



# MY DISTRICT TODAY



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## OUTCOME 3: ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AND FEEL SAFE

### March against women and child abuse

By Tshidi Mokoka: GCIS, Gauteng



Community members during the march.



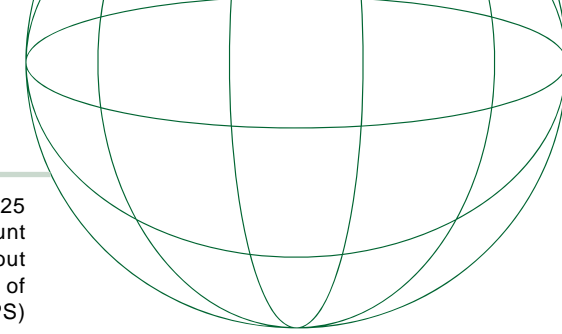
Officials from various organisations showing their support during the street march.



government  
communications

Department:  
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





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The 16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children campaign takes place from 25 November to 10 December every year. This year's campaign was observed under the theme: "Count Me In: Together Moving a Non-Violent South Africa Forward". In an effort to create awareness about this campaign, Magaliesburg community development workers in partnership with the Department of Social Development (DSD), Child Welfare, Brothers for Life and the South African Police Service (SAPS) conducted a march on 27 November 2017.

The march was used to encourage community members, especially men, to help fight the scourge of abuse against women and children. Dumisani Tshabalala from the DSD said that government is working with civil society to educate people about gender-based violence and encourage them to report it.

"It is important as community members that we be counted and report these forms of abuse. We must acknowledge that this is a social problem and that government also needs people on the ground to work together with the SAPS to fight against this violence," he said.

Magaliesburg is one of the areas encountering problems with taverns that are operating illegally and selling alcohol to minors.

"It is illegal to sell alcohol to a minor and people will be arrested if found to be doing that. In some cases, women are abused by their partners who often come home drunk. Others are attacked by men who drink at these illegal taverns. So it is imperative that these taverns are closed and it is only people in communities who can assist government in making sure that this happens," he continued.

During the street march placards were displayed with messages to raise awareness on abuse. Mzimkhulu Mtoyotywa from Brothers for Life said, "We are participating in this march to show our support and encourage other men to stand up and fight against abuse. We have noticed in our work that people keep silent on issues of abuse and we work tirelessly as an organisation to change this mindset. This is the reason we are here today, to educate people that reporting abuse will go a long way in assisting victims and also ensuring that abusers are arrested."



**Chico Choene said:**

"The street march went well today but we still need more men to be part of this. We were happy to see community members and we hope that people will start reporting to the SAPS or to organisations in their communities about abuse against women and children."



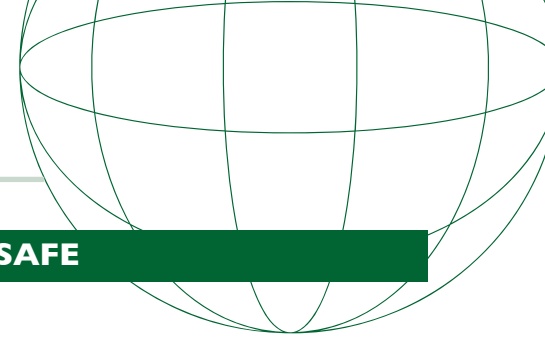
**Bertha Khumalo said:**

"I am happy with the information that I received today. It was good to be involved in such an event to show my support in the fight against abuse."



**Constable Babedi said:**

"We always encourage people to call or come to us to report abuse. It is important that we continue to educate the community on gender-based violence and what people need to do to get out of such situations."



## OUTCOME 3: ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AND FEEL SAFE

### Pledge for safer initiation period

By Ndyebo Kopo: GCIS, Eastern Cape



The area of Ntabankulu.

#### The Act seeks to:

- provide for the protection of life, the prevention of injuries and the prevention of physical and mental abuse of initiates;
- provide for the traditional leadership to take primary responsibility for the practice of initiation within their areas of jurisdiction, in partnership with government and all the other stakeholders; and
- protect the customary practice of initiation and ensure that it is practised within the constitutional and other legal prescripts.



Community members at the event.

Traditional leaders in the Alfred Nzo District, Eastern Cape, committed to ensure that there are no deaths of initiates during the summer traditional initiation season.

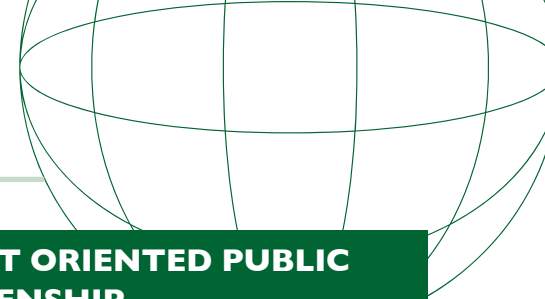
This was during the safe initiation awareness campaign that took place from 6 to 10 November 2017 in schools and traditional councils across the district.

The main purpose of the campaign was to ensure that there are no casualties during the initiation season, to revive initiation working committees and ensure that the district initiation forum work in unison with local initiation forums and other stakeholders. This was also to ensure that there is proper coordination among stakeholders and understanding.

The campaign was led by traditional leaders and it was a collaborative exercise between the Eastern Cape House of Traditional Leaders, Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, departments of basic education and health, South African Police Service, Alfred Nzo District Municipality and District Initiation Forum. Learners, traditional councils, parents, traditional nurses, surgeons and the community at large. The main message was, “*Mabaye bephila babuye bephila*” (They left alive and must come back alive).

Chief Nompokhwe of Duku village under Lwandle Olubomvu Traditional Council said, “Our children are dying in the mountain and this is no joke. We need traditional leaders to take full responsibility and stop pretending that this tradition is the responsibility of government. It is us, traditional leaders, who need to put aside everything and work hard to ensure that we restore the dignity when it comes to this tradition and save our children’s lives.”

There were no deaths in the Alfred Nzo District during past winter traditional initiation season. According to Chief Tsita, the acting chairperson of the Alfred Nzo District Initiation Forum, this was due to the cooperation between all stakeholders that were involved and also the new initiation Act, which emphasises that all initiates should be 18 years or older.



## OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

### Public hearings on Eskom's revenue application

By Nontuthuzelo Jas: GCIS, Mpumalanga



One of the consumers presenting his case on the tariff increase.



**Xolani Mbanga said:**

“Eskom’s initiative to implement a short-term incentive tariff to enable closed industrial plants to reopen is supported. In parallel, Eskom must move to cost-reflective tariffs for energy intensive industries.”



NERSA panel members listening to various presentations. Some of the attendees of the hearings.



NERSA panel members listening to various presentations. Some of the attendees of the hearings.



An official from Eskom presenting at the event.

The National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) held its public hearing on Eskom’s revenue application for 2018/19 in Mbombela on 10 November 2017. This was after Eskom submitted its application for an increase in the standard electricity tariff of 19.9% in order to raise its total allowable revenue to R219,5 billion. The hearings give consumers a chance to have a say on Eskom’s application.

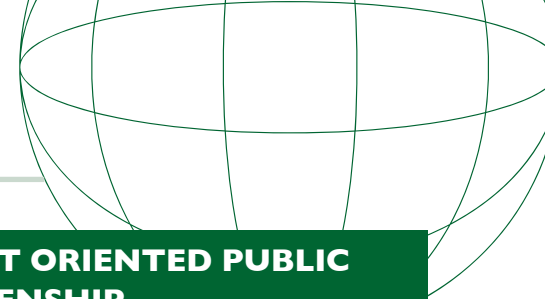
Various representatives such as the Energy Intensive User Group of Southern Africa, Sabie Chamber of Commerce and Tourism, Kruger Lowveld Chamber of Business Tourism, Middelburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry, South African Cane Growers Association and members of the public, made presentations during the hearing.

Calib Cassim from Eskom said, “Our debt maturities reflect a step change in the near term that requires a strong balance sheet to cover Eskom’s commitments. We believe that this revenue application has taken various factors into account in aiming to keep cost escalations close to inflation and phasing in of returns to mitigate impact on the customer.”

Meanwhile, Dean Le Roux from the World Sending Service, opposed the application saying “Eskom has not demonstrated good revenue control. We cannot afford the electricity increase as businesses are already closing down due to power cuts”.

In closing the session, panel chairperson Mbulelo Ncetezo appreciated the presentations that were made and informed participants that as soon as they are done with public hearings for all provinces, NERSA would discuss all the inputs that were made and would announce on 7 December 2017.

The Government Communication and Information System attended the hearings and distributed government information products.



**Mpho Mokoka said:**

“The presence of government departments today makes us very happy as they are able to give us the necessary assistance without us having to travel too



**Motlatle Kgadi said:**

“We are very much proud and relieved as services have finally come to our home. We wish this could happen frequently not once in a year.”

## OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

### Uitflight service delivery day

By Nkopodi Mokgoma: GCIS, Limpopo



**An official from the National Development Agency presenting about their services.**



**Some of the community members at the event.**

The South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) organised a service-delivery day to the community of Ga-Botha, Uitflight, under the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality. It was a joint effort with various government institution and supported by the local municipality. The village is in a remote area far from most government department centred in Groblersdal. The event took place on 24 November 2017.

The residence of Uitflight and the surrounding villages took the opportunity to access various government services offered during the day.

The representative of the local traditional leader, Kgosi Kekane, indicated his excitement about the event. “We are very thankful for government to think about us and come to bring services to our homes.” he said.

Some of the institutions that were rendering services included SASSA, National Development Agency, Government Communication and Information System, departments of economic development and tourism, South African Revenue Service, South African Police Service and the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality.