



# MYDISTRICTTODAY



# STAY SAFE

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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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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## PRIORITY 6: A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

### Stakeholders discuss SoNA

By Tabita Ngqunge: GCIS, Eastern Cape

The Government Communication and Information System in the Buffalo City Metro Municipality conducted the State of the Nation Address (SoNA) panel discussion at Kumkani FM on 9 February 2023. The purpose of the initiative was to provide a platform for various stakeholders from different institutions such as government departments, government entities and non-governmental organisations to express their expectations on the SoNA, which was due to be delivered by the President of the Republic of South Africa later that day. Stakeholders reflected on the achievements and successes of the government since the delivery of the SoNA 2022. It was also an opportunity to encourage members of the public to participate in the programme.

The address is an important milestone as it brings certainty to the country's political, social and economic landscape. It demonstrates that South Africa's democracy remains robust. In the address, President Cyril Ramaphosa was expected to set out government's key policy objectives and deliverables for the year ahead, flag challenges and outline interventions to unlock the nation's potential. Stakeholders who participated included the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Department of Employment and Labour, Buffalo City Metropolitan Development Agency and the South African Youth Council from Buffalo City Region.

During the discussions, stakeholders shared their programmes with the communities, which was welcomed with enthusiasm by the communities as this, is the information that would contribute in transforming their lives.



Panel discussion at Kumkani FM with stakeholders.



government communications

Department:  
Government Communication and Information System  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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### COVID-19 vaccine registration details for 12-year-olds and above:

Online at:  
<https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/>  
Send the word **REGISTER** to 0600 123 456 on WhatsApp.  
Via SMS by dialling \*134\*832#.  
Call the COVID-19 hotline 0800 029 999.

## PRIORITY I: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

### Session empowers community members

By Ntombi Mhlambi: GCIS, Free State

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in partnership with the Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) hosted an entrepreneurship information sharing sessions, under the theme: “Unlocking economic opportunities” at Nyakallong Community Hall, Allanridge, Free State on 3 March 2023. The National Youth Development Agency and the Department of Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs participated in the event by providing services that they are rendering within their organisations. The GCIS distributed information on government messages on Human Rights Month to the youth who were part of the event.

Jabu Nhlapo from SEDA mentioned in his engagement with the community that they assist potential businesses with drafting of business plans, correct pricing of products, marketing of the businesses and sourcing of funds for the businesses from agencies such as Small Enterprise Agency. The community of Nyakallong appreciated the session as they managed to engage with the invited stakeholders and participated in the survey questionnaire.



Khauhelo Maruping from SEDA addressing the community members.



**Papi Khasapane said:**

"The session was informative, however, I am interested in owning land and therefore, I would welcome the opportunity to also have a session with the department responsible for land to come and share information with us on how we can acquire land."



**Lilian Ntsane said:**

"The face-to-face sessions are more important than online ones as we get to understand things more clearly and ask questions when we do not understand."



**PRIORITY I: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.**

**Economic opportunities for young people**

*By Joy Themba: GCIS, Mpumalanga*

On 3 March 2023, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) collaborated with the Department of Employment and Labour, Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator, National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) and the City of Mbombela Local Municipality on information sharing on economic and labour market for young people in the district.

During the welcoming, an official from the City of Mbombela Local Municipality said: “Events such as this one enable young people to be adequately informed to stand up and want to participate in business and all work-related opportunities. With our stringent economy that is not doing well, we want to create mass employment opportunities for all, especially for other young people.”

Furthermore, the Tfolalwazi Youth Advisory representative, Luthando Maseko, requested that they should be located in one building to eliminate barriers of travelling costs because some of the facilities that are supposed to assist youth are located in areas that are inaccessible to indigent youth who are hungry for good opportunities.

Stakeholders who participated in the event included the GCIS, SA Youth Opportunity, NYDA, South African Forestry Company Limited, Gert Sibande TVET College, Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA), Independent Communications Authority of South Africa, Department of Employment and Labour, Torque Information Technology, Kishugu, Inkomati Usuthu Management Catchment Agency, Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency.

The GCIS requested all youth development offices to assist with the list of beneficiaries, so that they can be profiled in community radio stations to motivate others about the benefits of attending youth seminars and dialogues on job creation.



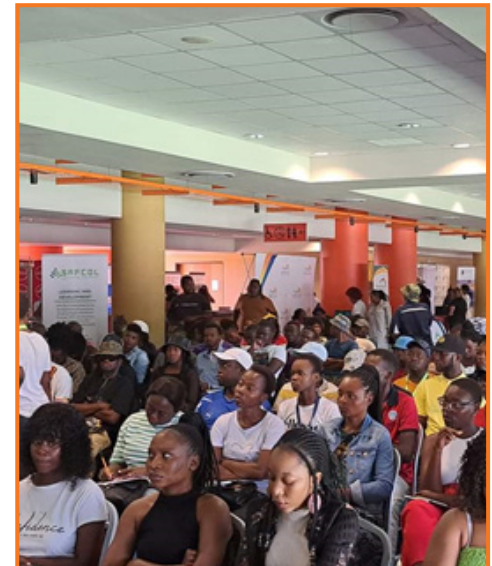
An official from the City of Mbombela Local Municipality welcoming all young people.



Nompumelelo Ndlovu from the Department of Employment and Labour sharing information with young people.



GCIS official Joy Themba engaging with community members.



Some of the youth who attended the seminar.



Steny Sibuyi said:

“Do not go after money before the information. People who chase money do not care about information that can change their lives for better. I am here today as a young entrepreneur who benefited from attending such information sessions and trainings with the NYDA and SEDA. I can attest that I own Lavista Suits and Clothing, which is becoming known nationwide and currently busy exploring more chain stores across the world.”



Bonginkosi Sithole said:

“Young people should never give up on applying for job opportunities. I attended an information-sharing session like this one the other day and received information that people are welcome to register with the Department of Employment and Labour job seekers database and I did. One day I received a call that there were vacancies available and when they checked on the database, they realised that I have the qualifications that they were looking for. I immediately applied and went for an interview and got the job.”





**Mmabatho Mnguni said:**

“It is well and good to understand the culture of human rights and what happened in the past, but let us save our children from the jaws of drug abuse and unemployment and I implore government to assist in addressing these issues.”



**Thobekile Mathebula said:**

“As a community development worker, I heard people complaining about load shedding and how it impacts their human rights, but I am glad that they are willing to embrace the culture of reading because knowledge is power and reading can enhance understanding of human rights.”

## PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION SKILLS AND HEALTH.

### Campaign advances human rights

*By Robbie Senoelo: GCIS, Gauteng*

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in partnership with the Gauteng Department of Sport, Arts, Culture & Recreation (SACR) and other stakeholders embarked on an information session and awareness campaign at Ekangala Community Hall on 8 February 2023 as part of the 2023 Human Rights Month communication campaign.

The aim of the activation was to raise awareness towards the main event of 2023 Human Rights Month, create awareness about it and educate community members about their human rights and where to seek redress when their rights are being violated.

The month of March has been declared as Human Rights Month and 21 March as Human Rights Day. The day is linked to the events of 21 March 1960 – also commonly known as the Sharpeville Massacre – where during a defiance demonstration, 69 people were killed and 186 wounded by the police. This year marks the 63rd anniversary of the fateful day and it is commemorated under the theme: “Consolidating and Sustaining Human Rights Culture into The Future”.

The Ekangala activation focused on the importance of being informed and the role that libraries play in inculcating a culture of reading and being well informed. Rebotile Sehlangu from the SACR said that their aim is to provide universal access to sport, arts, cultural activities, library, archival services and facilities.

“The department’s strategic goals are to inculcate a culture of reading and lifelong learning; preserve and make accessible the archival records of the province; and contribute to the developmental state and good governance,” she said.

Stakeholders who presented, exhibited and distributed their information products included the Department of Employment and Labour, the GCIS, Independent Communications Authority of South Africa, Independent Electoral Commission, Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, City of Tshwane Library and Information Services, and Siyakhya Youth Foundation.



Rebotile Sehlangu addressing the audience.



Community members accessing government information products.