

Did you know?



Between 1994 and 2004, over 1 200 new clinics were built.



MY DISTRICT TODAY

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For more information about similar programmes that are run across the country, contact one of the following provincial offices:

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OUTCOME 2: A LONG AND HEALTHY LIFE FOR ALL SOUTH AFRICANS

War on Poverty Programme delivers on promises

By GCIS Mpumalanga



The first phase of the clinic building.



Construction site of the clinic facility at Ntunda village.

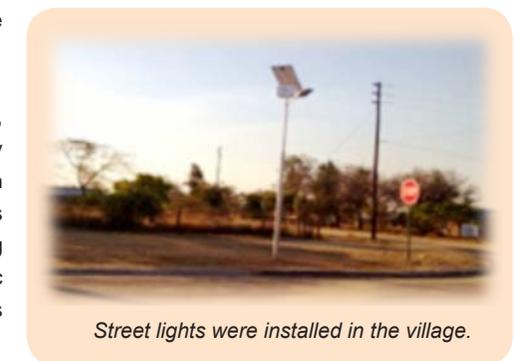
After the President's visit in 2010, a lot was promised such as tarring roads, fencing, building RDP houses, and streetlights.

The dream of having a healthcare facility for Ntunda has come true since the Department of Public Works recently started to build a clinic.

Before this facility, they always had to travel 8 km in order to access health services but this 24 hour clinic will surely bring a change into their lives.

The community members feel fortunate because they will now be able to save money.

One community member, Ms Betty Mkhonto said, "Hope, trust and perseverance by the community has produced positive results today, even though there was a time when other community members wanted to protest because they were becoming impatient with the delay of the promised clinic facility; but today shows that government does deliver."



Street lights were installed in the village.



government
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Did you know?



The total number of grant recipients was 14.87 million as at March 2010.

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

Mother of seven gets her first ID

By Letsielo Mosia: GCIS Free State



Home Affairs supervisor, Rebecca Moshoeshoe, handing over a new ID to Annah Motaung. On the right is Sgt Thabo Motaung.

Annah Motaung of Toekoms Farm in Diyatalawa near Harrismith did not have an Identity Document (ID) and consequently she could not apply for birth certificates for any of her seven children.

Annah's problem was identified by Toekoms Farm Sector Manager, Sergeant Thabo Motaung. He helped her to go to the Home Affairs offices in Phuthaditjhaba and to apply for late registration to get her birth certificate so that she could apply for an ID.

Monday, August 19 was a joyous day for Annah and Sergeant Thabo Motaung when the Department of Home Affairs presented her with her brand new ID.

"I don't have words to thank Sergeant Motaung for what he did for me. He is a leader and must keep on doing excellent work for the disadvantaged," said Annah.

"I can now apply for my children's birth certificates and I will also be able to apply for government social grants," she added.

Sergeant Motaung thanked Almighty God for giving him strength to help the needy people in the Toekoms Farm area and also the South African Social Security Agency, Home Affairs, his family and his Station Commander for their support.

ID Section Supervisor, Rebecca Moshoeshoe said it showed her department was working around the clock to help people. She said people from the area who had ID problems must come to the Home Affairs offices for assistance.

Did you know?



South Africa is spending R827 billion on its National Infrastructure Plan to grow the economy.



Facts about De Hoop Dam:

- Contract value: R2,2 billion
- Commencement date: 18 June 2007
- Duration: 63 months (tender)
- Volumes: Concrete ~ 1 000 000 m³
- Excavation ~ 600 000 m³
- Aggregates ~ 2 800 000 tons
- 97% complete
- Delays: 12 months (working on extended time)
- Expected completion: June 2014
- Presently more than 40 million cubic meters of water is stored in dam, which can last two seasons.
- The project was nominated for Fulton Awards in three categories.

OUTCOME 6: AN EFFICIENT, COMPETITIVE AND RESPONSIVE ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK

De Hoop Dam nearly finished

By Doctor Marebane: GCIS Limpopo



The De Hoop Dam will contribute to Limpopo's social and economic growth.

De Hoop Dam is unlocking the economic potential and improving the social development of Limpopo.

The dam, which was announced by the former State President Thabo Mbeki 10 years ago during the State of the Nation Address, is situated on the borders of Greater Tubatse, Makhuduthamaga and Elias Motsoaledi municipalities in Sekhukhune. This area is known for its water shortage and was declared a poverty stricken area in 2004. Since then, more than 20 platinum and chrome mines have invested in the area and

are the main contributors to Limpopo's economic growth.

In 2004, the De Hoop Dam Infrastructural Project was approved by Cabinet. In 2006 government's action plan for supplying basic water services in support of the Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative for South Africa to facilitate investment in the mining sector with associated economic growth opportunities, was drafted.

The completion of this infrastructural project will be a relief to most of Limpopo's communi-

ties and it has also created more than 2 000 job opportunities. The dam will supply the local mines, Sekhukhune villages, some parts of Polokwane and Mokopane with water. This is in line with government's strategy to create jobs and improving the lives of the community.

Currently the project is 97% completed and 6% full of water. The delay for completing the project was due to labour disputes and the relocation of 35 families living on the banks of the dam.

Did you know?



MY DISTRICT TODAY



OUTCOME 4: DECENT EMPLOYMENT THROUGH INCLUSIVE GROWTH.

Community benefits from the EPWP

By Kgalalelo Motsage: GCIS Northern Cape



Community at the event in Churchill.



Kgosi Dioka conveying vote of thanks.

The Deputy Minister of Public Works, Mr Jeremy Cronin recently launched the Cemetery Maintenance Programme in Churchill in the Joe Morolong Local Municipality. The is aimed at alleviating poverty and unemployment by providing work opportunities.

Cemetery maintenance is a pilot programme of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), which is aimed at cleaning the surroundings of the cemetery.

The project was developed to give young people skills-development opportunities within their region while earning a monthly stipend. Currently 40 young people are employed on the project.

The project will continue until the end of November when it will be handed over to the Joe Morolong Municipality.

Deputy Minister Jeremy Cronin said rebuilding communities meant focussing on public places that belonged to society.

To date, a fence has been erected, toilet structures have been built and tables and chairs have been made available for use during funeral services.

Materials are obtained locally to boost local businesses and maintenance programmes will take place after the completion of all the projects.



Community members watching the entertainment.

Did you know?



Over R600 billion in Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) transactions has been recorded since 1995.



OUTCOME 4: DECENT EMPLOYMENT THROUGH INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

Breakfast meeting seeks to empower women-owned businesses

By Ndyabo Kopo: GCIS Eastern Cape



Stakeholders at the breakfast meeting at Bhunga Hall.

A business breakfast was held as part of women empowerment, targeting women-owned businesses including community-based income generating projects.

The purpose of the breakfast session was to create a networking opportunity for the women to share experiences and gain information about non-financial and financial assistance from the invited stakeholders such as the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), Eastern Cape Development Corporation, Senqu Municipality Local Economic Development Unit and National African Federated Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Nafcoc).

The breakfast meeting was held in the Sterkspruit Thusong Service Centre (Bhunga Hall)

and was initiated by the GCIS, the Centre Manager of the Thusong Centre, and Senqu Local Municipality. "This breakfast meeting was as a result of an engagement with Nafcoc as part of our stakeholder-engagement sessions.

From the sessions there was a suggestion that the people of Sterkspruit needed information sessions such as these. Hence we took it upon ourselves to organise this breakfast meeting," said Mr Ndyabo Kopo the Regional Communications Coordinator from the GCIS when outlining the purpose of the day.

The women in the audience appreciated the initiative. They engaged with the stakeholders, raising practical questions in line with the day-to-day challenges they face in their businesses

and income-generating projects. Young women appealed to the NYDA to open offices in Sterkspruit as they need the services of the NYDA and do not have money to travel to Port Elizabeth where the offices are.

The breakfast session was part of the build-up programmes, which are led by MECs and members of the Provincial Legislature and were implemented during Service Delivery Week. These built up to a Provincial Women's Month event, which was held on 16 August 2013 in Sterkspruit.

EXPLORE THE PLACES 9M FOREIGNERS LOVE

The issue of jobs and job creation is never far from the minds of South Africans. If asked, people are likely to point to agriculture, manufacturing, or mining as the industries that provide the most jobs. In contrast, few are likely to point to tourism as a major role-player in the job market although in 2011 alone the industry contributed R84 billion to the gross domestic product (GDP) and employed approximately 598 432 people.

Speaking at a breakfast hosted by the South African Chamber of Commerce and Industry recently, the Minister of Tourism, Marthinus van Schalkwyk, outlined the vital contribution of tourism to the economy. "Tourism directly and indirectly sustained 9% of employment in the country, which amounted to one in every 11 jobs," he said.

Since 1994, tourism has grown exponentially and is quickly catching up with, and in some cases has even surpassed, established industries in the job creation stakes.

The growth of this sector has been staggering. Last year, a total of 9 188 368 international tourists visited South Africa, 10,2% more than the 8 339 354 tourists who travelled to the country in 2011. In fact our tourist growth rate was more than double the average global tourist growth of about 4% as estimated by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation last year.

On the domestic front our tourism sector is also booming. Minister van Schalkwyk said at any

given time, three quarters of all travellers in the country were South Africans.

Although the numbers are pleasing, tourism is much more than just a provider of jobs and revenue; it is an industry that creates a million smiles and countless priceless memories.

Having cast off our winter woollies and with the promise of spring in the air, many inevitably begin to think of warmer days filled with fun and laughter; thoughts also turn to holidays on sun-drenched beaches, or exploring all that our country has to offer.

It is thus no coincidence that Tourism Month is celebrated annually in September. It is an opportunity to inspire everyone to explore the country as a preferred holiday destination and to make South Africans aware of the importance of tourism to the economy as well as its social and cultural value.

We are indeed fortunate to live in a country that is by any measure a world-class destination just waiting to be uncovered. A short hop from the bustling city of Johannesburg is the Cradle of Humankind which is one of our Unesco World Heritage Sites. It is home to fossils dating back 3,5 million years and is widely recognised as the place from which all humankind originated.

The list of natural and man-made wonders in South Africa is endless; ranging from the iconic Table Mountain, miles of pristine beaches amid

unspoilt coastal beauty, our abundance of wildlife and hidden treasures such as monuments and places of history and heritage just waiting to be discovered.

The wealth of heritage sites is astounding, they offer a rich tapestry of our history and are a reminder of the often painful past that we all share.

This month we also celebrate Heritage Month, which is a perfect opportunity for individuals and families to explore our beautiful land and learn more about our history by visiting the many heritage sites throughout the country.

In addition, South Africans should celebrate and embrace our historical inheritance; honour our languages, spirituality and sacred sites; enjoy our indigenous food; and share our popular memory.

Heritage Month comes just a few months before we celebrates 20 Years of freedom. The celebrations are a reminder of the road we have travelled since attaining democracy in 1994. They are also a chance to reflect on our diverse natural and cultural heritage that is reflective of our people.

With so much to see and do in our own backyard this is the perfect time to take a Sho't Left and explore. At the start of Tourism Month Minister van Schalkwyk unveiled a new domestic tourism marketing campaign: *Nothing's More Fun than a Sho't Left*. The campaign emphasises the fun of a domestic leisure getaway and encourages South Africans to take short breaks.

It reminds us that taking a break, even for a night or two, gives benefits that endure: great memories, quality time with loved ones, well-deserved escapes from the routines and a chance to experience new places, new people and new things.

The campaign also offers holiday packages in partnership with South African Tourism's travel trade partners that are accessible and affordable to South Africans. There has never been a better time to become tourists in our country and create a million smiles and countless priceless memories.

Take advantage of great special offers this Tourism Month and to get involved in the fun, infectious *Nothing's More Fun than a Sho't Left* campaign. Let us all, as South Africans explore our country by visiting all those inspiring attractions some only a stone's throw away, some further. Let's make our country work, let's celebrate 20 years of freedom by learning more about our country.

Follow @shotleft on Twitter; tweet the #Nothings-MoreFun hashtag; like Sho't left on FaceBook; or visit the www.shotleft.co.za.