



# MYDISTRICTTODAY



# STAY SAFE

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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## CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

For more information about similar programmes that are run across the country, contact one of the following provincial offices:

### EASTERN CAPE

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## PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

### Government supports farmers

By Jetrho Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Mcebisi Skwatsha, handed over agricultural equipment to farmers in the Garden Route District on 18 September 2022.

The Thembaletu Small-scale Farmers, Mossel Bay African Farmers Union, Brakkerkloof Farmer and Friemersheim Egg Producers, received approximately R12 million from the department as part of infrastructure support.

The farming equipment handed over includes tractors, vehicles, protective gears, fencing, pellet machine maker, medicines and animal feed.

Dorothy Joseph, a manager at Friemersheim Egg Producers said, "We farm egg-laying chickens and have 3 100 chickens that produce 250 dozen eggs a day."

"We thank the department for the assistance with the donation of a delivery vehicle, which will help with the deliveries and pick up of packaging materials. This vehicle will help us a lot, since we used to hire transport and that was very expensive.

"The assistance we have received from various departments and stakeholders is not only in monetary value, but also in training and equipment. With the help of government, we can take our business forward to grow as a commercial business where we can compete with big corporates," said Joseph.



Some of the equipment donated by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development to the farming communities in Gardern Route District.



government communications

Department: Government Communication and Information System  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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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.

**PRIORITY 1: BUILDING A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.**

**State-of-the-art studio for Engcobo FM**

By Sandiswa Mdingi: GCIS, Eastern Cape

The Minister in the Presidency Mondli Gungubele and the Acting CEO of Media Development and Diversity Agency (MDDA), Mzuvukile Kashe, opened the new-state-of-the-art radio station studio sponsored by the MDDA to Engcobo FM on 9 September 2022.

The MDDA creates an enabling environment for media development and diversity, which reflects the needs and aspirations of all citizens, and ensure inclusive participation of historically disadvantaged communities.

Working with the Government Communication and Information System, the MDDA has a mandate to provide access to information and proactively create platforms for communities to engage with government.

Engcobo FM will spread out government community engagements on matters of economic development and encourage people to contribute to local economy and job creation.

Engcobo FM Station Manager Lusindiso Tansi said, “MDDA has been absolutely amazing throughout the entire experience. The coordinators that were allocated to the radio station made numerous visits to Engcobo, guiding us through the processes to follow in using the funds.

“They checked and helped to tick all the boxes until the end. The process of applying for funding was very straight forward and rewarding as an experience because it is all about compliance and accountability”.

He alluded that he believes MDDA is structured correctly with all the necessary paperwork. Tansi also said he will ensure that the radio licence remains compliant and up-to-date.

His message to unemployed youth was to say they must not give up but search throughout the province and the entire country for opportunities that will plug them into any kind of programme, be it an internship or any programme provided by government.

“The youth should work hard to stay away from alcohol and drugs because they make life unpleasant. The station has young people who are going to be busy and their hopes are alive and well because they kept hoping and searching for opportunities,” concluded Tansi.



Engcobo FM station manager Lusindiso Tansi interviewing Minister Mondli Gungubele, Premier Oscar Mabuyane and the Mayor of Dr AB Xuma Local Municipality, Siyabulela Zangqa.



Government leaders and other delegates during a site tour at Engcobo FM.

**PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.**

**Women in tourism engage one another**

*By Ntebo Mohale: GCIS, Free State*

The Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEA) hosted the women in tourism stakeholder dialogue in Welkom on 27 September 2022.

The dialogue sought to discuss issues affecting the industry, programmes that will help grow the sector and the empowerment of women. It offered various stakeholders in tourism including women interested in starting their own businesses within the sector, an opportunity to interact with the DESTEA officials.

Some of the issues that were raised by the audience were, the lack of skills, particularly in hospitality business, financial management and business development.

Lumka Sikhosana from the Department of Tourism addressed the audience on opportunities that are in the tourism sector and the upcoming programmes that are going to develop and capacitate women. She congratulated the stakeholders of their courage to grow their businesses and highlighted the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the industry, as most businesses within the sector had to shut down.

Sikhosana also encouraged the stakeholders to work together to grow their businesses and to also reach out to relevant provincial and regional offices for support.



**Dorcas Wana said:**

“I am very happy to have attended this event, as a woman whose been in the hospitality business for years. I am glad that we are recognised and supported by the Department of Tourism.”



**Valencia Teheli said:**

“Thank you DESTEA for giving us an opportunity and support to start our own businesses as women.”



**Lumka Sikhosana addressing the audience during the dialogue in Welkom.**



**Stakeholders who attended the dialogue.**



**Shadrack Modiakgotlha said:**

“I am so happy that the portfolio committees visited us today to assess the illegal mining activities. I would appreciate if they would visit again, even if they do not announce their visits, we would gladly welcome them. They must ensure that the community is safe from illegal miners.”



**Haartebeesfontein Community Policing Forum member said:**

“Community members are scared of the illegal miners and that is a challenge. There are pending cases of these illegal miners and they do as they please. It cannot be that people do as they please and terrorise our communities. Something must be done.”

## PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

### Oversight visit to tackle illegal mining

*By Rapelang Motlagomang: GCIS, North West*

The parliamentary portfolio committees on Home Affairs, Police and Mineral Resources and Energy visited North West on 15 and 16 October 2022 respectively, in a quest to evaluate the state of illicit mining activities.

The joint oversight visit started in Stilfontein, Klerksdorp, where the portfolio committees’ members engaged with the stakeholders who are combating illegal mining, together with the community representatives.

The Deputy Provincial Commissioner of the South African Police Service (SAPS), Major-General Patrick Asaneng, presented a comprehensive report of operations and partnerships that are working tirelessly to combat illegal mining in North West.

Various challenges and successes were shared with the portfolio committees. The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy, Department of Home Affairs and SAPS responded to the various questions raised by members of the portfolio committees and noted the recommendations for implementation.

Community representatives who were present at the gathering also highlighted the challenges that illegal miners bring to their residential areas. They indicated that there is a need for intensive police visibility as the illegal miners are heavily armed and cannot be approached by communities.



**Major-General Patrick Asaneng giving a joint presentation of the state of illegal mining in North West.**

Affected mine shafts where illegal mining activities take place were visited by the portfolio committees’ members.

This oversight visit comes just a few days after the Minister of Police, Bheki Cele, visited the Stilfontein area where 20 suspects of illegal mining with high-calibre weapons were arrested.

Minister Cele promised that the SAPS is more than capable of dealing with illegal mining. He said that they were anticipating more arrests of illegal miners and kingpins behind the operations.

North West is part of the five illegal mining hotspot provinces in the country and the joint committee has now visited all of them.

The committees will deliberate on their observations together with the presentations given and recommend that their report be tabled for adoption by the National Assembly. The visit was concluded in the Mooinooi area in Rustenburg.



**A member of the provincial Hawks team engaging with the portfolio committees’ members.**