

well positioned to be the leading exporting destination in the country. He said the province held a strategic advantage, boasting two major ports with one of them housing the biggest container terminal in the southern hemisphere. He also applauded the local business community for showing commitment and resilience despite the unfavourable global economic outlook. "I believe that we have the potential to move from being the second largest GDP contributor to being the largest contributor to the South African GDP," Mabuyakulu said.

► By Nduduzo Ndlovu – nduduzon@durbanchamber.co.za

# Inina Craft Agency scoops Exporter gong

Tradepoint South Africa Durban nominated a group of its

emerging exporters for the Durban Chamber of Commerce and Industry KZN Emerging Exporter of the Year Awards held at the ICC Durban on October 30, with Inina Craft Agency emerging as

winner of the award in the arts and crafts section.

Finalist in the agro-processing sector was Mplende Foods,

producer of enriched porridge and foodstuffs from the eThekwin!

Municipality. Finalists in the arts and craft sector were Angeline

Boniswa Masuku of Kwahlabisa who, along with her family,

produces high quality Amathu baskets made of ilala palm; and

Inina Craft Agency from the uThungulu District Municipality, whose

exports to Reunion Island and France consist of beaded pens,

storage boxes made of bagasse, a by-product of sugar cane, clay

pot and corporate gifts. These companies are all participating in the

Emerging Exporter Development Programme.

A delighted Thandazile Magubane, representing Inina, was

present to collect the award and certificate from Durban Chamber

of Commerce and Industry Chief Executive Officer Gugu Mazibuko.

Chairman of TPSA Durban Phillip Sithole, the head of eThekwin's

Business Support and Markets Unit, attended the glittering event

in support of the exporters' programme. Phumzile Mgenge,

administration assistant at Tradepoint, and more than 30 emerging

exporters from Tradepoint lent their support to all our finalists.

Funded by the KZN Department of Economic Development and

Tourism, eThekwin Municipality and Trade and Investment KwaZulu-

Natal, TPSA Durban is hosted by the Durban Chamber of Commerce

and Industry and supported by the Small Enterprise Development

Agency.

TPSA Durban is one of 100 members of the international Trade

Point Programme of the World Trade Point Federation (WTPF) based

in 70 countries globally with its head offices in Pretoria.

"The services of our Trade Point are offered to help exporters

and importers become sustainable business entities," TPSA Durban

General Manager Monique Labat explained. "Our members are

mainly small and medium sized business practitioners whose

activities range from agro-processing to arts and crafts to furniture



*A delighted Thandazile Magubane, representing Inina Craft Agency, collects the award and certificate in the arts and craft section at the KZN Emerging Exporter of the Year Awards from Durban Chamber of Commerce and Industry Chief Executive Officer Gugu Mazibuko*

manufacture as well as clothing and textile manufacturers."

If you are running a small manufacturing enterprise, simply register with Tradepoint South Africa Durban to grab your share of the export market. Contact Monique Labat at 031 332 0445 or e-mail: Monique.labat@tradepointdurban.org

FUNDED BY THE KZN DEPARTMENT OF

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM, THE ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY AND TRADE AND INVESTMENT KWAZULU-NATAL, TPSA DURBAN IS HOSTED BY THE DURBAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND SUPPORTED BY SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY