



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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OUTCOME 10: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS AND NATURAL RESOURCES THAT ARE WELL PROTECTED AND CONTINUALLY ENHANCED

Developmental project creates jobs for locals

By George Moeketsi: GCIS, Gauteng

The project of expanding the Magalies Water Purification Plant in Temba, Hammanskraal is currently underway and nearing completion. The City of Tshwane, through its budget, was responding to concerns raised by the community of Hammanskraal and surrounding areas, which form part of the Integrated Development Programme (IDP). The community has been raising challenges such as poor supply of water, lack of sanitation and poor water quality. The IDP goes beyond addressing only water challenges.

It has created jobs for local people and a number of students from local colleges are benefitting as well. "I am studying Electrical Engineering and am doing practicals here at the plant. This will assist me a lot by creating many chances for me to get a job," said Ntebatse Phehla, a student.

The project has also created opportunities for local traders who sell their services and goods to the people who work on the site. "Since the project started in this area, my business of selling food has created wealth for my family because I am now able to buy food, furniture and other stuffs for my family," said Gloria Phuti, a local trader in Temba.



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An expansion of Magalies Water Purification Plant in Hammanskraal.



Employees at the plant executing their duties.



Part of the work that is being done on the site.



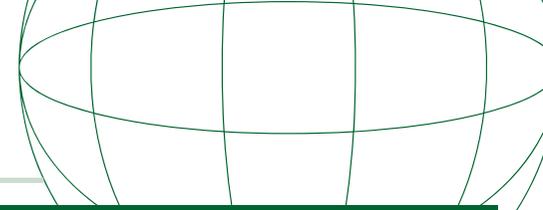
Ben Masilela said:

“I was unemployed for five years and I never thought I would be employed again, the project has helped us a lot, we are able to put bread on the table.”



Petrus Kgomo said:

“Since I started working here I learn every day. I can now drive a forklift and am waiting for my certificate. I have acquired a skill that I will still use beyond the completion of the plant.”

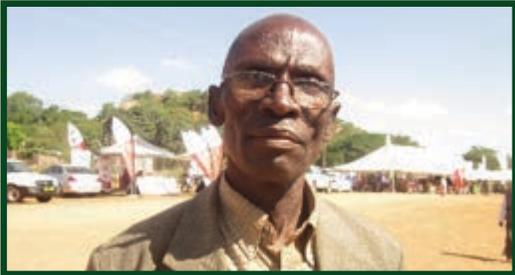


OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP



Charlotte Toona and Kgabo Nkoana said:

“We appreciate what is happening in our village and we thank government for putting our village on the map.”



Samuel Mmethi said:

“I expect better services from the centre and would like to thank government for bringing services closer to us.”

Moletši residents to receive government services at their doorstep

By Doctor Marebane: GCIS, Limpopo

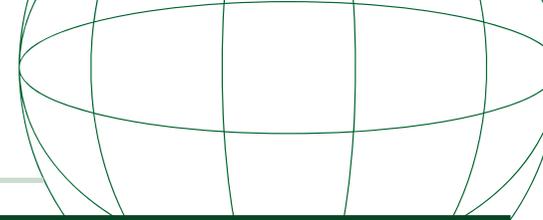
Government’s mission to bring services closer to the communities in an integrated way is becoming a reality. This stems from the recognition that services are interlinked, for example, social grants cannot be accessed without an Identity Document and a Birth Certificate. Moletši Village, which is situated about 30km from Polokwane, has its own Thusong Service Centre. Community members used to travel long distances to access government services.

Moletši Thusong Service Centre was launched on 29 April 2016 at a glittering function held in the village. The centre was officially launched by Limpopo Premier Stanley Mathabatha. He was accompanied by the MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA), Makoma Makhurupetje, Public Works MEC Jeremiah Ndou, Capricorn Executive Mayor Gilbert Kganyago, Polokwane Executive Mayor Thembu Nkadimeng and other local councillors. The event was also graced by Bishop Barnabas Lekganyane of the Zion Christian Church (ZCC).

Premier Mathabatha highlighted the good relationship that government has with tribal authorities and the ZCC. He urged the community of Moletši to look after the property.

His sentiments were shared by Kgoši Moloto III who appreciated the development that is taking place in his village. He assured government that the building will be taken care of and will be protected.

The following service providers will be rendering services at the centre: South African Social Security Agency, South African Post Office, South African Police Service, departments of health, home affairs and social development, COGHSTA and Polokwane Municipality.



Esrom Diphela said:
"I came to the event to entertain guests with my *dinaka* dance and I must say the event was well organised and I enjoyed being here."



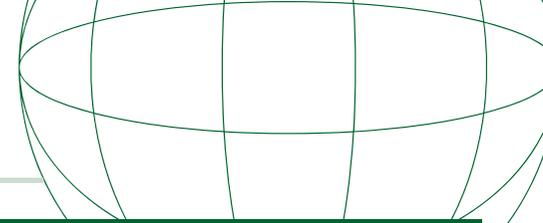
Community members supported the event.



Moletši Thusong Service Centre building.



Premier Mathabatha, Bishop Lekganyane and Kgoshi Moloto III unveiling the plaque for Moletši Thusong Service Centre.



Alana Johannes said:

“The opening of the youth hub is a blessing to us as young people in Beaufort West. It is not every day that such a huge event takes place in our town. I really enjoyed the event and I hope that more successful stories will emanate from this valuable asset in our district.”



Mataung Ezekiel said:

“This youth hub has brought changes in my life. I am from the Free State and came here in October 2015, studying Business Administration, through the NARYSEC programme. It is a fantastic programme and it helps me to further my studies. I will be able to use these skills in future to open doors for me and fulfil my dreams as a businessman.”

OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

President Jacob Zuma launches a youth hub

By Jethro Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape

The Beaufort West Youth Hub, a mix of facilities providing holistic development to young people, is a place where youths can empower themselves, says President Jacob Zuma. Handing over the facility to the Central Karoo community in the Western Cape on 10 May 2016, President Zuma said to counter drug abuse, alcoholism and gangsterism that are ravaging poor communities, youth in these communities need to be offered the same positive lifestyle alternatives as those offered to youth in wealthy suburbs.

“The world-class sport and recreation facilities available in this youth hub will provide young people from poor communities with opportunities to participate on a better footing and help transform sport in our country. The swimming pool is half Olympic size and is expected to host swimming clubs and competitive galas for the region. Hopefully the next generation of Chad Le Clos and Penny Heyns will come from this area,” said President Zuma.

He also said that the gymnasium was fitted with equipment that was the same quality as the equipment that can be found in the best private gyms in the country. The equipment was donated by the Virgin Active Group.

“This gym shows what can be done when government and the private sector form partnerships to develop poor communities,” said the President.

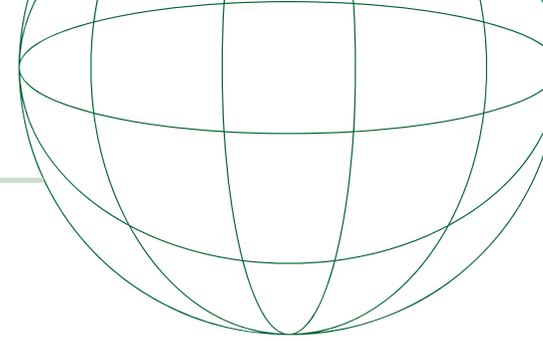
The combi courts at the youth hub can be used for multiple sporting codes such as soccer, netball and hockey. They have been fitted with solar lighting to allow young people the chance to play sport deep into the evening without having to burden the community or the municipality with high electricity bills.

These principles of sustainability are applied throughout the youth hub. From the water harvesting tanks to natural lighting in the gym, this facility proves that with prudent design, environmental and economical sustainability can be achieved.

The ICT centre means that all members of the local community will have access to free high speed Internet and information technologies and will be integrated to the larger global information community. There is also an amphitheatre and refurbished community hall, which are intended for daily use by the larger community.

The Beaufort West Youth Hub was officially launched on Mandela Day, 18 July 2012 by the Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform, Gugule Nkwinti. This followed extensive consultation with local communities, youth in the area, the district and local municipality and the Rural Infrastructure Development Branch of the department, to develop the concept design.

The construction of the youth hub commenced in October 2013 and was completed in April 2015. The fully equipped skills centre at the youth hub, which is being operated by South Cape College, will provide training in business administration, end-user computing and early childhood development to 200 National Rural Youth Service Corps (NARYSEC) participants per year.



Dorothy Lottering said:

“I have been part of the NARYSEC programme since 2013. I am one of the 10 participants that are responsible for the maintenance of the youth hub, as part of our community service. The NARYSEC programme, trained us in Building and Construction, skills we now apply to the youth hub. We also provide assistance to the local municipality and sector department when they conduct awareness campaigns in communities.”

NARYSEC is a long-term programme where young people in rural areas are targeted, recruited and contracted for a period of two years. Youth between the ages of 18 and 25 from rural wards are recruited and then enrolled for training in various skills that will equip them, both with theoretical and practical knowledge, to create employment for themselves and other people in their communities.

The President said it is a critical component of NARYSEC that the youth must go back home to apply their skills. “The NARYSEC youth must also share their skills with their families and friends. This, at the end of the day, will lead to the future development of our country by these graduates and more specifically the rural areas,” said the President. Young people were also involved in the construction of the youth hub and the programme is also establishing a cooperative for the youth in construction in order to do the maintenance of the youth hub.

It is also busy setting up cooperatives to handle and provide security services to the youth hub and 10 learners in the cleaning services.

President Zuma stated that he trusts that the community is aware of other youth-investments programmes that government is undertaking. “This youth hub is a pilot project and the first of its kind, and with this one as our first experience; we will roll it out to other provinces as well,” he concluded.



Community members listening to President Zuma's speech.



African National Congress Women's League members also attended the event.



President Zuma addressing residents of Beaufort West during the Youth Hub launch.