

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA applauds SEDFA funding initiative for spaza shops: Calls for expanded access
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes and applauds the Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA) for its initiative in encouraging spaza-shop owners to apply for funding and access essential financial support to grow and sustain their businesses.

This intervention comes at a critical time as many small and informal businesses continue to face significant financial constraints that limit their ability to expand, create jobs, and contribute meaningfully to local economic development. By increasing access to funding for spaza-shop owners, SEDFA is taking an important step towards promoting entrepreneurship, economic inclusion, and sustainable livelihoods.

Small businesses are at the core of local economies, particularly in townships, rural areas, and disadvantaged communities, where unemployment and poverty levels remain high. Their success directly contributes to food security, household income, and community development.

The PSA calls on SEDFA to intensify outreach efforts to ensure that funding programmes reach the most disadvantaged and underserved communities across South Africa. Many aspiring entrepreneurs in rural villages, informal settlements, and township economies remain unaware of available funding opportunities or face barriers in accessing these. Targeted awareness campaigns are essential to unlock economic potential and improve livelihoods.

The PSA further urges SEDFA to strengthen its support for emerging entrepreneurs who may lack the technical skills required to develop bankable business plans and funding applications. Too often, deserving applicants are excluded owing to limited access to expertise and resources. To address this, SEDFA is encouraged to expand its support mechanisms by providing business-development services, mentorship, training, and assistance with business-plan development. Such interventions will enable more entrepreneurs, particularly women, youth, persons with disabilities, and unemployed people, to access funding and participate meaningfully in the economy.

Economic growth and job creation can only be achieved when opportunities are accessible to all. By combining financial support with practical business development assistance, SEDFA can play a significant role in building sustainable enterprises, reducing poverty, and fostering inclusive growth.





The PSA is committed to supporting initiatives that empower communities, create employment, and contribute to a more equitable and prosperous South Africa.

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