

Scopa still a myth

By Thabo Jobo

The Seed Container Park (Scopa) project earmarked to transfer skills to locals has not yet materialised and young entrepreneurs have expressed worry saying "it is a myth".

The project is an initiative of Councillor Thabo Ramadikela in partnership with businessman Sello Matsoso and machine designer and manufacturing specialist, Phillip Tetley.

Scopa is earmarked to equip the youth with skills in the areas of manufacturing, machine operations and various technical skills.

It was first introduced to the locals earlier in the year through a presentations from the three partners at the Diepkloof Welfare Centre.

Speaking on a local radio, Ramadikela together with Matsoso indicated that the implementation of the project has been sealed with relevant government departments.

They were quoted saying: "the project will be established at the Soweto Empowerment Zone" (former Putco bus depot) - adding that Jo'burg Property Company has leased the land to them.



Councillor Thabo Ramadikela.

Following that, Ramadikela indicated that the project is expected to be operational in April.

People have started complaining and most young entrepreneurs who saw this as a viable opportunity to further their ideas, have started to worry about the delay.

Entrepreneurs say Scopa is the same as various other projects that are being promised to the people but not progressing as expected.

"Scopa is a myth like

any other projects that were promised to us.

"They come to us with proposals and they later disappear without trace," said an entrepreneur who wished to remain anonymous.

Ramadikela promised via a local radio station that he will call upon residents to a meeting to brief them about the latest developments with regard to the project.

Ramadikela was not available for comment when contacted.

