



MYDISTRICTTODAY



STAY SAFE

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

Issue no.10: April 2022

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:

EASTERN CAPE

Ndlelantle Pinyana
043 722 2602 or 076 142 8606
ndlelantle@gcis.gov.za

FREE STATE

Yolisa Blom
051 448 4506 or 072 130 9893
yolisa@gcis.gov.za

GAUTENG

Peter Gumede
011 331 0164 or 083 570 8080
peterg@gcis.gov.za

KWAZULU-NATAL

Ndala Mngadi
031 301 6787 or 082 877 9420
ndala@gcis.gov.za

PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

National Human Rights Day commemoration

By Kaone Lekgetho: GCIS, North West

The National Human Rights Day commemoration event was hosted at Reagile Sportsground in Koster, North West on 21 March 2022, under the theme: “The Year of Unity and Renewal: Protecting and preserving our Human Rights Gains”.

The event, led by the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture in partnership with various stakeholders, brought along service trucks and information stalls to the people of Kgetlengrivier Municipality.

While giving the keynote address, President Cyril Ramaphosa reflected on the brutal shooting of unarmed protesters in Sharpeville on 21 March 1960, and the killing and wounding of people in Skierlik by a white gunman, Johan Nel, on 14 January 2008.

The President said, “These incidents sadden and anger us, and they should. These incidents have no place in our society, where we still struggle to heal the divisions of the past.”

President Ramaphosa further recognised the significant progress the country has made over the past 28 years in tackling poverty and deprivation, such as the building of houses, hospitals and clinics; the implementation of universal basic education, and free higher education; access to decent water, sanitation and electricity; and the extensive social welfare system, among other things.

The residents of Koster and Kgetleng Municipality were happy to access government services on the day. They also expressed the joy of receiving a newly built Reagile Community Library, which was officially opened by the President on Human Rights Day.

Also in attendance were the Minister of Sports, Arts and Culture, Nathi Mthethwa, Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Ronald Lamola, North West Premier Bushy Maape, Executive Mayor of Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, and the Mayor of Kgetlengrivier Local Municipality.



President Cyril Ramaphosa at the 2022 Human Rights Day event in Koster.



Official opening of the newly built Reagile Community Library by President Cyril Ramaphosa, Minister Nathi Mthethwa and Premier Bushy Maape.



government communications

Department: Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



LIMPOPO

Thanyani Ravhura
015 291 4689 or 082 421 3461
thanyani@gcis.gov.za

MPUMALANGA

Jerry Nkosi
013 753 2397 or 082 316 5295
Jerry@gcis.gov.za

NORTH WEST

Boitumelo Mosadi
018 381 7071 or 073 245 0906
boitumelom@gcis.gov.za

NORTHERN CAPE

Ofentse Moeti
053 832 1378/9 or 084 390 4330
Ofentse@gcis.gov.za

WESTERN CAPE

Geraldine Thopps
021 418 0533/2307 or 081 281 2200
Geraldine@gcis.gov.za

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 5: SPATIAL INTEGRATION, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Government engages community members

By Reki Skosana: GCIS, Mpumalanga

On 7 March 2022, community members from Emalahleni Local Municipality in Mpumalanga were afforded an opportunity to host the Presidential Climate Commission (PCC). It sought to discuss and receive inputs and comments from various invited stakeholders on the developed draft Just Transition Framework for South Africa, which was developed in 2021 by the PCC and published for further inputs and comments until 31 March 2022.

Dr Crispian Olver, who serves as a secretariat in the PCC, gave a brief background, overview and the role and responsibilities of the commission.

The stakeholders were then afforded an opportunity to voice out their concerns, which are seen as hindrances towards the implementation of the 'Just Transition' and ways to deal with them. They submitted various issues, which included empowering and supporting women, particularly those in rural areas; the issues of illnesses caused and exacerbated by the mining emissions that pollute the air and in some instances lead to water contamination and suppression; high rate of job losses in the mining sector and others; rapid closing down of power stations; negligence towards the children belonging to foreign nationals; lack of basic services and by-laws within local municipalities; dysfunctional hospitals; post COVID-19 Economic Recovery and Reconstruction Plan; consultation with the traditional leadership; the impact of load shedding on businesses and livelihood in general; clear and attainable social and labour plan, and rehabilitation plan by the mining sector; and lack of skills and skills transfer.

In closing remarks, Ayakha Melithafa, a youth commissioner and a climate justice activist, said "All the things spoken about here are those that are reflected in the commission. As young people we must know that we deserve to be in this space, we must look at stakeholders that have been left out so that they can be involved when we return as a commission. It is our mission as a commission to ensure that next time we have a community engagement here, we host the session at the right time and accessible dates and ensure that the languages spoken are those that can be heard and understood by most of the people."

Melithafa further assured the participants that their concerns and inputs have been noted. "I want to assure you all that everything you said here today, did not fall on deaf ears. We heard you all, as a commission," she concluded.

The session was attended by representatives from various civil society organisations, South African National Civic Organisation and other labour organisations, Eskom, South African Women in Mining Association, the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy, Emalahleni Municipality, SASOL, Government Communication and Information System, Office of the Premier and others.

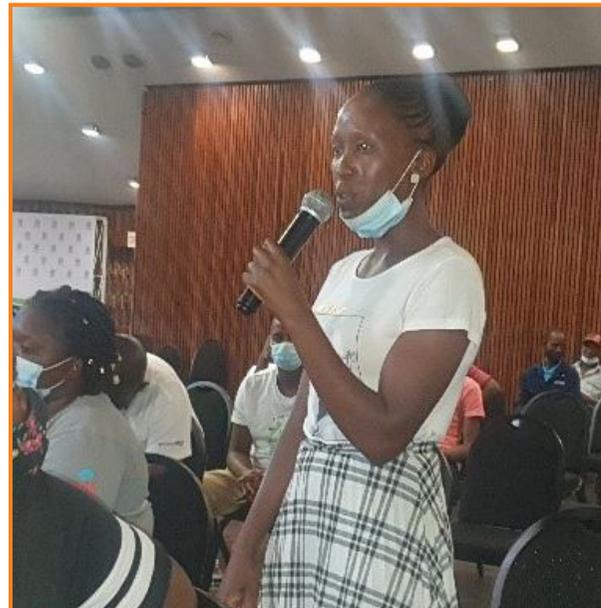


Participants and stakeholders during a consultative dialogue at the Civic Centre in Emalahleni.



Mathew Hlabane said:

“Just Transitions is not about the Independent Power Producers, it is about communities and workers participating and deciding their future. I am appealing that the commission needs to come back to Emalahleni because the invitation did not reach many.”



Jabulisile Makhubo said:

“All relevant stakeholders must be present when engagements of this nature are held so that questions can be directed to them, not to the commission. I also request that information about these events be shared with our local municipalities so that we can access it. Local languages should be considered.”

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Youth access health services

By Tinyiko Molefe: GCIS, Gauteng

Sedibeng District Health Services in Gauteng embarked on a health services outreach targeting students at Vaal University of Technology, on 23 February 2022, with an effort of raising awareness about general health issues and providing guidance on tackling and addressing health issues such as COVID-19, reproductive and chronic health challenges.

Students were provided with information about the importance of responsible and cautious health decisions.

“As students start their academic year, and most of them being far areas and beginning to leave alone with minimum supervision from parents, we realised that it is important to remind them about the importance of taking care of their health and always taking health cautious decisions,” said Puleng Kobokoane from Hands of Hope Organisation.

Students were also provided with reproductive health information including HIV and AIDS awareness. Some were tested and advised on how to take care of their health.

Mathaba Marotola from the Department of Health said, “We are here today to ensure that we let our target audience know the importance of knowing their health status which directly influences their daily activities including their studies.”



Khuliso Muvhango said:

“I am here today because knowing my health status is very important to me.”



Sthembiso Mkumbeni said:

“I appreciate the services that I received today because it was easy to access them at my place of learning.”



Mathaba Marorotola sharing information about COVID-19 and health awareness.



Puleng Kobokoane from Hands of Hope conducting health screening.



Muray Kortje said:

“The reason I wanted to be on the RCL is that I want to make a change when it comes to our learners at Beaufort West Secondary School. There are a lot of times learners are undermined and I want to change that.”



Ivannisha Louw said:

“I want to be the voice of learners, to stand up for learners and make changes in Mandlenkosi Secondary School, to help it build on a relationship with learners and build on the fundamentals of the school for our learners to rise above various circumstances.”



Rickhel Van Der Horst said:

“I have good leadership abilities. Our school, Bastiaanse Secondary School, is dealing with serious leadership challenges and I joined RCL because I want to contribute to changing that. I am the secretary of the RCL for my school. I learnt about proper minutes taking and records management from this training.”

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Learners capacitated with leadership skills

By Monique Warden: GCIS, Western Cape

On 19 March 2022, the Independent Electoral Commission in the Central Karoo Regional of the Western Cape, held a capacity-building session for the Representative Council of Learners (RCL) of high schools in the Beaufort West Municipal area.

The session was held at the Bastiaanse Secondary School Hall was attended by RCL from Beaufort West Secondary, Mandlenkosi High School and Bastiaanse Secondary School.

The programme covered basic leadership, project management, designing a school project, and a pledge for RCL representatives.

This session was meant to assist young people that are in the RCL to know their roles, develop leadership skills and have a vision of where they want themselves and their schools to be.



Young leaders from Mandlenkosi, Beaufort West and Bastiaanse Secondary schools at the session.