




MY DISTRICT TODAY



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OUTCOME 7: VIBRANT, EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE RURAL COMMUNITIES AND FOOD SECURITY FOR ALL

Premier engages farmers

By Lwando Helesi: GCIS, Eastern Cape



Premier Phumulo Masualle with other government leaders.

Eastern Cape Premier Phumulo Masualle embarked on a face-to-face engagement with the farming community of Chris Hanu District Municipality on 9 March 2018 at Thobi Kula Indoor Sports Centre, Queenstown. The visit formed part of the post-State of the Province Address engagements aimed at promoting active citizen participation to improve and fast track service delivery.



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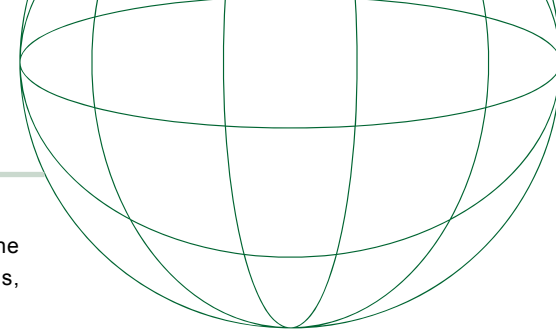
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The Chris Hani District Municipality is a farming area that plays a significant role in the economy of the province. Agriculture is dominant throughout the district, and includes cultivated land, communal fields, commercial farms and small-scale farming.

The Premier said, “Engagements like this session are crucial so that government gets the views of farmers on issues affecting them so that we can address the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality.”

These interactive sessions are aimed at strengthening partnerships with various stakeholders and give communities an opportunity to interact with government. By being aware of what government is doing, everyone can become involved and also take part in its plans to build a better life for all.

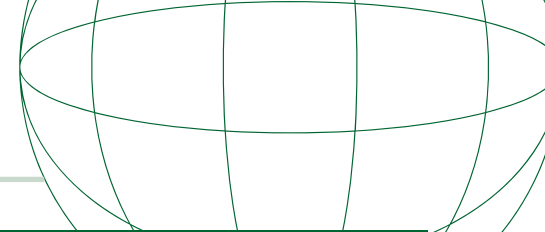
These are some of the challenges outlined:

- Poor access to land for grazing
- No infrastructure and equipment for farmers (fencing, dipping tanks, shearing sheds, etc.)
- Shortage of funding
- Barriers to entry and monopoly market cripples farmers
- Low literacy and skills levels.

These were issues raised by the farmers across the six local municipalities which the Premier replied that government has noted. Premier Masualle further cautioned that the farmers be patient with government as response to the issues cannot happen overnight but assured that service delivery will be fast tracked.



Farmers at the event.



Mawelela said:

“I am happy as I have already registered and received my set-top box and watching TV has become nice as I have more channels.”



Mokgothu said:

“I have registered the process. It was very easy and I am glad that there is no monthly subscription.”



Moshoeu said:

“I had no idea about DTT. I will register and tell my neighbours to register too.”

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

Digital migration awareness campaign

By Thulaganyo Gaserotse: GCIS, North West



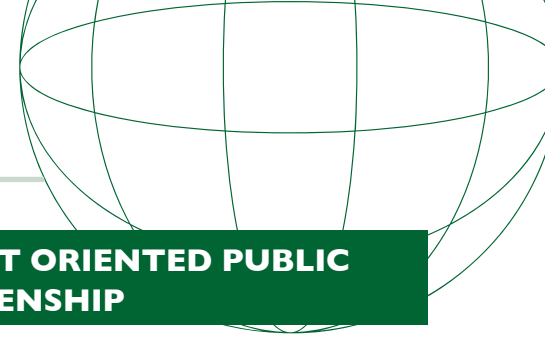
GCIS officials speaking about the DTT at Aganang FM.



A GCIS official distributing information materials and also informing the community about Thusong Service Centre services.

Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in North West embarked on Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) awareness campaign and Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) voters' address registration at Sarafina Informal Settlement in JB Marks Local Municipality on 10 March 2018. The campaign was aimed at encouraging community members to register for set-top boxes (STBs) at their local Post Office before 31 March 2018 as the closing date for the registration of STBs. All households that earn below R3200 were mobilised to register to have access to government information and services. Prospective applicants were advised to bring their identity documents, proof of residence and proof of income or affidavit.

A community-radio dialogue was held at Aganang FM, broadcasting for Tlokwe and surrounding farming areas, informing community members about the importance of digital migration, voters' address registration and the centenary celebration of former President Nelson Mandela. Door-to-door activation was done at Ikageng Township where the *Vuk'uzenzele* newspapers, IEC and DTT pamphlets were distributed to the community. The activation concluded with the Thusong Service Centre marketing at Sarafina. Some of the beneficiaries were happy about the seamless DTT registration process rendered at their local Post Office.



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

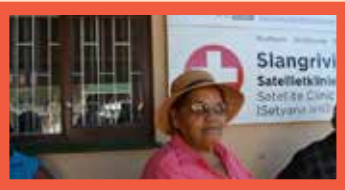
Slangrivier Thusong Service Centre outreach

By Jethro Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape



Jan Hartnick said:

“We request the Department of Home Affairs to start rolling out the new Smart ID cards in Slangrivier.”



Alida Esau said:

“The Heidelberg Post Office informed me that I do not qualify for a free set-top box because I have DSTV.”



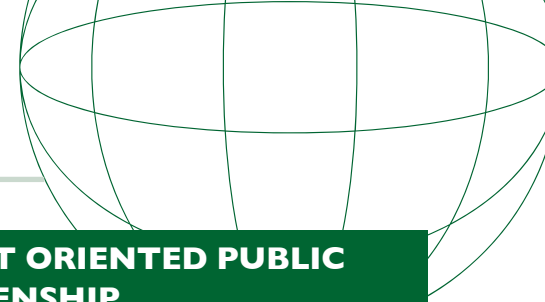
Community members listening to presentation on various services.



Community members waiting to access services from various stakeholders.

One of government's access strategy of redressing the imbalances of the past was taking services closer to where people live. In 1999, the conception of Thusong Service Centres was government's breakthrough strategy of bringing services and information closer to the people.

Responding to the need of this vast and remote community of Slangrivier, the Hessequa Local Municipality in collaboration with the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), and various sector departments reached out to this rural community through a Thusong Outreach Programme on 13 March 2018. This was an integrated service delivery approach where institutions such as the South Cape College, the South African Social Security Agency, departments of health, labour, home affairs and human settlements provided services and information to community members. The GCIS also shared information on anti-corruption, digital migration and water-saving tips with community members who also received copies of the *Vuk'uzenzele* newspapers and other information products.



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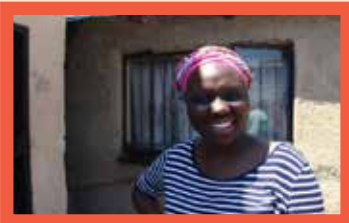
Voter registration activation

By Robbie Senoelo: GCIS, Gauteng



John Padi said:

"I understand the importance of voting because I believe that one's vote can make a difference. I am taking my daughter to the dentist then I will go and check my status on the voters' roll."



Mmapuso Mompotsi said:

"I agree that there is a new dawn in our country and that it is our responsibility as citizens to vote in order to deepen our democracy. I have checked my status online and all is well."



GCIS officials distributing information products to community members.

Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) officials conducted a voter-registration activation on 8 March 2018 at Saulsville area in Atteridgeville, Tshwane. This activation was aimed at encouraging the community to visit the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) voting stations on 10 and 11 March 2018 to update their residential address and also register to vote in the 2019 elections. The community members were informed to bring their identity documents or temporary identity certificates to be assisted.

Oupa Mokoka from the City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality responsible for voter registration in parts of Saulsville and Atteridgeville, said the IEC had made an early start to the preparations for the 2019 general elections. "Critically, this registration weekend is a milestone towards the culmination of a project to obtain address for all registered voters in South Africa," he said.