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MEDIA STATEMENT

PROCUREMENT INFRASTRUCTURE KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT SUMMIT FOCUSED ON IMPROVING SUPPLY CHAIN AND INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT

National Treasury's Procurement Infrastructure Knowledge Management (PINK) Programme hosted its very first summit in Pretoria. The PINK Summit brought together Supply Chain Management (SCM) and Infrastructure Management (IM) practitioners from eight pilot Municipalities from the Mpumalanga and Free-State Provinces to establish a common approach for the resolution of SCM and IM related difficulties contributing to irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure. The programme plays an important role in the Presidency's Investment and Infrastructure drive as sound and efficient processes and systems are important pre-conditions for implementing and maintaining public infrastructure in a sustainable manner.

"SECO is proud to partner with the National Treasury in the PINK programme, which is an important piece of the puzzle to address South Africa's challenges when it comes to public services and infrastructure delivery. We can only make a difference if municipal, provincial and national government officials from the planning, financing, procurement and infrastructure units work, learn and exchange information together."

"Today's Summit is an important milestone to work together in improving public services and infrastructure for all South African citizens," said Franziska Spörri, Head of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) South Africa.





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There are numerous contributing factors impeding service delivery; specifically, weak procurement practices leading to municipalities paying inflated prices, procuring goods, infrastructure, and services of sub-standard quality, thus depleting limited funds that could be used to fulfil basic services in the communities. These are the SCM pinch points that the PINK Summit was able to broker direct dialogue between National and Provincial Treasuries and the municipalities. Key focus areas of discussion at the PINK Summit involved strengthening of SCM governance through the rollout of SCM toolkits developed by PINK, reinforcing IM practices through the implementation of the Local Government Infrastructure Delivery Management System (IDMS) as well as the establishment of communities of practice to foster knowledge sharing in SCM and IM followed by a mapping out of learnings for municipalities to take forward in the provinces.

“National Treasury is pleased with the generous commitment by the Swiss Government which has allowed for modelling the developmental role that international aid should play in our developmental context. The PINK summit has created a platform through which the participants could network, engage with national and other stakeholders and share the best practices learnt from the PINK programme so that they can be replicated at other municipalities,” said Thabo Mashamba, National Treasury: Acting Chief Director: Capacity Building.

Recommendations of the PINK Summit underpin a comprehensive response to the deficiencies in the municipalities and provinces, including the rollout of SCM toolkits, training and development programmes and the introduction of a Knowledge Management platform. The Summit delivered an enhanced coordination of Finance, SCM and Infrastructure procurement. Eventually, the PINK model (through IDMS) can be replicated across the country to increase cost effective, socially inclusive and sustainable service delivery in the country - at all provincial and local government and





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become the new best practice on how to plan, procure, implement and maintain public services, in particular infrastructure.

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