

Coega's R380m projects taking shape

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The Coega IDZ offices in the Eastern Cape. Source: basystems.co.za

The Coega Development Corporation (CDC) -- the developer and operator of the Coega Special Economic Zone (SEZ) -- has three projects under way, collectively valued at about R380 million. They have created about 290 construction jobs so far.

They include African Port Logistics and Infrastructure (citrus sector), valued at R264 million; the expansion of the Coega multi-user facility, valued at R71 million; and DHL Logistics Facility (logistics sector), valued at R156 million – all of which form part of the province's economic priority sectors.

The multi-user facility (phase two) is located in Zone 3 of the Coega SEZ. It is currently under construction, with over 151 construction jobs created so far.

The 7 000-square-metre facility is a replica of phase one, which is now fully occupied.

“It seeks to provide affordable industrial space for many small-to-medium companies, especially entrepreneurs wishing to grow their businesses. Since the establishment of the multi-user facility, it has provided local people with employment in the construction industry,” the CDC said.

Building student from the Coega Skills Centre who is currently a bricklayer at the construction site, Siphokazi Xakana, 33, said the skills she had obtained during her employment on this project had helped her to grow as a young female in a male-dominated industry.

The African Port Logistics and Infrastructure project will see the development of a fruit packaging facility, fruit cold storage and a container depot while the DHL Logistics Facility will occupy a total of 11 400 sqm and will see the development of a warehouse and offices.

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