




# MY DISTRICT TODAY



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

### Launch of Release Mandela Memories

By Ndyabo Kopo: GCIS, Eastern Cape



Government leaders preparing to go to the main venue for the launch of the Release Mandela Memories.

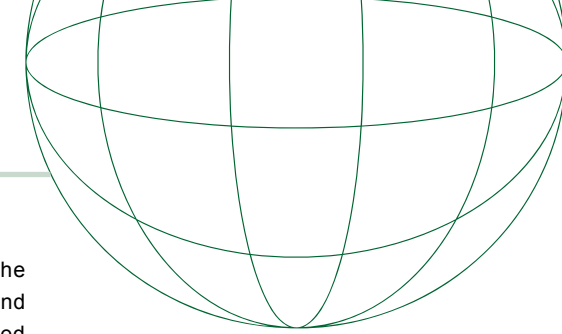
The community of Mthatha and officials from government, business, civil society and the clergy gathered in Nelson Mandela Museum in Mthatha on 10 February 2018 to commemorate the day former President Nelson Mandela was released from prison after serving 27 years. This year marks 28 years since Mandela was released from prison. He was released on 11 February 1990. Upon his release, he was welcomed by hundreds of supporters outside the Victor-Verster Prison and made his way to the Cape Town's City Hall where he addressed a crowd of about 50 000 people.



government  
communications

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





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The Minister of Tourism, Tokozile Xasa, led the gathering and was joined by some members of the then Mandela Reception Committee who relived the memories of the day Madiba was released and preparations that took place few days before 11 February 1990. People listened as speakers shared their experiences and what happened on the day Mandela was released. Members of the 1990 Reception Committee: Saki Macozoma, Hilda Ndude, Whitey Jacobs, Dali Mpofu, Ben Sizani, Rosemerry Sonto and Bulelani Ngcuka attended the programme.

“We want to find a way where we can make South Africa and the Eastern Cape a place of convergence, where people from the international community will visit Qunu as the home of Nelson Mandela,” said Minister Xasa.

“We are launching an initiative here, we want the memories of the release of Mandela to be relived and we want to collect this rich historical moments and put them together and start engaging different sectors of our communities in a form of dialogues,” continued the Minister.

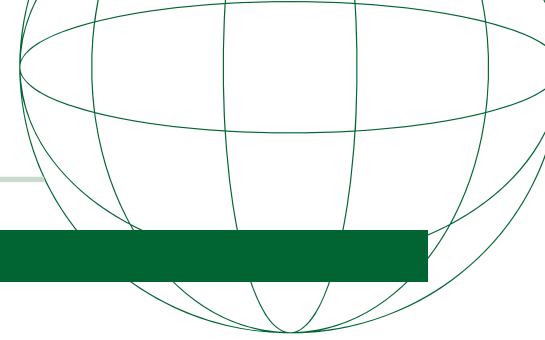
She also announced that her department was in the process of making an App of Mandela, which will have about 100 sites where Madiba has been to.

Ndaba Mandela, grandson to Mandela, encouraged people to unite and appreciate the efforts made by other African countries in ensuring that South Africa achieves freedom. He spoke against xenophobia and encouraged love for one another.



**Some of the people who attended the event.**

**Members of the Mandela Reception Committee.**



**Phokwane Community Library.**



**Phatametsane High School educators said:**  
 “We are very thankful for the much awaited library which is fortunately built next to our school. We would like to appeal to our government to stock enough reading materials in the library which will help both educators and learners.”



**Abednico Mmanaswe said:**  
 “I am in Grade 12 at Phatametsane High School. The availability of this library will help us a lot as it is next to our school, therefore, we can go any time. It will also help us when we do online applications.”

## OUTCOME 1: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION

### MEC unveils new community library

*By Nkopodi Mokgoma: GCIS, Limpopo*



**MEC Onnica Moloi giving a keynote address.**



**Community members who were in attendance.**



**The MEC officially unveils the plaque to mark the official opening of the library.**

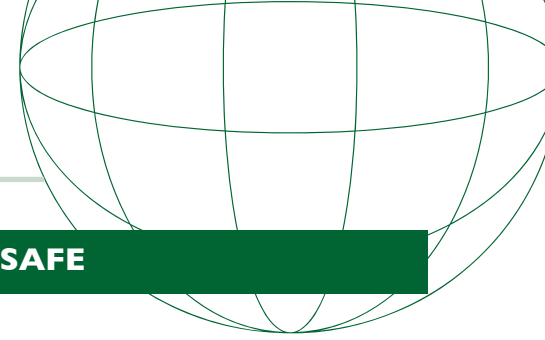
On 30 January 2018, the Limpopo Department of Sports, Arts and Culture officially opened and handed over a new library to the community of Phokwane and the surrounding villages. The event took place at Phokwane, next to the circuit office.

The day’s activities started with a big walk led by the MEC for Sports, Arts and Culture, Onnica Moloi, accompanied by the Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District, the Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality and Kgoshigadi Maserumule, from the royal kraal.

The MEC indicated stated that government was serious about improving the quality of education especially for previously disadvantaged communities.

“We have spent R7,2 million in building this library for our children,” said MEC Moloi to a loud applause from the audience. She further indicated that it was the responsibility of the community as a whole to take care of the library. The MEC also said that she wants to see Sekhukhune District as a hub of historical tourism as the district had great leaders such as King Sekhukhune who fought for the emancipation of the people of South Africa.





**Regional Director of Safety and Liaison, Thapelo Sekia, explaining to people how the whistles should be used.**



**Ilze Samuels said:**

“I think this is a great initiative. There are so many things happening in our communities that we do not even know about. By using these whistles correctly, my neighbours or somebody in the area can immediately hear that somebody is in distress and rush to assist.”



**Marisa Mostert said:**

“This is a wonderful idea. The whistle and the safety it can bring, will be good for our people in rural communities. I hope this campaign will also be rolled out to learners at schools, because they become more vulnerable by the day. It is also great to see the large number of police members here today – that shows that they bought into this venture.”

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

### **Campaign to intensify community safety**

*By Willem van Dalen: GCIS, Northern Cape*

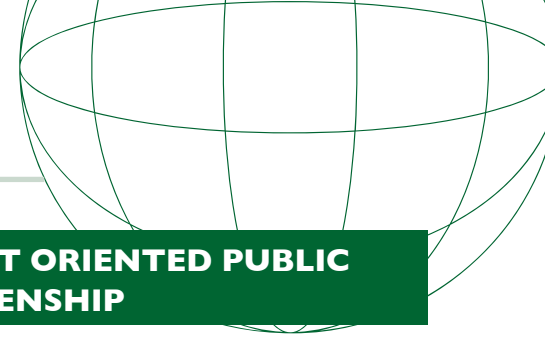


**Speaker Magdalene Groenewald handing out whistles to community members.**



**Young people interacting with a police officer.**

The Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison, South African Police Service, Government Communication and Information System, and Community Policing Forum members and Nama Khoi Local Municipality took to the streets of Springbok on 2 February 2018 in the Namakwa District Municipality to create awareness on safety in communities. This event sought to address the danger of crime and how community members can participate in the prevention of crime. During the event, whistles were handed out to community members and they were also taught how to use them. Flyers containing safety tips were distributed together with other government publications. The speaker of Namakwa District Municipality, Magdalene Groenewald, interacted with the community members during the activation. She handed out the whistles and pamphlets, and advised community members to blow the whistle to deter criminals and call for help.



**Phumlani Xanasi said:**

“The NCRS is a good initiative. I appreciate that it invited people from different provinces in the same field under one roof sharing challenges and ideas. It really brings empowerment to delegates, we are learning and growing.”



**Lindelwa Mbovu said:**

“It was very great as it was my first time to attend the NCRF. I have gained a lot in a short space of time. The matter about Central Supplier Database was helpful. Through the GCIS, we would appreciate the intervention to urge local municipality to support community radios. The training (NCRF) opened our eyes as a platform was created to share information and experiences from other community radio stations.”

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

### Forum to empower community radio stations

By Lehlohonolo Manoto: GCIS, Free State



**Delegates who attended the National Community Radio Forum Workshop.**

South Africa commemorated National Community Radio Week from 12 to 16 February 2018. The National Community Radio Forum (NCRF) celebrated the week by conducting a seminar for community radio stations from all provinces in Bloemfontein. More than 200 delegates attended the workshop and it was confirmed that the number had doubled compared to 2017.

The workshop was divided into four segments namely, Station Manager’s Commission, Finance Commission, Journalism Commission and Marketing Commission. Different topics were discussed and delegates were equipped with different skills to enable them to perform their daily duties.

“All deliverables were carried out well and an engaging and robust roundtable discussion was held on 13 February to discuss the status of community radio in South Africa,” said Thabang Pusoyabone, Media Liaison Officer at NCRF.

The discussions were broadcasted on 66 community radio stations across the country. Community radio stations are not only platforms to entertain listeners but are also mandated to develop, inform and educate them.



**Sechaba Manesa said:**

“The workshop is what I have been looking for. As an individual, I never studied anything in relation to finance. I am so happy and privileged to have attended this workshop.”



**Nomatshawe Bangani said:**

“I think the National Community Radio Week is a great platform to get together as community radio stations around the country to share our views, challenges that we face daily in our different stations, to find corrective measures, rebuild and uplift our stations. My observation is that our challenges as community radio stations are almost similar when it comes to financial affairs and colleagues who do not stay in the field.”