



# MYDISTRICTTODAY



## STAY SAFE

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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### CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

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## PRIORITY I: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

### Planting initiative contributes to food security

By Kaone Lekgetho: GCIS, North West

As part of the commemoration of Nelson Mandela International Day on 18 July 2023, the Government Communication and Information System – in partnership with the Department of Social Development, African Bank, Tsholetsa Disability Centre members and Community Work Programme workers – coordinated a planting initiative as a contribution to food security and sustainability at Tsholetsa Disability Centre in Tlhabane.

The disability centre yard was cleaned and spinach, cabbage, onions beetroot was planted. The centre manager appreciated the contribution and highlighted that they would sell the vegetables to sustain themselves at the centre. The centre members taught everyone sign language. They also discussed gender-based violence and femicide, economic opportunities and educational prospects.



Various stakeholders planting vegetables and food trees.



government communications

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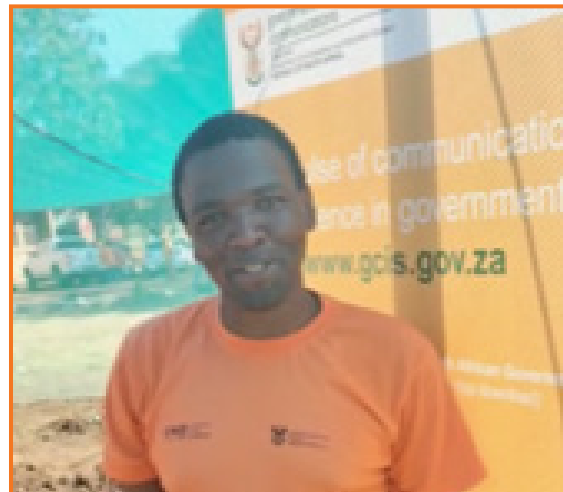
**COVID-19 vaccine registration details  
for 12-year-olds and above:**

Online at:  
<https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/>  
Send the word **REGISTER** to 0600 123 456  
on WhatsApp.  
Via SMS by dialling \*134\*832#.  
Call the COVID-19 hotline 0800 029 999.



**Neo Mooketsi said:**

“As part of the Community Work Programme, I find it very important to take part in making a difference today on Nelson Mandela International Day.”



**Sabelo Nxumalo said:**

“We are here at the disability centre in Tlhabane planting onions, beetroot and spinach as part of our 67 minutes for Mandela.”



**Abdulkadir Abukan said:**

“In 2021 we started working with the office of Deputy Minister Fish Mahlalela on some projects in Mpumalanga, building greenhouses. Together with the Deputy Minister, today we handed over a new kitchen to Ethembeni Primary School as we continue to celebrate Madiba’s birthday. I am proud to be part of this special day.”



**Principal Lusenga said:**

“We would like to thank the Deputy Minister, the entire leadership and TiKA for the donated new kitchen. We will now be able to serve our children’s food in a clean environment.”

## PRIORITY 1: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

### Tourism Deputy Minister reaches out to schools

By Bongani Mazibuko: GCIS, Mpumalanga

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) supported the Deputy Minister of Tourism, Fish Mahlalela, at Simtfolile High School in Fernie and Ethembeni Primary School in Diepdal, as part of investing 67 minutes in celebration of Mandela Day on 18 July 2023. The Department of Tourism, the GCIS, Turkish Cooperation Coordination Agency (TiKA), Chief Albert Luthuli Municipality, Ndlela Traditional Authority, Mpuluzi Parliamentary Constituency office and the Department of Education were some of the stakeholders who rolled up their sleeves, planting apple trees and handing over a newly built kitchen at Ethembeni Primary School.

Deputy Minister Mahlalela began the programme by addressing the stakeholders at Simtfolile High School where he said, “It is in our hands to ensure that there is food security and the planting of apple trees will ensure that learners get nutrients.”

He highlighted that there are so many benefits in planting the apple trees as this will improve food security for the learners. Some of the benefits of planting trees include reducing soil erosion, increasing available oxygen and reducing the adverse impact of climate change.

About 150 trees were donated to various schools in the Mashishila Circuit area, Dundonald Circuit area and Mpuluzi Circuit area. Ten trees were planted at Simtfolile High School and another 10 planted at Ethembeni Primary School.

The Deputy Minister also addressed parents, educators, members of the school governing body and learners, urging them to keep the structure clean, well maintained, and guard against criminals and vandalism. The educators and learners were delighted to receive such an important facility for their school.



Deputy Minister Mahlalela handing over a newly built kitchen to Ethembeni Primary School in partnership with TiKA.



Deputy Minister Mahlalela handing over and planting trees at Simtfolile High School and Ethembeni Primary School respectively.



**Thulani Mofokeng said:**

“Our country has such a high youth unemployment, and being part of a cooperative helps us to be active economic players. We are in a position to make an income and if cooperatives grow they can create employment and financial benefit for their members.”



**Julia Selepe and Alice Ndlovu said:**

“We produce a number of products and offer various services to our customers; it is through exhibition and participation in events such as this one for us to market our cooperative.”



**John Khumalo, Peter Zungu and Patrick Skhosane said:**

“We offer recycling and waste management to our customers; we get involved in the event as part of marketing and interact with other cooperatives who can benefit from our services.”

## PRIORITY 1: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

### Information-sharing session empowers cooperatives

*By Jacob Molete: GCIS, Gauteng*

On 21 July 2023, the Government Communication and Information System – together with Ekurhuleni Metro Economic Development; Gauteng Department of Economic Development and Gauteng Enterprise Propeller, and other development finance agencies – held a series cooperative information sharing session as a preparation towards the upcoming Ekurhuleni cooperative Summit to be held in August 2023.

Cooperatives are an important and viable form of financial development for the historically disadvantaged, vulnerable, and marginalised groups and those with limited resource capabilities to participate meaningfully and sustainably in the growth of the economy.

Moreover, cooperatives are viable channels for the Economic Recovery and Reconstruction Plan, economic growth and development, and meaningful and sustainable economic participation.

South African cooperatives are subject to the Cooperatives Act, 2005 (Act 14 of 2005). The Act creates a legal and institutional framework that

encourages the registration and development of cooperative enterprises and increased support for cooperatives.

Legally and by composition, cooperatives are vehicles for sustainable economic development for the benefit of their members often described as businesses owned by their beneficiaries. All cooperatives are run and controlled by the will of the majority of its members, the cooperative invests its pooled resources and then returns profits to its members and to the cooperative reserves for future investment.

Cooperatives in South Africa maybe incorporated either as primary, secondary or tertiary cooperatives representing various sectors of the economy. There are many different types of cooperatives, including agricultural cooperatives, consumer cooperatives, marketing and supply cooperatives, housing cooperatives, financial services cooperatives, social cooperatives, burial society cooperatives, service cooperatives and workers’ cooperatives.



Various stakeholders at the session.

## PRIORITY 6: A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.



**MEC Dibolelo Mance said:**

“Five buildings that will be installed with solar panels to lessen the electricity bill have been identified in the province.”

### Social compact Imbizo

By Lerato Setilo: GCIS, Free State

On 12 July 2023, the Free State Provincial Government, led by Premier Mxolisi Dukwana, hosted an Imbizo which was aimed at giving Free State residents a report on the work done by the provincial government in the first quarter of the 2023/24 financial year. Premier Dukwana stated that the provincial government, in partnership with the Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Sector Education and Training Authority, spent over R70 million paying off outstanding fees for students who completed their studies but were not able to receive their certificates. These students were from the University of the Free State, Central University of Technology and Motheo TVET College. The Premier also indicated that 650 young unemployed youth would be trained in road infrastructure maintenance to ensure that roads are in a good state.

This was an interactive session as it was simulcasted on Lesedi FM and on 1Free State TV. There was also a WhatsApp line where viewers and listeners were afforded the opportunity to ask questions. The panel included all the members

of the executive councils (MECs) of different provincial departments within the province. Each provincial department was represented by its MEC who gave extensive feedback on the work done by their respective departments.

There were exhibition stalls where different departments showcased their services such as the Government Communication and Information System; Department of Health; Department of Education; Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs and Human Settlements; Department of Economic; Small Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs; Department of Public Works and Infrastructure; Department of Social Development; Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation; and Department of Community Safety, Roads and Transport.



**MEC Limakatso Mahasa said:**

“The people of Free State must read books that are written by authors who come from our province.”



Premier Dukwana addressing the audience.



Attendees at the event.



Exhibition stalls at the Imbizo.