



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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

Community members join hands to fight domestic violence

By Jacob Molete: GCIS, Gauteng



Warrant Officer Moja addressing the community during the launch.



Warrant Officer Lebogang Ramaesa speaking at the launch.



Community members attended the event.

The 16 days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children is observed from 25 November to 10 December every year. Hundreds of people gathered at Tsakane Extension 15 grounds to show solidarity on the campaign against women and child abuse.

Speaking at the launch, Warrant Officer Paul Moja, from the Tsakane South African Police Service, educated community members about different forms of abuse. "Women and child abuse take different forms such as sexual harassment, physical abuse, assault, rape and corrective rape, domestic violence and other cultural practices that are harmful to women and children," he said.

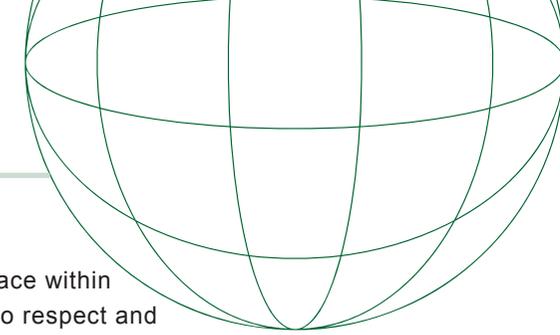
Despite South Africa's constitutional and legislative protection, gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual orientation remain at unacceptable levels and community participation is crucial to fight the scourge.

"To end the scourge of women and child abuse, we need to work together with law-enforcement agencies and other structures such as community policing forum to fight against crime, and women and child abuse. We urge you to play your part in this fight against abuse," said Ntombi Mabaso.



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Men were also encouraged to take up their role of protecting their families and promote peace within the family unit. “Men are family protectors, not family destroyers, let us teach our children to respect and promote peace at home. In most cases, children who are abused grow up to become abusers as well,” said Thabo Sebasa.

Community members were urged to report all kinds of abuse, including child neglect. “We want to speak out against and report GBV and child-neglect cases. Please do not ignore such incidents in your community, you need to speak out and report them to us so that we can take necessary steps against the perpetrators,” said Thembi Sebote of Ekurhuleni Metro Police Department.

The year 2015 marks the 17th year of South Africa formally participating in the campaign. Moreover, the campaign coincides with the 365 Days of Activism programme of action against GBV. This year’s campaign is observed under the theme: “Count Me In: Together Moving a Non-Violent South Africa forward”.



Kgothatso Motha said:

“I support the campaign because it encourages everyone to speak out against women and child abuse.”



Luvo Buthelezi said:

“We should all participate in the fight against women and child abuse, including the abuse of men hence I am here to support the campaign.”



Nomthandazo Motsamai said:

“Abuse against anyone is not right. We must speak out against all forms of abuse, more importantly the abuse of women and children.”



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



GCIS Acting Director-General Donald Liphoko said:

“Members of the community can search for employment opportunities in advertisements that are placed in the *Vuk’uzenzele* newspaper, which is free of charge. There are now two editions of *Vuk’uzenzele* every month.”



SABC General Manager Tseliso Ralitabo speaking at the event.



A community member accessing *Vuk’uzenzele* newspaper from the GCIS stall.

Minister takes digital migration to communities

By Ephraim Malema: GCIS, North West

Communications Minister Faith Muthambi and North West Premier Supra Mahumapelo took part in the digital migration Imbizo at Ben Marais Hall in Rustenburg on 7 November 2015.

The Minister and the Premier conducted a door-to-door campaign in Boitekong to encourage local residents to register for free set-top boxes (STBs), before addressing a digital migration Imbizo at Ben Marais Hall.

“Community members must go to their local Post Office and register for STBs. People from North West must be the ones who install the STBs. We cannot employ people from outside the province to come and install the STBs in your province,” said Minister Muthambi.

The Minister also said there are career opportunities at the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) for people who want to write their own stories. “People from North West must tell their own stories by coming up with their own content for new SABC programmes,” she said.

Premier Mahumapelo welcomed the digital migration programme. “Digital migration will change the lives of ordinary people. We really support digital migration, which the Minister of Communications is bringing to this province,” he said. An exhibition was done by the Department of Communications entities that were present namely; SABC, Independent Communications Authority of South Africa, Brand SA and Government Communication and Information System (GCIS). The South African Post Office, which is the distributing agent for the STBs on behalf of government, was on site to explain the process of registering households that qualify to receive subsidised STBs.



Minister Muthambi speaking at the digital migration Imbizo.



Minister Muthambi and Premier Mahumapelo during a live interview at the mobile Motswedeng FM studio.



Members of the community accessing services during the digital migration Imbizo.



OUTCOME 2: A LONG AND HEALTHY LIFE FOR ALL SOUTH AFRICANS

Government continues to empower communities

By Vuyisile Cindi: GCIS, Mpumalanga

The Gert Sibande District Municipality partnered with the Government Communication and Information System and other stakeholders on 12 November 2015 to celebrate Disability Rights Awareness Month at Ntorwane at Dipaleseng Local Municipality. The main objective of the Disability Rights Awareness Month is to increase awareness about the rights of persons with disabilities; accelerate equal access to socio-economic opportunities for persons with disabilities by making information available and accessible; and harness the abilities of persons with disabilities as active participants in South Africa's development. The month is also used to demonstrate government's commitment to the promotion, protection and upholding of the rights of persons with disabilities by removing access and participation barriers to socio-economic opportunities and justice, and by strengthening the representative voice of persons with disabilities.

Publications such as *Vuk'uzenzele* and other information products were distributed to members of the community and assistive devices were handed over to people with disabilities on the day.



Bafana Mazibuko said:

"I am very happy that I have received my medical referral letter to consult a specialist. My health is very special to me so that I can see my grandchildren's future."



Gert Sibande District Disability Coordinator, Doctor Mayisela, surrounded by close friends after a great job to help people with disabilities.



National Health Insurance mobile trucks rendered different health services at the event.



Sandile received his first wheelchair.



Ndazi Masuku received her first wheelchair at the event.



Bettie Shabalala received her first walking cane at the event.



Martha Mashinini and Solomon Rakitla received their assistive devices.



Some of the beneficiaries at the event.



Another beneficiary with her assistive device.



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

Government programme benefits community

By Sabelo Kakaza: GClS, Eastern Cape



Thamalisa Nosiphiwo Poni said:
“Being able to contribute to the needs of the family is what excites me the most but it would not have been possible without the CWP.”



Thulani Masumpa said:
“This programme helped me a lot. I am now able to provide for my four-month-old baby.”

The community of Sada in Whittle Sea at Lukhanji Local Municipality is one of the areas with a high rate of crime, poverty and unemployment. However, with government initiatives such as the Community Works Programme (CWP), things look promising. In Ward 9 of Lukhanji Local Municipality, the CWP employed 31 people, 16 females and 15 males. Most of them are breadwinners in their respective families. The community appreciates the programme because of the number of projects it provides, such as the painting of community halls, cleaning of streets, dumping sites and parks.

“The CWP has brought hope to the hopeless. Some of us never thought we would ever have an opportunity to be trained and have certificates but through the CWP, we have been trained in areas such as home-based care, HIV and AIDS programmes, catering, plumbing and first aid. After the