



MY DISTRICT TODAY



SEND ME
TO BUILD THE MZANSI I WANT

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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:

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OUTCOME 13: A COMPREHENSIVE, RESPONSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM.

Minister reaches out to residents

By George Moeketsi: GCIS, Gauteng



Minister Siyabonga Cwele presenting ID cards to pensioners.

The Minister of Home Affairs, Siyabonga Cwele, visited the Garankuwa Home Affairs office on 24 January 2019 to confirm officials' readiness to serve citizens who will be collecting or applying for their smart ID cards and temporary identification certificates. The Minister also interacted with community members and emphasised the critical role of local and provincial stakeholders in urging citizens to collect their IDs.



Matsebe Masemola and Mapula Molongoane displaying their smart ID cards.

"There are nearly 300 000 uncollected IDs nationally. The department urges citizens who have applied for IDs to visit Home Affairs offices to collect them," he said. Minister Cwele also handed over smart ID cards to two pensioners, Mapula Molongoane and Matsebe Masemola, who were happy to receive their cards.



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Mapula Molongoane said:

“I am going to vote and I will encourage others to register this weekend and vote in May.”



Matsebe Masemola said:

“This is a great moment for me because I did not expect that the Minister would be here to hand me my smart ID card. My day has been made.”



Ga-Rankuwa Home Affairs manager engaging with Minister Siyabonga Cwele.



Principal Magagula said:

“I am the Principal of Simtfolile Secondary School. I am happy that we did well as a team at the school, and two of our educators received awards today. These educators are Nkosi BP for Life Sciences and Tivane SS for Agricultural Science. Our hard work and dedication to teaching has paid off.”



Wiseman Mthembu said:

“I am from Ndlela Secondary School in Mkhondo. I would like to thank everyone at home and all educators at school for their support. I achieved this through my hard work and the support I received from them.”



Simangaliso Simelane said:

“I am from KiriyaSwane Secondary School. I received these two awards for being the top learner, for being number one in the district in Physical Science and for being number two in Mathematics. It was through hard work and dedication to my school work that made me obtain these awards.”

OUTCOME 1 : IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION.

Grade 12 achievers awards

By Bongani Mazibuko: GCIS, Mpumalanga



Principals of schools that made an upward improvement of above 10%.



Top performing educators in various subjects also received awards.

On 18 January 2019, the Department of Education in the Gert Sibande District Municipality led the celebration of the 2018 Grade 12 Awards Ceremony at the Gert Sibande District Municipality’s Mayor’s Parlour, celebrating the good work of the 2018 learners and educators, and all other stakeholders. The event was opened with an entertainment piece by the Ndlela Secondary School Choir.

The Executive Mayor of Msukaligwa Local Municipality reminded the learners that the country and the municipality need artisans. The District’s Executive Mayor, Cllr Muzi Chirwa, delivered the keynote address, encouraging all stakeholders to play their role in education. The District Director in the Department of Education delivered the departmental remarks mainly appreciating the good work done by the various stakeholders. The District Director together with Mayor Chirwa presented the District Director Special Award to SASOL, mainly for consistently supporting education in the district.

Wiseman Mthembu from Ndlela Secondary School in Mkhondo was the overall top learner in the Gert Sibande District Municipality after being the runner-up nationally. He obtained 100% in Mathematics and 296 out of 300 in Physical Science. Five top schools which registered an upward improvement of 10%+ were Thuto Thebe Secondary, Takheni Secondary, Lilanga Secondary, Ithafa Secondary and Mkolishi Secondary.



Sizwe Mbanjwa said:

“We started this business as four directors, myself, Dean Dunn, Justin Govender and Mlungisi Ntombela. We started as a CMT because we needed to build our name so that customers could see the quality of garments that we make and have confidence in us. In terms of our gearing we are not a typical CMT factory because of our cost structure and the type of machinery we use. We are happy that the retailers such as the Foschini Group and Mr Price are responding. We make mainly jeans, chinos and T-shirts. We have big ambitions in terms of growth. We have already highlighted some of our plans, we are working with government departments. We are also talking to the eThekweni Municipality for the Dube Tradeport Textile Hub. That will help create more job opportunities but most importantly, it will be a platform to bring new talent into the space of the textile industry.”

OUTCOME 4: DECENT EMPLOYMENT THROUGH INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH.

Textile business on the rise

By Vasanthi Naidoo: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal



The premises of Africa Blaize Apparel.

On 22 January 2019, the MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Sihle Zikalala and the Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, Bulelani Magwanishe, officially opened the Africa Bespoke Apparel.

Located in Verulam, the company started by four directors as Africa Blaize Apparel in 2016. However, the owners had bigger plans and set out to revive the textile industry by expanding their business. They then approached KwaZulu-Natal Growth Fund to raise capital and they received part funding. The shareholders had some of their own money which they contributed towards the capital but it was not enough. They then approached the Department of Trade and Industry for more funding through its Black Industrialist Programme. The company was also funded by the KwaZulu-Natal Growth Debt Finance.

The organisation started operations in the middle of 2018 as Africa Bespoke Apparel and are now fully operational, employing 500 permanent staff. The company used to deal with the middle man and not directly with the retailer, but now they supply the retailers and clients directly. Currently, negotiations with the likes of the Foschini Group and Mr Price Stores have been well received. According to the CEO, Sizwe Mbanjwa, they would like to grow the industry by roping in upcoming young talent in the industry. They are putting together their own design centre and are currently in discussions with the Durban University of Technology to employ their graduates.

Mbanjwa said they were not at the stage yet to dictate prices but have to take the prices as negotiated with the retailers. As such, there is a very small margin of profit but with the establishment of their own design centre and label, the company aims to set the prices for their garments, grow the business and provide a platform for the development of younger talent in the industry.



Mighty Mngadi said:

“I am 31 years of age. I come from a rural area in Ndwedwe. It is amazing to be at ABA and a privilege to be part of the whole project. I did not get the chance to study further but I do have my matric. So I feel like this is a stepping stone for me because my parents did not have enough money to send me to university. There is more I can learn here and more I can achieve. I work in the cutting room, where everything starts. I have grown in the past years. I started as a packer and now I can make up a garment and tell people how it will look. I can also make patterns. I still want to learn as much as I can and there is a lot more to learn, a room for improvement. Maybe one day I will work in the office, I do not know but that is my vision.”



Fathima Ntao said:

“I started working at Blaize with Mighty in the cutting room. He taught me a lot and from there they moved me to help on the floor. I became a supervisor. I currently run the pinafore line. It is very nice to work here. I am hoping that we grow so that we can get better ourselves. Life is expensive. I am willing to learn to grow and develop.”



William said:

“I have voted before. I am going to confirm my voting registration.”



Piet said:

“I have voted before and I know I am registered and I will only confirm my registration online.”



Leswifi Lebogang said:

“I have never voted before and I am going to register to vote tomorrow.”

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

Voter registration campaign in Hammanskraal

By Valencia Rachuene and Willy Phalane: GCIS, Head Office



Hammaskraal Community members receiving information materials.

South Africa will host the sixth democratic national and provincial election in May 2019. Those who qualify to vote need to be registered with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) to be eligible to vote. Every South African citizen over the age of 18 with a valid South African identity document can register to vote in their nearest voting stations.

Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) partnered with the IEC and community development workers embarked on a voter registration and anti-corruption campaign in Hamanskraal Renbro Shopping Centre on 25 January 2019. The event aimed to encourage community members, especially the youth to register, and if already registered to go and confirm their registration status in their nearest voting station. The GCIS and IEC communicated various methods that community members may use to confirm their registration status and voting stations, such as visiting the website www.elections.org.za or SMS their ID numbers to 32810 or contact 0800 11 8000.

IEC and voter registration pamphlets were shared with the community members. The GCIS also distributed various government publications such as the *Vuk'uzenzele* newspaper, the Constitution and the *Public Sector Manager* magazine.