



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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OUTCOME 1: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION

Minister reaches out to learners

By Ndyebo Kopo: GCIS, Eastern Cape



Learners working on their new laptops.

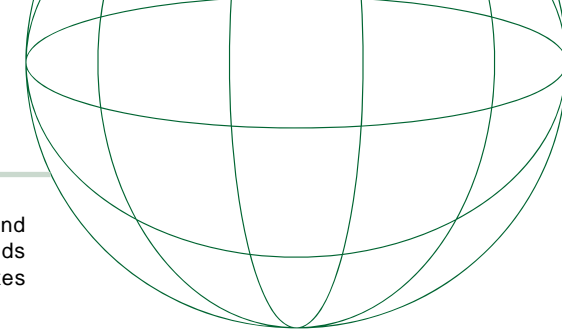
Young people with disabilities from Vuk'uzenzele Special School in Mbizana received 23 laptops from the Minister of Communications, Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane. The school is based in Bizana, Eastern Cape. The school was established in 1986 to take care of learners with physical disabilities. It is also a boarding school that accommodates up to 300 learners.



government
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





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The Minister, accompanied by MEC for Social Development, Nancy Sihlwayi, MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture, Pemmy Majodina and the ward councillor of the area visited three disadvantaged households within the area where the school is located, to register the houses to receive the DTT set-top-boxes (STBs). MEC Sihlwayi donated food parcels and blankets to the households.

Learners, especially those that are in Grade 12, received an early Christmas present from the Minister. The laptops have Internet connection, which will allow learners to do research and assignments and also apply for admission at tertiary institution.

The donation of the laptops follows a commitment made by the Minister in 2016, when she visited the area.

Minister Kubayi-Ngubane said, "We are here in Vuk'uzenzele Special School as part of honouring our Struggle hero, Tata OR Tambo. Just like Tata OR Tambo, we believe that we cannot have a bright future if we are not able to protect and equip our children."

The visit was part of the Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) awareness programme in the area.

The Department of Communications has embarked on a focused rollout for the Broadcasting Digital Migration, which has resulted in the installation of STBs across several municipal districts. The national average registration for STBs per day is 300, while an average of 1 400 decoders are installed every day.



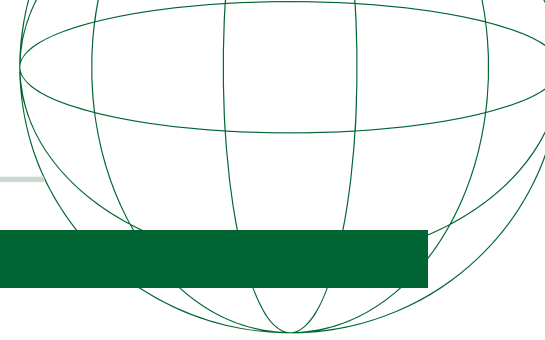
Public engagement session at Vuk'uzenzele Special School.



Enathi Tolbadi said:
"The donation by the Minister is much appreciated. We will use the computers and the Internet that comes with it wisely. The computers will assist us when we want to apply for post-matric education and to do projects."



Maduba Janda said:
"I am happy with the visit of the Minister and very grateful for the donation of the computers as they will assist us a great deal with our school work."



Nkanyiso Zulu said:

“Education is the key to unlock doors and open opportunities for personal and economic development. However, education alone cannot eradicate poverty”.



Andiswa Khumalo said:

“We need to start at home in addressing issues of gender and inequality, do away with patriarchy and stereotypes that claim that a certain gender is superior to the other or allocate roles and responsibility based on gender”.

OUTCOME 1: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION

OR Tambo Schools Debate inspires creativity

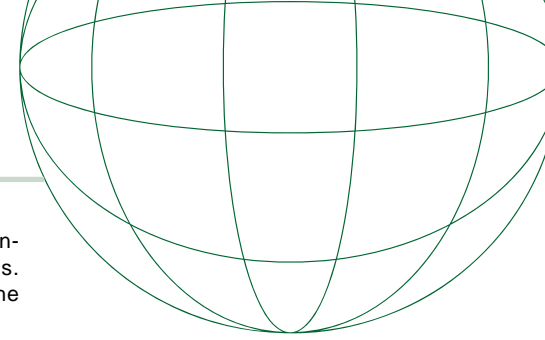
By Jacob Molete: GCIS, Gauteng



Winners of the OR Tambo Future Diplomat Awards (Left to right) First Prize, Andiswa Khumalo, Second Prize, Nkanyiso Zulu and Third Prize, Kagiso Letsiki.

To mark the centenary celebration of life and legacy of OR Tambo, the City of Ekurhuleni, in partnership with Gauteng Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture department hosted Schools Debate modelled on the United Nations (UN) Negotiation style. The activities took place on 24 October 2017 and were aimed at producing Children Declaration advocating children’s rights, vision and aspirations towards the realisation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The debate comprised 88 learners, between 11 and 15 years from various municipalities that contributed. Some of the learners were from Sedibeng District Municipality, which is home to human rights monument, built after the Sharpsville Massacre and also a place at where the Constitution was signed, Mbizana Local Municipality, OR Tambo’s birthplace and the City of Ekurhuleni, where OR Tambo spent his last years until his passing, and also buried there, in Wattville. Zambia learners were also part of the event.



Dora Mlambo said:

“Young people have always been catalysts for change, you do not have to be in a position of leadership to contribute meaningfully to building a better society, act against the injustices to make a difference and create a better society. In fact, many young people have played an important role in society from being renowned authors, to champion and advocates of Children’s Rights.”



Zeenat Abdool said:

“It is through OR Tambo’s leadership, skilful diplomacy and negotiation that led to the Harare Declaration that preceded the liberation of South Africa. The se are values we need in order to find solution to the world problems today.”

“For the Schools Debate, we chose the UN model because it is a more cooperative and non-competitive debate style, and in line with OR Tambo values of cooperation and building partnerships. The model is effective for seeking solution to the world problems such as those captured in the SDGs,” said debates chairperson, Maryam Elgoni.

OR Tambo was lauded for his excellent understanding of diplomacy and building international relations to garner support and solidarity in the Struggle for liberation.

“Through these debates, we teach children about diplomacy and internationalism because OR Tambo is well known for his exceptional diplomacy and ability to build international support and solidarity in dealing with real-life issues just as Tambo did during the fight against oppressive apartheid,” said Ekurhuleni Community Services MMC Dora Mlambo.

Learners were reminded that neither your status in society, race, age, creed nor greed are important attributes for one to contribute towards building a peaceful, just, prosperous better country and the world.

Learners vowed to play their part in finding solution towards the achievement of the 17 SDGs, especially those that speak to youth and children development for a better future, country and the world. The learners also debated gender and inequality issues and their impact on the economy.

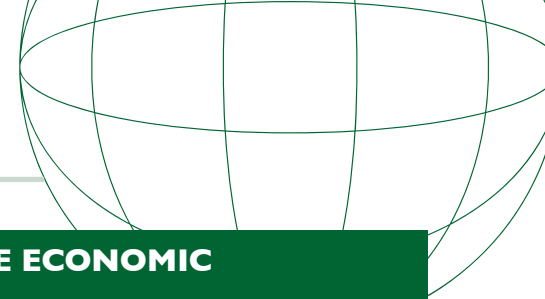
The final Children Declaration provides children’s perspective and aspirations towards the achievement of SDGs relevant to Children’s Right and development. The declaration was presented to MMC Mlambo and Abdool respectively.



MMC Dora Mlambo and UNICEF’s Zeenat Abdool posing with the learners.



MMC Dora Mlambo presenting the OR Tambo Future Diplomat Award to Andiswa Khumalo.



Skosana said:

“The new road project will create employment for the people.”



Kedibone Seema said:

“The people of Lebotloane have been waiting for this road for a long time.”

OUTCOME 6: AN EFFICIENT, COMPETITIVE AND RESPONSIVE ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK

New road project to change lives

By Ephraim Malema: GCIS, North West

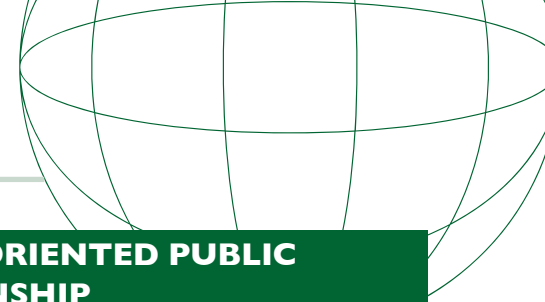


MEC Mmule Maluleke and other dignitaries at the event.

The North West Public Works and Roads MEC Mmule Maluleke and the Mayor of Moretele Local Municipality, Andries Monageng, officially launched the new projects of the road. The event took place on 25 October 2017.

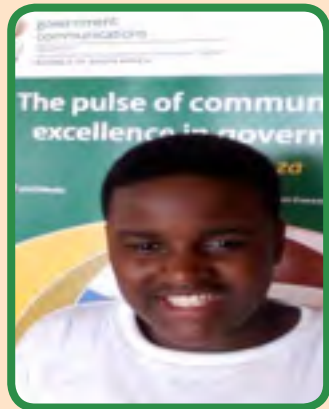
The contractor is already on site to tar the road from Bedwang to Lebotloane.

The road construction project will also create employment for some of the community members. MEC Maluleke appealed to the community to allow the contractor to do its job without any inference. The tarred 5.1km road is expected to be completed in 2018.



Zama Makhundoyi said:

“I did not know anything about the harbour. I enjoyed the trip in the Abagold as it has changed my life. I have learned that Abalone has different sizes. I want to say that I will share the information with all my classmates.”



Oyama Mfiki said:

“This trip has been fun, we learned that hard work pays. There might be challenges but you should try your best to overcome them. I have learned respect, discipline and patience. I am very fortunate to have taken part in the celebration of Marine Month.”

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

Learners interface with the ocean

By Portia Mlisa: GCIS, Western Cape

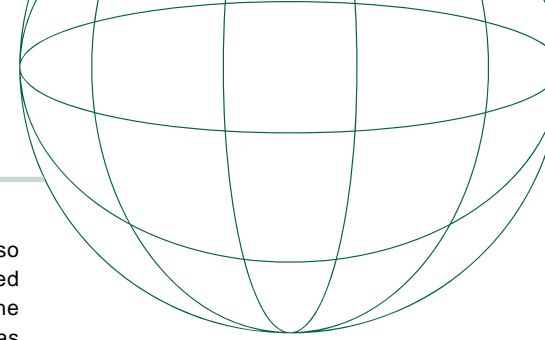


Learners reading the *Vuk'uzenzele* newspaper.

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries led a school excursion in partnership with Government Communication and Information System, Abagold and other partners on 31 October 2017 in Hermanus Harbour. The purpose of this event was to expose learners from Qhayiya High School to the marine environment. Learners did drama on marine, experienced boat cruise, whale watching and also visited Abagold Abalone Farm.

Abagold is a Hermanus-based aquaculture-farming enterprise that cultivates, produces and markets natural abalone. The organisation is a recipient of the Workplace Challenge Programme (WPC) that is funded by the Department of Trade and Industry to improve productivity and competitiveness of enterprise.

Johan Hugo, who is the Managing Director at Abagold, said, “We are the second biggest employer in Hermanus”. He also mentioned that government is supporting them because they are creating job opportunities. Johan taught learners about the five most popular species of Abalone and that the Japanese one is the most expensive and tasting. Learners then went on the tour in the farm.



Bianca Mnyamezeli said:

“I have learned that we must love our earth, protect our resources like our ocean. I was not sure of what I want to do after matric, but now I know I want to do Zoology.”



Mzoxolo Nyatho said:

“I had a great experience, I never knew that there were careers that have something to do with our ocean. I have also learned about the danger of ocean pollution and how to take care of nature. I will now have a new perspective about our nature.”

Abagold started the WPC in 2013 where first line managers were trained and later labourers were also taken for training, that is when departments were broken down into mini business units and created their own vision that is aligned with the company. Measurements were identified according to the competition measurements which are quality, cost, delivery, safety and morale. The programme has helped this company a lot to improve the productivity.

Workers have a say in goal setting and targets, the involvement of workers helped the company. Innovations they bring help in reducing waste, saves time and money. Abagold way helped to implement our work easy, faster, cheaper, and working smarter”. This shows that the company respects their employees and motivates them as they are taking part in the decision making of targets and goal settings.

This is one of the companies that learners would be interested in working in. The tour ended well by the motivational speaker who advised them to do proper planning to prevent poor performance in their exams and life in general.



Learners ready to take a tour at the Abalone Farm.



Learners experiencing the boat cruise.



Johan sharing information about the farm.



Johan showing learners Abalone.