



MYDISTRICTTODAY



A **NATION** THAT **WORKS** FOR ALL

Issue no. 28: August 2026

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

Nandipa Sondati-Thawa (Acting)
043 722 2609 or 072 611 3990
nandipa@gcis.gov.za

FREE STATE

Mthunzi Mkhungo (Acting)
051 448 4505 or 064 545 1185
mthunzi@gcis.gov.za

GAUTENG

Senzeni Ngubane (Acting)
012 473 0402 or 065 595 5203
senzeni@gcis.gov.za

KWAZULU-NATAL

Ndala Mngadi
031 301 6787 or 082 877 9420
ndala@gcis.gov.za

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

TVET College students participate in SADC and voter registration dialogue

By Olebogeng Stephen Moseki; GCIS, Northern Cape

On 21 July 2026, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), in collaboration with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), Northern Cape Provincial Legislature (NCPL) and Northern Cape Rural Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College, hosted a dialogue with students at the college campus in Okiep, Springbok.

The dialogue focused on South Africa's upcoming Chairship of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the importance of regional integration in creating opportunities for young people and the Local Government Elections (LGEs) voter registration weekend scheduled for 1 and 2 August 2026.

Presenting on behalf of the NCPL, Mr Ticci Zweni, outlined the SADC mandate and South Africa's responsibilities during the country's term as Chair of the regional body. He highlighted the opportunities that regional cooperation created for young people, particularly in the Northern Cape, which shares

borders with Namibia and Botswana. These include trade and export opportunities, student exchange programmes and employment prospects within the region.

The IEC encouraged students to register to vote and participate in the upcoming LGEs. Voter registration and verification services were provided on campus.

The voter education message was reinforced through *Democracy on Stage – Khetani*, an IEC voter education theatre production directed by Mr Modibe Modiba. The performance used edutainment to promote democracy, civic participation and the importance of voter registration.

The dialogue forms part of the GCIS's ongoing Public Education Programme to raise awareness, keep citizens informed and encourage active citizen participation. South Africa assumes Chairship of the SADC in August 2026.



Mr Zweni from the NCPL presents on the SADC and South Africa's upcoming Chairship during the dialogue.



IEC officials assist students with voter verification and registration at the Northern Cape Rural TVET College.



Democracy on Stage – Khetani, an IEC voter education theatre production, delivers a performance during the dialogue.



government
communications

Department:
Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



LIMPOPO

Thanyani Ravhura
015 291 4689 or 082 421 3461
thanyani@gcis.gov.za

MPUMALANGA

Hlengiwe Nhlabathi-Mokota
013 753 2397 or 084 708 4214
hlengiweh@gcis.gov.za

NORTH WEST

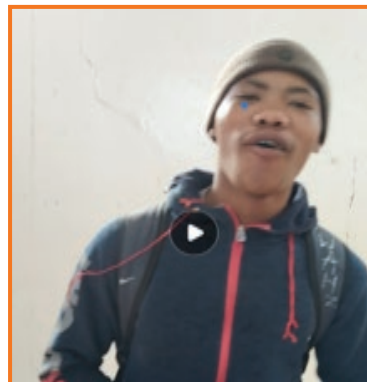
Boitumelo Mosadi
018 381 7071 or 073 245 0906
boitumelom@gcis.gov.za

NORTHERN CAPE

Ofentse Moeti
053 832 1378/9 or 084 390 4330
Ofentse@gcis.gov.za

WESTERN CAPE

Geraldine Thopps
021 418 0533/2307 or 081 281 2200
Geraldine@gcis.gov.za



Mr Simphiwe Dumuzana:

"The programme was interesting. It taught us about our rights and responsibilities and showed us that we are responsible for contributing to the development of our country," said Simphiwe Dumuzana, a student at the Northern Cape Rural TVET College."



Ms Renee Kivido:

"I have a better understanding of the legislature because of the presentation, and yes, I will be voting."



Ms Betty Mofokeng:

"The session helped me understand how Parliament works, the three arms of the State and the roles of the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces. I'm glad I attended the session, and I will share what I learnt with others."



Ms Zintos Mofokeng:

"The session was informative. I learnt how laws are made and why voting is important in a democracy. We need more sessions like this in our community, especially to empower young people."

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

Parliamentary education session equips the youth with civic knowledge

By Phoka Mofokeng; GCIS, Free State

On 27 July 2026, the Parliament of South Africa through its Public Education Office, collaborated with the AGAPE Foundation for Community Development to host an educational session on democracy for young people at the AGAPE premises in Makwane.

The session equipped participants with information on Parliament, the legislative process and the importance of active citizen participation. The session was facilitated by Ms Pulane Mahlasela and Ms Lucy Stock from Parliament's Public Education Office.

The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), was also present for the session. Officials encouraged young people to register and vote, explained the electoral process and outlined the different ways they could participate in democracy. The IEC also shared information on temporary employment opportunities available during elections.

Parliament officials explained the roles of the three arms of the State and how they worked together. They highlighted that Parliament was responsible for making laws; the Executive implements laws and government policies; and the Judiciary interprets the law and ensures that both Parliament and the Executive act in line with the Constitution of South Africa of 1996.

Participants also learnt how legislation was passed. Officials explained that before a Bill becomes law, Parliament invites members of the public to submit comments and participate in public hearings, allowing citizens to contribute to the legislative process.

The session ended with information on career and graduate opportunities in Parliament, including guidance on how young people could apply. The engagement encouraged participants to become informed, active citizens who contribute meaningfully to South Africa's democracy.



Young people from Makwane attend Parliament's democratic education session at the AGAPE Foundation for Community Development in Makwane.



Ms Stock from Parliament explains Parliamentary processes during the democratic education session.



Mr Tladi Moloi from the IEC speaks to young people about the importance of voting and democracy.

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

GCIS promotes community pride through “Love Your Street” activation

By Nontuthuko Ngubane; GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in the King Cetshwayo District hosted a “Love Your Street” community activation at Port Durnford Park, Esikhawini on 9 July 2026.

The activation encouraged residents to take pride in their community by promoting a cleaner environment, supporting greening efforts and service delivery.

GCIS partnered with Ward Cllr Kwazikwenkosi Selby Dlamini, Community Work Programme (CWP), Community Development Workers (CDWs), ward committees, Thusong Service Centre employees and other stakeholders to clean the area.

Participants cleaned the park and surrounding areas; there was also distribution of South African flags to community members to promote

patriotism and encourage them to take pride in keeping their neighbourhoods clean.

Cllr Dlamini welcomed the initiative and encouraged the community to continue working together to maintain clean and safe public spaces.

“This was a great initiative because it encourages people to take responsibility for keeping their areas clean. As we walked around, community members asked what we were doing and wanted to join us. It shows that when government takes the lead in improving communities, people are willing to get involved. I commend GCIS for the campaign, and I hope it becomes a regular community initiative,” he said.



Cllr Dlamini, CWP participants, CDWs and Thusong Service Centre employees participate in the Love Your Street activation at Port Durnford Park in Esikhawini.



GCIS official, Ms Nontuthuko Ngubane, took part in the Love Your Street activation with other stakeholders.



Participants collect waste as part of efforts to promote a cleaner and greener community.



GCIS officials did their part in assisting to clean up the area during the activation.



A community member receives a copy of *iNkezo Yolwazi*, a GCIS newspaper, distributed at the activation.

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

GCIS partners with Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality in clean-up campaign

By Reki Skosana; GCIS, Mpumalanga

As part of Mandela Month activities, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality and the Community Work Programme conducted a community cleaning activation in Phake village on 9 July 2026.

The activation promoted civic responsibility, community ownership and active citizen participation in creating a clean and safe environment.

Community members cleaned the streets throughout the village, maintained the public park and the Phake agricultural site. The collaborative effort contributed to improving public spaces and a sustainable environment for residents.

During the activation, GCIS distributed *Linoni Lesive* newsletters to participants and community members to raise awareness of government programmes, services and development initiatives.

The initiative reflects government's commitment to working with municipalities, community structures and local partners to improve communities through active participation and service. It also encouraged residents to honour the legacy of former President Nelson Mandela by participating in meaningful acts of service.

The GCIS and its partners, continues to support community-based programmes that strengthen service delivery, promote social cohesion and improve the well-being of communities.



Community members clean up the streets in Phake Village, Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality.



Community members and participants hold copies of *Linoni Lesive* newsletters during the community clean-up activation in Phake Village.



Ms Dikeledi Manota:

"We are cleaning the street and cutting trees. I want to discourage people from littering and dumping refuse everywhere. I encourage other communities to follow what we are doing so that we can keep our environment clean."



Ms Vilonia Mphela:

"We are picking up papers, raking and disposing of waste. We encourage our communities to work together. There should be refuse bins in the streets so that we can dispose of waste properly instead of dumping it anywhere. We are happy today because of the cooperation and teamwork among community members. When streets are dirty, different illnesses can emerge, affecting our health and the health of our children."