



The girls posing for a group photo in front of the industrial structure at Siteki.

UK TOUR OPERATOR DEVELOPS SKILLS CENTRE FOR SITEKI WOMEN

SENSE Africa, in collaboration with a local church, has developed a skills centre for rural women in Siteki to empower them.

Christian Family Church International Swaziland Senior Pastor La'Salette Duarte said sewing machines have already been bought to teach the women how to sew so that they later run dressmaking businesses.

She said she felt there was a need for such a project at Mayenjane in

Siteki so that rural women would be empowered.

Duarte said there were six sewing machines, two overlookers, one industrial machine and an industrial overlooker to be used by the women while being trained.

Lives

"We are excited at this partnership with the United Kingdom (UK) company, our aim is to try and change the lives of the women of this area and the people they support in their respective house-

holds. In three months time, the structure will be ready and our target will be learning and changing their lives," she said.

Duarte said in future she envisaged capacitating women on bricklaying.

Meanwhile, Sense Africa Jenny

Bowen said close to E42 000 has been pumped into constructing the structure as the 19 girls from the UK have each contributed E2

000 towards the women empowerment project while Sense Africa

has forked out E4 000.

She said the company has been in touch with the senior pastor and they asked her if there was any project that would change people's lives that they could embark on.

Surprise

"To our surprise, she gave us just the project we believe is good, the girls have really enjoyed working here. The money we injected towards the project managed to buy building material for the structure," she said.

Snip

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