



THUSONG SERVICE CENTRES DIRECTORY:

Thusong Service Centre programme – Second Quarterly Bulletin

WESTERN CAPE

Annual Thusong Service Centre Week

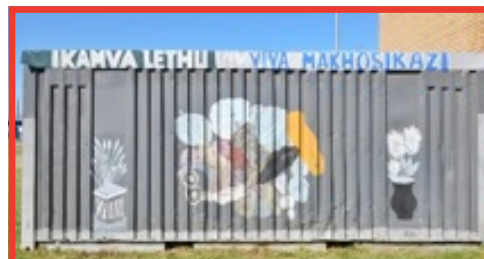
The 2023 Annual Thusong Service Centre Week opening event was held in the Western Cape in the Breede Valley Local Municipality. A build-up event was held at Unobuntu Thusong Service Centre in Zwelethemba on 18 September 2023. The Unobuntu Thusong Service Centre is one of the first generation Thusong Service Centres, which was established after 1994 to address the social needs in historically disadvantaged communities. The centre evolved as a pilot project into a hub of service and information to the people of Zwelethemba and surrounding areas.

As a launch pad to the official opening of the Annual Thusong Week, a Food Security Dialogue was held at Unobuntu Thusong Service Centre and was attended by more than 30 organisations and entities from in and around Zwelethemba area. The participating entities are running operations in agriculture, food processing, food security with the intention to strengthen localised food production. The dialogue, among others, focused on the promotion of backyard gardens, sustainability and funding opportunities provided by government and entities.



Unobuntu Thusong Service Centre has a hub of services. The director, Mornay Pretorius, during the opening event did a radio interview with Umzi radio which is housed at the centre.

As part of its efforts to contribute to food security, alleviating poverty and addressing issues of hunger in the community, Unobuntu Thusong Centre established a backyard garden linked to a soup kitchen with the aim of starting a feeding project. This was done in partnership with a local political veteran and former Executive Mayor, Linda Sibeko, who anchored the feeding project under the banner of Ikamva lethu organisation. The project is housed at the centre and provides disadvantaged families with nutritious meals every day. The number of beneficiaries and volunteers has grown since inception and subsequently strengthens cohesion in the community.



The backyard gardening at Unobuntu Thusong Centre. The Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) was part of the exhibitors and the soup kitchen which is linked to the food gardening.

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EASTERN CAPE Thusong Service Centres

- CENTANE
- COFIMVABA
- KWANOPHOYI
- QUNU
- STERKSPRUIT
- TOMBO
- VIEDGIESVILLE

4

FREE STATE Thusong Service Centres

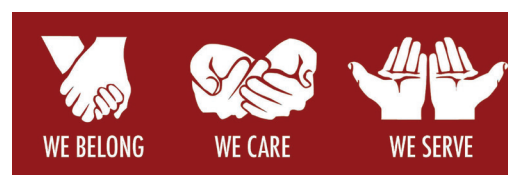
- KOPANONG
- MOHOKARE (ZASTRON)
- NAMAHADI
- PHIRITONA

13

GAUTENG Thusong Service Centres

- GA-RANKUWA
- HAMMANSKRAAL
- KAGISO
- KHUTSONG
- MAFATSANE
- MAMELODI
- MAPONYA URBAN MALL
- MULDRSDRIFT
- ORANGE FARM
- RATANDA
- SEBOKENG
- SOSHANGUVE
- TARLTON

“Thusong Service Centres, taking services and information closer to the people”





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NORTHERN CAPE
Thusong Service Centres

- AUGRABIES
- COLESBERG
- KGOMOTSEGO (VANZYLSRUS)
- MANNE DIPICO

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KWAZULU-NATAL
Thusong Service Centres

- ARCHIE GUMEDE
- BAMSHELA
- BELGRADE
- BHOMELA
- BULWER
- DRIEFONTEIN
- DUDUDU
- DUKUZA
- EKUVUKENI
- EMONDLO
- HIGHFLATS
- IMBABAZANE
- IMPENDLE
- INHLAZUKA
- JOZINI
- KWAMADLALA
- KWAMDAKANE
- KWANZIMAKWE
- KWAXOLO
- LINDELA
- LUWAMBA
- MALANGENI
- MAPUMULO
- MBAZWANA
- PORT DUNFORD
- SONKOMBE
- TUGELA FERRY
- UMNINI
- UMSHWATHI
- BIYELA
- uMFOLOZI

Over and above opportunities which were shared during the dialogue, information on how best localised produce could be integrated into the mainstream economy for sustainable livelihoods was also shared. The dialogue was led by the University of the Western Cape through their study conducted within the Breede Valley Local Municipality on food security. The Grow Great NGO capacitated the community with prevention of stunting and poor early

childhood development through their nutrition programme (food gardening), the Department of Agriculture on food gardening process, the support and sustainability and SEDA, Small Enterprise Finance Agency, and Department of Small Business Development on funding and access to market. The dialogue was officiated by the acting Mayor of Breede Valley Local Municipality. After the dialogue, different exhibitions from various institutions provided information to delegates.



Delegates from different organisations raising various issues in relation to food security while officials from entities sharing information in relation to the sustainability of food gardening.

Annual Thusong Service Centre Week Opening Event

In commemorating Public Service Month, the opening event appreciated public servants who have supported and become the Thusong stakeholders since the inception of the programme. Certificates of appreciation were handed over by the Deputy Minister in The Presidency, Kenneth Morolong alongside the Executive Mayor of Cape Wineland District Ald. Elna von Schlicht.

In his keynote address the Deputy Minister encouraged and thanked public servants for their dedication and commitment in the work that they do in ensuring that communities receive government services and information to better their lives.



Deputy Minister Kenneth Morolong delivered a keynote address during the opening event accompanied by the Executive Mayor of Cape Wineland District Elna von Schlicht. Government department employees with their certificates of appreciation.



The opening event was integrated into an outreach where various government departments, entities and the private sector provided services and information.

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LIMPOPO

Thusong Service Centres

- BABIRWA
- BOTLOKWA
- ELDORADO
- FETAKGOMO-ATOK
- MABATLANE (VAALWATER)
- MADIMBO
- MAKHUVA
- MAKUYA
- MAPELA
- MAPODILE
- MARULENG
- MOKWAKWAILA
- MOLETJIE
- MTITITI
- RELELA
- SELWANE

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MPUMALANGA

Thusong Service Centres

- BREYTEN
- CASTEEL
- DAGGAKRAAL
- LOUISVILLE
- MARAPYANE
- MATSAMO
- MBANGWANE
- MPULUZI
- PHOLA
- SAKHILE
- SIYATHEMBA
- THOLULWAZI
- VERENA
- WONDERFONTEIN

NORTHERN CAPE

Annual Thusong Service Centre Week Closing Event

The closing event was held on 22 September 2023 at Loeriesfontein under Namakwa District Municipality, in the Northern Cape. The event sought to spare the people of Loeriesfontein the 100km distance they travel to Calvinia to access Government services. The event was officiated by the Executive Mayor of Namakwa District, Mervyn Cloete, who delivered a keynote address where he encouraged the community members to use the services provided. He further thanked public servants for their work. The Executive Mayor was accompanied by the Hantan Mayor Koos Alexander.

This event also presented an opportunity to showcase the public private partnership with the Loeriesfontein Wind Farm. The wind farm donated a building, which includes facilities such as a gym, telecentre, and office space, to the Municipality to be used as a satellite Thusong Service Centre. The Office of the Premier, as the custodian of the programme in the province, will facilitate the process of signing of the Memorandum of Understanding to effect the operationalisation matters.



Executive Mayor of Namakwa District Mervyn Cloete delivering the keynote address. Mayor of Hantan Local Municipality, Koos Alexander. Community members who attended the event.



The Department of Small Business Development, the Special Investigating Unit and the Department of Home Affairs rendered their services and shared information on the day.

The closing event further promoted food security with the focus of a community food gardening project situated next to the Centre. The Windpomp Kwekery emerges as a beacon of sustainable and community-driven agricultural project. The Kwekery was founded by a young man from Loeriesfontein, Nico Lucas, who employs local youths during the bustling harvest seasons. The project not only provide local youth with a steady income but also equips them with essential agricultural skills, laying the foundation for a prosperous future filled with opportunities.

The Khobab Windfarms has, among others, assisted Lucas with a polytunnel for cultivation, the polytunnel is regarded as state of the art which provides a controlled environment for consistent year around cultivation. While Windpomp Kwekery currently operates on a smaller scale, its ambitions are boundless. Under Nico Lucas's leadership, the company envisions becoming a reference point for sustainable farming in the region. Initiatives are underway to introduce organic farming workshops, partnerships with local schools for educational farm excursions, and exploring the possibility of expanding into fruit cultivation.



The food gardening at Loeriesfontein. Government leaders visited the garden.



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WESTERN CAPE

Thusong Service Centres

- BEAUFORT WEST
- BITTERFONTEIN
- BREDASDORP
- CERES / BELLA VISTA
- CITRUSDAL
- CLANWILLIAM
- GRABOUW
- HAWSTON
- HOPEFIELD
- ILINGELETHU
- LADISMITH
- LAINGSBURG
- LANGEBAAN
- MBEKWENI
- PAARL EAST
- PLETTENBERG BAY
- MOSSEL BAY
- MURRAYSBURG
- OUDTSHOORN
- PRINCE ALBERT
- RIVERSDALE
- ROBERTSON
- SWELLEN DAM
- THEMBALETHU
- UNOBUNTU
- VAN RHYNSDORP
- VREDENDAL
- WABOOMSKRAAL

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NORTH WEST

Thusong Service Centres

- BOKAMOSO / JERICO
- KGETLENG RIVER
- KGOKGOJANE
- LERETLHABETSE
- LOSASANENG
- MONAKATO
- TLAKGAMENG
- TSHIDILAMOLOMO
- VICTOR TONG

LIMPOPO

Greening and cleaning: Moletsi Thusong Service Centre

Moletsi Thusong Service Centre in collaboration with various stakeholders including the Community Works Programme planted vegetables at the centre to complement the existing food gardening, which is feeding families in and around Moletsi. Furthermore, the Thusong Service Centre manager led the cleaning campaign along with the Office of Premier and other Thusong stakeholders where they cleaned the centre and the surrounding areas with the aim of promoting a cleaner environment.



Moletsi Thusong Centre food gardening, the centre managers and Thusong stakeholder during the cleaning campaign.

Food Security Campaign: Mokwakwaila Thusong Service Centre

The Mokwakwaila Thusong Service Centre in Greater Letaba Local Municipality in Limpopo formed a partnership with the Department of Correctional Services, and established a food garden at Mokwakwaila Thusong Service Centre with the intention to promote healthy living lifestyles and to address good nutrition in the local community. The Food Garden serves several crèches or day care centres and neighboring schools in various wards.



Stakeholders at the centre during irrigation and harvesting.

MPUMALANGA

Food Security Campaign: Sakhile Thusong Service Centre

The Sakhile Thusong Service Centre is in Lewa local Municipality. The centre with its stakeholders: community development workers, Community Works Programme, Department of Social Development, Plant & Grow Program supported by Seriti Mine, established a food security programme that is overseen by Thami Mkhonto from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. The department donated the seedling and other gardening tools. Stakeholders planted and harvested vegetables, which are later donated to the nearby Vukuzimele Old Age Home and nearby schools.



Thusong stakeholders harvesting vegetables and later donated them to nearby schools.

Stakeholders at Sakhile Thusong Service Centre taking vegetables to a nearby school.



FREE STATE

Namahadi Thusong Service Centre

The Thusong Service Centre programme is set within the development communication paradigm in providing access to information which must better the lives of citizens for the better. During the Annual Thusong Service Centre Week, the Namahadi Thusong Service Centre, through the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) had assisted 12 unemployed community members with access to information on the establishment of a food garden and linking them with the necessary stakeholders for the sustainability of the garden. In an endeavor to combat food insecurity and unemployment, the community members in the Mangaung village, approached the principal of Diphakweng Primary

School to donate a piece of land next to the school, the principal further donated with gardening tools and seedlings. Some of the produced vegetables are donated to the food nutrition feeding programme of the school and the rest are sold to the community as a way of making profit. The Namahadi Thusong Service Centre has always been a hub of information where these community members have received access to opportunities through the centre and beneficiaries related to the Small Enterprise Development Agency to get the necessary training for them to acquire skills of running the agricultural business and also funding information.



A GCIS official and the founders of the garden during a harvest in Mangaung village.

KWAZULU-NATAL

Food Security Campaign: Tugela Ferry Thusong Service Centre

Tugela Thusong Service Centre in uMsinga Local Municipality, an information sharing session by various government departments and entities at Tugela Ferry Centre was held as part of the Annual Thusong Service Centre Week. The session was officiated by the Mayor, who was accompanied by municipal Exco members. The food garden was established by the centre in partnership with the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and Community Works Programme, which donated gardening tools for the sustainability of the garden. It is anticipated that the products will be donated to the nearest clinic.



Members of the EPWP during the harvest. The Mayor and members of the Exco visited the garden.



Community members who attended the session.



LIMPOPO

Launch of Kgoshi Madimetja Sello Kekana III Thusong Service Centre: Lepelle Nkumpi Municipality

Incorporated with Heritage Month, the Executive Mayor of Capricorn District Municipality, Mamedupi Teffo and Moshate launched the Kgoshi Madimetja Sello Kekana III Thusong Service Centre. Capricorn District has five Thusong Service Centres and this was the only local municipality that did not have a centre. The Sello Kekana III Centre is set within a tribal authority office, in an endeavor to have all its local municipalities to have Thusong Service Centres. The district engaged the tribal authority with the intention of establishing a Thusong Service Centre. After extensive discussion between Moshate, the Government Communication and Information System, the district, Lepelle Nkumpi Municipality, and other relevant stakeholders a consensus was reached that tribal office to house a Thusong Service Centre. The amalgamation

of the two establishments has demonstrated coherence of government messaging in working together between the spheres of government including traditional authorities with the aim of accelerating service delivery. The centre will be a hub and among other departments, which will render services are the following: the South African Social Security Agency, Department of Health, South African Police Service, Department of Home Affairs, Department of Agriculture, community development workers, Expanded Public Works Programme and Lepelle Nkumpi Local Municipality. The centre also houses one of the state-of-the-art ZB community radio stations, funded by the Media Development and Diversity Agency, and was recently launched by former Deputy Minister in The Presidency, Thembi Siweya.



The Executive Mayor and Moshate unveiling the plug of the new Thusong Service Centre.



The Executive Mayor and delegates doing a walkabout at the centre. Members of the community who came to access services.