



MYDISTRICTTODAY



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VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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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

Ndlelantle Pinyana
043 722 2602 or 076 142 8606
ndlelantle@gcis.gov.za

FREE STATE

Yolisa Blom
051 448 4506 or 072 130 9893
yolisa@gcis.gov.za

GAUTENG

Peter Gumede
011 331 0164 or 083 570 8080
peterg@gcis.gov.za

KWAZULU-NATAL

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

PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Agricultural equipment for small-scale farmers

By Esmarelda Mckay: GCIS, Western Cape

The Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Thoko Didiza, handed over agricultural equipment to the Thembelihle small-scale farmers in Saldanha Bay, West Coast District, on 13 August 2022. The farmers received infrastructure support of R6 374 618. 39 from the department.

The fully functional cooperative leases 112 hectares of land from the Saldanha Bay Local Municipality and the farmers have received support in the form of fencing material, a kraal and a handling facility.

Water being the most important component of farming, the cooperative also received water tanks and diesel generators.

To complement everything and to ensure that the cooperative takes care of what it has received, it was also given office space and storage in the form of containers.

The Economic Development, Trade and Marketing branch of the department also facilitated the purchase of a bakkie and cattle trailer. This is for the farming activities centred around goats, pigs, cattle, poultry and vegetables.



A bakkie that was donated to the trustees of Thembelihle small-scale farmers.



A herd of goats owned by the Thembelihle small-scale farmers.



**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

Jerry Nkosi
013 753 2397 or 082 316 5295
Jerry@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

COVID-19 vaccine registration details for 18-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 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Session empowers women

By Joy Themba: GCIS, Mpumalanga

The Government Communication and Information System supported the Women's Month closing event held by the Commission for Gender Equality and South African National Parks (SANParks) at Kruger National Park on 31 August 2022.

In her opening remarks, Helen Mmethi from SANParks said, "We are very proud that women from around the Kruger National Park have shown love and care for the women in the park, by taking their time to come and celebrate this important day with us."

This event paid tribute to all the women who lost their lives due to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Femicide (GBVF) and those who are survivors of GBV.

Women were encouraged to speak out and to stand strong in bringing forward the victims of GBV.

Women must support one another and avoid stigmatising abuse. Every abuse should be reported to the police as soon as possible.

Discussion during the event also focused on the protection of children in society.

"We should work together in order to conquer any form of abuse against vulnerable groups. We need to refrain from hiding child abuse in the name of cultural beliefs because that is silently killing our children," said Mpilo Malebye from the Commission for Gender Equality.

Speaking for the Mpumalanga Office of the Premier, Special Programmes Director Nandi Shongwe urged every woman to take the information shared to their homes, workplace and to society at large.

She said abuse needs to be reported immediately to the police before it gets out of hand.

During the motivational talk, Thuli Lubisi encouraged women in line with this year's Women's Month theme: "Women's Socio-Economic Rights and Empowerment: Building Back Better for Women's Improved Resilience" not to look down on themselves but pursue every business dream they have.



Women who attended the event.



Thuli Lubisi engaging with the women during the event.



Monalisa Sibande said:

"Today I was refreshed and motivated as a woman in the parks. I now understand that there is no job written for men only, but I have to boost my confidence and pursue careers in male-dominated spheres."



Sue-Ellen Mnguni said:

"I am a woman with a great passion in business development. I, therefore, took time to come and interact with other women. Thuli Lubisi opened my eyes, from now onwards, I will interact with positive business people to grasp every information."



Rosinah Baloi said:

"We are very happy about the presence of Minister Aaron Motsoaledi here. We hope most of our problems will be solved."



Sarah Matlala said:

"We usually travel long distances to get service in Groblersdal. Today we are receiving all the services at once."

PRIORITY 4: CONSOLIDATING THE SOCIAL WAGE THROUGH RELIABLE AND QUALITY BASIC SERVICES.

Home Affairs service delivery drive

By Nkopodi Mokgoma: GCIS, Limpopo

The morning of 18 August 2022 was a great one for the communities of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality in Matlerekeng village, when the Department of Home Affairs, led by Minister Aaron Motsoaledi, embarked on a service-delivery drive.

The session was meant to provide all-inclusive services offered by the Department of Home Affairs.

Other government departments and agencies such as the Department of Social Development, the South African Social Security Agency, and the Independent Electoral Commission also joined in bringing services closer to the communities.

Community members were able to apply for identity documents, birth certificates and other related services that they needed assistance with.

In his keynote address, Minister Motsoaledi indicated that his department was busy with eradicating corruption. The Minister cited an example of South Africans who sell their country by selling their identity documents, conniving with some corrupt Home Affairs officials and foreign nationals.

"We were able to arrest one Home Affairs senior official in Krugersdorp who was selling some South African passports to Pakistanis," said the Minister.

Minister Motsoaledi further indicated that the Department of Home Affairs is currently in the process of digitalising old information which was saved manually in files. "We are currently recruiting 10 000 young Information Technology specialists to come and work in Home Affairs to digitalise information," said the Minister, to a loud applause.

The community of Matlerekeng was satisfied with the Home Affairs service drive in their area as they normally get Home Affairs services in Groblersdal which is approximately 70 kilometres away.

The community pleaded with Minister Motsoaledi to establish Home Affairs offices in Moutse West. In his reply, the Minister indicated that they will bring mobile trucks (offices) instead of building physical structures.



Minister Aaron Motsoaledi addressing the community of Matlerekeng.



The Department of Home Affairs providing mobile services to the community.

PRIORITY 4: CONSOLIDATING THE SOCIAL WAGE THROUGH RELIABLE AND QUALITY BASIC SERVICES.

Thusong Service Centre provides integrated services

By Bongeka Nkwanyana: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

uMlalazi Local Municipality in collaboration with various departments organised integrated services for the community of Mombeni area in KwaZulu-Natal on 11 August 2022.

The main purpose was to bring services closer to the community and to also raise awareness about the Biyela Thusong Service Centre.

Biyela Thusong Service Centre was launched in 2017 where pronouncements were made that people will no longer travel long distances to receive information and other government services.

The centre is situated in the deep rural area of uMlalazi Municipality which is 25 kilometres away from Eshowe town in Ward 6. Its location makes it accessible to other wards and it is central and crucial to the development of wards 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Initiated in 1991, the Thusong Service Centre Programme is one of the first unique initiatives implemented by the South African Democratic Government which integrates services across national, provincial and local spheres of government.

The Programme created access not only to government information and services but also enables communities to access opportunities offered by other civil society groups, such as businesses, non-governmental organisations and parastatals.

Through the Thusong Service Centres, approximately five million beneficiaries gain access to services from the government, parastatals and Community Based Organizations on an annual basis.

From 19 to 23 September 2022, the Thusong Service Centre Programme will be conducting the Annual Thusong Service Centre Week, which is in its eighth year, and seeks to showcase success stories around the programme.

This event is aligned with the Public Service Month, which is this year celebrated under: "Batho Pele Revitalisation – Walking the Talk".



A government official engaging with the community at the event.



Mombeni community members accessing various services at the Biyela Thusong Service Centre.



Luyanda Gazu said:

“Thanks to the uMlalazi Municipality for working with various institutions to bring services closer to us. Today I was able to apply through the Central Applications Office for higher institution courses. I have been struggling to do this on my own and I hope I will be able to further my studies next year.”



Mhlanguleni Ntuli said:

“I was at the Thusong Service Centre today to get assisted with opening a bank account for my pension grant. I opened the account and I was treated very well by the bank.”



Mishack Buthelezi said:

“Today I was able to get my medication at the Biyela Thusong Service Centre which is about two kilometres away from my home. I was so happy to get such services closer to our area.”