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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 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

GCIS hosts information-sharing session on G20 in the Kalahari

By Lecrecia Prins and Phumla Matole; GCIS, Northern Cape

On 12 September 2025, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) held a Group of Twenty (G20) information-sharing session in Askham in the Dawid Kruiper Local Municipal area, ZF Mgcawu District. The session saw young people and the elderly being educated and informed about the upcoming G20 Summit and what it meant for the economy and development of South Africa.

The G20, which represents 85% of global gross domestic product, was established to tackle pressing global economic and financial issues. South Africa holds the G20 Presidency until 30 November 2025 under the theme: "Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability." The aim of the summit is to ensure that no one is left behind, particularly in Africa.

Mr Andrew Polelo, a community member of Askham, said that the G20 Summit was a good thing because the country must collaborate with other countries to strengthen and develop their economies and find ways to improve policies.

Mr Pieter Swartz, also a community member said, "South Africa is a large country with different challenges, and it is important that the country belongs to an economic community that holds opportunities for both South Africa and Africa at large." Other community members said that the G20 Summit should also focus on global warming and environmental issues.

During the session, G20 leaflets were distributed among residents for them to read and get more knowledge and a better understanding of the G20 Summit.



GCIS Regional Communications Coordinator, Ms Lecrecia Prins, engaging community members about the importance of the G20 Summit.



Ms Prins sharing information with learners about the G20 summit and responding to relevant questions.









LIMPOPO

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

MPUMALANGA

Poppy Maluka (Acting) 013 753 2397 or 071 606 3998 poppy@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





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

Eastern Cape Provincial Government honours literary Xhosa giant

By Sinobomi Mathombela and Lindokuhle Nxazonke; GCIS, Eastern Cape

In a vibrant celebration of South Africa's rich cultural tapestry, the Eastern Cape (EC) Provincial Government hosted a memorable Heritage Month event to honour esteemed Xhosa poet, cultural icon and writer, Mr Samuel Emanuel Krune (S.E.K.) Mqhayi. The commemoration took place at the Walter Sisulu University Potsdam Campus in Ntabozuko on 24 September 2025.

EC Acting Premier, Mr Mlungisi Mvoko, joined by Member of the Executive Council (MEC) for Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture (DSRAC), Ms Sibulele Ngongo, led a wreath-laying ceremony at Mqhayi's gravesite to pay tribute to his contributions towards preserving the Xhosa heritage. Participants at the event showcased their unique cultural dances, celebrating South Africa's multicultural heritage.

MEC Mvoko encouraged the youth to keep the legacy of the renowned legend alive. He stated that by so doing, they would ensure that they kept track of their heritage and celebrated icons that helped to shape the future.

During the commemoration, Acting Premier Mvoko and MEC Ngongo also honoured the Kho Kho players who won bronze medals at the Kho Kho World Cup in India. These players were part of Team South Africa, which was chosen to represent the country during the World Cup. Kho Kho consists of indigenous games that are used to promote diverse cultural heritage across the country.



Acting Premier Mvoko encouraged young people to carry forward the legacy of Mqhayi by embracing heritage as a living resource.



The wreath-laying ceremony led by Acting Premier Mvoko and MEC Ngongo.



Cultural performances at the EC Provincial Heritage Day celebrations.



MEC Ngongo and Acting Premier Mvoko honouring Kho Kho players who won bronze medals at the Kho Kho World Cup in India with donations. The donations form part of the province's Legacy Projects.





PRIORITY I: DRIVE INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND JOB CREATION.

G20 Breakfast Dialogue with traditional leaders in Qwa-Qwa

By Phoka Mofokeng; GCIS, Free State

On 17 and 18 September 2025, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), in collaboration with Bakoena Royal House, hosted a Breakfast Dialogue at Namahali and Batlokoa Royal House in Tsheseng.

A mobile service delivery exhibition was arranged through the Office of the Premier and National Stakeholder Partnership to provide services to the residents of the two villages. The event was graced by *Morena e Moholo wa Bakoena*, Moremoholo Mopeli, *Marena* and *Mafumahadi* of Batlokoa.

The Executive Mayor of Maluti-A-Phofung (MAP) Local Municipality, Cllr Malekula Melato, accompanied by MAP Water Acting Chief Executive Officer, Mr Thomas Mkaza, also formed part of the two-day dialogue.

The session aimed to bring together government officials and traditional authorities to discuss key issues such as sustainable development, food security and climate resilience. The dialogue also opened a platform for traditional leaders to share their insights and experiences and to highlight the importance of local knowledge in addressing global challenges. Moreover, the dialogue sought to ensure that voices of traditional leaders were included in the agenda of G20 sectoral meetings.

Traditional leaders were empowered with G20 information to share with their respective constituencies. MAP Water, which is responsible for water reticulation, infrastructure and access, shared the role traditional leaders could play in ensuring that people were not awarded sites on land earmarked for water infrastructure. The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture shared the African perspective on the G20 and the importance of cultural diplomacy. Stakeholders such as the National Prosecuting Authority, Wholesale and Retail Sector Education and Training Authority (W&RSETA) and the Department of Employment and Labour, shared their mandate and services with the communities.

During interactions, traditional leaders emphasised the need for government to consult them on their programmes and initiatives, especially those affecting people at grassroots level. They further appealed for regular visits of mobile outreach programmes, where services are brought closer to the people. The issue of land was also emphasised, as they believed that it would help to eradicate poverty within their communities. The leaders requested government to prioritise the issue of jobs, as most of the youth in their constituencies were unemployed, and did not receive funding or bursary opportunities to further their studies, which resulted in them resorting to crime and substance abuse.



Delegates engaging with SA Youth officials during a walkabout at the exhibition stalls.



Traditional leaders of the Bakoena Royal House in attendance at the G20 Breakfast Dialogue in Namahali.















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

Government and partners engage McGregor community during GCIS and IEC outreach

By Peter Titus; GCIS, Western Cape

On 9 September 2025, more than 220 community members gathered at the McGregor Community Hall to participate in an outreach programme hosted by the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) in partnership with the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS).

The outreach created a platform for government departments and stakeholders to directly engage residents on key services and programmes. Government departments and organisations that attended were the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA), the Department of Social Development (DSD), the Military Veterans Ombudsman, South African Police Service (SAPS), as well as ABSA and FNB.

Community members were given the opportunity to interact with officials, ask questions and receive assistance on issues ranging from social grants and family support services to policing matters, voter registration and financial literacy. The IEC encouraged residents to register and participate in the upcoming 2026 Local Government Elections (LGEs), while SASSA provided guidance on the review and application processes for grants.

IEC Provincial Electoral Officer, Mr Michael Hendrickse, informed community members that the right to vote was a constitutional right. "Your vote is important to ensure that our democracy works."

Speaking at the event, officials emphasised the importance of partnerships between government and the private sector in ensuring communities such as McGregor had access to crucial services. The presence of financial institutions further assisted residents with information on banking services, access to credit and financial management.

Community members expressed appreciation for the initiative, noting that it brought government closer to the people. The outreach forms part of ongoing efforts to strengthen public participation, promote active citizenship and ensure that residents are informed and empowered to participate in democratic and developmental programmes.



2026 LGEs.



Community members accessed SASSA, DSD and Hospice services.



Community member, Mr Andrew Wagenaar, was assisted with his Disability Grant application.