



Access to healthcare services has steadily increased with more than 1 500 healthcare facilities built since 1994.



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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OUTCOME 2: A LONG AND HEALTHY LIFE FOR ALL SOUTH AFRICANS

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Infrastructure development improves rural community's lives

By Mlungisi Dlamini: GCIS, Kwa-Zulu Natal



Emahlutshini is now part of South Africa's rural communities that enjoy health services closer to where they live, following an official opening of the Emahlutshini Clinic in Impendle by the MEC for Health, Dr Sbongseni Dlomo, on 13 March 2014. According to Dr Dlomo, the construction of this facility cost government about R10 million. It will service about 8 000 local residents who will no longer be compelled to travel long distances for health services.

This new clinic responds to one of government priorities, "A long and healthy life for all South

Africans" and is in line with National Health Insurance (NHI) requirements. The opening of Emahlutshini Clinic comes at a time when the country is celebrating 20 year of freedom and has given people of this area a reason to celebrate. Patients will save about R100 on transport that they paid to get to the nearest clinic in Impendle.

Asked during a media interview if Emahlutshini Clinic is part of the NHI programme, Dr Dlomo said government is accelerating the employment of doctors in clinics and increasing the number of ideal clinics to improve the health standards

and lessen the day-to-day workloads at public hospitals. He said, "uMgungundlovu has already contracted 10 general practitioners who will service the clinics in this district. We will ensure adequate medication in clinics including vaccinations that were previously limited to hospitals. The Department of Health has already approved Phatheni Clinic in Richmond and Faye Clinic in Warburg as ideal clinics and they are being used as a catalyst for the NHI. Government is further accelerating the employment of specialist nurses who will provide expertise at a clinic level," concluded Dr Dlomo.

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OUTCOME 6: AN EFFICIENT, COMPETITIVE AND RESPONSIVE ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK

Running water supply improves people's lives

By Mlungisi Dlamini and Mbali Mwandla: GCIS, Kwa-Zulu Natal



3,7 million work opportunities created for unemployed people in the past five years.



The uMgungundlovu district's running water installation has reached close to 90% in providing running water to local municipalities under its jurisdiction, leaving it with 10% to complete. This is what the Impendle community learnt when the Deputy Mayor, Cllr TR Zungu, addressed them on the district's achievements in 20 years at the Impendle Thusong Service Centre (TSC) as part of the Water Month activities and celebrations on 25 March 2014. She was speaking after she and the local political leadership had visited the completed water scheme at Swampo, which is set to benefit over 12 864 people. The theme, "20 years of water delivery for economic and social development" highlighted projects that have been implemented in the area.

"Impendle and other local municipalities have water infrastructure backlogs inherited from the previous government, which paid less attention in improving the living standards of rural communities. Local government decided that the uMgungudlovu district will focus on water provision to address this problem," said Zungu. Because most people in the area do not have jobs, she emphasised that water is a scarce resource that needs to be handled carefully to avoid paying higher rates. She said that the district municipality has an Indigent Policy in place that caters for pensioners and families receiving a total salary of less than R2 500 per month, adding that R159 million has been set aside to improve the status of water in Impendle by 2016.

She further encouraged the community to take advantage of the funds that government allocated to improve living standards in rural communities. She highlighted the need for communities to work with government because they understand their needs better than anybody else. She made reference to the improvement of rural towns and said if the community does not speak to the government about it, the influx of people to big cities will always increase.



Adult illiteracy has decreased from 30% in 1995 to 19% in 2011.



The Executive Mayor of the King Sabatha Dalindyebo (KSD) Municipality vowed that the KSD will look after the road as it is in line with the municipality's 2030 vision to improve the area economically.

Community members are delighted with this infrastructure project, as it will reduce accidents.

OUTCOME 6: AN EFFICIENT, COMPETITIVE AND RESPONSIVE ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK

New N2 bridge in Viedgesville improves the area economically

By Ndyabo Kopo: GCIS, Eastern Cape



The walk to the bridge and the unveiling of the plaque.



N2 Bridge Viedgesville interchange at N2 section 18 between Sitebe Komkhulu and Viedgesville.

"In the past we have seen serious accidents on this road. Most of those were pedestrians. We are glad about this new bridge because we believe it will reduce accidents. We are also pleased with the fact that people of this area have benefited in terms of job creation and there are some local companies that benefited as well during the construction phase," said the local chief, Chief Bov'lengwe.

On 20 March 2014, the Minister of Transport, Dipuo Peters, accompanied by the Executive Mayor of King Sabatha Dalindyebo Municipality, Cllr Ngqongwa, officially opened the N2 section 18 between Sitebe Komkhulu and Viedgesville.

The N2, section 18 was originally constructed by the then Cape Provincial Administration during

the 1950s. From 1976 to 1994 it was under the jurisdiction of the then Transkei Government. Since July 2000 this section of the road was proclaimed a national road (N2-18) and came under the jurisdiction of the South African National Roads Agency Limited (Sanral). Sanral built the road according to a design for a 100km/h speed restriction. There are two new concrete bridges (Buwa River Bridge and Viedgesville interchange); three new major culverts cast in-situ; five new precast culverts, and one pedestrian bridge at Qunu.

The community benefited from employment and skills development opportunities provided through the project. The R341-million contract saw 363 individuals being employed of which 239 were locals who were paid over R24 mil-

lion. An amount of R85,1 million was spent on affirmative business and small, medium and micro enterprises.

During the official opening, the Minister indicated that the new improved road would have a positive influence on the economic activity of the area and that of the province. "This launch forms part of the 20-year narrative underpinned by government's key national delivery trajectory of infrastructure, which has a high economic influence and relevance to address transport accessibility challenges in our provinces. The opening of this road could not have come at any better moment than this when we celebrate 20 years of democracy – making a tangible difference to improving our people's daily lives," said Minister Peters.





The Chairperson of the MIDF, Ms Magudulela, outlining the purpose of the information and service-delivery outreach.



Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Administration officials presenting Masibuyele Emasimini and Masibuyele Esibayeni.



Community of Kwa-Dela attendance the outreach in great numbers.

OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

An information and services closer to residents of Kwa-Dela in Msukaligwa.

By Bongani Mazibuko: GCIS, Mpumalanga

Wrapping-up the 2013/14 financial year's cycle of community outreach campaigns the GCIS Regional Communication Coordinator, Mr Vuyisile Cindi, the Centre Manager of the Breyten Thusong Service Centre (TSC) and other stake holders hosted an information sharing and service-delivery outreach at Kwa-Dela on 28 March.

Directing the program for the day Mr Cindi said, "Today we are bringing information and services closer to you. It is more than just an ordinary service delivery day. Getting services closer to you is important, but you should also know what you can access, where, when and who to get or contact with to access the service you need. The lined-up speakers will give you the information, so listen carefully."

The Centre Manager of Breyten TSC who is also the chairperson of the Msukaligwa Interdepartmental Development Forum (MIDF), Ms Brenda Magudulela, briefly indicated the purpose of the MIDF and of bringing the outreach to the community of Kwa-Dela.

Various representatives from stakeholders presented their services to the community:

- Legal Aid SA talked about the role of Legal Aid and cases Legal Aid SA has covered
- the Department of Correctional Services appealed to the community to help in accepting released offenders and integrating them with the community
- the Department of Economic Development talked about economic development and consumer affairs
- the Department of Environment and Tourism made a presentation about the environment
- the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Administration discussing two agricultural programmes namely Masibuyele Emasimini and



The Department of Social Development's social worker presenting the social development programmes.



Members of the community seeking clarity on issues during the question time.



Masibuyele Esibayeni were of great interest to the attendees

- the Msukaligwa Municipality's HIV and AIDS coordination desk explained its role and indicated how and where it can be accessed
- the Department of Health encouraged the attendees to have various tests/check-ups at its mobile clinics standing outside the hall
- the Department of Culture, Sports and Recreation explained their role in society
- the Department of Social Development presented social work/welfare services, development services in youth centres and community projects
- the South African Social Security Agency explained their services and also cautioned social grant recipients about loan sharks and airtime scams.

The community members were given the opportunity to ask respective institutions questions to clarify issues. They also got the opportunity to be served at the mobile clinics.



Some of the exhibitions from the Department of Social Development and the South African Social Security Agency during the outreach.



Access to free basic water increased by 300 000 households in 2011/2012.



South Africa has recorded a 50% growth in formal housing since 1994.



OUTCOME 6: AN EFFICIENT, COMPETITIVE AND RESPONSIVE ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK

Water is life: water scheme brings transpose clean running water to coffee bay community

By Ndyebo Kopo: GCIS, Eastern Cape

“We had to wake up at 04:00 in the morning and walk far to fetch water from the river to prepare the children for school and again in the afternoon for cooking.

“That water is not clean at all and it was common for people to get sick from drinking it. The tap water has brought much relief for us. It is clean and it is closer to where we stay,” said Anelisa and Nosisa Mayaba of Magcalekeni Village, one of the areas benefiting from the water scheme.

On 22 March 2014, the Deputy Minister of Water Affairs, Rejoice Mabhudafatsi launched a R119-million Coffee Bay Bulk Regional Water Supply Scheme as part of the National Water Week.

About 14 831 people in 32 villages, in the area of Coffee Bay and part of Nyandeni Municipality are already getting water from the scheme. The departments of water affairs and cooperative governance and traditional affairs fund the scheme through the municipal infrastructure grant. The scheme is being implemented in three phases. The first phase of the scheme included the extraction of raw water from Mthatha River, at 0,9 mega litres (MI) per day from the water treatment works and delivery to six villages. The second phase consisted of an upgrade of the water treatment works from 0,9 MI to 2,7 MI delivery of treated water to 32 villages. The third phase is a continuation of the second phase extending water supply to an additional 18 villages.

The water scheme project has managed to create about 162 permanent and about 1 310 temporary job opportunities. “As we were celebrating Human Rights Day and water is one of the basic human rights as stipulated in



Nosisa and Anelisa Mayaba fetching water from the communal tap.

our Constitution, with 22 March being recognised by the United Nations as the World Water Day, we have chosen Coffee Bay to come and celebrate this day by launching this project,” said Deputy Minister Mabhudafatsi.

Community members were urged to look after the communal taps and to consider the entire project as their own and not as a government project. The Deputy Minister also encouraged people to implement measures to save water as South Africa is currently losing 37% of water through water leaks translating to R7 billion.

