



MYDISTRICTTODAY



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PRIORITY 1: DRIVE INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND JOB CREATION.

Dialogue discusses benefits of South Africa's G20 Presidency for the youth

By Morena Motlounj; GCIS, Free State

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), mobilised and gathered students for a dialogue to discuss South Africa's Presidency of the Group of Twenty (G20) taking place in November 2025. The dialogue was facilitated in collaboration with the Flavius Mareka Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College at its main campus in Sasolburg, on 20 May 2025.

The GCIS is mandated to communicate and disseminate information on government programmes. Through the dialogue, the GCIS sought to engage and discuss the involvement of ordinary South Africans, especially young

people, in government processes; and also deliberate on the direct impact of the summit on edited targeted tertiary institutions as well as organised communities in the build-up activities.

Some of the stakeholders who participated in the G20 outreach included the National Development Agency, departments of Health and Employment and Labour, South African Social Security Agency, Youth Development units from the Fezile Dabi District and Metsimaholo Local Municipalities, as well as the South African Police Service.



Mr Reuben Lethule, Head of Administration at the Flavius Mareka TVET College, welcomed the initiative and challenged government to do more for young people across the district and the country.



Ms Ayanda Makgora from the School Representative Council discusses programmes aligned to the G20 and education.



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Students of Flavius Mareka TVET College engaged on various topics the dialogue.



Mr Mndeni Ndwandwe from the GCIS Stakeholder Management directorate, provided an overview of the G20 and its priorities as part of government information that people can use to change their lives for the better.



Mr Lucas Moilola said:

"I learnt that money alone is not enough in the lives of children. I did not realise the importance of fathers being physically there for the children."



Ms Naomi Nemavhadwe said:

"A great workshop where we engaged one another and got different views on how to jointly bring up children. We learnt that we should prioritise the needs of children above ours."

PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Tshwane's Region 6 Communicator Forum puts focus on present fathers

By Robbie Senoelo; GCIS, Gauteng

On 7 May 2025, members of the Tshwane Region 6 Local Government Communicators, Forum (LGCF) attended a workshop and film viewing at the Council Chamber of the Mamelodi Thusong Service Centre.

The session, organised by an organisation called Heartlines and titled: "Fathers Matter", focused on promoting the active, positive presence of men in the lives of children. While acknowledging the extraordinary role that single mothers and grandmothers play in the lives of children, the project aims to highlight the risk factors associated with the absence of fathers or positive male figures in the lives of children.

After showing two films, Mr Gerhard de Koker from Heartlines said, "According to research, children who grow up without the active, positive presence of

men in their lives, are at significant risk of being victims or perpetrators of violence, including gender-based violence and femicide, drug and substance abuse, mental health disorders, teenage pregnancy and poor educational and economic outcomes." He differentiated and defined biological fathers and social fathers such as uncles, grandfathers, church leaders, teachers, coaches, male influencers and role models.

"It is vital that fathers be positively present in the lives of their children and always consider the children's interests before their own; and show this by their actions." Even if a father lives in a different home, city, village, country or is no longer with the child's mother, he can be present and show interest in the child's life," said Mr de Koker.



Mr de Koker from Heartlines presenting to attendees during the LGCF in Mamelodi.



Tshwane Region 6 LGCF members attending the Fathers Matter Capacity Building in Mamelodi.



Phiwe Ngcobo:

"The expo has opened our eyes to many opportunities we were unaware of. It helped us better understand the different fields of study available and made it easier to choose a career path. Most importantly, we now have a clearer picture of what the mining industry has to offer."



Mbalenhle Madlala:

"We learnt so much about what the mining industry has to offer and what is required for us to benefit from the field. We were educated by different people to help us understand different careers, including financial assistance and bursaries. Today's information will help us to brighten our future."

PRIORITY 1: DRIVE INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND JOB CREATION.

uMgungundlovu District hosts career expo to empower Grade 12 learners

By Mlungisi Dlamini; GCIS, Kwa-Zulu Natal

Matriculants from various schools across the uMgungundlovu District, in Kwa-Zulu Natal were given an opportunity to engage with government representatives and sector entities to explore available and in-demand career opportunities in South Africa.

The career expo, led by the Department of Minerals and Petroleum Resources, was held on 13 May 2025, at Siyanda High School in Pietermaritzburg. The primary goal of the event was to prepare matriculants, especially those from

rural areas, for post-matric education and career planning. The initiative forms part of the government's ongoing commitment to improving access to quality education and raising awareness about viable career paths.

The programme targeted Grade 11 and 12 learners from various schools pursuing science, technology, engineering and mathematics subjects. Reflecting on the day's events, some learners from Learn Park High School shared their experiences.



Learners visiting the Government Communication and Information System Information stand.



Government officials and students from various schools during the career expo.



Learners visited various exhibition stands to get more information on available careers.



PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

King Sabata Dalindyebo Executive Mayor welcomes G20 tourism opportunities

By Anelisa Mlonyeni; GCIS, Eastern Cape

As part of the Local Government Thursdays (LG Thursdays) programme, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) hosted the Executive Mayor of King Sabata Dalindyebo (KSD) Local Municipality, Cllr Nyaniso Nelani, in a radio discussion on Keith Ngesi Radio on 22 May 2025.

In a bid to intensify transparency and engage with communities, Cllr Nelani discussed the current state of the municipality and initiatives being implemented to overcome those challenges. The Executive Mayor's focus was on delivery and access to basic services, as well as key priority areas of the municipality's Integrated Development Plan (IDP). KSD is the economic hub of the Eastern Cape's OR Tambo District.

"In honouring our commitment to improve the provision of basic amenities, the municipality has constructed five community halls in various areas as well as four ablution facilities. The municipality has also undertaken the refurbishment of Rotary Stadium. These initiatives display the importance of

investing in infrastructure around our municipality," said the Executive Mayor. Cllr Nelani highlighted that the municipality's participation in the Group of Twenty (G20) initiative aimed to drive economic growth and development through job creation, skills development and tourism. "We welcome the G20 and the influence it has in building the economy of our country. When we talk about building KSD, I believe this could be a wonderful opportunity to attract investors and bring tourism to the municipality, as this is the home of the great former president Nelson Mandela, which has a rich history and a lot of tourist attractions. We appreciate G20, and we believe in its great benefits," he concluded.

As the municipality continues to address challenges of high unemployment and the effects of protests on infrastructure development, the mayor reiterated that the municipality was working hard to address the challenges through increased public participation, improved communication, transparency, visibility and providing updates on service delivery projects in progress. He emphasised the importance of job creation and economic development in addressing service delivery issues in local government.



Cllr Nelani reflecting on service delivery initiatives, IDP priorities, catalytic projects, as well as G20 implications on the KSD Local Municipality.



One of KSD's tourist attractions "A Hole in the Wall" in Coffee Bay.