

DID YOU KNOW?



MY DISTRICT TODAY

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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:

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Outcome 11: Create a better South Africa and contribute to a better and safer Africa and world

Gugs starts its own Afcon

Nombulelo Damba: GCIS: Western Cape

The Western Cape is abuzz with Afcon fever even though the province is not hosting any of the official games. Friendly matches are played at local football clubs in Cape Town thanks to the efforts and encouragement of GCIS and local football structures. Each of the 16 Gugulethu clubs represents an African nation competing in Afcon and are playing matches according to the Afcon formula. In addition, refugees in Gugulethu are included to play for their home teams.

President of the Gugulethu Football Association, Andile Siyo, said their aim was to generate support for Afcon in Cape Town and bring the spirit of the African competition to the Western Cape.

He said soccer was not as popular in the Western Cape as in other parts of the country hence this collaborative initiative.

“We want to engage the community of Cape Town to have a feeling of Afcon. All the matches will be played during the day, while in the afternoons we will gather in one place and watch the official games.”

The officials of the 16 participating clubs gathered at Cash's Place on NY112 in Gugulethu to draw for match fixtures. After the first match, South Africa vs DRC, everyone watched the Afcon opening ceremony on a big screen.

Although all the matches are played on weekends only, a number of matches have to be played simultaneously on one day, unlike the official Afcon. But, according to Siyo, this will not affect the semi-finals and finals.

“On 10 February, we will play our final match just like it is going to happen with Afcon. After the match we will have a big screen at Gugulethu Sport Complex, where all clubs will watch the final,” he said.

GCIS senior communication officer Sikelela Zokufa said the GCIS is supporting the unofficial Afcon programme.

“We will assist where we can and we promised to organise prizes for the winning clubs,” he said.

South Africa United played the Democratic Republic of Congo in the first match of the unofficial Afcon in Gugulethu on Saturday 26 January 2013.



One of the participants demonstrating his talent.



government
communications

Department:
Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Outcome 12: An efficient, effective and development-oriented Public Service and an empowered, fair and inclusive citizenship

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Working together to do more

Andile Duka: GCIS, Tombo Thusong Service Centre

On Thursday, 14 February 2013, President Jacob Zuma will present the State of the Nation Address (SoNA) to a joint sitting of Parliament. The SoNA, which coincides with the opening of Parliament, will take place at 19:00 and will be broadcast live on SABC TV. President Zuma will talk about government's achievements of the past year and will look to the future by presenting a programme for the year ahead, called the Programme of Action (PoA). The PoA sets out government's plans to address various key government priorities.

To create awareness and to encourage the public to become part of this important occasion, the GCIS hosts live viewing events in all nine provinces to afford all South Africans an opportunity to watch the event. Mayors of both district and local municipalities participate in such programmes by presenting summaries of the SoNA. Community members are also allowed to discuss the speech at they venues where they view the event.

One such event is planned for Port St Johns Local Municipality where we approached some residents to get their views about it. This is what some had to say:



Sihle Bikitsha, a grade 11 student at Port St Johns High School: "Although I don't know much about the SoNA programme, I believe it's for a good cause and I am calling people to support it because I believe it's meant for them."



Councillor Mhlabeni of ward 06: "I am fully behind this programme and we will start mobilisation now. SoNA big screen is different from watching it at home; there will be no discussions at home. The entire leadership of Port St Johns Municipality will also be part of the programme and I think that is exciting and people will definitely support it."



Bulelwa Nokhanda chief whip Port St Johns Municipality: "The SoNA big screen programme is a very important initiative and I am happy that GCIS is planning to have one in Port St Johns Local Municipality. As a municipality we will do all in our power to support this programme for the benefit of the Port Johns community."



Outcome 7: Creating vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities

Government on course to restore dignity to its citizens

GCIS: Kwazulu Natal



The Deputy Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform, Mr Lechesa Tsenoli, in partnership with KZN MEC for Finance, Ms Ina Cronjé; MEC for Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Rural Development, Dr Meshack Radebe; and uMngeni Municipality Mayor, Cllr Mbali Myeni, handed over title deeds to uMngeni Municipality claimants in a bid to reverse the 1913 Land Act legacy through land restoration.

This two-fold celebration ceremony attracted more than 3 000 people including farm dwellers, farmers, government and community leaders, councillors, business sector and other stakeholders such as Mondi and Eskom. They celebrated the official completion of the Karkloof electricity projects through which more than 266 households on more than 10 farms were connected to the electricity grid at a cost of R4,6 million by uMngeni Municipality.

The second leg of the ceremony was the handing over of the title deeds to the three claimant communities whose land had been rightfully returned to them.

On handing over the title deeds to the two communities (trustees) that opted for land (Lywood Trust and Madlala Trust) and cheques to the families of the community that opted for financial compensation (Shafton Community Trust), Deputy Minister Tsenoli noted that government had already paid more than R60 million to acquire these farms and to facilitate the land claims. He called on all South Africans never again to be party to legislation that leads to misery for their fellow citizens

“Today we come to celebrate the progress we have made with the finalisation of the land claims for the three communities. There will be more money going towards capacitating new owners of the farms so that they can successfully inherit their land and to ensure that farms continue to run smoothly and profitably beyond this handover,” Tsenoli said.

“As the municipality, we pride ourselves on this unique and first-of-its-kind achievement in the country, as we are not aware of any other project of this nature in the South Africa,” said Mayor Myeni.

“This project has seen more than 266 households on more than 10 farms being connected to the electricity grid at a cost of R4.6 million. The days of preparing wood fires resulting in unnecessary house fires are over. The municipality is also assisting these communities by partially paying for a certain amount of their electricity,” he added.

Speaking on behalf of Mondi, which has settled the two farm claims in question, Mondi’s Head of Land, Mr Moris Makhathini said, “We own some land holdings in KwaZulu-Natal and in Mpumalanga, some of which are under claim. To date, we have settled 19 claims including the ones we are handing over today.

“Our settlement model is a win-win model, as we endeavour to empower the communities that are taking over land from us. We bring them into the forestry value chain, so that they can benefit through income and jobs as we introduce

them to the forestry business. Eventually we would like them to be our partners in forestry, with them producing and supplying us with the timber.”

Speaking on behalf of the claimant communities, the Lynwood Community Trust Chairperson, Mr Kwanele Ngubane said, “We are so delighted to be owners of this farm. The 57 households that are beneficiaries of this farm did not opt for financial compensation because we are interested in becoming producers and we want to be part of the KwaZulu-Natal economic development chain.

“Even though it took us so long to get what belongs to us, we are grateful to all who were involved in making it a success. We will continue to work very closely with Mondi in the next 20 years, so that they can transfer all the necessary farming skills to us to help us efficiently manage the farm in the long run. The land that is free which is part of this claim will be used for other farming initiatives.”

In conclusion, MEC Cronjé advised the communities and families who opted for financial compensation to look after their cash. She also invited the beneficiaries to utilise the services of the KwaZulu-Natal Financial Literacy Association, an initiative of the Provincial Treasury. Among other financial services, the association is aimed at giving basic financial education to ordinary citizens in the province. The association will provide assistance free of charge to beneficiaries who need advice on how to save their money or how to use it wisely.



Outcome 1 | Create a better South Africa and contribute to a better and safer Africa and world

Catching a glimpse of the Afcon tournament



Jubilant kids from Tlotlisoeng Primary School at Qibing in the Free State displaying their support for the national team.



Ntate Motlalepula Samuel Sizani showing his moves in support of Bafana Bafana at the Wepener Afcon activation in the Free State.



A learner showing his talent at the GCIS Afcon activation in Ntabankulu, Eastern Cape.



An official from the Department of Sport in Gauteng and a cameraman from Soweto TV watching the game between Bafana Bafana and Angola at the GCIS live viewing event in Orange Farm.



KwaMashu under-13 teams greeting and welcoming Cape Verde team in Kwazulu-Natal.



Public viewing event in the Northern Cape.

