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## PRIORITY 2: REDUCE POVERTY AND TACKLE THE HIGH COST OF LIVING.

### Successful first farm-based Civic Education and Service Delivery session

*By Esmarelda Mckay; GCIS, Western Cape*

On 19 August 2025, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), in collaboration with the District Municipality, government departments and a private partner, hosted an inaugural farm-based Civic Education and Service Delivery session.

The invited government departments provided services and essential information to the community such as consumer rights; grant applications; guidance on cases affecting farm residents, legal services – including affidavits and application support; document certification; and photocopying services. Nedbank, as the sole private partner, assisted community members to open bank accounts.

Gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF) ambassadors were also on site, providing vital support and sharing information about GBVF resources and referral pathways. The GCIS team engaged with attendees to assess their needs. South African Police Service (SAPS) members highlighted safety initiatives and encouraged community members to volunteer as safety guardians.

This integrated, one-stop event was a tremendous success, full of information, civic education and meaningful engagement and the response from attendees was positive. The generous farmers provided the venue for the day that truly uplifted their community. We hope this is the first of many of such impactful engagements.



All the local stakeholders who supported the day.



Ms Wildine Engelbrecht was thrilled to finally apply for her grant. She no longer has to travel long distances to Vredenburg, a trip that previously meant significant travel hardships.

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Mr Sibusiso Sasai and Ms Brenda Ndlovu, from the dtic, engaged with the community to inform them of their consumer rights.



Mr Aydan Huister assisting a community member to open a bank account.



**Ms Milinda Steenberg**  
(GBVF volunteer):

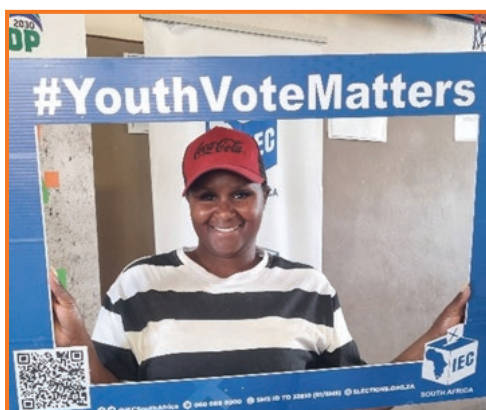
"This was my first visit to this particular farm, and I feel deeply grateful for the opportunity to share crucial information with the women, especially as we continue to celebrate Women's Month."





**Mr Hector Lelaka:**

"I understand that my vote matters, and I will always participate when the need arises for me to cast my vote."



**Ms Matseleng Majola:**

"I learnt a lot today when it comes to voting."

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

### Youth participation matters in elections

*By Tinyiko Molefe; GCIS, Gauteng*

On 19 August 2025, the Government Communication and Information System, in partnership with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), hosted a Voter Education Workshop in Meyerton (Sicelo) as part of civic awareness and education initiatives.

The workshop aimed to raise awareness and engage the youth on election requirements in preparation for the 2026 Local Government Elections. Mr Joseph Letwaba from the IEC emphasised the importance of voting, stating that it allowed citizens to contribute to community leadership and ensure that elected leaders had a mandate from the majority.

The youth was encouraged to participate in the country's democratic processes. Voter registration was also conducted and attendees were taken through the process of updating their information on the Voters' Roll regularly.

The youth were consulted on the electronic voting process, as part of a public consultation process which the IEC is currently running to ensure that communities raised their views on the newly proposed method of voting.

The Gauteng Department of Economic Development shared information on economic development opportunities and reminded the young entrepreneurs to ensure their businesses complied with relevant requirements.



Mr Ledwaba engaging young people during the Voter Education Workshop.



Community members listening to presentations by stakeholders.

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

### Emalahleni unites in prayer to mark Women's Month

*By Zwanga Matsila; GCIS, Mpumalanga*

In a powerful display of unity and spiritual reflection, Emalahleni Local Municipality marked Women's Month through a Prayer Day hosted by the Speaker, Cllr Millicent Shabangu. The event was held at the Municipal Banquet Hall on 6 August 2025, under the theme: "Building Resilient Economies for All". The gathering brought together spiritual leaders from various faith groups, community members and government leaders to confront the social challenges affecting the municipality.

The purpose of the day focused on calling for divine intervention to address drug and substance abuse; gender-based violence and femicide; and the need for peace, unity and wise leadership within the community.

In his opening address, Executive Mayor, Cllr Vusi Nhlapho, delivered a message of urgency and hope. Quoting 2 Chronicles 7:14, he encouraged residents to humble themselves and pray, turn to God to heal their land and restore safety and dignity in Emalahleni; highlighting growing concern over killings, violence and moral decay.

The Deputy Minister of Correctional Services, Ms Lindiwe Ntshalitshali, delivered a heartfelt appeal to the community to go back to their roots. She emphasised the importance of moral regeneration and restoring Emalahleni to its "original state" - a place of pride, safety and shared values. Her call to action was a tribute to the courageous women of 1956, whose historic march for freedom continues to inspire new generations.

This Women's Month Prayer Day not only highlighted the challenges facing Emalahleni, but also reaffirmed the role of faith, leadership and community solidarity in overcoming adversity and building a safer, more compassionate society.



Deputy Minister Ntshalitshali, delivering her key message and facilitating the candlelight session.



Some of the participants attending the prayer session.



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

### G20 activation and Youth Dialogue

By Thulaganyo Gaserotse; GCIS, North-West

On 29 August 2025, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) hosted a Group of Twenty (G20) activation and Youth Engagement Dialogue at the Vuselela Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College, Taung Campus. The event was made possible through collaborative efforts by the college, Greater Taung Local Municipality, National Youth Development Agency, Department of Trade Industry and Competition, Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC), Dr Ruth Segomosti Mompoti District Municipality, Harambee Youth Service, Small Enterprise Finance Agency, Old Mutual, Independent Communications Authority of South Africa and the Department of Employment and Labour (DEL).

The dialogue centred around celebrating Women's Month, women's empowerment and how South Africa will further G20 efforts to promote women's participation and representation in leadership, governance, decision-making, as well as ownership and control. As part of pre-dialogue activities, students visited the exhibition stalls, with 120 students seizing the chance to register as new voters. Learners from nearby schools were also invited to explore the exhibition stalls. The GCIS facilitated an outside broadcast with Vaaltar FM, providing stakeholders with opportunities to do live interviews. The dialogue excited students, who learnt about the role of G20 and its impact.



Vuselela TVET College Taung Campus Manager, Mr Mawela welcoming everyone to the dialogue.



Ms Sibayoni outlining the role of the G20.



Students answering questions on the G20 during an interactive session.



Students visiting various exhibition stalls.



Dr Thiba from the IEC being interviewed by Vaaltar FM.



**Mogomotsi Mopedi (student):**

"I am currently studying Public Management. In one of our exam papers I was asked about G20 and I had no clue about it. Today's dialogue really assisted me in understanding what G20 is and how does it affect me."



**Remofilwe Gaboiswe (SRC member):**

"GCIS really assisted us today with the dialogue and also brought departments to share information with us, and I managed to also register my CV with the DEL."



**Neo Mothibedi (student):**

"Today I learnt what G20 is and what it means, especially for women's empowerment."