




# MY DISTRICT TODAY



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

### Deputy President reaches out to Gert Sibande District

By: Vuyisile Cindi: DoC, Mpumalanga



Sanac plenary meeting at the Sasol club in Secunda.



Minister Motsoaledi, Deputy President Ramaphosa and Premier Mabuza at the event.



The Chairperson of sanac engaging with community members and distributing condoms.



Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa chaired the plenary session of the South African National AIDS Council (Sanac) and embarked on an outreach campaign of the HIV Counselling and Testing (HCT) campaign on 8 November 2014, in Embalenhle township in Secunda, Mpumalanga.

The Deputy President was accompanied by, among others, Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi, Mpumalanga Premier David Mabuza and Sasol executives. The HCT campaign is of a partnership between government, Sasol and other businesses and seeks to provide Sasol employees, contractors and the surrounding communities with the much-needed comprehensive health services.

The national HCT campaign was launched by President Jacob Zuma in April 2010 under the theme: "I am responsible. We are responsible and South Africa is taking responsibility" as a call to all citizens to get tested and know their HIV status. The campaign also supports people who are HIV positive and contributes to the wider response in their communities. Government has formed strategic partnerships with key sectors to ensure the sustainability of the campaign. Since the launch of this campaign, evidence has shown that it has contributed significantly towards saving lives.

Industry partners such as Eskom and Sasol were identified as key stakeholders because major development projects attract job seekers from many parts of the country and often commence without the provision of requisite social and recreational amenities. This leads to the emergence of informal settlements, a concentration of sex workers and alcohol, all of which have been shown to be the key social drivers of the HIV pandemic.

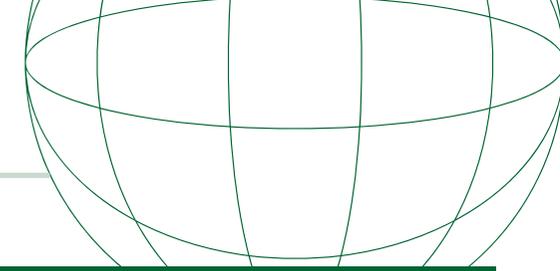
The HCT campaign was followed by the signing of the pledge of partnership between government and businesses in the township. Deputy President Ramaphosa, other government leaders and business executives embarked on a walkabout in the community to encourage members of the public to know their HIV status and to adopt a healthy lifestyle regardless of their HIV-test results, seek treatment, care and support.



communications

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**OUTCOME 4: DECENT EMPLOYMENT THROUGH INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**Free funding information for small businesses**

*By: J J Grootboom: DoC, Western Cape*

The Medium Term Strategic Framework will focus on creating decent employment through inclusive growth; a skilled and capable workforce to support an inclusive growth path, as well as an efficient, competitive and responsive economic infrastructure network. "These areas set out the core objectives, the major challenges that have been identified and programmes and actions to be implemented during the 2014 – 2019 period," said Minister Jeff Radebe.

A roadshow aimed at providing business owners in the Western Cape with information about funding and business support initiatives was well received by more than 500 small-business owners from the Eden and Central Karoo districts. The event took place on 31 October 2014. Hosted by the Western Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism, the roadshow targeted established businesses in the manufacturing, information and communication technology, metals and engineering, green economy and agro-processing sectors that have been operating for more than 12 months.

"Small businesses have the potential to become the backbone of the economy if they are given the support they need to succeed," said the Deputy Minister of Water and Sanitation, Pam Tshwete. South Africa has the lowest rate of entrepreneurship activity in the world. President Jacob Zuma, in his State of the Nation Address in July, said: "The Government will primarily focus on job creation, but job creation through entrepreneurship."

The sessions were supported by Small Enterprise Development Agency, Small Enterprise Financial Agency, departments of communications and trade and industry, South African Revenue Services and local municipalities.



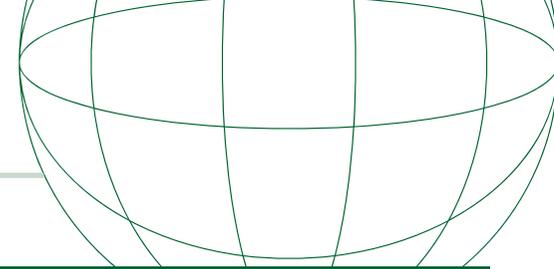
**National Empowerment Fund representative said:**  
"We will primarily assist business owners with registered businesses and valid tax clearance certificates. We are unable to help sole proprietors."



**Business owners attending the event:**  
"We welcome this initiative. Especially the information products will help to inform us where to go for help in order to grow our businesses."



**Deputy Minister Pam Tshwete said:**  
"It is everyone's business to work together in moving South Africa forward, in creating a better life for all."



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

### Multichoice makes granny's dream come true

By: Mlungisi Dlamini, DoC, Kwazulu-Natal



Gogo Mtshali excited about her TV.

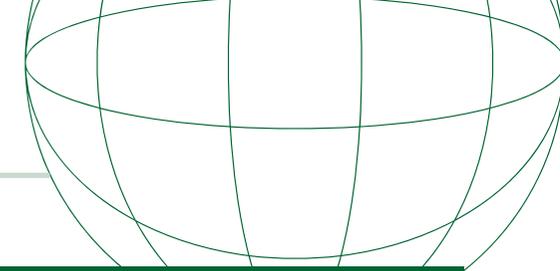


Gogo Ntombi Mtshali tries to operate her new TV.

Christmas came early for 70-year-old granny Ntombi Mtshali, following the donation of a full-colour DHC TV set by Multichoice. Mtshali received the appliance on 18 November 2014 at her home in Imbali township unit 2. This was in response to the commitment made by President Jacob Zuma when he conducted door-to-door visits during the Presidential Imbizo in this township on 30 September 2014.

The Department of Communications (DoC), through its KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Office, facilitated the process for the donation of the TV set. The gift was handed over by Cllr Siphwe Ndawonde, who was accompanied by Cllr Nomabhelu Duze, Sibusisiwe Mngadi from uMsunduzi Municipality, local community caregivers and DoC officials.

Mtshali, who lives with her two siblings, extended her words of appreciation for the work of government. "I was just having a nice conversation with the President. I did not know that he would remember me. May God bless him," she said.



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

### Imbizo with government communicators and community media

By: Lehlohonolo Manoto: DoC, Free State

The Minister of Communications, Faith Muthambi, held an Imbizo with all government communicators and community media on 14 November at Ilanga Estate in Bloemfontein, in the Free State. The Department of Communications' (DoC) Chief Director for Provincial and Local Liaison (PLL), Michael Currin, said the purpose of the Imbizo was to talk about the industry and synergies on the matters of communication in the province. Mr Radikontsana, the Provincial Director-General, reminded everybody that the Imbizo forms part of the implementation process of chapter 13 of the National Development Plan.

The meeting had two programmes, one was for communicators and the other for community media. During the Imbizo, many issues were raised and identified as challenges to effective communication. It was raised in the meeting that many municipalities were not prioritising communication and had little or no budget at all allocated specifically for communication. The fact that most municipalities operate without a communication unit was also mentioned as a challenging issue. Communicators were urged to write opinion pieces and newspaper articles as part of communicating government messages. The MEC for Finance, Elsabe Rockman, advocated the strengthening of the relationship between the DoC and the Free State Provincial Government.

Community radio stations in the Free State have a listenership of over 563 000 people, yet they feel that they are not well supported by government. Their challenges range from revenue, stipends, skills development and infrastructure. Print media were also represented and their challenges were similar to those of radio stations. In responding to some of the challenges, MEC for Police, Roads and Transport, Butana Komphela, requested one media house to find out if the place they were using belonged to the municipality or the Department of Public Works, and it is only then that they will intervene. He also urged the media house to conduct their business with government fairly as their invoices sometimes contradict their quotations.

Minister Muthambi wrapped up the Imbizo by saying that communicators must use social media as a tool to communicate and that they must be proactive in communicating their departments' challenges, successes and plans. The Minister urged communicators to participate in a rapid response forums. She indicated that her office will write a letter to the Premier of the Free State to inform him about the status of communication in the province.



Qondile Gedama and Dikeledi Magese during Minister Muthambi's Imbizo with communicators and community media.



The MEC for Finance, Elsabe Rockman, Minister of Communications, Faith Muthambi, MEC for Police, Roads and Transport, Butana Komphela, Provincial Director-General, Mr Radikontsana, Chief Director for PLL, Michael Currin and the Free State Provincial Government spokesperson, Mondli Mvambi.