



MYDISTRICTTODAY



A **NATION** THAT **WORKS** FOR ALL

Issue no. 12: April 2026

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PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Media tour highlights Avon Water Project

By Doctor Marebane; GCIS, Limpopo

On 20 March 2026, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), in collaboration with the Capricorn District Municipality (CDM) and the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), conducted a media tour showcasing one of the district's successfully implemented water infrastructure projects. The project was officially handed over at Avon/Marobjane village, under the leadership of Kgoshi Seakamela in the Blouberg Local Municipality, bringing much needed water services to the community of Ga-Seakamela.

The project, funded by DWS to the tune of R22.9 million through the Water Services Infrastructure Grant, was implemented to support CDM in its role as the Water Services Authority. It address long-standing water supply challenges in the village, which previously lacked a reliable source of potable water.

The handover ceremony was led by the DWS Limpopo Provincial Head, Ms Lucy Kobe, together with Cllrs from the Capricorn District and Blouberg Local Municipalities, Cllr Mamedupi Teffo and Cllr Maria Thamaga. Officials from the DWS entity, Lepelle Northern Water, were also in attendance.

As part of the programme, GCIS invited several local media houses including Mphahlele FM, Moletsi FM, Turfloop FM, Senwabarwana FM, Mohodi FM, Gateway FM and Capricorn FM, to ensure broad community reach. The media delegation together with government officials, visited several project sites including Selaelo Primary School, where boreholes were installed to improve water access.

The project scope included two newly drilled boreholes and four refurbished boreholes, producing a combined yield of 604.80 kilolitres per day on a 24-hour pumping cycle. Infrastructure developments further comprised five pump houses, a 200-kilolitre elevated steel reservoir, approximately three kilometres of bulk pipelines, one kilometre of galvanised steel pipe linking boreholes to storage reservoirs, the reticulation of 100 standpipes and the installation of a palisade fence to protect the infrastructure.



Cllr Teffo being interviewed by local journalists during the media tour. She encouraged community members to safeguard the water infrastructure from vandalism and to use water responsibly to promote sustainability.



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Blouberg Municipal Mayor, Cllr Maria Thamaga, expressed appreciation to both municipality and DWS for funding the project, noting its positive impact on improving the quality of life of local residents. Community members echoed these sentiments, welcoming the intervention and expressing gratitude for access to clean water. One resident, Mr Vincent Seakamela, said he was delighted to finally see clean water flowing from taps within the community.

CDM Executive Mayor, Cllr Mamedupi Teffo, urged the community to protect water infrastructure from vandalism and to use water sparingly to ensure

long-term sustainability. The event coincided with National Water Month and Human Rights Month; forming part of the Limpopo Provincial Government's programme called 'Hinwamati Friday', which aligns with President Ramaphosa's call during his State of the Nation Address to strengthen the partnership between government and the media.

The programme concluded with a community engagement session at the Ditlou sports grounds, where residents actively participated and expressed appreciation for ongoing service delivery initiatives.



GCIS in collaboration with CDM and DWS, hosting a media tour to one of the district's well-executed water projects.



Mr Emmanuel Ramotebele and Ms Mmatlou Seketa:
"We feel empowered and encouraged that the government has recognised that information-sharing is crucial, as it makes our work much easier."

PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Human Rights Day Dialogue empowers students at Tosa TVET College

By Lebogang Molebatsi; GCIS, Free State

The Goldfields Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College's Tosa Campus, was transformed into a vibrant platform for engagement and reflection on 20 March 2026, when government representatives and key stakeholders gathered with students to commemorate Human Rights Day through a dialogue.

Hosted by the Government Communication and Information System, the event aimed to deepen students' understanding of constitutional rights and responsibilities, while encouraging active citizenship among young people. The engagement provided a safe and inclusive space for students to openly discuss issues affecting their daily lives and communities, reinforcing the importance of protecting and promoting human rights.

A key highlight of the programme was a series of informative presentations by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). The DWS highlighted that access to clean water and sanitation were fundamental human rights, outlining government interventions aimed at improving service delivery and ensuring sustainable water management. Students were encouraged to play an active role by conserving water and reporting service delivery challenges within their communities.

Stats SA emphasised the critical role that accurate data played in shaping policy and improving service delivery. The presentation underscored the importance of public participation in national surveys and censuses, noting that reliable data enabled government to better understand community needs and allocate resources effectively.

The dialogue further encouraged students to reflect on their role in upholding human rights – not only as beneficiaries, but also as active contributors to building a just and equitable society. Discussions focused on issues such as equality, access to basic services and the responsibility of citizens to respect the rights of others.

The event was characterised by enthusiastic participation, with students posing questions, sharing lived experiences and engaging constructively with stakeholders. This active involvement highlighted a growing awareness among young people and a willingness to be part of the solution in addressing societal challenges.



Mr Given Kgoere from Stats SA delivering a presentation on the household statistics relating to water access.



Mr Larry Cliff from the DWS outlining government efforts to improve service delivery.



Students who attended the Human Rights Day Dialogue at Tosa TVET College.



Mr Thabang Rantsheli:
“The dialogue encouraged me to be an active citizen and to participate in issues affecting my community.”



Ms Regina Morubisi:
“The information shared by DWS and Stats SA helped me understand how government works for us.”



Ms Nthabiseng Matoba:
“There should be follow-up programmes to ensure that what we learnt is implemented.”

PRIORITY 1: DRIVE INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND JOB CREATION.



Ms Matlakala Mokgatle:
 "I am pleased to be part of the youth expo; however, I am concerned about exclusion of people who are over the age of 35. Government should also create economic opportunities for us, as we want to contribute meaningfully to the economy. In addition, many young people in our communities have criminal records. How are they being included in the current economic landscape?"

Kuruman Youth Service Expo
Kgomotso Sentso and Moleboheng Maseme; GCIS, Northern Cape

On 20 March 2026, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), in collaboration with Deputy Minister in The Presidency, Ms Nonceba Mhlauli, hosted a Youth Service Expo in Kuruman, under the John Taolo Gaetsewe District. The expo aimed to empower young people by providing information on government programmes, services and opportunities, as part of broader efforts to bridge the gap between youth and socio-economic opportunities.

Held in the lead-up to the Human Rights Day commemoration under the theme: "Bill of Rights at 30: Making Human Dignity Real", the expo brought together various government departments, agencies and stakeholders under one roof. These stakeholders engaged directly with young people, sharing information on education and training opportunities, employment programmes, entrepreneurship support and health services.

In her address, Deputy Minister Mhlauli emphasised the importance of active youth participation in South Africa's democracy, particularly as the country commemorates 30 years of the Constitution of South Africa of 1996. She further stressed that participation in the upcoming elections would empower young people to contribute meaningfully to decision-making processes that affect their lives and help shape the future of our nation.

In the build-up to the main event, a taxi rank activation was conducted on 18 March 2026, at the Kuruman taxi rank. The outreach sought to raise awareness of the upcoming expo through direct engagement with commuters and community members. Information leaflets were distributed and on-the-ground interactions were used to encourage youth participation. The Kuruman Youth Service Expo is a testament of government's commitment to empowering young people and building an inclusive future in which all youth are equipped with the knowledge, tools and support needed to succeed.



Ms Amogelang Mosieng:
 "I am currently on a learnership programme; however, I am not receiving the agreed stipend from the Department of Employment and Labour. While I appreciate the opportunity, government and private sector entities should make a concerted effort to support young people like me who are eager to access and make use of economic opportunities."



Youth in attendance at the expo.



Deputy Minister Mhlauli addressing young people.



Stakeholders engaging with students and sharing information.



A GCIS official informing community members about the Youth Service Expo.



Mr Bryno Abrahams said:

"I learned a lot today about the importance of voting and active citizenship. It is the right of every eligible citizen to participate in elections, especially considering the sacrifices made by those who fought for our democracy. I will encourage others to register and vote on time."



Ms Suyandrey Matlou said:

"As young people, it is important that we take our future in our own hands. We can do this by voting during elections. Not participating in the democratic process ultimately harms us because we then forfeit our right to complain when things do not go our way."

PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Promoting human and voting rights

By Tshidi Mokoka; GCIS, Gauteng

The Government Communication and Information System, in partnership with Toekomsrus Community Development Workers and the Randfontein office of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), hosted a Voter Education Programme on 20 March 2026 at the Toekomsrus Skills Centre in Randfontein.

The programme formed part of Human Rights Month commemorations and voter registration awareness ahead of the 2026 Local Government Elections, under the theme: "Your Vote is Your Human Right".

The engagement also reflected on the sacrifices made during South Africa's struggle for democracy and emphasised the responsibility of citizens to exercise their right to vote. IEC representative, Mr Johnny

Sekwale, encouraged young people to take an active role in shaping their communities, highlighting that voting is a fundamental right and a powerful tool for representation and change.

Students were given the opportunity to register to vote and to verify their information on the IEC system in preparation for the upcoming elections. The initiative sought to equip young people with the knowledge and tools necessary to contribute meaningfully to democratic governance.

The collaboration further highlighted the importance of civic engagement and reaffirmed the role of local government in advancing democracy and protecting human rights.



Mr Sekwale from the IEC addressing students on the importance of voter registration and participation in elections.



Mr Buti Lekgoe, an IEC Municipal Outreach Coordinator, assisting students to register to vote and verify their information on the IEC system.