



MY DISTRICT TODAY



Issue no. 14 / April 2017

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OUTCOME 3: ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AND FEEL SAFE

Government shares road-safety tips with motorists

By Vuyani Sibene: GCIS, Eastern Cape

Arrive Alive is a national campaign conducted by Traffic Safety and the South African Police Service to monitor and check compliance to road-safety regulations. Roadblocks are set up across the country to monitor and check roadworthy vehicles, drunk drivers and reckless driving.

In addition, patrols, roadside checkpoints, speed monitoring and road safety awareness campaigns also took place to manage and reduce accidents.

Government Communication and Information System partnered with the Department of Transport on road safety, while linking the campaign with Freedom Month, which celebrates 23 years of the Constitution of South Africa.



Government officials distributing information products at the event.



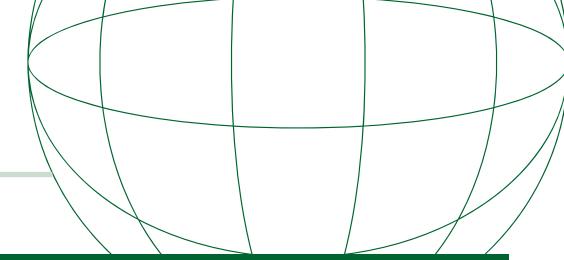
Songxeba said:
“Thank you for giving us road-safety tips and also how to behave on the road.”



government
communications

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





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AN EFFICIENT, COMPETITIVE AND RESPONSIVE ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK

Free State hosts Agro-Process Summit

By Lehlohonolo Manoto: GCIS, Free State

The Free State Provincial Government hosted its first Agro-Process Summit from 11 to 12 April 2017 at Sand Du Plessis Theatre in Bloemfontein. The event took place under the theme: "Working together to promote sustainable, inclusive agriculture and rural development will move South Africa forward." The summit was attended by more than 500 delegates including businesses.

Entrepreneurs who also take part in agro-processing exhibited their products at the venue.

"We are indeed very happy with the attendance by different stakeholders who also participated positively in our programme," said the MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Oupa Khoabane.

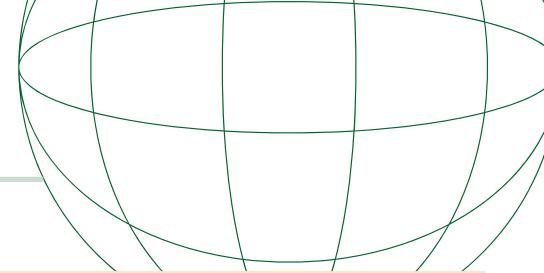
The Free State is aligning its plans to the Nine-Point Plan of government, a plan to grow the economy by ensuring that all agricultural produce are processed and packed in the province in order to contribute to the economy of the province. The purpose of the summit was to identify the conditions necessary to create a broader and more solid knowledge base for the promotion of sustainable agro processing, including training and information-sharing needs, to facilitate the reorientation of urban agricultural markets, to develop targeted interventions strategies for up scaling and migration of emerging farmers to commercial farmers, to reach consensus on the role of each stakeholder in the development and reindustrialisation process of the agricultural sector through agro-processing and to position Free State as an agro-processing investment hub for the country and the continent.



MECs Benny Malakoane, Sam Mashinini and Oupa Khoabane at the event.



Delegates at the Free State Agro-Processing Summit held at Pacofs in Bloemfontein.



Eben Botha said:

"We met many new people and exchanged sufficient information. The information shared will assist in growing and improve the business. This platform gave us exposure and people learned about Vrystaat Koporasie Beerk."



Rami Ramanamane said:

"We appreciate the fact that the department invited us to the summit. This summit shows that the Free State is capable of processing. We are in the food-packaging sector. Our vision is to migrate to processing and packaging. We are currently contracted to Nestle and we package some of their picture products."



MEC Oupa Khoabane said:

"As Free State Provincial Government, it was the first time that we came together to discuss agro-processing and many issues discussed were an eye opener. We are indeed very happy with the attendance by different stakeholders who also participated positively in our programme."



Bessie Masakale said:

"The summit afforded us the opportunity to network and it was also good to see other exhibitors' work. That motivates me a lot."



Franz Homsek said:

"I am very humbled to be invited to this summit as it created an opportunity for us to showcase our work. We started the business of processing in 2005 and created employment for 10 people. We process our own high oleic, sunflower oleic and cold pressed oil without chemicals."



Suzan Gorewang said:

"We feel welcomed at the summit, it afforded us the opportunity to be exposed. We are in the business of Asparagus and vegetables. We harvest, process and sell them. It was never easy when we started, we learned from another farmer. We are a total of 26 women and we are funded by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development."



Dibuseng Madonsela said:

"I am delighted to attend the summit to exhibit our work. We are in the business of turnery and in many occasions we presented the business concept to different stakeholders but never received assistance. Our MECs have committed to visit our factory to see our work. We are optimistic that by attending by attending the summit we will eventually realise our dreams."



Monicca Magolela said:

"I am happy to have received a set-top box from The Department of Communications."



Mavis Mametja said:

"I am happy that I also received a set-top box from government. I will enjoy watching television in my house."

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

Government takes services to the people

By Doctor Marebane: GCIS, Limpopo

The community of Motsane in a small village of Limpopo had something to celebrate on Freedom Month. They have been provided with brand new set-top boxes (STBs) and they can now watch television channels of their choice and listen to 19 radio stations. The call to empower the village came after it was established that there was no cell connectivity and the villagers could only access Thobela FM. This drove the Department of Communication (DoC) to intervene immediately.

On 9 April 2017, Basani Baloyi, the Acting Director-General of the DoC, visited the village as part of the roll-out of the Digital Migration Programme on behalf of Minister of Communications, Ayanda Dlodlo. She visited four households and provided them with new STBs.

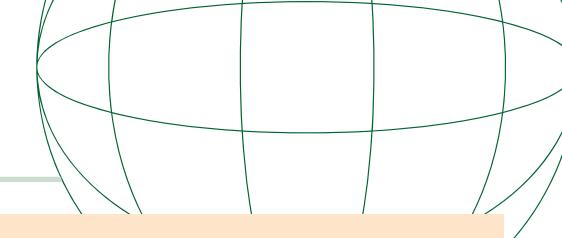
She visited the Magolela family, headed by Maggie Magolela. "I am very happy to have received this satellite dish. We used to watch television from our neighbour's house and it was inconvenient. My children will be able to listen to educational programmes on the radio and also watch their favourite TV programmes."

In her speech, Baloyi said that the department would continue to empower qualifying people with STBs. "For someone to qualify, he/she must have a valid South African ID, proof of residence and copy of payslip. The applicant should be earning less than R3 500 to qualify," she said.

Also present were, Kgosi Thobejane, representatives from the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa, SENTECH, South African Post Office, Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), South African Broadcasting Corporation, Capricorn District Municipality, Lepelle Nkumpi Local Municipality, councillors and other local government service providers. Some of the issues raised during the Imbizo include: poor road conditions, network infrastructure, bridges, health facilities and shortage of classes at local schools.



Some of the members of the community who attended the Imbizo.



Maggie Magolela said:

"I used to watch television from my neighbour's house, now I will watch in my own house."



Acting Director-General of the DoC, Basani Baloyi, being interviewed by the media.



Moepeng Tshwane of the GCIS being interviewed by Thobela FM.



Sereko Mantukutu said:

"I am now able to comment when people talk about soapies. In the past I only had access to SABC 3 and sometimes my TV screen would become blurry."



Mable Moroke said:

"I am very happy. I had a TV which I rendered useless because I used it only to play DVDs, I could not access not even one channel until government officials visited me to raise awareness and inform me that I have been selected to benefit from the set-top box. I was hopeless and I had little faith even after the connection, until I switched on and realised that I have multiple channels and also radio". "That night I watched TV until 00:00, enjoying the benefits."

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

Ministers connect communities digitally

By Xolani Mndaweni: GCIS, North West

The Minister of Public Services and Administration, Faith Muthambi, and the Minister of Communications, Ayanda Dlodlo, implemented the digital migration in the village of Ramatlalama in North West on 1 April 2017.

The Ministers were accompanied by the Acting Mayor of Mahikeng Municipality, local traditional leaders, and ward councillors. Minister Muthambi said, "This journey that we started in 2015 to migrate South Africa from analogue to digital, I am leaving it in good hands."

"When people discussed news and programmes on TV, I could not give input and always felt left out. But now I am moving with the times," said Selina Moroke, one of the beneficiaries of the digital migration installations.

Minister Dlodlo said, "Our government will subsidise five million installations of DTT for deserving and qualifying community members at no cost with the aim of closing the digital divide."

Various state agencies such as the South African Post Office, Independent Communications Authority of South Africa, Government Communication and Information System, South African Broadcasting Corporation, Film and Publication Board, and the Department of Communications were on site at the sports ground to give community members various services.

Chief Shole highlighted the joy of having, for the first time, two Ministers visiting and bringing services to his community. "It is a first of its kind for us. It shows that we are special people," he said. Members of the public can visit their nearest post office to access DTT information and applications or log in to www.gcis.gov.za or call 018 381 7071.



Councillor Tabane, Minister Ayanda Dlodlo, Chief Shole and Minister Faith Muthambi at the event.