



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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Special edition: "Youth Moving South Africa Forward".

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

Young people receive information on business funding

By Kaone Moshwela: GCIS, North West



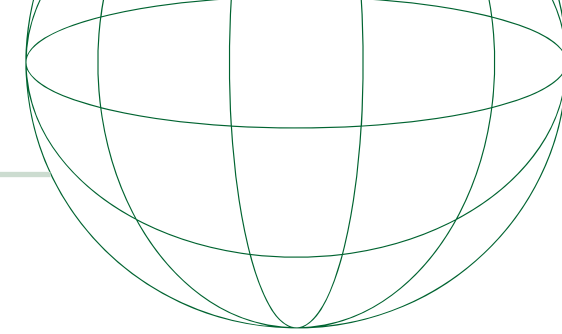
The NYDA educating young people about services they offer.

In the wake of questions and issues that were raised by young people during Communications Minister Faith Muthambi's National Imbizo launch in April this year, the GCIS in collaboration with Mahikeng Local Municipality conducted a youth information-sharing session as a feedback platform to empower young people in need of business-funding information. The event took place on 10 June 2015 at Barolong Borra Tshidi Hall. The session was attended by the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) and National Development Agency (NDA).



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Ntoma Sebayane from the NYDA said he understands the challenges faced by young people, such as lack of funds to pursue their studies and information or capacity to start businesses. He said it is for some of these reasons that the NYDA assists all young people who want to start their businesses. The NYDA also offers bursaries to deserving students.

Sebayane challenged young people to start doing something about their lives as government has opened doors for more opportunities. He said the youth should participate in economic opportunity programmes that create employment and boost the economy.

The NDA and SEDA also informed the youth about business opportunities that they offer. Connie Mmelesi from SEDA said those who need financial assistance need to go through the incubation process before their business ideas or plans can be assessed for approval. She said assistance is provided through training or one-on-one sessions with SEDA's business counsellors.



The NDA engaging the youth about their services.



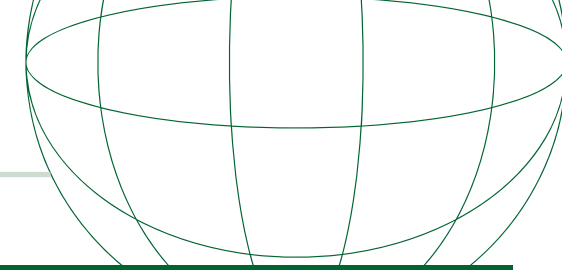
Thandiwe Ngwenya said:

"This workshop is an eye opener because I am a businesswoman and have been doing things my way. It really helped me because now I know where to go for assistance to boost my business."



Nkagisang Batshegi said:

"The session was good and motivated me. Now I know where to go for assistance. I will visit different offices for information and assistance. Thanks to all the stakeholders that shared information with us."



Young people from Swanneville listening to various stakeholders' presentations.



Nompumelelo Mathibe from the Department of Labour interacting with young people.

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

Hope for young people

By Matshidiso Mokoka: GCIS, Gauteng



Kanye from NSFAS addressing the youth.

This year marks the 39th anniversary of the Soweto uprising. To commemorate this, the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) has developed a national programme under the theme: "Youth moving South Africa forward".

This year's Youth Month focused on ensuring that young people play a critical role in their socio-economic development, thus contributing towards the development of the country.

In an effort to create awareness about Youth Month, the GCIS partnered with Kagiso Community Development Workers (CDWs) to host an awareness-creation campaign targeting young people in the area of Swanneville in Kagiso on 9 June. The purpose of the campaign was to address issues affecting young people such as access to further education, gaining employment and also intensifying the fight against substance abuse.

Stakeholders from the NYDA, Westview Clinic, National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS), Independent Communications Authority of South Africa, Westrand Youth Development Centre and departments of social development, labour and economic development engaged with young people about services they offer and how these services can be accessed to improve their lives.

"As CDWs conducting our daily door-to-door activations and community meetings, we have been inundated with requests from young people concerning information about NSFAS and also fighting substance abuse. Many young people are now leading a lifestyle of hopelessness despite having matric certificates because they lack relevant information on how to apply for bursaries to further their studies. Because of lack of relevant information, young people lose hope and ultimately find themselves taking drug," said Ouma Radebe, a CDW in Swanneville.

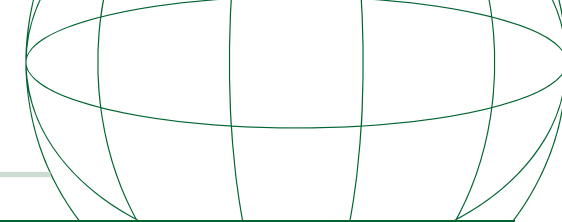
She also suggested that it is important to have workshops like these to ensure that young people have access to information.

Tsepo Kanye from NSFAS informed the audience that NSFAS is a bursary given to prospective or undergraduate students who want to study at any public university or Technical Vocational Education and Training college.

"To stand a good chance of getting the bursary, people must apply on time and ensure that they give correct information accompanied by relevant documents. NSFAS offers bursaries for study fields such as teaching, social work, Nated Courses (N1 – 6) and the national certificate offered by the TVET," he said.

After all presentations were made, young people were given an opportunity to visit exhibition stands to interact directly with stakeholders for more information about services offered and how they can access them.

There was an element of hope for young people who attended the event. Most of them appreciated the opportunity of having close interactions with relevant stakeholders who assisted them by sharing information they can use to improve their lives.



Tshediso Thinane facilitating the Youth Dialogue.



The Deputy Minister addressing young people at Albert Moroka High School.



Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams and MEC Mlamleli at the National Youth Development Agency stall.

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

Deputy Minister reaches out to the youth

By Lehlohonolo Manoto: GCIS, Free State



Both the youth and elder members of the community attended the Youth Dialogue.

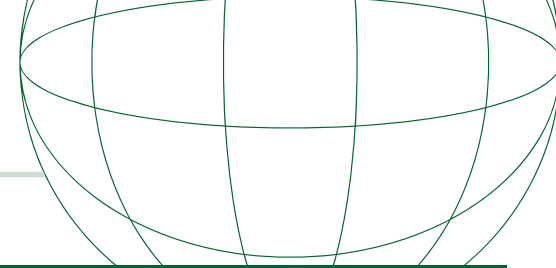
The Deputy Minister of Communications, Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams, attended the Youth Dialogue held at Albert Moroka High School in Thaba Nchu, Free State on 25 June 2015. The programme started with a walkabout to different exhibitions from government departments and its entities by the youth. The Deputy Minister went to the podium and greeted about 500 young people in their own language.

She educated the youth about the Freedom Charter as South Africa celebrates 60 years since the document was adopted. The Deputy Minister highlighted that it is important for the youth to play their part and drive the vehicle for economic growth. She said young people should become entrepreneurs by taking business opportunities offered by government. Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams also urged the youth to familiarise themselves with provisions stipulated in the National Development Plan.

She told the youth that government is addressing skills shortage in the economy and has put measures in place to boost skills by maximising access to higher education and training. As she concluded, the Deputy Minister stated that the youth of 1976 led the charge to end apartheid but the generation of today must lead the drive to eliminate inequalities, exclusions and disparities.

The youth were afforded an opportunity to engage with the Deputy Minister by asking questions. The panel members assisted the Deputy Minister in responding to some of the questions.

Before the dialogue, the Deputy Minister paid a courtesy visit to Barolong Boo-Seleka House of Traditional Leaders under the Acting Chief Moutloatsi Setlogelo who welcomed her. The Acting Chief, Queen Gaopalelwe Moroka, Princess Gaoboilelwe Moroka Motshabi, MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Leaders, Oilly Mlamleli, Ward Councillor Mophethe, Leepile Mompoti and the GCIS Acting Deputy Director-General Michael Currin were among the dignitaries accompanying the Deputy Minister to the Youth Dialogue.



Community members receiving information products before the commencement of the session.



Tlakale Mampuru from the National Development Agency speaking at the event.

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Young people given a reason to smile

By Nkopodi Mokgoma: GCIS, Limpopo



Some of the community members who attended the event.

Young people of Marulaneng village in Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality gathered at the local hall to listen to officials from government and different parastatals on 4 June 2015.

The information was aimed at empowering the young people from rural and disadvantaged areas to help them fight poverty and unemployment, and also to build them to be responsible people.

Different departments, parastatals and non-governmental organisations made presentations to enlighten young people about services they offer.

The Marota-A-Marulaneng Traditional Authority appreciated this initiative taken by government departments and other institutions to bring light to the youth of Marulaneng.

“Today the community of Marulaneng will receive the lifelong treasure that cannot be taken away by anybody. I appeal to all young people who are in this hall to take this rare opportunity that is intended at building their future as they are the leaders of tomorrow,” said Thulare.

All stakeholders were given a chance to present and explain their services and how they can be accessed in order to help young people who want to further their studies and those who are looking for jobs.