladla (CEO)

The course combines structured academic learning with practical workplace application, covering project management, business management, financial management, contract administration, quality assurance, health and safety, and regulatory compliance. Participants will gain practical skills they can immediately apply to improve project delivery, strengthen business performance and position themselves to compete for larger and more complex construction opportunities.

The launch brought together government leaders, industry stakeholders, contractors and academic partners, reflecting a shared commitment to developing a more capable, competitive and transformed construction industry.

As South Africa accelerates infrastructure investment, the cidb believes strengthening contractor capability through quality learning initiatives such as the Certificate in Construction Management will be critical to improving infrastructure delivery, creating sustainable businesses and unlocking economic opportunities across the Eastern Cape.

About the cidb

The Construction Industry Development Board (cidb) is a Schedule 3A public entity established in terms of the CIDB Act (Act 38 of 2000). The cidb leads construction industry stakeholders to drive sustainable growth, transformation and delivery capability across South Africa's construction sector. Through initiatives such as the Certificate in Construction Management, offered under the B.U.I.L.D Programme, the cidb is investing in the skills and competitiveness of contractors to support improved infrastructure delivery and economic development.

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