



## agriculture & rural development

Department:  
agriculture  
& rural development  
**PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL**

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# Agribusiness conference for women

TNA REPORTER

THE second conference for Women in Agribusiness, a continental forum for women farmers, women in agribusiness and stakeholders in agriculture, food security and agribusiness gets under way at the Durban ICC from tomorrow to Thursday.

Minister of Women Affairs in the Presidency Susan Shabangu and Nepad Agency CEO Dr Ibrahim Mayaki will be among those who will address the conference.

It is organised by Nepad in collaboration with the Agribusiness Development Agency (ADA). The conference will be attended by among others high level representatives of African leadership, regional economic communities, govern-

ment ministries, farmers' organisations, the private sector, academia, civil society and development partners.

The conference theme is: Women in entrepreneurial development: A must for the success of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa.

The province will be represented by Cyril Xaba, MEC for the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, and Estherine Fotabong, director of programmes, Nepad Agency

It is a platform for dialogue, consultation, and sharing experiences in plenary sessions through panel discussions.

Capacity building training will be conducted in breakaway sessions to train women in agribusiness processes.

There is also an exhibition where women will showcase their value-add

products. Participants will also have the opportunity to buy products.

The focus will be on:

- Providing a platform for dialogue between relevant stakeholders in the space of economic participation of women.

- Sharing experiences and best practices on gender-sensitive financial and business services and identifying new and innovative opportunities to improve women's entrepreneurial skills and development.

- Strengthening of networking and advocacy for women's entrepreneurship to encourage a progressive integration of rural women's businesses into the strategies and support necessary for women entrepreneurs in creating partnerships. - 701198



**NETWORKING:** Women farmers will gather for the second conference on agribusiness at the Durban ICC from tomorrow to Thursday. PICTURE: EDCART