



MY DISTRICT TODAY



SEND ME
TO BUILD THE MZANSI I WANT

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PRIORITY 6: A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government launches Operation Khawuleza

By Nompilo Mchunu and Ndala Mngadi: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

The KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government officially launched its new District Coordination Model; Operation Khawuleza in Newcastle on 19 September 2019. An estimated R160-million worth of plant machinery such as graders, honey suckers, water tankers, fire engines and rollers was handed over to Amajuba District and its local municipalities – Newcastle, Dannhauser and eMadlangeni.

Delivering his address at the launch, KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala urged the municipalities to use the machinery to accelerate and improve service delivery. "Today we are affirming government's continuous commitment to providing speedy services and development to communities. We are responding to service delivery challenges that are fuelled by limited and aging infrastructure so as to equip municipalities in order to effectively and adequately serve the people," he said.

Premier Zikalala also pleaded with public servants to adopt the Operation Khawuleza approach and return to the basic Batho Pele principles. "Service delivery is about putting people first. Let's use Khawuleza to prioritise provision of services. People must not wait for long hours to receive assistance. Departments must work in coherence to maximise the impact of service delivery," added Zikalala.



Premier Sihle Zikalala, MEC Siphon Hlomuka, MEC for Arts and Culture, Hlengiwe Mavimbela, Amajuba District Mayor Musa Ngubane and Mayor Ntuthuko Mahlaba cutting the ribbon at the official launch of Operation Khawuleza in KwaZulu-Natal.



Some of the equipment that was handed over to accelerate service delivery.



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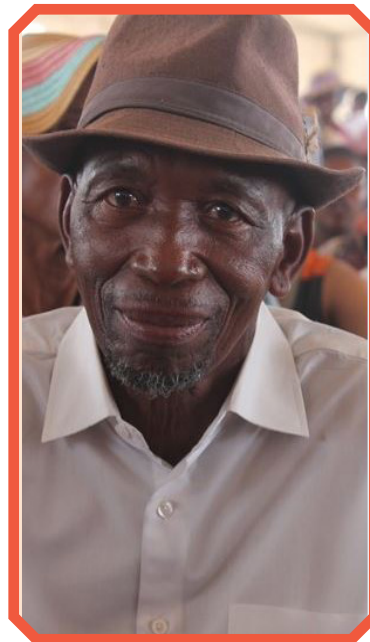
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Speaking at the launch, Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs MEC Sipho Hlomuka said the initiative is intended to accelerate service delivery and ensure integration among stakeholders across the province. "We are here to ensure that there will no longer be unwarranted delays to receiving service. If there are potholes, fires and water shortages, with these equipments, municipalities will be able to better respond to your needs," he said.

Speaking on behalf of local municipalities, Newcastle Mayor Ntuthuko Mahlaba said the initiative came at a time when the community was experiencing backlogs in service delivery. "We thank the government for these machinery which will ensure that municipalities are able to provide basic and core services. They will be used effectively to improve the lives of the people of Amajuba District," remarked Mahlaba.



Thembinkosi Ndlela said:

"We hope that Operation Khawuleza will be a turning point in how municipalities provide services, and that there will be no more excuses about lack of infrastructure that affects provision of services."



Sindisiwe Ngcobo said:

"I think this programme will definitely improve the way municipalities provide services, we really needed this machinery to change our lives."



Rasta Mahlangu said:

"I am happy to see government reaching out to people for service delivery and raising awareness on gender-based violence. As society and, particularly, men let's stop the abuse and live in peace, one love. Amen."



Khanyisile Mtshweni said:

"I am happy to be part of this GBV awareness campaign. I encourage all women who are in an abusive relationship to get out. To all men, be men enough and stop being monsters to your loved ones."



Skosana Innocent said:

"I am happy about the Thusong outreach as my mom was able to check her Road Accident Fund claim progress at the mobile truck; and on GBV, I am appealing to adults to protect and love us and not beat us, we are children."

PRIORITY 6: A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Marapyane Thusong Service Centre outreach

By Livhuwani Todani: GCIS, Mpumalanga

In celebrating Public Service Month and the Thusong Annual Week, the Government Communication and Information System partnered with Marapyane Thusong Service Centre to conduct an outreach campaign to bring government services to the people and raise awareness on gender-based violence (GBV) and femicide.

The outreach took place at Siyabuswa Mall on 18 September 2019. Government officials engaged with taxi drivers and commuters about GBV and handed out information and posters, encouraging the operators to plug them on their taxis to raise awareness.

Stakeholders included the departments of Social Development, Basic Education, Sports, Arts and Culture, Home affairs, Labour, and Cooperative Governance and Traditional affairs, the South African Police Service, the South African Post office, the South African Social Security Agency, the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa, the Road Accident Fund, the Legal Aid Board, the Office of the Premier, Moutse Community Radio Station, the Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality and non-governmental organisations, Age in action and Tirisano.



Community members receiving government services during the outreach.



Men and women taking a stand against GBV.



Vuyelwa Booi said:

"I am happy that NSFAS is here to assist me, I will definitely be able to go to university next year."



Thabiso Lebelo said:

"I was not aware that the Thusong Service Centre Week was celebrated annually. It is exciting to know this."

PRIORITY 6: A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Celebrating the Thusong Service Centre Programme

By Selloane Mokoena: GCIS, Free State

On 19 and 20 September 2019, the Government Communication and Information System and the departments of Labour, Home Affairs and Health, and the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) commemorated 20 years of the Thusong Service Centre Programme at Trompsburg and Zastron in the Free State.

Community members were invited to be part of the celebrations and receive government services at the Kopanong and Mohokare service centres. Young people received information on the NSFAS 2020 applications and funding.

Applications for the NSFAS can be done online on: <http://www.nsfas.org.za/content/how-to-apply.html>. Those hoping to get funding have until 30 November to apply.



Community members attending the event.



Government official, Ms Cholohelo Mothibi, engaging with community members and distributing information.



A government official sharing information with a community member.

PRIORITY 6: A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Information sharing on Thusong Service Centres

By Zimkita Maqokolo: GCIS, Eastern Cape

On 26 September 2019, the Government Communication and Information System, in partnership with the Mquma Local Municipality, held an Annual Thusong Week Exhibition to celebrate the Public Service Month. The event was held at Centane in the Eastern Cape.

The year 2019 marks 20 years of existence for the Thusong Service Centre Programme. The centres were conceptualised with the aim of redressing the imbalances of the past by taking services and information closer to the people.

The community of Centane received various information on government programmes and were taught how to use it for their benefit. More information on the Thusong Service Centre Programme can be accessed on www.thusong.gov.za.



Officials distributing information material to the people of Centane.