



264: Unlocking Global Growth- Join KZN's Pioneering Halaal Export Workshop

Description

Exports are the heartbeat of South Africa's economy, fuelling growth, job creation and access to international markets. Contributing nearly 30% to the national GDP and sustaining over 1.5 million jobs, exports remain a pillar of inclusive economic development. KwaZulu-Natal (KZN), South Africa's second-largest economic hub, exported goods worth over R166 billion in 2024 alone.

KZN's strategic advantage lies in its infrastructure: two Special Economic Zones and two major ports, including the Port of Durban, the busiest in sub-Saharan Africa. These assets, coupled with strong logistics and manufacturing capacity, position KZN as a launchpad for export-driven growth.

KZN is setting its sights on a booming and transformational frontier: **the global Halaal market**. The consumption of Halaal food is mandatory, and transacting with Halaal commodities is intrinsic to the Islamic faith. A snapshot in world affairs shows that the 1,8 Billion Muslim population accounts for 24 percent of the 7,8 Billion inhabitants of the planet. Muslims are also in significant numbers as a minority in countries such as India (200 million), China (70 million), Europe (44 million), Russia (25 million) and the USA (4 million).

Valued at over \$2.3 trillion and growing at more than 10% annually, the Halaal industry presents a golden opportunity to scale exports, especially for small and medium enterprises, women and youth-led businesses and agro-processors.

The Noble Qur'an and the example of our Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) encouraged trade and enjoined Halaal earnings. In Chapter 4 Verse 29, it is stated, ***"...let there be amongst you traffic and trade by mutual goodwill"***.

To seize this moment, Trade and Investment KwaZulu-Natal (TIKZN), in partnership with SANHA and others, invites certified plants to attend a pivotal **Halaal Export Capacity-Building Workshop** on **23 & 24 June 2025**.

Why This Workshop Matters

This workshop isn't just a training session. It's a strategic accelerator for businesses ready to enter or expand in global Halaal markets. Delegates will gain hands-on knowledge about export compliance, Halaal certification, trade finance, incentives and key markets like the GCC, North Africa and

Southeast Asia. With panel discussions and practical sessions led by stakeholders such as SANHA, SARS, DTIC, successful exporters and financial institutions, the workshop offers actionable insights into overcoming barriers and seizing high-growth export opportunities.

TIKZN's investment in the Halaal economy is grounded in its broader mission: to attract local and foreign investment and support KZN's exporters. For over two decades, TIKZN has facilitated permits, site selection, investor support, and export promotion, including global representation at trade expos and fostering air connectivity through King Shaka International Airport.

A Proven Partnership for Impact

Partnering with SANHA, the country's premier Halaal authority with international accreditations, has been instrumental in TIKZN's efforts to build trust, ensure compliance and access international markets. The long-standing collaboration includes trade shows such as MIHAS and Gulfood and key regional engagements like Food & Hospitality Oman, with a proven track record by participants.

Delivering more than compliance, the partnership offers pathways to scale, innovation and export-readiness for certified plants ready to grow.

What to Expect and How to Attend

This is not the usual generic seminar talk shop. The 2-day workshop promises deep engagement with seasoned experts, peer learning, market intelligence and the tools to kickstart or upgrade your export operations. It is also the first in a series of events aimed at sustaining dialogue and action around Halaal exports throughout the year.

Who should attend?

This is more than a workshop—it's a launchpad for global success. Attendees will:

- Learn how to navigate export compliance and Halaal certification.
- Discover trade finance options and government incentives.
- Explore high-potential markets like the GCC, North Africa, and Southeast Asia.
- Engage with experts from SANHA, SARS, DTIC, and seasoned exporters.

Event Details

- **Dates:** 23–24 June 2025
- **Time:** 09:00 – 16:00
- **Venue:** Islamic Medical Association Seminar Room, 36 Hatton Avenue, Sherwood, Durban
- **Cost:** Free for one delegate per company (sponsored by TIKZN, SANHA, and partners)

Register Now: Email Siphiwekahle@tikzn.co.za to receive your invitation and attendance criteria. Seats are limited—secure yours early.

The future of exports starts here. Let's build it together.