



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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OUTCOME I2: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

Free State delivers state-of-the-art stadium

By Lehlohonolo Manoto: GCIS, Free State

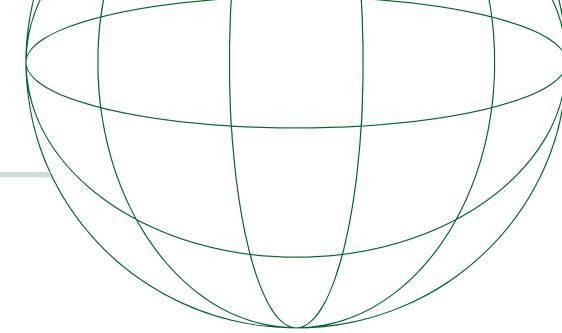


The new Dr Rantai Petrus Molemela Stadium.

"Government is working hard to ensure that the lives of people change for the better." These were the words of Free State Premier, Ace Magashule, at the opening of the state-of-the-art stadium in Bloemfontein on 21 October 2015. The stadium was one of the biggest projects in the province and costed government more than R300 million. The stadium was named Dr Rantai Petrus Molemela Stadium in honour of the founder of Bloemfontein Celtic Football Club and will be used as a home ground by Bloemfontein Celtic.

Sport and Recreation Minister Fikile Mbalula attended the launch. The Minister and the Premier handed over the stadium to the Executive Mayor of Mangaung Metro Municipality, Councillor Thabo Manyoni. Minister Mbalula emphasised that he does not want to see the stadium become a white elephant. He further indicated that the stadium accommodates all sporting codes and if properly used, it would keep children off the streets and away from crime.

The project has created jobs and changed lives of the people of Mangaung Metro Municipality.



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Martin Mjezu, Start Mathinjwa and Charley Matshediso said:

"We are very happy about what the Free State Provincial Government has done, building this beautiful facility. We wish the people of Mangaung can really take care of this stadium as more games will be played here."



Lehlohonolo Motlohi said:

"I am grateful I was part of this big project. I worked here for more than 12 months and have benefited financially as I was able to provide for my family."



Samkelo and Bulelani Momani said:

"As young people in South Africa, we have worked very hard and gained a lot of experience during the construction of this stadium. We have benefited financially as we received a monthly salary during the construction of the stadium."



Tlale Mosepele said:

"I am glad I was working here because unemployment is a big challenge but I was happy that I got hired. Besides the experience I had before working here, I also learned many things. I worked eight days in a month for the past 12 months and was very happy about my salary as it was enough to help me take care of my family."





Cushions and other different sewn garments attracted many passersby.

OUTCOME 5: A SKILLED AND CAPABLE WORKFORCE TO SUPPORT AN INCLUSIVE GROWTH PATH

Exhibition empowers small businesses

By Itumeleng Bogatsu: GCIS, Gauteng



The Daveyton Mall parking bay was taken over by government departments' exhibitions.



The Government Communication and Information System, in conjunction with South African Black Hawkers Industry Business Agency and the Department of Social Development, hosted a business week event at Daveyton Mall where local arts and culture groups performed.

The idea behind the event was to promote emerging businesses in and around the area, facilitate business linkages that are aimed at transferring technological skills to the small business sector, build the capacity of emerging and established small businesses through various skills training, encourage joint ventures and to maintain close working relationships with organisations that pursue similar goals and objectives.

Some of the stakeholders that were present include Gauteng Enterprise Propeller, Department of Trade and Industry, Local Economic Development, Small Enterprise Development Agency, Eskom and Old Mutual.

Small businesses exhibited their products and services.

This was the first event that sought to transfer technological and entrepreneurial skills to small, medium and micro enterprises, people with disabilities and women in business to increase economic empowerment with the view to help them participate fully in the mainstream economy.



Traditional attire and school uniforms were also on sale.



Members of the community at the official opening of the Ramochana bridge.



Kagiso said: "The taxi industry will operate smoothly as a result of the new bridge."



Desmond Louw said: "The Ramochana bridge will improve the flow of traffic in the city of Rustenburg."



Mataboge said: "I believe that the bridge will relieve traffic congestion in Rustenburg."

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

Mayor officially opens new bridge

By Ephraim Malema: GCIS, North West



Mayor Mpho Khunou officially opening the Ramochana bridge in Rustenburg.



Rustenburg residents listening to the Mayor's keynote address.



Cars and people using the Ramochana bridge.

The Executive Mayor of Rustenburg Local Municipality, Mpho Khunou, officially opened the Ramochana bridge in celebration of Transport Month on 22 October 2015.

The Mayor was helped to cut the ribbon by a child who was dressed in traditional clothes, who was among the first people to cross the new bridge. Rustenburg community members gathered at Ramochana bridge at 17:30 to witness the opening of the new bridge, the first of its own kind in the area.

The bridge is part of the Rustenburg rapid transport system, YARONA, which will bring a transport revolution in Rustenburg. It also connects with existing systems of rail, buses and minibus taxis, ensuring that people move around the city easily.

The Mayor said that the project has created employment opportunities for the local community. "Many people from Rustenburg who were unemployed are now employed as a result of this project. We also used the local contractor to build this bridge and we are proud of that," said Mayor Khunou.

The bridge will also boost the economy of the mining companies around Rustenburg.

The project is being funded from the coffers of national government to develop road infrastructure for the Rustenburg rapid transport system and is estimated at around R2 billion.



Officials from the Department of Social Development providing services to community members.



Community members accessing services from the South African Social Security Agency.



Officials from the Office of the Public Protector rendering services at the event.



Ingrid Jacobs said: "The event provided me with an opportunity to apply for my ID."

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

Khayamandi community benefits from mobile programme

By Peter Titus: GCIS, Western Cape



Khayamandi community members waiting for the programme to start.



Officials from the Department of Social Development also provided services to community members.



Community members interacting with an official from the Department of Home Affairs.



Community members accessing services from the South African Social Security Agency.

Government has implemented 120 Thusong Service Centre outreach projects in the Western Cape, assisting 140 000 citizens to access government services and information. About one million citizens access services through the Thusong Service Centres in the province.

In the Western Cape, the Thusong Service Centre mobile project is used to bring government services closer to communities.

The mobile programme visited the Khayamandi community from 14 to 15 October 2015 and assisted 633 community members in need of government services. Various government departments were based at the Khayamandi sports field, where residents came to access services. The Department of Health offered voluntary HIV, TB and blood-pressure testing services. The Department of Home Affairs assisted community members with applications for identity documents (ID), passports, birth and death certificates.

The Office of the Public Protector provided information on its role and how members of the public can report complaints to the office. The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries provided information regarding how unemployed young people can access bursaries from the department to further their studies in the agriculture field.

Young people also received information from the Department of Social Development on career opportunities and advice on how to live a healthy lifestyle.

The programme was also supported by Nedbank and First National Bank. The Department of Public Works presented application forms to young people who intend to further their studies in the field of engineering.