**MEDIA INVITE**

 **TRANSFORMATION FOR KASIE TOURISM**

As part of the department’s commitment to empower and ensure participation of SMMEs in the tourism value chain for job creation, DESTEA is creating a platform for tourism stakeholders interaction and linkages between tourist guides, tour operators and kasie tourism products by hosting events in the township. It further gives an opportunity to kasie products to showcase their services. This also allows DESTEA to showcase enterprises supported by the department and its partners in ensuring exposure for such businesses to the market as well as other prospects.

The purpose of the event is to ensure transformation of this industry but endorsing involvement of previously disadvantaged communities whilst showcasing tourism destinations in the township and creating economic opportunities.

The event will commence as a tour with a tour guide and story teller from Bloemfontein and visit the following attractions: Sannaspos battlefield, Chief Moroka’s grave, Chief Moroka’s house and Mmabana Cultural village before reaching the final destination which is Jonas Lifestyle Lounge in Thaba Nchu.

 Exhibitors such as crafters will be displaying and selling their products and services, DESTEA officials will present different funding models available as well as the concept of Kasie Tourism.

**Members of the media are invited to experience kasie tourism in Thaba Nchu. The details of the event are as follows:**

* **DATE:** Saturday, 15th August 2018
* **VENUE**: Jonas Lifestyle Lounge
* **TIME:** 08:30-16:30

End

**Issued by the Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs.**

**For more details contact: Buko Gcolotela on 051 400 4725/** **gcolotelab@destea.gov.za** **or Mr. Mzwandile Maqhosha on 051 400 9544 /** **maqhosham@destea.gov.za**