



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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OUTCOME 1: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION

Learners receive a boost before exams

By Bongani Mazibuko: GCIS, Mpumalanga



A curriculum implementer in the district presenting statistics at the event.



A motivational speaker from the DBE addressing the learners.



A pastor delivering a motivational talk at the event.

The Gert Sibande District office of the Department of Basic Education (DBE) held a motivational-talk session at Inqubeko Secondary School in Mkhondo Local Municipality on 14 October 2015.

The primary objective of the session was to motivate Grade 12 learners before they could sit for their final exams. The event was aimed at instilling a sense of self-belief and a positive attitude towards exams and life in general.

One of the curriculum implementers in the district presented statistics, covering the pass rates of previous years, with special reference to schools under Mkhondo Education Circuit. Learners were shown the pass rates including their own performance in the first, second and third terms. This encouraged them to put more effort and also pay attention to subjects that need attention.

One motivational speaker said to the learners: "Take the bull by its horns. Put aside distractions such as friends, bad habits and other things. This is the time to focus on your exams, aim for Level 7 symbols when you write your exams. Education will make you a better person than you are now".

The Director of Ayihlome Ifunde Programme in the province also encouraged the learners to do well. This session was also attended by officials from the Government Communication and Information System, DBE officials, school governing bodies and other stakeholders.



government
communications

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



OUTCOME 5: A SKILLED AND CAPABLE WORKFORCE TO SUPPORT AN INCLUSIVE

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Government invests in education

By Kaone Moshwela: GCIS, Northern Cape

The community of Ratlou converged at Kraaipan telecentre in Ratlou Local Municipality on 13 October 2015 to witness the youth from Setlagole, Kraaipan and Tshidilamolomo villages graduate and be awarded the National Certificate: Information Technology, End User Computing. The certificate is accredited by the Media Information Communication Technology Sector Education and Training Authority. The telecentres were established by the Universal Service and Access Agency of South Africa, and later transferred to Ratlou Local Municipality.



Graduates from Ratlou telecentres.

One of the telecentre in Kraaipan benefited from Harmony mine, which donated computers, printers and a server machine.

The graduates appreciated and praised the initiative, especially the fact that training was conducted locally, thus saving their parents money. Anna Dichabe, who could not hide her excitement, said she was grateful for the opportunity. She also said she was looking forward to furthering her studies to increase her chances of gaining employment.

The Mayor of Ratlou, Pheny Mance congratulated the youth who worked hard to obtain the certificate. He said government always prioritises youth development. The Mayor urged the graduates to use their newly acquired skills to boost their communities' economy. He said most of the youth who were assisted locally by either the municipality or the province are now living in other provinces because they claim that their areas are underdeveloped, instead of helping in transforming them. The Mayor thanked the graduates' parents for allowing them an opportunity to study and empower themselves. "This is the future that nobody can take away from you," he said.



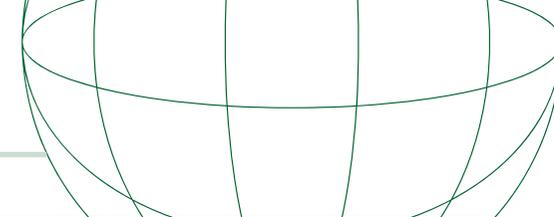
Anna Dichabe said:

"I think what I have achieved will open doors for me. I am unemployed and am from a rural area, this is really an achievement for me. I intend to increase my credits and look for employment opportunities after that."



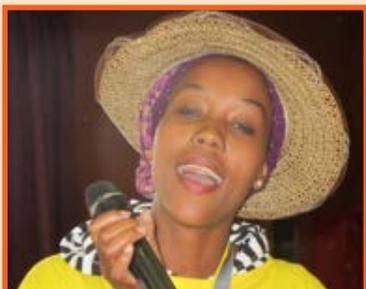
Wagomotsa Maruping said:

"I am looking for a job and I think this certificate will help me gain employment. I will study further while working. This is my desire."



Kebitsamang Pushuli said:

“I am glad I came here today. I have learned so much especially from the Department of Environmental Affairs. I have learned the importance of caring for our environment as it cares for us. I also wish that government creates more work opportunities for young people.”



Dikeledi Mothapo said:

“I am very happy that various departments are here to provide services and information, but I feel that more should be done to address issues relating to drug and substance abuse, especially among young people.”

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

Government takes services to the people

By Robbie Senoelo: GCIS, Gauteng



Members of the community receiving information products from different stakeholders at the exhibition.



Pule Mametse said:

“It gives me great pleasure to see so many departments visiting Mamelodi. I have learned so much about services rendered by the Department of Public Works for free and I believe many residents will benefit from this exhibition.”

Government’s efforts to extend its reach in terms of services and information received a boost when the Government Communication and Information System Marketing and Distribution unit in conjunction with the City of Tshwane, coordinated the inaugural Government Exhibition Day at the Mamelodi Thusong Service Centre on 30 October 2015. Community members attended the event in large numbers. The objectives of the event were to communicate developmental government information for the empowerment of community members, promote integrated “one-stop” platforms for government information and services, and provide a platform for government departments, state-owned entities and agencies to market their products, platforms and services directly to the public. A number of stakeholders participated by exhibiting various information materials at the event.

The exhibition targeted service providers that are normally not available at the Thusong Service Centres, such as the Road Accident Fund, National Credit Regulator, Financial Services Board, National Lotteries Commission, Independent Police Investigative Directorate, Department of Public Works, etc. As part of the community engagements, exhibitors were afforded an opportunity to address the attendees and interact with them.

The GCIS Deputy Directors-General for Content Processing and Dissemination, and Intergovernmental Coordination and Stakeholder Management, Harold Maloka and Nebo Legoabe assisted in distributing some of the available materials to passersby.

Community members were happy that government brought information products to them and that they would not have to travel long distances to access these services. They also requested that government conducts more community outreach programmes regularly. Government Exhibition Day will be an annual event.



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

Government prioritises skills development

By Mojalefa Senokoatsane: GCIS, Free State



Community members attended the event.



Lwazi Nzobe said:

“This programme is what we have been looking for as the youth of Koppies and it will ensure that we are empowered enough to be employed.”



Tokelo Diphoko said:

“I am happy that I am now registered in the job-seeker database and I hope that in future I will get a job in order to be able to assist my mother.”



The Department of Labour Mobile Labour Centre rendering different services at the event.



Some of the community members at the event visiting stalls to enquire about different opportunities.



Officials from the Flavious Mareka TVET College at their stall.

Government prioritises skills development and economic opportunities to revitalise the country’s economy and create jobs. More resources are being channelled to these priorities to ensure that a positive result is achieved. All government entities and agencies have been tasked to offer programmes such as internships, learnerships and bursaries to benefit young people. Government has also requested the private sector to assist and ensure that the objectives are realised.

The Department of Labour, together with other stakeholders, kick-started the Career and Skills Development Exhibition programme on 27 October 2015. This initiative is aimed at ensuring that community members, especially the youth in Fezile Dabi District, receive relevant information regarding available skills development and economic opportunities that they can use to better their lives.

Some of the stakeholders that were present at the event included the Free State Development Corporation, Wholesale and Retail Sector Education and Training Authority, Small Enterprise Development Agency, Government Communication and Information System, South African Police Service, Flavious Mareka Technical Vocational Education and Training College, South African Revenue Service and the Premier’s Office through the community development workers.

The stakeholders were provided with a platform to engage with community members and also make presentations regarding different opportunities that are available to young people.