

South Africa's Manufacturing Subsectors:

Findings from TIPS Research


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19 November 2025

11:00 AM - 13:00 PM (SAST)


 TIPS Office | 234 Lange Street
Nieuw Muckleneuk | Pretoria


online platform via Zoom

The South African government places industrial policy among the key interventions for driving growth. At its core is the manufacturing industry, which faces a rapidly changing global environment shaped by supply chain shifts, climate change, and technological advances. This calls for closer assessment of the implications for South Africa.

TIPS is hosting a three-part Development Dialogue series on key manufacturing subsectors, focusing on sustainability, technological change, and the evolving trade environment.

The first dialogue examined sustainability issues in the iron and steel, automotive, and plastics industries. The second dialogue, which has also been completed, explored how digitalisation, automation, and innovation are reshaping South Africa's manufacturing sector. The final dialogue will focus on international trade trends and their implications for the country's industrial development.

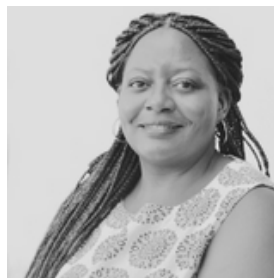
OUR SPEAKERS


Chair

Nokwanda Maseko


Discussant

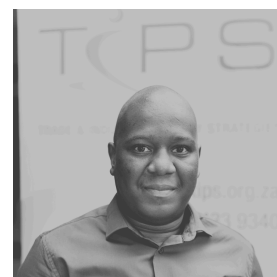
Dr. Neva Makgetla


Speaker

Gillian Chigumira


Speaker

Dr. Michael Hector


Speaker

Lucas Mthembu

Agenda

11h00 - 11h10 Welcome and opening remarks: **Nokwanda Maseko**

11h10 - 12h30 Presentations and Discussions

- **Gillian Chigumira** (TIPS) - Insights from paper: International Trade Trends on Horticulture
- **Dr Michael Hector** (TIPS) - Insights from paper: International Trade Trends on Food Processing
- **Lucas Mthembu** (TIPS) - Insights from Paper: International Trade Trends on Clothing and Textiles
- **Dr Neva Makgetla** (TIPS) - Discussant

12h30 - 12h55 Discussion

12h55 - 13h00 Closure

Speaker Biographies

Nokwanda Maseko is a Senior Economist at TIPS (Trade and Industrial Policy Strategies). Her work at TIPS is at the intersection of industrial policy, gender and the just transition.

Dr Neva Makgetla is a Senior Economist at TIPS. Makgetla has published widely on the South African economy and worked for many years in government.

Gillian Chigumira is a Senior Economist at TIPS, specialising in industrial development policy and inclusive economic growth in South Africa and across the SADC region, with expertise in national industry masterplans, sector strategies, and local and regional value chain analysis.

Dr Michael Hector is an economist in Sustainable Development at TIPS. His work focuses on green industrial policy and environmental governance, with a particular interest in the intersections between economic development, sustainability, and industrial policy in South Africa.

Lucas Mthembu is an Economist at TIPS. His work focuses primarily on industrial policy, as well as capital goods and clothing and textile industries.

TIPS Dialogues bring together academics, policymakers, civil society organisations, workers, and practitioners to discuss important issues and share ideas on industrial policy.

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