



MYDISTRICTTODAY



STAY SAFE

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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PRIORITY 4: CONSOLIDATING THE SOCIAL WAGE THROUGH RELIABLE AND QUALITY BASIC SERVICES.

Ministerial sectoral Imbizo

By Tabita Ngqunge: GCIS, Eastern Cape

The Government Communication and Information System in Buffalo City Metro Municipality supported the Ministerial Sectoral Imbizo led by the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture, Zizi Kodwa, in partnership with the Eastern Cape Provincial Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts, and Culture which took place in East London, at the Miriam Makeba Centre of Performing Arts on 13 October 2023.

The Imbizo looked at the recovery of arts, culture and heritage and alignment programs to help sustain the sector within the province. It was further used as a vehicle to assess service delivery issues within the creative sector – in line with the District Development Model (DDM), which enables for an integrated and responsive planning of government and its public entities to enhance service delivery.

The engagement was aimed at promoting and increasing dialogue between the government and people without mediation. During the Sectoral Imbizo, artists and heritage practitioners got an opportunity to engage the Minister and the MEC on matters that affect the sector in the province. One of the main challenges that came out strongly from various districts is the lack of infrastructure, that is, the art centres and poor maintenance for those that exist. The Minister's positive response to the issues raised was well received by the stakeholders.



Minister Kodwa addressing creatives during the Imbizo held at the Miriam Makema Centre of Performing Arts.



Attendees of the DDM Ministerial Sectoral Imbizo at Miriam Makeba Centre at the University of Fort Hare in East London.



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PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFER COMMUNITIES.

Ventersburg community patrol fights crime

By Ntombi Mhlambi: GCIS, Free State

The Government Communication and Information System, together with the Community Patrol Forum (CPF) of Ventersburg embarked on an awareness campaign to provide the community with information on how to report crime and gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF). The event was hosted at the Ventersburg truck stop as it has been recently closed for operation as the South African Police Service (SAPS) felt it was a venue for crime as most incidents were happening at the truck stop. The CPF and the community felt that the truck stop could not remain closed as it was their economic zone. The trucks that stop there bring a lot of economic activities and jobs to their community. There were GBVF, stolen goods, truck drivers' attacks criminal activities which were increasing on a daily basis at that venue.

CPF chairperson Sello Lehlekiso said they cannot allow crime in their town. The SAPS Acting District Commander Brigadier Evan Solomons warned the community not to take the law into their hands by going after the perpetrators of crime. GCIS official Ntombi Mhlambi mobilised the community to attend the activation through loud hailing and spoke on the government's stand on GBVF. She encouraged victims to report cases.



Brigadier Solomons addressing the community of Mamahabane in Ventersburg.



The community of Ventersburg at the event.

PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Economic and Investment Growth Summit

By Mpho More: GCIS, Northern Cape

The Frances Baard District Municipality's two-day Economic Growth and Investment Summit was held on 15 to 16 November 2023 at the Biker's Church, Kimberley under the theme: "Growing the District's Economy Together for a Sustainable development."

It sought to create a platform for stakeholders, led by the district municipalities to engage in dialogue, analyse economic trends and identify opportunities for sustainable growth. The summit fostered efforts aimed at ensuring the growth trajectory continues in a sustainable and inclusive manner within the framework of the District Development Model (DDM).

The summit delivered key insights highlighting investment trends, opportunities, and challenges in the economic development and tourism value chain. It also encouraged financial initiatives and explored districts innovative economic developments and tourism sector for growth.

The Minister of Public Service and Administration, Noxolo Kiviet, in her capacity as the DDM Champion of Frances Baard District said, "The district has to develop a stimulus plan that will provide support to all local municipalities, including those that are poor and vulnerable. The district must change its growth and development model to systematic strategy economic growth plans with the help of the national government and private sectors."

In her closing remarks, the District Municipal Speaker, Keamogetse Motlhabi declared that they acknowledge that the economic challenges facing the district are complex and require a multifaceted approach.

"We are going to use this environment to create a platform and collaboration with other role players by bringing together all the relevant role-players, including government officials, businesses and community leaders. We are committing to curbing challenges of the unemployment rate, especially among our youth, and we believe that by promoting entrepreneurship and supporting small, medium and micro enterprises, we can create job opportunities for them. We are going to continue to actively participate in economic discussions and workshops where there will be sharing of knowledge and experiences, and supporting initiatives that support economic growth and development in the district," said Motlhabi.

The entrepreneurs who attended the event were given an opportunity to engage with role players on the problems they encounter when they want assistance from their local municipalities, and the District Mayor, Nondumiso Buda, committed to address those problems together with the local municipalities.



Minister Kiviet giving the keynote address at the Frances Baard District Municipality.



Audience in attendance.



Executive Mayor Buda addressing the audience.



Mpho Kau said:

“As youth, we need to register to vote to make the changes we want to see. I appreciate the information we received from the GCIS as far concerning internships and others. Also, I cannot wait to vote for the second time next year.”



Kagiso Shole said:

“I am here to register to vote for the 2024 elections. I believe as youth, we need to become active participants in our democracy. I want to also encourage others to come and vote to have a say in the next elections.”

PRIORITY I: A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Government takes services to the people

By Bakang Ditibane: GCIS, North West

On 18 November 2023, The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) supported Independent Electoral Commission in its Voter Registration Weekend from 18 to 19 November 2023 drive in Tsetse Village Ward 4, under the Mahikeng Local Municipality, Mafikeng. This sought to encourage all citizens aged 18 and older to exercise their democratic right by taking the first step and register to vote. This community activation also served as a platform

to popularise GBVF information through information distribution such as leaflets, as well as informed and educated community members regarding consumer rights and their protection. The GCIS distributed Vuk’uzenzele newspapers, the Z83 application forms together with graduate internship vacancies, government news on voter registration and GBVF and National Health Insurance leaflets.



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