



# MYDISTRICTTODAY



# STAY SAFE

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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## PRIORITY 3: CONSOLIDATING THE SOCIAL WAGE THROUGH RELIABLE AND QUALITY BASIC SERVICES.

### Communicators strengthen the communication system

By Ndyebo Kopo: GCIS, Eastern Cape

President Cyril Ramaphosa in his State of the Nation Address, reflected on various things, among them, he pointed out clearly on some of the inefficiencies and shortcomings of the local government sphere in delivering services to the people. This is in view of the fact that local government is a sphere closest to the people and at the coalface of service delivery.

It is in realisation of this fundamental fact that Alfred Nzo District Communicators, from all four local municipalities that constitute this district, gathered in Matatiele in a two-day communicators retreat on 16 – 17 March 2023. The strategic purpose of the retreat was to take stock on progress achieved and not achieved since the inaugural communicators retreat held at Port St Johns in 2021 post the 2021 Local Government Elections.

Importantly, the retreat sought to come up with fresh ideas and innovations on how to propel the government communication machinery to serve

people of Alfred Nzo District better. The discussions centred around the need for communicators to be agile and respond effectively and efficiently to the communication needs of today, how to influence the whole of government in Alfred Nzo District to be more proactive and developmental in its business.

In setting the scene for the retreat, Government Communication and Information System Eastern Cape Provincial Director Ndlelantle Pinyana, presented the reviewed National Communication Strategy Framework of 2019 – 2024.

“Colleagues we need to be a government communication machinery that communicates a message that is believable, using relevant communication platforms for the targeted audience,” said Pinyana. The outcomes of the retreat will form part of the communication action plan, which will serve as a framework for all municipalities in Alfred Nzo District.



Alfred Nzo District communicators during the communicators retreat in Matatiele.



government communications

Department: Government Communication and Information System  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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### COVID-19 vaccine registration details for 12-year-olds and above:

Online at:  
<https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/>  
Send the word **REGISTER** to 0600 123 456 on WhatsApp.  
Via SMS by dialling \*134\*832#.  
Call the COVID-19 hotline 0800 029 999.

## PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

### Education awareness campaign in Upington

By Lecrecia Prins: GCIS, Northern Cape

The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the dtic), together with the Government Communication and Information System ZF Mgcawu District, facilitated an education and awareness campaign in Upington, on 9 March 2023. The aim of the campaign was to educate members of the community about their rights and responsibilities concerning the department's various legislations, as part of Human Rights Month activities.

Presentations were done on acts governing liquor, lotteries, gambling and credit Acts. Kegomoditswe Mbiza from the dtic, encouraged members of the community to verify the prices of the items they pay for, with the actual prices indicated on the shelves.

"When you buy at a store, you have the right to ask for a receipt, and if something you bought is broken or rotten, you have the right to return it. You can either ask for the item to be exchanged or ask for your money back, even if that item is a month old," she explained.

Also present at the event, was the representative of the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC), Buyisile July, who shared information about how one can lodge a complaint when one's rights have been infringed.

"It is not only the person whose rights are being violated that can lay a complaint at the SAHRC. If you, as a community member, see that someone's rights are being violated, you can also lodge a complaint on behalf of that person," he said.

July concluded by explaining the processes involved with complaints and the investigations thereof, and encouraged residents to visit their offices.



Kegomoditswe Mbiza speaking to community members.



Lecrecia Prins engaging with community members.

## PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

### Consumer rights empowerment session

By Reki Skosana: GCIS, Mpumalanga

On 17 March 2023, Government Communication and Information System collaborated with Thembisile Hani Local Municipality, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism and the Department of Basic Education to conduct a school activation focused on creating awareness on the rights of consumers. Learners were empowered with information on the rights and responsibilities of consumers.

Consumers were reminded to always be on the alert against scammers, particularly when buying goods on the Internet. Learners were encouraged to transact with authentic and reputable dealership when dealing with high purchases. Government information and promotional material were distributed to those who had attended the event.

An official from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism said: "Everyone can come across some challenge when buying, therefore always remember that you have a right to choose, a right to information, a right to receive safe products, right to be heard and to be listened to."

He also encouraged learners to read in their own languages because some of the booklets that were distributed were written in local languages. Learners welcomed the information shared with them with both hands and also indicated that some of the information they got during the event was new and very important because everyone is a consumer.



#### Minenhle Mabizela said:

"Today's event was very good because they taught us about many things we did not know. We learnt about our rights as consumers, which we knew nothing about. We are going to share this information with our friends and family members."



Learners who attended the school activation.

## PRIORITY 5: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

### Provincial Human Rights Month Imbizo

By Jethro Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape

The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development hosted the Provincial Human Rights Month Imbizo at Oudtshoorn Thusong Service Centre, under the theme: “Consolidating and Sustaining Human Rights culture into the future”. More than 350 members of the community attended the Imbizo on 17 March 2023. The Government Communication and Information System provided overall project management and communication support.

Community members were able to access various human rights information and government services during the campaign. The Department of Employment and Labour had an information table where they shared workers’ rights information materials. Other stakeholders such as the South African Police Services, National Prosecuting Authority, Legal Aid, Department of Correctional Services, and Association for Persons living with Disabilities also had information stalls.

Child Welfare, engaged the public on social welfare issues and an official from the Human Rights Commission presented the keynote address, giving in-depth information on the Bill of Rights as enshrined in the Constitution, while representatives from the other stakeholders delivered speeches on human rights. The GCIS disseminated the March 2023 edition of *Vuk’uzenzele*, information on anti-corruption, Gender-Based Violence, measles, cervical cancer and NARYSEC information products.



Some of the stakeholders and community members who attended the event.