




MY DISTRICT TODAY



Issue no. 21 / June 2017

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OUTCOME 1: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION

Young people embrace education

By Ntombi Mhlambi: GCIS, Free State



Deputy Minister Elizabeth Thabethe and other government leaders with beneficiaries of the Tourism Buddies Programme.



Deputy Minister Elizabeth Thabethe addressing the youth.

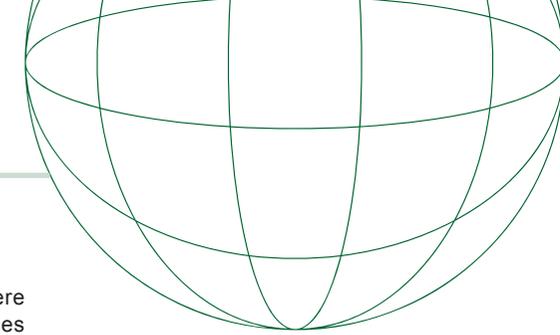
The departments of tourism and small business development in collaboration with the Free State Department of Economic, Tourism and Environmental Affairs through its Social Responsibility Implementation programme, hosted graduation ceremony to honour students from the Free State who participated in the Tourism Buddies Training programme. The event took place on 6 June 2017.



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Deputy Minister of Small Business Development, Elizabeth Thabethe, officiated the ceremony where 80 students received their CATHSSETA accredited National Certificate in Accommodation Services NQF Level 2, and National Certificate in Food and Beverages NQF Level 4. In the 2014/2015 financial year, the Department of Tourism approved the training of learners. The learners enrolled in a 12-month learnership programme comprising 30% theory and 70% practical training. During the programme, they were placed at various hospitality establishments within the province for workplace training. The graduation ceremony was preceded by a stakeholder engagement and followed by an Imbizo where the Deputy Minister and officials from the provincial tourism office engaged with the community on tourism issues.

The Executive Mayor of Lejweleputswa District Municipality Sebenzile Ngangelizwe encouraged the beneficiaries to start township tourism business because government would support them.



Sehlabo Raboroko said:

“I thank government for their efforts to create opportunities for the youth.”



Mphonyane Malikwa said:

“I am so excited that I have a qualification and experience, which many young people do not have.”



OUTCOME 9: RESPONSIVE, ACCOUNTABLE, EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM

Tourism Forum launch for Naledi Youth

By Fatima Modise: GCIS, North West



Lebogang Gabaphethe said:

“This initiative of getting youth into tourism to create jobs for themselves is a good thing for me, rather than relying on government.”



Masego Moncho said:

“The municipality is doing a great job, the ball is in our court to make this project work.”



Some of the attendees of the launch of the Naledi Youth In Tourism Forum.



Executive members of the Naledi Youth in Tourism Forum.

On 10 May 2017, the Mayor of the Naledi Local Municipality, Neo Schalk, launched the newly established Youth in Tourism Forum for the Municipality at Huhudi Community Hall.

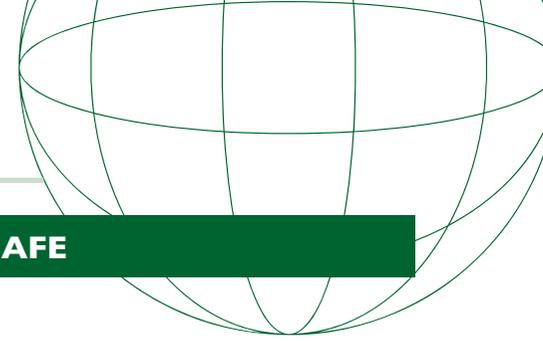
The event was organised by the Economic Development, Tourism and Agriculture unit from Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality, as a way of developing tourism in the district and also to teach young people that they can make a living out of it.

Katlego Morubane from the North West Tourism Board shared a good advice with the forum for those who would like to be good tour guides.

“You need to be always on time because the minute you become late, someone else is taking your tourists and obviously taking your money that you were supposed to earn. You need to travel and know places, you cannot be expected to show people areas that you do not know yourself. You also have to be a person who networks with others in the same business to improve yourself,” he said.

He also advised them to start small with the little that they have instead of waiting for government to assist.

Mayor Schalk encouraged the forum to work hard with the entire youth in the municipality to develop tourism. He further advised the executive committee that they should not think that now that they are the leaders of the forum, they can sit back and relax and start disrespecting the broader forum, they should work with the Local Economic Development office to grow the forum.



Kealeboga Cwinyane said:
“Stop women and children abuse.”



Lynettes Hartzenberg said:
“Women first. Women for years have felt that they are always second, but they must realise that they are first and put themselves first.”



Patricia Modise said:
“Please stop the abuse. Enough is enough.”

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

Community march to fight against abuse

By Karen Foutie: GCIS, Northern Cape



Officers present at the talk show during Child Protection Week.



The signing of the pledge.

The John Taolo Gaetsewe District added its voice to condemn the recent violence against women and children by engaging in a peaceful march to Kuruman Police Station. The event took place on 26 May 2017.

Wearing black, men and women called for an end to abuse, rape and killing of women. The marchers also appealed to people to report all crimes committed against women and children.

The Mayor of John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality, Sofia Mosikatsi, who led the march, reiterated that the fight against women and child abuse is not a women business only. She encouraged women to speak out and report cases of abuse. Women were also reminded that not all “men are trash”, but that those who are, need to be punished for their crimes. Placards carried by the marchers displayed messages ranging from “Stop the violence against women and children, human trafficking, killing our sisters and the butchering of women”. A plea was made for the strengthening of law enforcement.

The South African Police Service Cluster Commanders, Major-General Johan Bean, accepted the memorandum and committed that the police would do all in their power to bring perpetrators to book and also to forward the memorandum to the provincial commissioner.

The march was attended by women and men from labour organisations, municipalities, non-governmental organisations, government departments, civil society forum and political parties.



Premier Willies Mchunu addressing community members at Khiphinkunzi Traditional Council.



Gezile Mnguni said:

“Our area is deeply affected by crime, poverty and unemployment and our hopes are very high since Premier Mchunu has witnessed some of the things that we shared. I am positive that our government will deliver water and houses in this area since we are left behind.”

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

Building Nquthu community through Operation Sukuma Sakhe

By Thandinkosi Zulu: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal



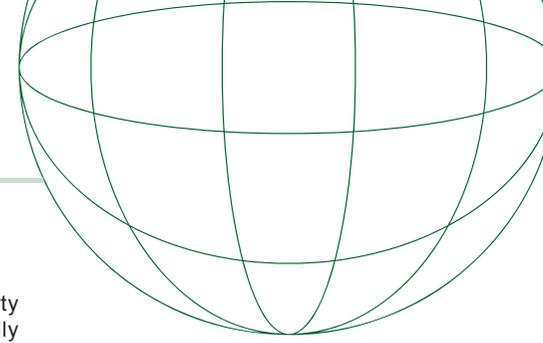
Premier Willies Mchunu conducting a walkabout at Thathezakhe Clinic to see the progress made on the completion of the clinic.

KwaZulu-Natal Premier Willies Mchunu together with his Executive Council successfully engaged Nquthu community on 10 May 2017 as part of the provincial government's Operation Sukuma Sakhe campaign.

“The Operation Sukuma Sakhe initiative is an excellent methodology of bridging the gap between government and people of KwaZulu-Natal, which is now a model that has been adopted by the World Health Organization, UNAIDS and Chile,” said Premier Mchunu.

He also stated that the community must stand up and join government to rebuild the fabric of society. Premier Mchunu and his Cabinet, comprising all government departments within the province, delivered much-needed services and noted service delivery needs that disadvantaged Nquthu rural communities have been deprived of since Nquthu municipality failed to constitute its council after the 2016 Local Government Elections.

All executives visited various community projects with the aim of ensuring that proper operations are taking place, that projects are well grounded for completion and noting challenges to deliver a better quality of services. Premier Mchunu visited the well-established Thathezakhe Clinic where he applauded the clinic staff and community for taking good care of the clinic. He further encouraged the community to use the Chronic Medication Pick Up point designed to service them at a local level to reduce the waiting times at the hospital and clinic levels.



MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Sihle Zikalala, paid a visit to the community project.



Zanele Njoko said:
 “We take pride in being visited by Premier Mchunu. It is exciting that the Premier has endorsed the issue of learners from Thathezakhe High School. Every day their principal chases them away when they are late. The Premier told us that the matter of chasing away learners is a concern and will be addressed with immediate effect.”

“We must work together to build a stronger KwaZulu-Natal and thereby eradicate unemployment, poverty and inequality. Importantly, the people of Nquthu deserve solid service delivery, which will eventually improve the quality of their lives,” added the Premier.

The MEC for Education, Mthandeni Dlungwana, visited two projects to be completed soon: Ntinini Water Purification and Water Pumps and the eQhudeni Road Construction project. He further assured the community that the issue of distribution of Jojo tanks will be fast tracked by the provincial government before the end of the month to help communities that do not have access to water.

Amakhosi within the area were very delighted to see the progress made by government to restore dignity and pride to service delivery within the Nquthu area. Inkosi Thathezakhe Ngobese commended the provincial government for its urgent response in taking over the Nquthu crisis and wished that the local elections in the area go well and improve lives of community members.



Nquthu community members gathered in various areas making inputs at the event.



Busisiwe Jiyane said:
 “I have trust in the provincial government. The promise that they have made last time at Nquthu Stadium was delivered and even today I am hoping that electrification will come to our area.”