



MYDISTRICTTODAY



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

Issue no. 35: September 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

Nomhle Sibanyoni (Acting)
011 331 0164 or 076 249 6853
nomhle@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.

Women's Month commemoration

By Nkopodi Mokgoma; GCIS, Limpopo

On 31 August 2026, the Department of Social Development, in partnership with the Sekhukhune District Municipality and Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality, hosted the Women's Month commemoration at Dichoeung Community Hall in Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality. Kgoshi Lehwelere Matlala opened the event with a welcome address, in which he thanked the department for choosing his community to host the closing of Women's Month with dignity.

The keynote address was delivered by the Mayor of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality, Cllr Given Moimane, on behalf of the MEC for Social Development, Ms Florence Radzilani. Cllr Moimane thanked the women of Dichoeung for participating in a day of reflection on the contribution made

by the women of 1956 in the struggle for the rights of South African women. He said that, despite the courage shown by women in the past, much work still needed to be done.

"There is still a lot of unemployment and poverty, which mostly affect women, especially those in rural areas," said Cllr Moimane.

The following institutions and individuals gave messages of support: the Commission for Gender Equality; Ms Tryphina Mokgokong from the Limpopo Liquor Board; and Mr Takalani Phephi, a clinical psychologist from Matlala Hospital.



Some of the women in attendance.



Mayor Moimane delivers the keynote address.



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

Gaynor Marshall-Simons (Acting)
011 331 0164 or 082 870 9805
gaynor@gcis.gov.za



Mr Lesley Mogale from the Commission for Gender Equality addresses participants.



Exhibitors at the commemoration.



Ms Mahlatse Bapela:
"I am happy to be here celebrating Women's Month with other women from our area. Government should help by providing jobs for women and supporting our non-profit organisations."



Ms Rebotile Makgopa:
"Women should be celebrated throughout the year, as they do a lot for their families and support their children with the little they have."

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

KZN Premier Thamsanqa Ntuli leads cabinet OSS Day in uMzinyathi

By Thandinkosi Zulu; GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Premier Thamsanqa Ntuli led Members of the Executive Council (MECs) to the uMzinyathi District Municipality on 26 August 2026 for an Operation Sukuma Sakhe (OSS) Cabinet Day. The visit reaffirmed the provincial government's commitment to listening to communities, strengthening accountability and improving service delivery.

The OSS Cabinet Day is a flagship provincial programme that takes the Executive directly to communities. It creates an opportunity for residents to raise their concerns and helps government to respond more quickly and effectively to local needs. A key moment of the uMzinyathi OSS and District Development Model (DDM) Cabinet Imbizo was the launch of a connectivity tower at Esifuleni in Pomeroy. Premier Ntuli unveiled the infrastructure as part of the province's efforts to close the digital divide and bring reliable connectivity closer to rural communities.

For residents, better network coverage can make everyday life easier. It creates access to digital government services, online learning, information, communication and economic opportunities. It can also help local businesses, learners and young people to participate more fully in the digital economy.

The project reflects the provincial government's broader commitment to tackling infrastructure inequalities and ensuring that people in rural areas are not left behind as KZN advances its digital transformation.

The Cabinet Day concluded with a community gathering at the Pomeroy Sports Ground, where residents engaged directly with provincial leaders on service-delivery priorities and other matters affecting the district.



Premier Ntuli and MECs attend the DDM Imbizo in Pomeroy.

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

Women SMME roadshow empowers entrepreneurs in Chief Albert Luthuli Municipality

By Bongani Mazibuko; GCIS, Mpumalanga

On 21 August 2026, the Gert Sibande District Municipality, through its Department of Planning, Economic Development and Innovation, hosted a women's small, medium and micro enterprise (SMME) roadshow at Nhlanzatshe 2 Community Hall in the Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality.

The initiative sought to strengthen support for women-owned enterprises, connect rural women entrepreneurs to economic opportunities and promote local enterprise development as a catalyst for inclusive economic growth within the district. Persons with disabilities were also encouraged to take advantage of business opportunities and funding programmes presented by government institutions across all three spheres of government.

The roadshow brought together key stakeholders, including the Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA), National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality, Gert Sibande House of Traditional and Khoi-San Leaders and other development partners. These organisations shared valuable information, support services and business opportunities aimed at enabling women-owned SMMEs to expand and participate meaningfully in the local economy.

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) encouraged aspiring entrepreneurs and existing SMMEs to explore funding and support opportunities available through various institutions. They were urged to visit the websites of organisations such as the National Empowerment Fund, Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency, Industrial Development Corporation, NYDA, Premiers

Youth Development Fund and other business-funding agencies that were not represented at the event.

The roadshow reaffirmed the commitment of government and its partners to empowering women entrepreneurs, promoting economic inclusion and creating a supportive environment for sustainable business growth across the Gert Sibande District.



Ms Marcia Sithole from the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development and Tourism (DEDET) making her presentation on funding programmes accessible through DEDET.



SEDFA representatives delivering a presentation on funding programmes accessible through SEDFA.

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

GCIS Women's Month seminar empowers women in Cape Winelands

By Peter Titus; GCIS, Western Cape

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), as part of its Women's Month programme, hosted an informative and empowering seminar for women at the Cape Winelands District Municipality on 26 August 2026. The seminar aimed to provide women with valuable information on business opportunities, business registration and the Central Supplier Database, as well as the process of registering and effectively managing a non-profit organisation.

Various government departments and stakeholders provided participants with practical guidance during the seminar. Ms Khaylene Booth from the Department of Social Development provided information on funding opportunities and the requirements organisations must meet when applying for funding. Mr Lerato Ndingi, Local Economic Development (LED) Officer from Breede Valley Municipality (BVM), spoke extensively about small business development and the role of municipalities in promoting local economic development. He encouraged women to organise themselves and become part of the Small Business Forum, which operates within the BVM.

Ms Prudence January, the LED Manager of the Cape Winelands District Municipality, highlighted the municipality's role and functions in supporting businesses. She also explained how local businesses can access available support services. Health compliance was another important topic addressed during the seminar. Mr Ludwick Makua, a health inspector at the Cape Winelands District Municipality,

explained the application process for a Certificate of Acceptability. He also provided practical guidance on the steps that businesses need to follow to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and health requirements.

The Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA) provided support and information to prospective and existing small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) seeking to start a business or register their businesses and business entities. Mr Peter Titus, GCIS Regional Communication Coordinator in the Cape Winelands District, facilitated the seminar. He emphasised government's commitment to creating an enabling environment in which SMMEs can grow and thrive. "It is important that women have access to the necessary information, support and opportunities to become economically empowered," he said.

The seminar provided women with an important platform to engage directly with government departments and other stakeholders, ask questions and gain knowledge about the various support systems available to them. The event once again highlighted the importance of collaboration between government, municipalities and the business community in empowering women and promoting greater economic participation within local communities.



Cape Winelands LED Manager Ms Prudence January engages participants on the support provided by the district municipality, including annual seed funding for start-ups.



Mr Makua explains how catering businesses can apply for a Certificate of Acceptability.



Mr Lerato Ndingi from the BVM LED section explains the local municipality supports small businesses.