




MY DISTRICT TODAY



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OUTCOME 4: DECENT EMPLOYMENT THROUGH INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

Municipality hosts post-SoNA seminar on oceans economy

By Portia Mlisa: GCIS, Western Cape



LED Manager Solomzi Madikane, Acting Provincial Director Louis Botha, Facilitator Althea Whitaker, interviewed by Village News and Hermanus Times officials.



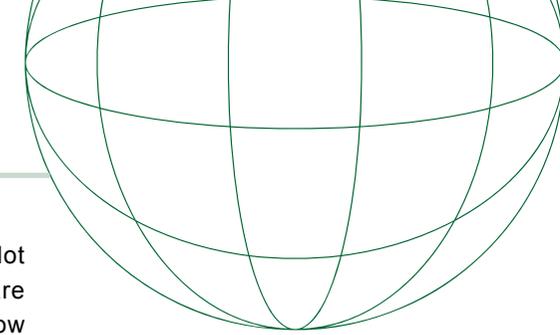
LED Manager during his welcoming address.

The Government Communication and Information System in partnership with the Overstrand Local Municipality hosted a post-SoNA seminar on 22 July 2016 at the Overstrand Banquet Hall in the Overberg District.



government
communications

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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“This is a priority programme, one of the problems is that there is a silo planning. There is a lot of planning done but not known by all the stakeholders involved. Captains of the industry are here, we need the private sector to overcome the challenges we have. We need to think of how we can make sure there is sustainability in the sector. We need to have a committee to share ideas and get mentors in the industry,” said Solomzi Madikane, the LED Manager in Overstrand Municipality, during his welcoming address.

The facilitator from Cape Peninsula University of Technology mentioned that it was very important to appreciate that community members have not destroyed municipal infrastructure when they are not satisfied with service delivery. She further encouraged the sector to go back to basics such as the promotion of community engagements to avoid working in silos.

A representative from Abagold Ltd mentioned that there was a massive industry in the aquaculture sector in Hermanus. He said, “Phakisa plans are credible on paper, but private sector and people in the business have challenges in accessing funding”. He also mentioned that there is an incredible power that exists in the industry and getting solutions to those challenges would bring incredible results.

It was agreed that as part of the action plan, there was a need for multi-stakeholder forum to take issues that were identified and get solutions for them. These challenges should be small-scale fishery related. We need to look at the inclusive development strategy so that we make Operation Phakisa to work. LED in the Overstrand Local Municipality will invite stakeholders and take it from there.

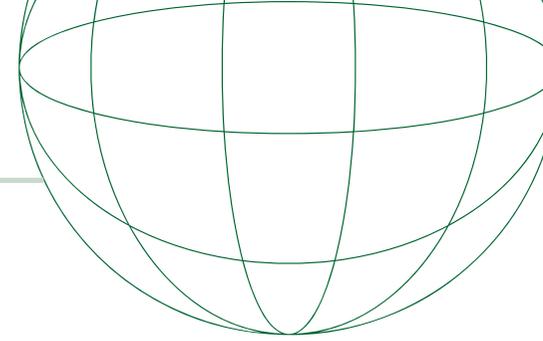
A total of 42 individuals actively participated in the seminar and showed interest in ensuring that there were continuous engagements taking place.



Some of the delegates who attended the seminar.



Dignitaries at the event.



Lou.Anne Lubbe said:

“The seminar was helpful, with broad insights. It would be more helpful if the specific focus was on Operation Phakisa.”



Jacques Kasner said:

“The whole session was well presented.”



Nomonde Simon said:

“The programme was very informative, having to engage with other stakeholders who are sharing views under the same goal, to better our sea economy.”



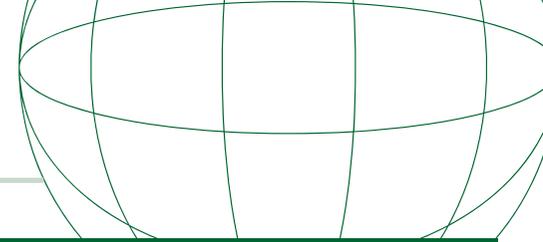
Cynthia Booysen said:

“I found the seminar very informative. I have learned new things that are very beneficial to the Hawston community. This industry is very big, the work that needs to be done is much, therefore, we need committed and passionate people who love this industry.”



Neville Henn said:

“The seminar was informative, however, there are still more challenges to be addressed. It needs continuation.”



Constance Keli said:

“I am very happy to be receiving a blanket because it is the first time that I am receiving something. I did not even get food parcels but I am very happy.”



Nosingile Musani-Colosa said:

“I am very grateful for the blanket and I am also thankful for the gift of freedom I have received from Nelson Mandela.”

OUTCOME 14: A DIVERSE, SOCIALLY COHESIVE SOCIETY WITH A COMMON NATIONAL IDENTITY

Deputy Minister reaches out to senior citizens

By Tabita Ngqunge: GCIS, Eastern Cape



Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams presenting blankets to senior citizens.



Gemina Mokoena said:

“I am very happy on this day that we remember Tata Nelson Mandela. I am very happy and I say forward with government.”

On 15 July 2016, Deputy Minister of Communications, Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams led an International Nelson Mandela Day outreach programme in Idutywa, Mbashe Local Municipality. The programme formed part of the Deputy Minister’s Nelson Mandela International Day initiatives.

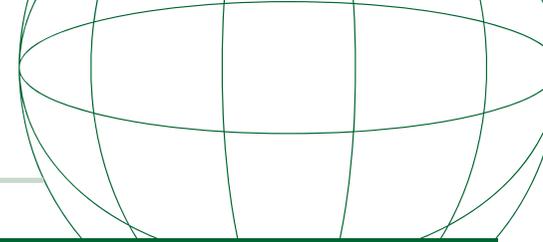
As part of commemorating the day, the Deputy Minister conducted an information awareness drive and presented blankets to indigent households and elderly citizens. The celebration was aimed at reminding people of Ubuntu and to embrace the values that former President Nelson Mandela shared and ultimately, to make everyday a Mandela Day.

Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams emphasised the importance of Ubuntu and forgiveness. “Nelson Mandela was able to forgive people who put him in prison for 27 years, not have a wife and leave his children for us to be where we are today,” she said.

The programme included activities such as an Information Blitz that took place at the taxi rank. The Deputy Minister also visited a local youth-led project; conducted a door-to-door blankets presentation to indigent households and lastly, a community engagement and presentation of blankets to elderly citizens, which took place at the Idutywa Town Hall.

The Deputy Minister thrilled community members when she asked what kind of birthday it would be without presents as she started presenting blankets to a large number of Idutywa’s senior citizens.

After the handing out of gifts, senior citizens took the opportunity to thank the Deputy Minister through a little traditional dance.



Irene Kushane said:

“I am very happy for everything that has been done for these children here today. It is not every day that something like this happens, so I am very happy.”



Ntombi Mabhiya said:

“After this event, I feel happy because as the parents of these children, we really did not expect this. This means a lot to us and we are very happy. We thank the people who made the means to come and support the centre.”

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

Children with disabilities showered with gifts

By Masego Motshidisi: GCIS, Northern Cape



Teachers, parents and children at the Early Childhood Development Centre in Kimberley.



Children sitting with their gifts after the ceremony.

The Disabled Children Action Group (DCAG), a non-governmental organisation operating from Tlhokomelo Thusong Service Centre in Galeshewe has over the years continued to improve the lives of children in Kimberley. On 18 July 2016, the DCAG put smiles on the faces of children with disabilities, by presenting a number of donations as part of their contribution to make a difference on the lives of people during the International Nelson Mandela Day.

The group, together with Family South Africa, Government Communication and Information System and the entire staff of the Tlhokomelo Thusong Service Centre dedicated their 67 minutes to children with disabilities in the Northern Cape.

Brand new mattresses, blankets, nappies and toys were donated to the children at the Mankurwane Primary School in Vergenoeg.

Parents and close relatives were also in attendance to offer their support and to witness to this significant day. They felt very honoured and hoped the assistance received could be more sustainable.



Rebecca Nkomane said:

“I am very happy about the opening of this clinic as we will no longer have to go too far when we are sick. We wish other services can come closer to the farm in the future.”

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

Somerhoek wellness receives a wellness centre

By Nkopodi Mokgoma: GCIS, Limpopo



Acting Mayor Lekola, the CEO of AgriAids SA, Monene Mamabolo, Reverend Dikwebo, the farm manager, Solomon, and Councillor Mahlobogwane Tabea at the opening of the clinic.

On 18 July 2016, AgriAids SA in partnership with the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality and the Department of Health (DoH) officially opened the wellness centre facility at Somerhoek farm as part of the Nelson Mandela International Day commemoration.

Somerhoek farm is located in the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality, approximately nine kilometres west of Marblehall town. The farm’s management took a decision to refurbish an unused building to pave the way for the accommodation of the clinic, which will assist the farm workers in particular as far as health-related issues are concerned. The DoH will provide medication and other consumable items while AgriAids SA will provide clinical and administrative personnel.

In his keynote address, the acting Sekhukhune District Executive Mayor Fanie Lekola indicated that the opening of the clinic would give the farmers in and around Somerhoek access to health services. “Those who are working on the farms are working not for their families alone but for all of us as they produce food that we consume daily,” he said. He acknowledged that the opening of the clinic at Somerhoek coincided with the International AIDS Conference, which took place in Durban.

Services such as HIV counselling and testing, screening for non-communicable diseases, pap smear for women and referrals for voluntary medical male circumcision were offered.

Hendri Solomon, the manager of Somerhoek farm, thanked all the stakeholders and sponsors of the event for the opening of the clinic. “Farm workers no longer have to travel too far to access health services. This clinic at the farm will save them time and costs of traveling to Marblehall town,” he remarked.