



NORTHERN CAPE

# PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER | EDITION 14



Province of the  
**Northern Cape**  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Condolences on the passing of  
the former Deputy President

## MR. DAVID MABUZA

The Premier, Dr. Zamani Saul, on behalf of the Northern Cape Government and the People of the Northern Cape, sends his most heartfelt condolences to the family, friends and comrades of the late Former Deputy President, Mr. David Dabede Mabuza.

The former Deputy President will be remembered for his humility and principled nature.

Our thoughts and Prayers are with his entire family, the people of Mpumalanga, the Country and his comrades in his political home, the African National Congress.

**May his Soul rest in Peace.**

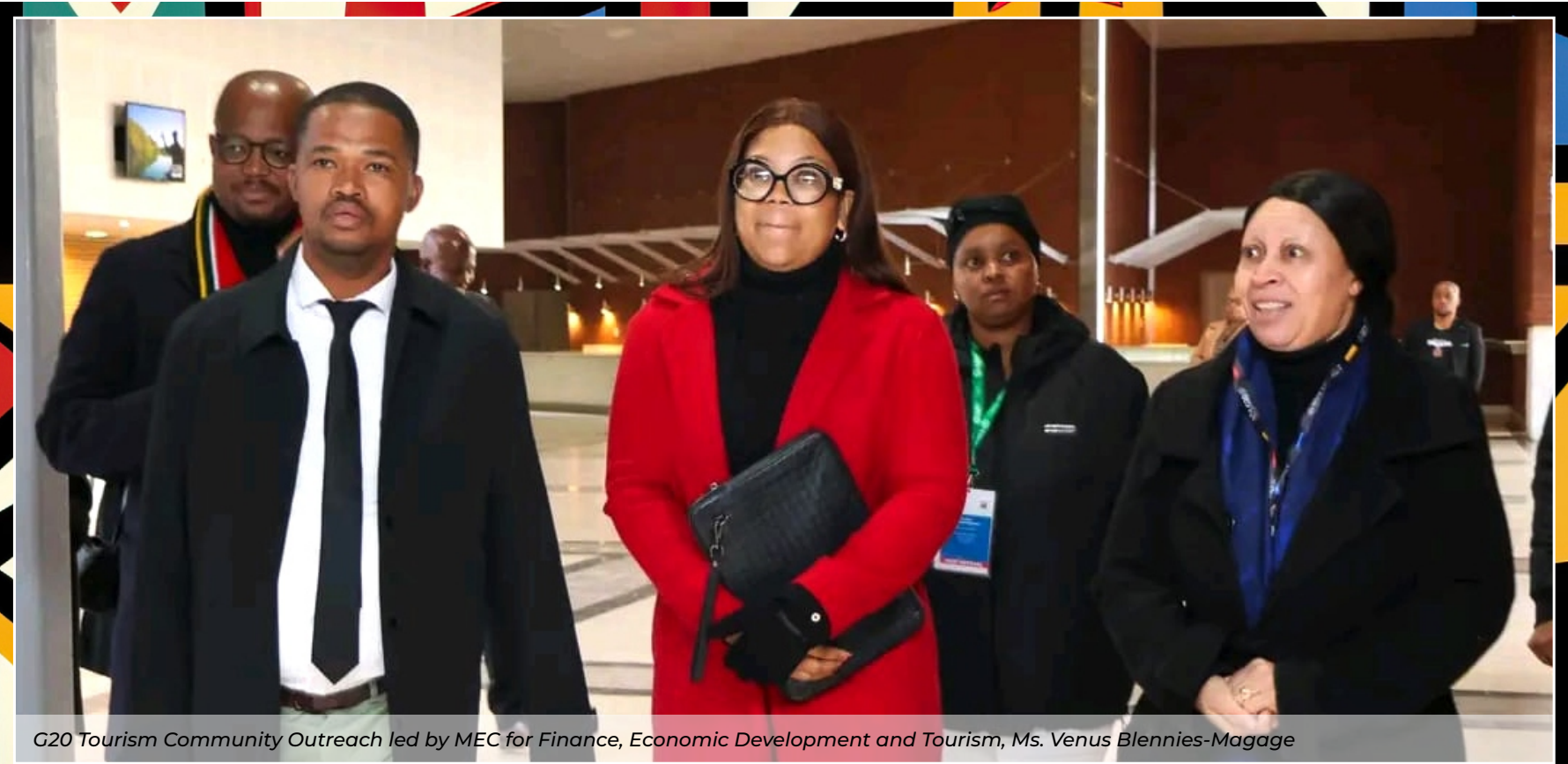


A **NATION** THAT **WORKS** FOR ALL





# NORTHERN CAPE HOSTS G20 TOURISM COMMUNITY OUTREACH



G20 Tourism Community Outreach led by MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Ms. Venus Blennies-Magage



The Deputy Minister of Tourism Ms. Makhotso Soty together with MEC for Economic Development and Tourism Ms. Venus Blennies-Magage lead the Tourism G20 Outreach Programme.

On 3 July 2025, the Northern Cape proudly hosted a **G20 Tourism Community Outreach** Engagement, led by the MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Ms Venus Blennies-Magage.

The outreach marked a significant step in localising global tourism priorities and ensuring that communities are actively involved in shaping an inclusive and sustainable tourism future.

This session was the first in a national series of dialogues designed to align the **G20 Tourism Agenda** with South Africa’s local socio-economic realities. It brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including:





The Deputy Minister of Tourism Ms. Makhotso Sotyu together with MEC for Economic Development and Tourism Ms. Venus Blennies-Magage lead the Tourism G20 Outreach Programme.

- Local SMMEs showcasing tourism crafts and products
- Provincial officials and tourism practitioners
- Academic voices and policy experts

The engagement focused on translating G20 priorities into local opportunities, particularly for emerging tourism entrepreneurs and small businesses. Following the March 2025 virtual **G20 Tourism Working Group (TWG)** meeting, four key global priorities were identified for the 2025 G20 Tourism Action Plan:

- People-Centred AI and Innovation – to empower start-ups and SMMEs in the tourism sector.
- Tourism Financing and Investment – for equitable and sustainable growth.
- Improved Air Connectivity – to facilitate seamless regional and global travel.
- Enhanced Resilience – for inclusive and sustainable tourism development

MEC Blennies-Magage underscored the importance of grassroots participation, noting that true progress in tourism lies in empowering communities, encouraging innovation, and expanding access to opportunities.

The event reaffirmed South Africa’s commitment to multilateral cooperation and its vision for a resilient, inclusive tourism economy that benefits all citizens.



Deputy Minister and MEC with Departmental Officials at the Mayibuye Uprising Memorial



Local SMME's showcasing tourism crafts and products.



Local SMME's showcasing tourism crafts and products.



# 2025 NATIONAL SASCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

“The Year of the Champs” – A Triumph for the Northern Cape.



The 2025 South African Schools Choral Eisteddfod (SASCE) National Championships lived up to its rousing theme, “The Year of the Champs”, as choristers from across the country converged at Rhema Bible Church in Randburg, Johannesburg from 01–04 July.

Among them, the Northern Cape delegation made a remarkable impact, showcasing not only vocal excellence but also compositional brilliance and instrumental talent.

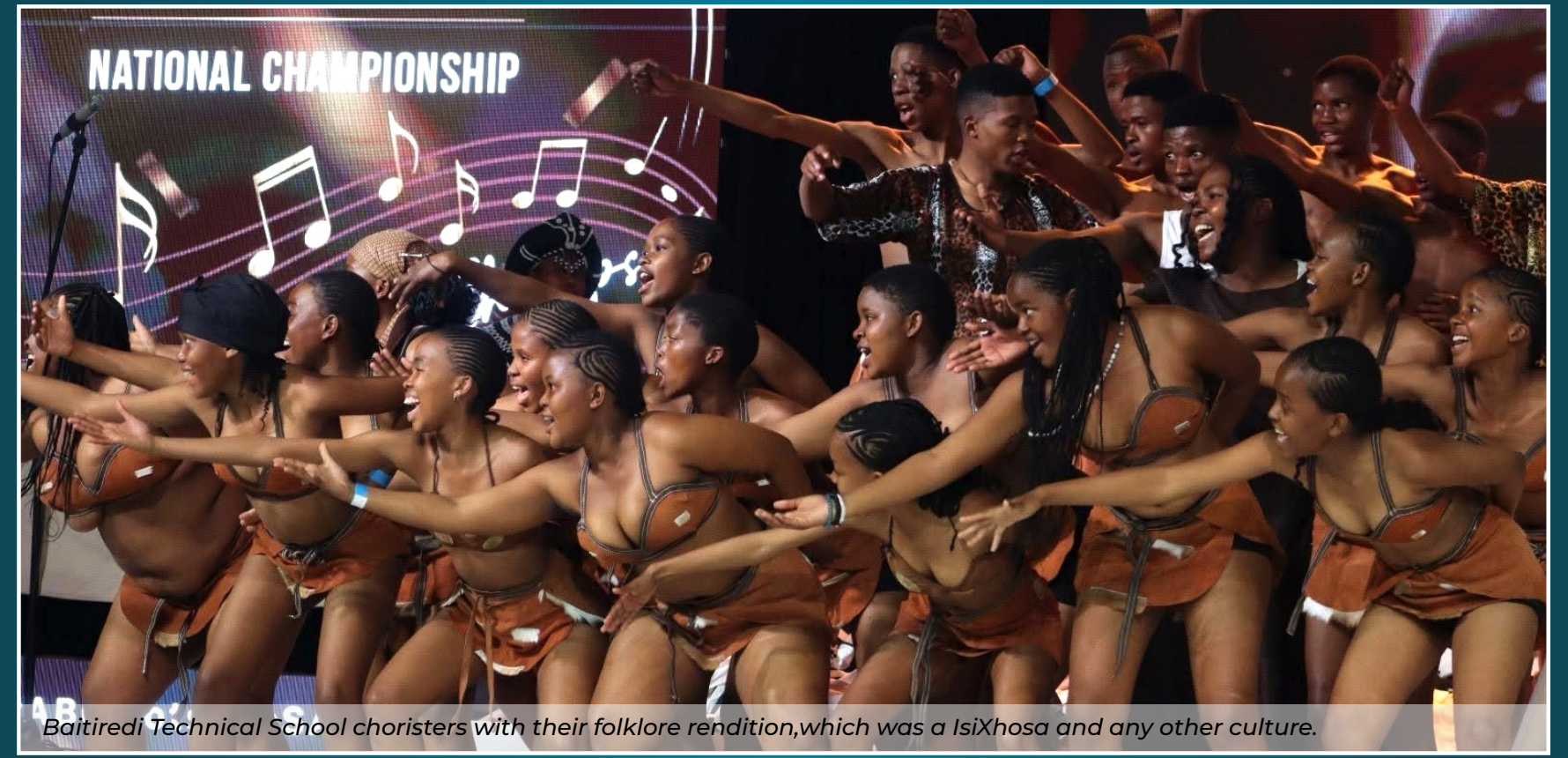
A total of 18 schools represented the Northern Cape, comprising 6 primary schools and 12 high schools.

These young musicians sang their hearts out on the national stage, proudly flying the provincial flag.

Umthombo Wolwazi Primary School earned 3rd place in the Chamber Choir (Small and Farm Schools) category and again secured 3rd place in the SATB Chamber Choir category.

- Reitlamile High School brought home 2nd place in the highly competitive Female Choir category.
- Baitiredi Technical School also brought home 2nd place in the vibrant Folklore category, which addresses social ills through song and performance.





Baitiredi Technical School choristers with their folklore rendition, which was a IsiXhosa and any other culture.

- Mr. O.G. Modutwane, conductor of the choir that secured 2nd place, received a special honour: his original composition, “Nkamogele Morena”, has been selected as a prescribed piece for the 2026 SASCE competitions in the Small and Farm Schools category.
- Renowned composer and educator Mr. K. Diradingwe also saw two of his works chosen for next year’s programme:
  - “We Shall Rejoice” – a Western piece for the Secondary B category.
  - “Kgarakgatsego” – a soprano composition also for Secondary B schools.

The standard of this year’s competition was raised even higher with a distinguished panel of adjudicators. Among them was internationally acclaimed opera baritone Thesele Kemane, who is also from the Northern Cape adjudication team.

The Northern Cape learners were not alone in their journey. Lending strong support from the stands at Rhema Bible Church were:

MEC for Education, Mr. Abraham Vosloo, Chief Director for School Management, Administration and Support, Mr. Sandile Beuzana, the Director Mrs. Poppie Mlambo and Mr. Tumelo Mpolokeng from the John Taolo Gaetsewe (JTG)

Developmental Trust.

The achievements at this year’s SASCE Championships are a testament to the Northern Cape’s growing influence in the national choral space. From talented performers to recognised composers, the province continues to nurture and uplift musical excellence in schools.

Indeed, ‘The Year of the Champs’ was not just a theme, it became a reality for the Northern Cape.



Lending strong support from the Northern Cape, Mr Mpolokeng, Mr Vosloo, Mr Beuzana together with Minister Mhaule and Mr Dolopi.





From 1–2 July 2025, the Northern Cape Department of Health hosted a Training of Governance Structures in Kheis Municipality, Groblershoop (ZF Mgcawu District), continuing its province-wide effort to empower and strengthen clinic committees.

Clinic committees are the cornerstone of community participation in health, driving transparency, accountability, and ensuring a direct community voice in shaping healthcare delivery. These structures foster local ownership and bolster the Primary Health Care system from the grassroots level.

This training builds on previous initiatives in Tsantsabane, Emthanjeni, Hantam, Joe Morolong, and other municipalities. These are part of a sustained effort over the past year to strengthen governance at the facility level and create a responsive, people-centred health system.

This aligns with broader provincial goals. Over 1,200 community governance members have been appointed across 223 health facilities, representing around 1.3 million residents, all of whom have received orientation and training.

## STRENGTHENING LEADERSHIP, ENHANCING HEALTHCARE

In addition, commitments made in February 2025 included staffing the Groblershoop Community Health Centre for 24-hour operations and improving emergency services.

Together, these actions illustrate our shared vision: building a health system that listens, learns, and leads, with community voices at its core.



# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES TO CLOSE THE GAP IN PIXLEY KA SEME DISTRICT

The Northern Cape Department of Health recently led a community outreach campaign in Douglas (Siyancuma Sub-District) to improve access to HIV treatment and drive progress toward the UNAIDS 95-95-95 goals.

**The Pixley Ka Seme District still needs to initiate 1,323 people on antiretroviral treatment (ART)** by December 2025 to meet the target of having 95% of diagnosed individuals on treatment.

**The outreach included:**

- Free HIV testing and counselling
- Immediate ART initiation
- Health education
- Stakeholder engagement with local leaders and the District AIDS Council

**The Department encourages all residents to:**

- Know their HIV status
- Start and stay on treatment
- Support efforts to build a healthier, HIV-resilient Northern Cape

This campaign emphasised a community-led approach to reaching underserved populations and closing the HIV treatment gap.



Working hand-in-hand with communities to reduce HIV.



Department of Health on Close the gap Campaign.



Health workers providing essential services in Pixley Ka Seme District as part of efforts to close the gap and empower local communities.



# MEC MANOPOLE LEADS FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVE IN ROODEPAN



MEC Mase Manopole promoting Food Security and Environmental Awareness in the Northern Cape.

The Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform, under the leadership of MEC Mase Manopole, continues to make strides in promoting food security and environmental awareness in the Northern Cape.

As part of its ongoing efforts to combat hunger and promote sustainability, the Department launched community food gardens at Lucretia Primary School, Roodepan Clinic and the Nazarene Soup Kitchen.

MEC Manopole also handed over essential gardening equipment to support the upkeep and expansion of these gardens, ensuring that each site is equipped to produce fresh, nutritious food for local beneficiaries. ***“By planting these gardens, we are sowing the seeds of hope, dignity, and knowledge,” said MEC Manopole. “Our goal is to empower every community to take ownership of***

***their food security and well-being.”***

The programme also featured a community awareness campaign focusing on the safe use of coal braziers (imbawula) during winter months to prevent fire hazards and respiratory risks, and reducing environmental pollution through community-driven waste management.

This initiative reflects the Department’s holistic approach to community development, addressing immediate nutritional needs and long-term sustainability goals.

***Together, we are growing a healthier, greener, and more empowered Province.***





MEC Fufe Makatong meets with Traditional Leaders in the JTG District to align Departmental programmes with community needs.

# MEC MAKATONG STRENGTHENS TIES WITH TRADITIONAL LEADERS IN JTG DISTRICT

MEC for Roads and Public Works, Ms. Fufe Makatong, recently met with traditional leaders in the John Taolo Gaetsewe District to align departmental programmes with community needs.

Attended by Kgosi-kgolo from across the district and Executive Mayor Mme Dineo Leutlwetse-Tshabalala, the meeting aimed to incorporate traditional voices into infrastructure and job creation plans.

The MEC reflected on her province-wide municipal engagements and highlighted priorities such as land disposals, EPWP, and property legislation.

She stressed the importance of protecting provincial servitudes while using state-owned land to stimulate

local economies.

With a provincial goal of unlocking **60,000** job opportunities, MEC Makatong reaffirmed the need for strong partnerships between government and traditional leadership. **“We are here to walk this journey with you,”** she said, pledging collaboration rooted in mutual respect and shared goals.

Presentations were also delivered by senior departmental officials and SANRAL to support informed dialogue and cooperation.



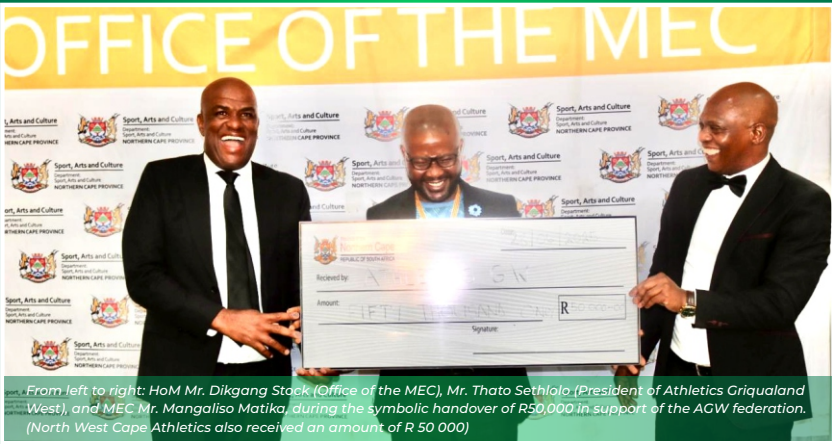
# MEC MATIKA CHAMPIONS CREATIVE AND ATHLETIC TALENT ON NATIONAL PLATFORMS



MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture pictured with the Kakamas Juventus soccer team during their participation in the ABC Motsepe League Playoffs.



Mr. Shimmy Macomo, proud Comrades Marathon athlete from the Northern Cape who completed 5 races



From left to right: HoM Mr. Dikgang Stoek (Office of the MEC), Mr. Thato Sethlola (President of Athletics Griqualand West), and MEC Mr. Mangaliso Matika, during the symbolic handover of R50,000 in support of the AGW federation. (North West Cape Athletics also received an amount of R 50 000)



MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture, Mr. Mangaliso Matika alongside Northern Cape artists at the National Arts Festival in Makhanda, Eastern Cape.

The Northern Cape Department of Sport, Arts and Culture proudly reflects on MEC Mangaliso Matika’s recent engagements that showcased the province’s commitment to cultural and athletic development.

MEC Matika paid tribute to the province’s Comrades Marathon athletes, celebrating their endurance and unity. Reaffirming his vision for growth, the MEC committed to establishing a flagship ultra-marathon in the province - placing sport, tourism, and community pride at the heart of the Northern Cape’s development agenda.

He also met with Kakamas Juventus ahead of their ABC Motsepe League playoffs, commending their determination and representing the Northern Cape’s fighting spirit.

Finally, MEC Matika joined Northern Cape performing artists at the renowned National Arts Festival in Makhanda, reinforcing the Department’s dedication to nurturing local talent and fostering inclusive cultural growth.

The festival, South Africa’s premier arts platform, allowed the MEC to witness the exceptional creativity of provincial artists and engage with key stakeholders on the future of the sector.

Drama and performance, as highlighted by the MEC, remained powerful tools for civic dialogue and social change - addressing vital issues such as gender-based violence, health awareness, and social cohesion.