




MY DISTRICT TODAY



Issue no. 16 / April 2015

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

Trevor Mokeyane
051 448 4504 or 083 255 0042
tshenolo@gcis.gov.za

GAUTENG

Peter Gumede
011 834 3560 or 083 570 8080
peterg@gcis.gov.za

KWAZULU-NATAL

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

OUTCOME 14: A DIVERSE, SOCIALLY COHESIVE SOCIETY WITH A COMMON NATIONAL IDENTITY

President appoints an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Migration (IMC)



President Jacob Zuma has appointed the IMC to ensure that all aspects of migration are handled efficiently, including the social, economic and security aspects.

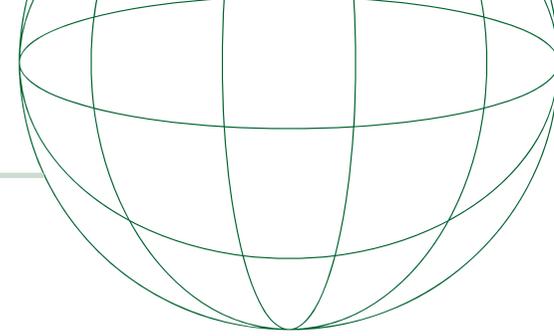
The IMC comprises the Minister in The Presidency: Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Jeff Radebe (Chairperson); Police Minister Nkosinathi Nhleko (Deputy Chairperson); Home Affairs Minister Malusi Gigaba; Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Minister Pravin Gordhan; International Relations and Cooperation Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane; Defence and Military Veterans Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula; Social Development Minister Bathabile Dlamini; Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi; Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga; State Security Minister David Mahlobo; Justice and Correctional Services Minister Michael Masutha; Small Business Development Minister Lindiwe Zulu; Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies; and Human Settlements Minister Lindiwe Sisulu.

The mandate of the IMC is to deal with all the underlying causes of the tensions between communities and foreign nationals. Some of the areas to be addressed include the implementation of Labour Relations policies as they affect foreign nationals; the implementation of laws that govern business licences and also the country's border management and migration policies.



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

Tiisetso Ramotse
013 753 2397 or 072 219 5136
tiisetso@gcis.gov.za

NORTH WEST

Mareka Mofokeng
018 381 7071 or 083 382 5909
mareka@gcis.gov.za

Kagisho Merementsi
018 381 7071 or 084 318 9179
kagisho@gcis.gov.za

NORTHERN CAPE

Marius Nagel
053 832 1378/9 or 083 778 9179
mariusn@gcis.gov.za

WESTERN CAPE

Louis Botha
021 697 0923 or 073 427 1917
LouisB@gcis.gov.za



The IMC will work with all affected parties to seek a lasting solution to the issues raised by communities and foreign nationals. Consultation processes have already begun.

The President has consulted with various stakeholders and engaged with representatives of foreign nationals. All participants acknowledged and commended government's efforts to stop the attacks. The attendees also shared their experiences in their everyday lives in South Africa. They committed to work together with South African authorities to address different challenges. A number of suggestions emerged from these consultations.

Government is encouraged to note that even with the tragic events of the past weeks, Africans from other countries still consider South Africa a safe place to visit. Anyone with information about planned acts of violence or those who have witnessed acts of violence are urged to contact Crime Stop on 086 00 10111 or the South African Police Service Emergency Number: 10111.



Communications Minister Faith Muthambi interacting with community members in Musina, Limpopo.



Deputy Minister of Communications, Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams, reaching out to community members in East London, Eastern Cape.



OUTCOME 14: A DIVERSE, SOCIALLY COHESIVE SOCIETY WITH A COMMON NATIONAL IDENTITY

Welcome to Saul Mkhizeville

By Bongani Mazibuko: GCIS, Mpumalanga

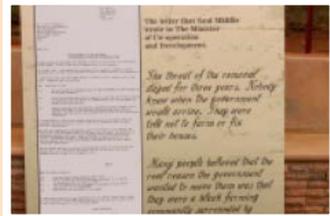
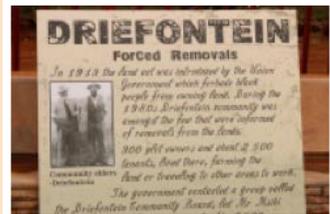
Vusimuzi Saul Mkhize was a political activist who opposed the forced removal of the people of Driefontein during apartheid. He was born on 6 June 1935 and died on 2 April 1983. He worked as an accountant in Johannesburg and used to visit his home area of Driefontein regularly. Mkhize, together with other community members, formed the Board of the Village in order to oppose the removal of the Driefontein landowners. He served as chairperson of that board which later became the Council Board of Directors in Driefontein. Mkhize was reportedly shot dead by police after organising a peaceful meeting.

Mpumalanga posthumously honoured this hero of Mkhondo Local Municipality on 23 March. The event to honour Mkhize began with the memorial lecture where community members were taught about his life and also the history of Driefontein. The lecture was delivered by the Provincial General Secretary of the African National Congress (ANC), Lucky Ndinisa.

The lecture was followed by the unveiling of Mkhize's statue which was erected by the Provincial Department of Culture, Sports and Recreation (DCSR). The statue symbolises a sense of belonging to those who were removed and displaced, some of them later resided in the areas of Diepdal, Fernie and Dundonald while others moved to various parts of the Gert Sibande District. To leave a lasting legacy, the area of Driefontein is now called Saul Mkhizeville, in honour of Mkhize.

Khwezi Mpulwana from the National Heritage Council commended the DCSR for erecting statues of Struggle icons, including those of Gert Sibande, Nomoya Masilela, Nokuthula Simelane and others. The department was also commended for ensuring that the community is educated through memorial lectures.

The DCSR, in collaboration with the Mpumalanga Geographical Names Committee, renamed various areas within the province. In the Gert Sibande District, the Piet Retief town was renamed eMkhondo and Badplaas became Manzana. In all these activities, the community was informed and involved. The people of the area formerly known as Driefontein can now feel a sense of belonging.



The history of both Mkhize and Driefontein written on these framed charts and is kept at the local library.



MEC Mahlangu-Mabena, dignitaries and the Mkhize family after the unveiling of the statue.



ANC Provincial General Secretary Lucky Ndinisa delivering the memorial lecture.



Community members at the event.



The MEC for Culture, Sport and Recreation, Norah Mahlangu-Mabena and a member of the Mkhize family unveiling the name Saul Mkhizeville.

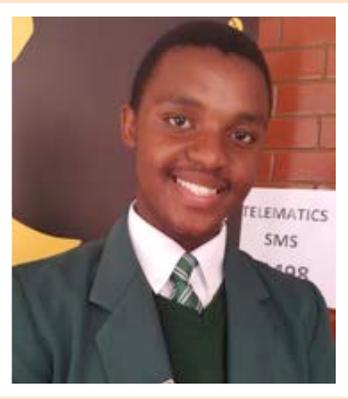




OUTCOME 1: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION



Siphesihle Sikhosana said:
 “The project is going to assist us because we will be able to do revision. This is definitely going to up our marks. The fact that we can interact with other learners to do revision through the system is exciting. We will achieve good results in Maths and Science.”



Ayabonga Mxolisi said:
 “We are excited because the Telematic centre is going to assist us in Physical Sciences and Maths. We will make South Africa proud by obtaining good marks. We are honoured to be chosen for the project and we will use it to the fullest.”

E-Learning for KwaZulu-Natal schools

By Nomzamo Zondi: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

Public Enterprise Deputy Minister Bulelani Magwanishe and Communications Deputy Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams launched Telematic centres in Harding and Zikode secondary schools respectively in KwaZulu Natal on 14 March.

The Telematics Project is the Department of Public Enterprise’s State-owned Enterprise (SoE) flagship project that is aimed at strengthening Maths and Science performance of learners and schools. The project is done in partnership with the University of Stellenbosch. The institution will provide Maths and Science lessons to Grade 11 and 12 learners through a virtual classroom. “We believe that education is everybody’s business and lent a hand to the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education to ensure that they can be in a position to produce engineers, scientists and artisans, all the critical skills that are needed in our country,” said Deputy Minister Magwanishe.

Technology is recognised by government through the implementation of programmes that will improve the socio-economic development of the people. “Government will continue to make sure that education is at the apex of priorities in the country,” said Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams. The centre was opened in honour of Wandile Mkhize, a local leader who contributed to the development of young people in the Ugu District. The MEC for Education in KwaZulu-Natal, Peggy Nkonyeni, expressed excitement for the 22 schools that benefited from the programme and said she wishes that all schools in the province easily interpret the E-learning method. Harding Secondary School Principal said that the programme will improve the results of learners.

The Deputy Ministers interacted with community members and learners, where eight other schools received television sets and Maths kits as gifts. This was followed by the SoEs and Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) exhibitions where information was distributed to learners.



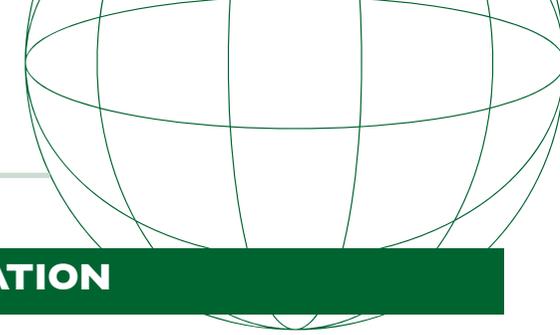
Deputy Ministers Ndabeni-Abrahams and Magwanishe officially opening the Harding Secondary School Telematic centre.



Learners showing their Maths and Science kits with dignitaries sitting behind them.



Esayidi TVET sharing information with learners at the exhibition stall.



OUTCOME 1: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION

Deputy Minister visits Sol Plaatje University (SPU)

By Tshiamo Maruping: GCIS, Northern Cape

The Deputy Minister of Higher Education and Training, Mduzuzi Manana, visited the SPU on 24 February to monitor progress on construction and rapid development of the institution.

The Deputy Minister interacted with the university management, project-management team and contractors on site. This was aimed at obtaining a concise report on the progress that has been made and also the university's readiness to admit 700 students by 2016 and 1 235 by 2017. According to the university Registrar, 120 students were enrolled in 2014 and the number has increased to 370 in 2015.

Construction of new buildings and infrastructure for the 2016 academic year is the first phase of a programme that will continue over a 10-year period, ultimately providing state-of-the-art facilities for 7 500 students.

Deputy Minister Manana was taken to the lecture room where he interacted with students. "This visit forms part of an ongoing monitoring exercise by government to ensure that projects are implemented as planned and challenges are identified and rectified early to allow for speedy interventions and ensure timeous delivery. Even if you exit before a completion of construction of the university which is in the next seven to 10 years, you can always pride yourself to be part of this university because it is going to be the state-of-the-art," said the Deputy Minister.

The new SPU buildings include laboratories, lecture halls, academic offices, libraries, student residences and student facilities. The Deputy Minister was pleased with the academic performance of SPU students. Of all the students who were registered in 2014, 80% of them passed their first-year courses with an average course pass rate of 87%.



The Deputy Minister, University Registrar other officials at the construction site.



Students in one of the lecture halls.



Student residences at the SPU.