



Issue no. 3: February 2022

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PRIORITY 1: BUILDING A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Census 2022 awareness campaign in Diepsloot

By Itumeleng Bogatsu: GCIS, Gauteng

The Deputy Minister in The Presidency, Thembu Siweya, visited the Diepsloot communities in Gauteng, on 31 January 2022, to encourage them to participate in the Census campaign.

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) is currently conducting the census, which is the fourth count and collection of data since democracy.

The data collected is usually used for planning, policy formulation and evidence based decision making. Municipalities also receive a small area data for their integrated development plans.

Data is collected in two ways, either through the Stats SA field workers who are visiting households where dwellers are, then be assisted in completing a questionnaire using a device, or one can complete the questionnaire remotely via web or telephonically.

Deputy Minister Siweya assured communities that field workers would be easily identifiable since they will be wearing fully branded Census 2022 uniform such as over-shirts and caps, and carrying their identity cards with Stats SA logo and the official's photograph.

She urged everybody to be part of the process and reassured communities that their information would be kept a secret, and further indicated that it is an offence to refuse to be counted.

The counting will include everybody within the borders of South Africa.



Census exhibition at a taxi rank in Diepsloot.



Deputy Minister Thembu Siweya engaging with taxi drivers in Diepsloot.

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COVID-19 vaccine registration details for 18-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 5: SPATIAL INTEGRATION, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

MEC visits flood victims

By Phoka Mofokeng: GCIS, Free State

On 27 January 2022, Free State Social Development MEC Mamiki Qabathe and Ward Councillor Mary Crocket, visited families that were affected by the recent floods in QwaQwa, Maluti-A-Phofung Local Municipality.

This was part of the provincial interventions aimed at providing relief to those affected and further assessing the damage caused by the floods that took place in QwaQwa.

During the recent floods in the area, three people drowned, several houses were destroyed and about 48 families were affected.

The Department of Social Development, as part of its objective of promoting an integrated and coordinated system in responding to disasters, established a response team consisting of social workers, community development practitioners and social partners in the area who provided the much-needed relief to the affected families. During her visit to the families, the MEC handed over mattresses, toiletry

packs and blankets. The Red Cross as one of the social partner also provided food parcels and vegetables.

The South African Social Security Agency has also committed to provide the social relief of distress cash benefit to the qualifying families.

In her remarks, MEC Qabathe conveyed message of support to those families who lost their loved ones during the floods and said the department would continue to provide emotional support to the affected families and members of the community.



MEC Mamiki Qabathe visiting the Koloso family in Bluegumbosch.



MEC Mamiki Qabathe and community members inspecting the damage.

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Vaccine manufacturing campus launch

By Peter Titus: GCIS, Western Cape

President Cyril Ramaphosa and Dr Patrick Soon-Shiong, founder of the multinational conglomerate NantWorks LLC, launched the NantSA Vaccine Manufacturing Campus and the Coalition to Accelerate Africa's Access to Advanced Healthcare (The AAAH Coalition) on 19 January 2021 at Brackengate, Cape Town.

NantSA, a division of NantWorks, and The AAAH Coalition, aims to accelerate domestic production of pharmaceuticals, biologics and vaccines that will reach patients across Africa.

In his speech, the President stated that through initiatives such as the Africa Medical Supply Platform, South Africa has worked to ensure that all African countries are able to secure sufficient and affordable supplies to respond to COVID-19.

President Ramaphosa further indicated that the NantSA facility will make a vital contribution in complementing the work already begun by companies such as Aspen, Biovac and Afrigen in South Africa and other companies across Africa.

The President concluded his remarks by indicating that we must recognise the funding and support by the Department of Science and Innovation, the South African Medical Research Council, the Rockefeller Foundation, the United States National Institute of Health, the European Commission, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Chan Soon-Shiong Family Foundation.

Many young Africans will benefit from the R100 million endowment that the Chan Soon-Shiong Family foundation has established to support the education and training in a skilled workforce in the biotechnology and life science industry.



President Cyril Ramaphosa and Dr Patrick Soon-Shiong officially opening the Vaccine Manufacturing Campus in Brackengate, Cape Town



Western Cape Premier Allan Winde interacting with Dr Patrick Soon-Shiong.

PRIORITY 1: BUILDING A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Pioneering community broadcasting in the age of digitisation

By Nandipa Sondati-Thawa: GCIS, Eastern Cape

Keith Ngesi Media (KNM), an umbrella body that houses Keith Ngesi Radio (KNR), Keith Ngesi Digital TV and Keith Ngesi Media Academy, has been established as a real content production company in South Africa and beyond.

It was founded based on a decision to diversify its products as an online communications channel to help its clients reach the global community, which is what sets it apart from the traditional media.

KNM started as Keith Ngesi Audio Production in 2006 and after reviewing its vision and the diverse services they offer, KNM was born. The media company, through its online platform, reaches listeners and viewers across the length and breadth of South Africa and beyond.

As part of its ongoing effort to reach out, capacitate and support to community, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) Eastern Cape Provincial Office met with the KNM team in East London on 21 January 2022.

This is part of the GCIS provincial manager's community media outreaches throughout the province whose intention is to reach out and hear first-hand, some of the strategic and operational challenges faced by the sector and also to share latest government initiatives in supporting community media towards sustainability.

The visit was also aimed at building relations in line with the GCIS strategic focus of building relations with the media sector in the delivery of development communication products. Endless partnership possibilities in the capacitation of government messengers particularly post 2021 local government elections were discussed.

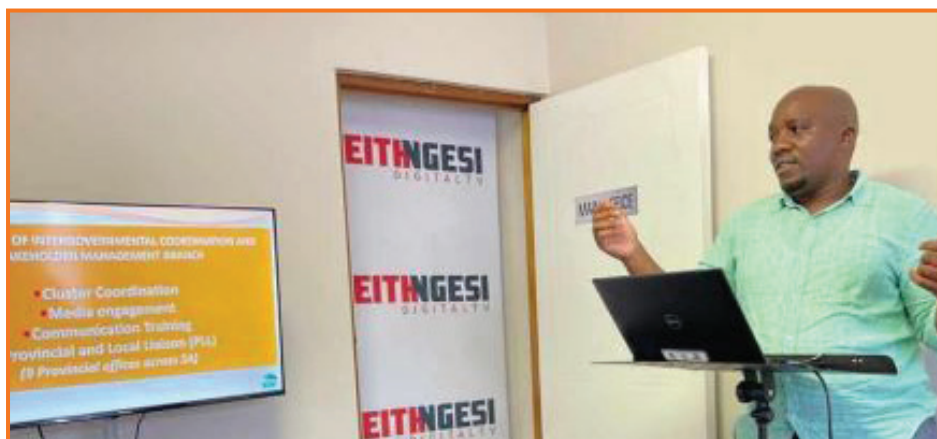
The session started off with a formal session wherein we were introduced to the KNM strategic vision, orientation, operations and approach to digital broadcasting.

GCIS's Ndlelantle Pinyana shared a presentation, which clearly outlined the GCIS mandate and strategic objectives in support of emerging digital media innovations and initiatives.

He further alluded on the GCIS role at district level for leverage, unpacking areas that could benefit the media in terms of mileage and partnerships in information dissemination towards the creation of an informed citizenry.

The second leg of the session was a guided tour to various state of the art facilities of KNM including the productions department, the Keith Ngesi Digital TV studios and the Keith Ngesi Radio.

The GCIS received first-hand information in terms of how they operate, both in the Keith Ngesi Digital TV as well as the Keith Ngesi Radio, the challenges they are encountering and partnerships developed over time.



Ndlelantle Pinyana sharing a presentation on GCIS mandate and its role.



KNM CEO taking GCIS through the operations of Keith Ngesi Digital TV.