



MYDISTRICTTODAY



Issue no. 39: October 2025

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PRIORITY I: DRIVE INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND JOB CREATION.

Promoting road safety and empowering informal traders

By Tshidi Mokoka and Moloko Segale; GCIS, Gauteng

On 10 October 2025, the Westonaria taxi rank hosted a crucial Transport Month Awareness Programme organised by the South African National Taxi Council (SANTACO). The event's purpose was multifaceted, with the main focus being on empowering communities through integrated support initiatives, promote transport safety professional standards, ensure safer transportation systems, implementation of safety standards, reduction of accidents and enhancing the overall safety of road users.

During his address, Mr John Dikoena Nthonyana from SANTACO said, "The aim of this programme is to empower people and assure them that road safety is important to us. By partnering with other stakeholders, we educate about road safety and empower informal traders operating at our taxi ranks."

In addition to transport safety, the programme also targeted informal traders, providing them with business support initiatives to enhance economic opportunities. The initiatives included business skills development,

market access facilitation, financial support and resources. By empowering informal traders, the programme is expected to contribute to growth of the local economy and development. The event was a collaborative effort between various stakeholders, including the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), Gauteng Roads and Transport, Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs and the Rand West City Local Municipality. Other stakeholders in attendance included the Gauteng Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation, Rand West Public Safety, South African Police Service, AfriMoola, Mtombeka Clinic and the Thuso Phala Foundation.

This joint effort demonstrates the commitment of these organisations to promote transport safety, unity and economic empowerment in the community. By working together, the organisations aim to create a safer and more prosperous environment for all. The programme will be taken to other taxi ranks in the Westrand, with upcoming events scheduled at Carletonville and Krugersdorp taxi ranks.



Ms Moloko Segale from GCIS and members of SANTACO share information with community members and taxi drivers in Westonaria.



Mr Clement Mohlala from Westrand District Municipality together with Ms Segale engaging with commuters at the rank.



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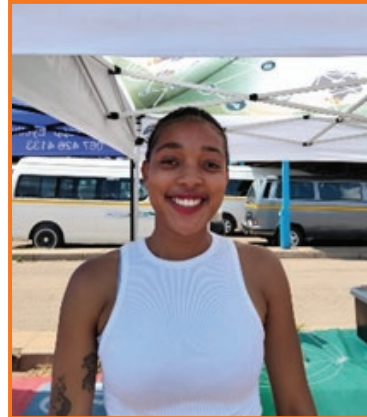
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Ms Tshiamo Moleke said:

"I appreciate the work that SANTACO is doing, together with all these stakeholders to create awareness on Transport Month. They don't only consider taxi drivers and commuters, but also informal traders, where they are provided with information on empowerment."



Ms Mmabatho Piliso said:

"It's a good thing to see people in the taxi industry taking a lead in creating awareness about road safety. As a member of the community who uses public transport, it eases my mind when taxi drivers are eager to keep us safe on the road."



Ms Gloria Machona:

"We are here as community members to access medical services from the train because it provides free and quick healthcare."



Mr Steve Morris:

"I came all the way from Ritchie because we can access all healthcare services for free from the train."

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

Transnet Phelophepa Healthcare Train arrives in Kimberley

Kgomotso Sentso, Mpho More and Tesah Gavhi; GCIS, Northern Cape

The Transnet Phelophepa Healthcare Train arrived at the Kimberley Train Station in the Francis Baard District, to be stationed there from 8 to 26 September 2025. The purpose of the train is to offer quality medical care to all South Africans, especially those in rural areas. It is a fully equipped healthcare clinic on rail with medical professionals that provide free general health checks, dental, eyecare and counselling services.

Manager of the Phelophepa Train, Dr Thabiso Manamela, commended the attendance by the community. He said, "From day one the patients came in numbers. This indicated that there is a huge need for services that the healthcare train provides."

Mr Kgosietsile Sekgoro, a community member from Galeshewe, expressed his satisfaction with the services he received from the train, especially at the eye clinic, where he managed to get brand new spectacles. Other patients also expressed their gratitude for the arrival of the train; however, they shared sentiments that the elderly should be assisted first to avoid them sitting for long hours in the queue.

Information leaflets about the G20 and food safety tips were distributed to the patients.



Healthcare professionals providing medical services to patients.



Government Communication and Information System officials distributing information leaflets.

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

Balancing education and global objectives through G20

By Eunice Nkuna; GCIS, Limpopo

On the 26 September 2025, the Muti-wa-VaTsonga Museum recently hosted a unique event that celebrated South Africa's Heritage Day and the country's presidency to the Group of Twenty (G20), a global forum for major economies. This event brought together learners from Readers Academy Private School, providing them with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of South Africa's role within the G20 and its benefits to the country, while the Heritage Day celebrations served as a reminder of the importance of embracing our diverse cultural heritage while engaging with global issues.

The Muti-wa-Vatsonga Museum, meaning "heritage of the Tsonga people", is a cultural gem that showcases the traditions, customs and lifestyle of the Tsonga community. With its life-sized replicas of traditional Tsonga homesteads, the museum offers a glimpse into the lives of the tribe, their architectural styles and artistic expressions. Visitors can experience the vibrant culture through traditional dance and music performances, workshops on beadwork, pottery, woodcarving and cooking demonstrations featuring traditional cuisine.

This initiative also aimed to empower learners through inclusive dialogues on global policy, education and development. By engaging with G20 objectives and exploring how they intersected with basic

education, learners gained a deeper understanding of the complexities of global issues and their role in shaping the future in an increasingly interconnected world.

By combining cultural education with global awareness, this event provided learners with a unique perspective on the world and their place in it. As South Africa continues to navigate its role in the global community, initiatives like this will play a crucial role in shaping the next generation of leaders and citizens.

The G20 is a global forum that brings together the world's leading economies to discuss pressing issues such as economic stability, climate change and sustainable development. South Africa's membership in the G20 provides the country with a platform to engage with other major economies, share experiences and learn from best practices. By participating in G20 events and initiatives, South Africa can leverage global expertise and resources to address its development challenges.



Teachers of Readers Academy Private School interacting with learners during the G20 presentation at Muti-wa-VaTsonga picnic site.



Learners of Readers Academy during the Muti-wa-Vatsonga Museum tour.



Officials from the Government Communication and Information System, Mr Thanyani Netshikweta and Ms Eunice Nkuna, participating in the G20 Dialogue with learners of Readers Academy.



Principal of Readers Academy, Ms Mathebula Jeanet:

"I am overwhelmed and so grateful to GCIS for making this opportunity for our learners and teachers. We thought G20 has got nothing to do with us as community members, but we have learned a lot."

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

Transnet Pipelines and NYDA launch Youth Business Empowerment Programme in Ulundi

By Zodwa Mpunzana; GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

Transnet Pipelines, in partnership with the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) and the Ulundi Local Municipality, launched a programme aimed at empowering young people through business development on 19 September 2025. The event, held at KwaMbambo Community Hall, focused on raising awareness among the youth about available economic opportunities at national government level.

Dr Wiseman Mbatha, an executive board member of the NYDA, emphasised that the objective of the programme was to demonstrate youth development impact through practical programmes such as entrepreneurship training, skills development, job placement and to capitalise on the energy sector. As part of the programme, 40 students who had successfully completed Business Management training through the NYDA were awarded certificates. Ms Hloniphile Mkhize, one of the beneficiaries of the training, expressed her gratitude: “We are thankful for the opportunity to gain practical knowledge

about starting businesses. We feel empowered to start our own enterprises and create job opportunities within our communities.”

The initiative was to provide young people with a strong foundation to start, manage and sustain their own businesses, equipping them with practical skills for economic participation. The programme also underscored the importance of building strong partnerships between the municipality, the NYDA, Transnet Pipelines and other government institutions. Participants were also guided on opportunities within Transnet’s procurement system and how to engage with its value chain effectively. Mr Sibongiseni Khathi, Chief Executive Officer of Transnet Pipelines, highlighted that the initiative fostered unity and collaboration among stakeholders and communities. He stated that the programme presented a valuable opportunity for young people to become contributors to the country’s economy.



The delegation from NYDA, Transnet, Zululand District Municipality, Ulundi Local Municipality and the 40 youth participants who were awarded Business Management certificates.



Transnet Pipelines and NYDA Management awarded a certificate to Mr Nhlanhla Shibe, NYDA Provincial Manager.



Mr Zamani Mncwabe:

“It has been a great opportunity for me to participate in this Business Management training. Through this training, I have learnt different techniques that will assist me to market my business. I am grateful for this partnership between NYDA and Transnet.”



Ms Hloniphile Mkhize:

“I was fortunate to participate in the business training, which I am very thankful for. As the rate of unemployment is so high, we can now explore starting our own businesses, as we now have insight and have been capacitated with business knowledge and skills. I am interested in starting a catering business; I feel it will be beneficial to my community. I hope to inspire other aspiring youth who wish to go into business.”