



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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

**March against women and child abuse**

By Tabita Ngqunge: GCIS, Eastern Cape



The community of Scenery Park at the 100 Men March.

Community members including the youth of Scenery Park and surrounding areas gathered for the march against women and children abuse on 13 July 2018. Government Communication and Information System in the Buffalo City Metro in partnership with the South African Police Service and civil society organisations joined hands to tackle abuse against women and children.



government communications

Department: Government Communication and Information System  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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Community members of Scenery Park participated in the campaign, which sought to end violence against women and children. Placards with messages of fight against gender-based violence were displayed at the event.

The march was led by men and started from Zwelemfundo Public School to the community hall. Participants included traditional leaders, church leaders, youth leaders, civil society organisations such as Masimanyane Women Support, Bumbingomso, Root 6. The march took a form of a dialogue in the community hall where various stakeholders shared valued information with the members of community. The platform also created an opportunity for residents to voice out their own experiences about the scourge.

Community members related to most of the topics discussed on different personal levels. Agcobile Ben said that violence does not solve anything, instead, it adds to the existing problems.



**Sisipho Nongqayi said:**

“We appreciate this event as it sends our message to the people who have the responsibility to protect us. Police must prioritise these cases and take them seriously.”



**Fundiswa Jose said:**

“Honestly, this abuse that is very popular in the community is caused by the lack of information. People are not informed enough about where to go and who to talk to when abuse occurs. Also, most men grew up in patriarchal homes and they think they are superior and more powerful than their counterparts or children.”



**Ntobeko Terry Malgas said:**

“We are glad that government and civil society are responding to the issue of crime in our area. We are very willing to support and work with the parties that are fighting crime in our communities. We had formed a community policing forum and we were working closely with the police. This ensured a drop in crime. We need that arrangement to be revived in Scenery Park.”



**OUTCOME 14: A DIVERSE, SOCIALLY COHESIVE SOCIETY WITH A COMMON NATIONAL IDENTITY.**

**Nelson Mandela rules for prisoners**

*By Peter Titus: GCIS, Western Cape*

The Department of Correctional Services launched the Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners at Drakenstein Correctional Centre, previously known as Victor Verster Prison. The event took place on 24 July 2018. Simphiwe Xako, the Provincial Communication Manager for the Department of Correctional Services in the Western Cape, said that former President Nelson Mandela spent the last 18 months of his imprisonment at this correctional facility. The rules, which are also known as the Nelson Mandela Rules, focus on how prisoners should be treated. Xako indicated that the rules speak to the fact that people incarcerated should be treated in a humane manner.

The event was led by the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Michael Masutha, who was joined by Deputy Minister Thabang Makwetla and 43 dignitaries from the United Nations, and other countries across the world. Minister Masutha broadly spoke about the relevance of the rules and how the implementation phase although no legislation can change people who are incarcerated.

“They will provide a comprehensive and powerful guide that will enable to us to implement our laws, including our own Constitution here and elsewhere, more effectively and in a more coordinated way, for the betterment of quality of life of our inmates,” said the Minister.

This was a historic event, which formed part of the centenary celebration of former President Nelson Mandela.



Participants who attended the launch of the Nelson Mandela Rules.



Minister Michael Masutha handing over the shoes of Nelson Mandela to the representative of the United Nations as a token of appreciation.



Minister Michael Masutha unveiling the plaque, launching the Nelson Mandela Rules in Drakenstein.



**Ayanda Mncibi said:**

“When Tata Mandela became the first black President, I was still very young. But I still remember a lot about him, through stories that are being told to us by elders and the books I read. History tells us that Mandela did great work to free the black nation. He went further to ensure that the doors of education are open for us to be liberated. I would really like to see South Africa becomes one of the best countries in Africa. The current leaders should focus more on ensuring that Tata’s spirit lives forever and that development in our communities takes place.”



**Pinky Gwazi said:**

“Giant, freedom fighter, man of all nations. That is how I describe Tata Mandela. I remember his great contribution to the development of South Africa. Tata Mandela’s administration built a good foundation, what is left now is implementation. We will forever be indebted to Madiba’s sacrifice. We all have the responsibility to ensure that South Africa remains a better country in the continent and the world at large.”

**OUTCOME 8: SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND AN IMPROVED QUALITY OF HOUSEHOLD LIFE.**

**Mandela Day celebration**

*By Mthunzi Mkhungo: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal*



**MEC Weziwe Thusi and Mayor Mondli Chiliza officially handing over a house to the Cele family.**



**Gogo Cele expressing her words of appreciation to government leaders.**

KwaZulu-Natal Social Development MEC Weziwe Thusi, together with the Ugu District Municipality and other sector departments, celebrated Mandela Day at Umzumbe, KwaShibase Sport Ground on 18 July 2018.

Celebrated under the theme: “#BeTheLegacy”, the event saw multiple indigent families benefiting from government development drive to eradicate poverty. The family of Gogo Cele received a house comprising two bedrooms, kitchen, dining room and bathroom. The house was built through donations collected by the Ugu District Municipality.

MEC Thusi indicated the important role that Tata Mandela played in ensuring that South Africa becomes a better place than it was before the democratic government. She further applauded the municipality for having reached out to its communities by building the house for Cele family, and for buying furniture and groceries.

Gifts in the form of blankets, groceries and other items were handed over to the rest of Umzumbe residents who were part of the celebration. The event attracted more than 1 500 people, who firmly spoke positively about the role that Madiba played in changing people’s lives.



**Mfundu Sibiya said:**

“I was so lucky to have witnessed Tata Mandela’s release from prison. He is remembered by many for the great work he did for South Africans and the world at large. But what comes out clear is his contribution in ensuring that different nations unite in the name of peace. South Africa is making steady progress in different fields, and I would like to see everyone contributing in helping South Africa to develop further in the areas of education, health or economy.”





**Palesa Mohale said:**

“I am thankful that government is really making efforts to ensure that we continue to receive our social grants.”



**Diniwe Botha said:**

“If the South African Post Office is going to be this efficient, then I will be very happy.”

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

**Minister reaches out to grant beneficiaries**

*By Ntombi Mhlambi: GCIS, Free State*



**Minister Siyabonga Cwele monitoring the replacement of social-grant cards.**



**Community members at the event.**

The Department of Telecommunications and Postal Service partnered with Masilonyana Local Municipality to monitor the implementation of the card-swap programme for social grants and also encourage digital migration. The event took place on 18 July 2018 in Majwemasweu, Brandfort. Minister Siyabonga Cwele led the Imbizo that gave the residents an opportunity to engage him about their experiences concerning government services.

Minister Cwele apologised to the community on behalf of government for social grant delays that were experienced in July due to technical glitches. He assured the residents that government was working hard to ensure that by September all the beneficiaries receive their social grants. They were also encouraged to swap to the new South African Social Security Agency card, and have the option to receive their social grant through the post office or banks. The Minister also encouraged residents to continue registering to receive subsidised decoders at their nearest post offices.

The department also partnered with Sentech, Samsung and Prima Toys to celebrate Nelson Mandela International Day with 55 children at the Thusanong Day Care.



**Nozi Moseme said:**

“We have a government that really cares for us.”