

MEDIA STATEMENT FOR ALL NEWS DESKS

Slug: (NEF Domba Trust donate Food Hampers)

16 April 2020

**The Domba Trust and the National Empowerment Fund
to deliver 2000 food hampers.**

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) has resulted in mass production shutdowns and supply chain disruptions due to the necessary lockdown aimed at curbing the spread of infections. This has had ripple effects across all economic sectors including the informal sector which is the heartbeat of South Africa's rural and township economies. This has led to serious food shortages for many households.

The Domba Trust, a shareholder of Meropa Gaming and Entertainment, a trust dedicated to social and cultural development in Limpopo education, has partnered with Goseame Open Market, a fresh produce and retail outlet funded and temporarily managed by the National Empowerment Fund (NEF) to deliver 2000 food hampers to the rural communities of Tshififi and Tshinapfene (Vhembe District), Dikgale in Polokwane and Thohoyandou.

Chief Tshikalange, the leader of the Tshififi community, says "the food hampers donated by Goseame and Domba will go a long way towards assisting the hardships the people in my village are experiencing which are made worse by the Corvid-19 virus. We are truly touched by this generous gesture."

Says NEF General Counsel, Mr Mzi Dayimani: "We believe it is the responsibility of every patriotic corporate citizen to rally to the call and do everything possible to help disadvantaged communities to triumph over the challenges created by the



Growing Black Economic Participation



COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to staying at home and observing the applicable hygiene protocols for the prevention and control of the spread of the virus, the success of social distancing will also depend on the willingness by all to cushion society against the decline in socio-economic security. We applaud Goseama and the Domba Trust for this remarkable example of Ubuntu”.

Mr Mashudu Ramano of Domba Trust says “we are delighted to be part of this noble initiative to provide food hampers to a few of our communities in Limpopo at this time. Even though the need is greater out there we have a saying in my language which goes ‘vhana vha muthu, vha thukhukana thoho ya nzie’, which means ‘children of the mother share the head of a locust’ ”.

Ensuring food keeps flowing in and around the countryside is a top priority. The turmoil as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic is unprecedented. In response,

Official guidelines for mitigating the spread of COVID-19 include strict adherence to the lockdown, social distancing, regularly washing or sanitising hands, disinfecting all contact surfaces and covering a sneeze with a tissue or flexed elbow.

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