



Saul, Ramokgopa push Upington Energy and AI Hub forward



Premier Dr. Zamani Saul and Minister of Electricity and Energy Dr. Kgosientsho Ramokgopa recently led a high-level government engagement in Upington

Upington

By: Phumeza Stungu

The implementation of the ambitious Upington Energy Park and Green AI Data Centre moved a step closer to reality as Northern Cape Premier Dr. Zamani Saul and Minister of Electricity and Energy Dr. Kgosientsho Ramokgopa led a high-level government engagement in Upington on Friday.

The strategic meeting brought together Members of the Executive Council, Ms. Venus Blennies-Magage and Mr. Abraham Vosloo, senior government officials, and representatives of the Independent Power Producers (IPP) Office, led by its Chief Executive Officer, to align efforts on the next phase of the landmark project. The engagement focused on advancing the implementation framework for the Upington Energy Park and Green AI Data Centre, which is set to be integrated with the Upington Industrial Park. The initiative is regarded as

one of South Africa's most significant investments in clean energy and digital infrastructure, with the potential to transform the Northern Cape into a leading centre for green industrial development. Discussions centred on key implementation priorities, including project governance, ownership structures, regulatory approvals, feasibility studies, investment mobilisation, and the activation of the Section 34 determination process. These critical steps are expected to provide the regulatory certainty and institutional coordination necessary to unlock large-scale investment and accelerate project delivery.

Speaking on the significance of the project, Premier Saul emphasised its role in the province's economic future: "The strategic importance of this initiative lies in driving inclusive economic growth and creating sustainable employment opportunities in the Northern Cape. The province possesses some of the world's richest solar and wind resources, making it ideally positioned to lead South Africa's renewable energy transition while attracting investment in future-focused

industries." Minister Ramokgopa reaffirmed national government's backing for the project, linking it to broader economic and digital goals: "We remain committed to expanding energy infrastructure that supports economic development and strengthens South Africa's competitiveness in emerging global markets. The growing demand for renewable-powered data centres and digital infrastructure comes as countries increasingly embrace artificial intelligence and advanced computing technologies." The Green AI Data Centre is expected to leverage the Northern Cape's abundant renewable energy resources to power energy-intensive digital infrastructure with clean electricity. By combining renewable energy generation with advanced data processing capabilities, the project aims to position South Africa as a competitive destination for global technology investment while contributing to energy security and sustainable industrialisation.

Government believes the initiative aligns closely with South Africa's broader economic priorities, including accelerating economic growth, advancing industrialisation, driving digital transformation, supporting decarbonisation, and diversifying the country's economic base. The project also complements ongoing efforts to expand renewable energy generation and unlock new value chains linked to green hydrogen, critical minerals, and advanced manufacturing. The integration of the Energy Park, Green AI Data Centre and the Upington Industrial Park is expected to create significant opportunities for local businesses, skills development and job creation while strengthening infrastructure across the region. It also reinforces the Northern Cape's position as a strategic investment destination capable of supporting large-scale industrial and technological projects.

Friday's engagement marked another important milestone in the collaborative efforts between national, provincial and local government, together with strategic partners, to ensure the successful implementation of the project. As technical, regulatory and investment processes continue, government remains committed to creating an enabling environment that will attract both domestic and international investors, ultimately positioning Upington as a leading renewable energy, digital innovation and green industrial hub for South Africa and the African continent.

Griquas Claim OFM Cup With Gusty Win Over Cheetahs



By Katleho Malangabe

Suzuki Griquas put their bodies on the line and delivered a performance to remember, beating the Toyota Cheetahs 24-21 to lift the 2026 OFM Cup at a packed Suzuki Stadium on Friday night, 31 July 2026. In a proper Free State Northern Cape derby that had everything; fire, fight, and no shortage of drama, the home side kept their cool when it counted most and walked away with a win they fully deserved.

The loyal Griquas faithful turned up in numbers and made a noise that carried the team through the tough moments. Captain Pieter Bergh was full of praise for his troops and the grit they showed when the heat was on. "The Cheetahs did put us under pressure, but the message before the game to the guys was we need to show character, we need to defend our line, we need to be physical, we need to work hard. We talked about how desperate we need to win, and I saw that desperation on the field tonight," said Pieter Bergh. The match was

everything people hoped for from one of South African rugby's great rivalries. Both sides went at each other under the Kimberley lights, but in the end it was Griquas' sharp finishing and stubborn defence that made the difference. Club bosses and players said a big thank you to OFM for backing the traditional derby, and to every fan who crammed into Suzuki Stadium and roared the team home. The tight three-point win is a proud moment for Griquas Rugby and the wider Northern Cape rugby family. It keeps the OFM Cup where it belongs and gives the side a shot of belief as they push on in the Carling Currie Cup.

This result once again shows the fighting spirit and rising quality of rugby in the province. For Griquas, the victory will be a handy boost heading into the rest of the season. Hats off to the Suzuki Griquas for a win that was earned the hard way. The cup stays in Kimberley, and nobody can say they don't deserve it.



COMMEMORATION

Provincial WOMEN'S DAY

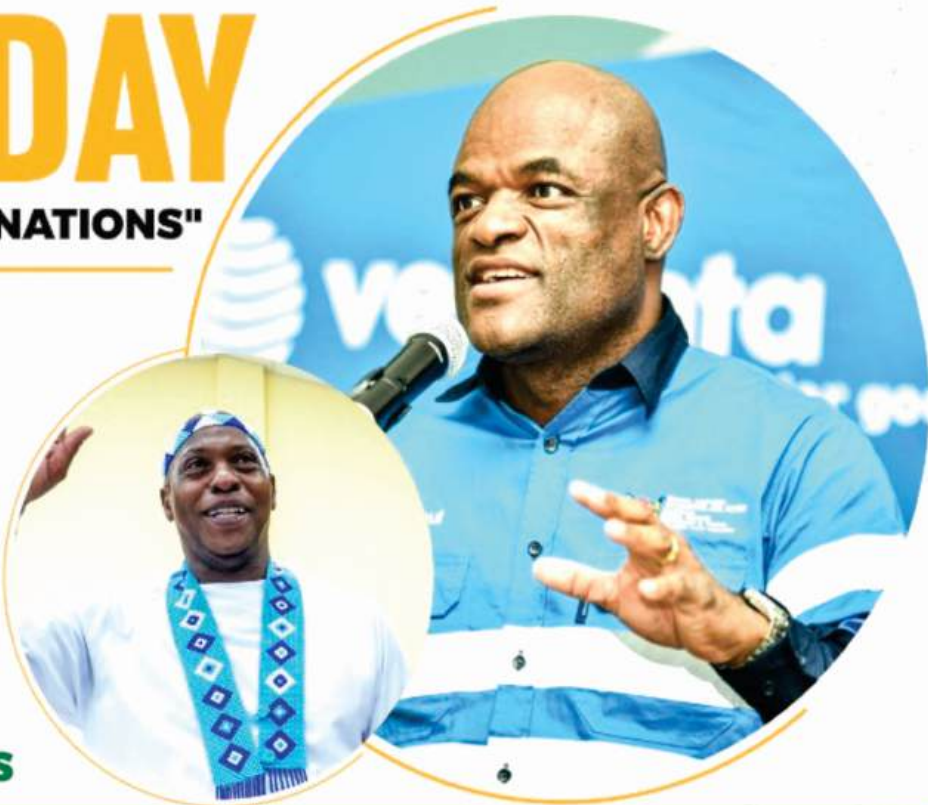
"EMPOWERED WOMEN, EMPOWER NATIONS"



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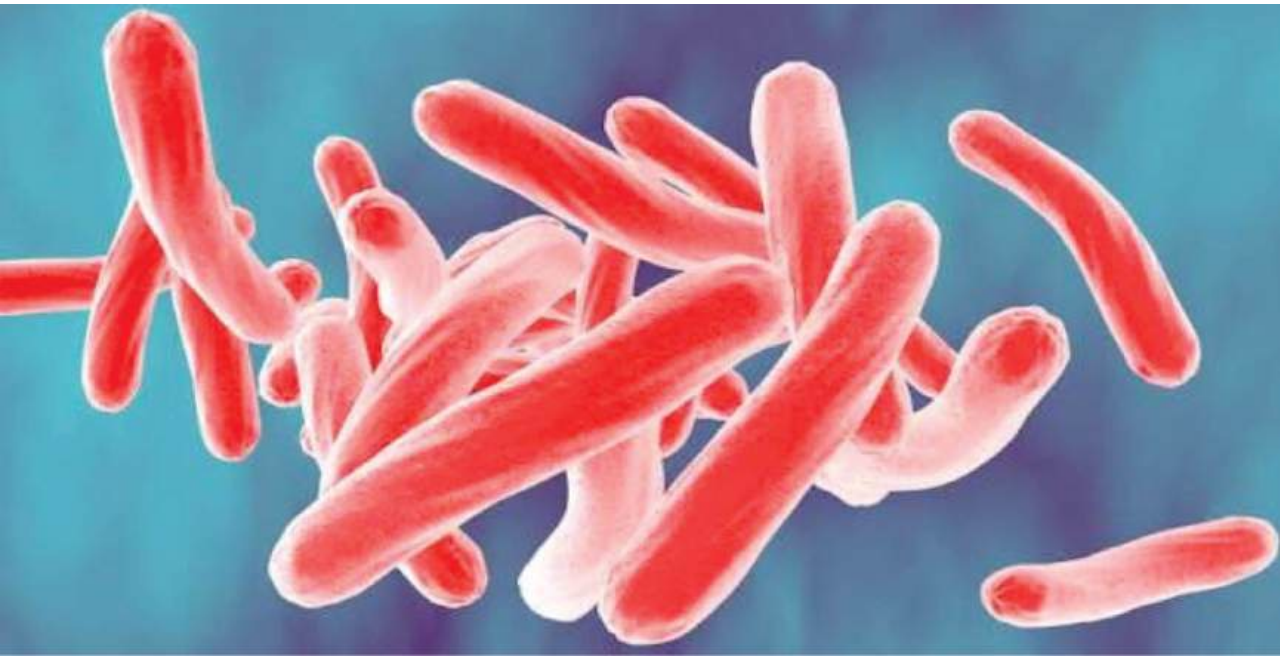


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SA prepares for potential new adult TB vaccine



The Department of Health has welcomed progress towards a new tuberculosis (TB) vaccine, while confirming preparatory work to ensure timely access for South Africans as part of ongoing efforts to eliminate the epidemic as a public health threat by 2030.

This comes after the ongoing trials of the M72/AS01E vaccine showed promise in Phase 1 and Phase 2. The vaccine is now in Phase 3 trials in South Africa, Kenya,

Zambia, Malawi and Indonesia. According to the department, a vaccine that prevents TB disease in adolescents and adults will be a game-changer for TB control and elimination, both globally and in South Africa. “Once approved, it will be the first TB vaccine introduced in over a century, because currently we have only the Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine, which is given to newborn infants and children under 5 years old and offers limited protection later in life.

“Therefore, to ensure we can offer protection to South Africans at the earliest opportunity if the trial is successful, the Department of Health is proactively preparing for registration and introduction of the new vaccine.” The department said it had been informed by officials from the Gates Medical Research Institute and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that an agreement had been reached with the world's largest vaccine manufacturer, the Serum Institute of India, on the number of doses of the TB vaccine to be produced and sold globally.

The agreement also provides for progressive production by pharmaceutical partners in South Africa and Indonesia over time, which the department said would consequently boost the economic growth of the country.

“This is arguably a major step toward a new TB vaccine — the first significant advance since BCG more than 100 years ago. The department welcomes this important agreement and stands ready to support the production and introduction of the M72/AS01E vaccine in South Africa once the trial results are known, and the vaccine has been registered by the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA).”

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Breaking down barriers to advance women’s empowerment



Government and the private sector have launched the EmpowerHer Market Trade Fair to advance women’s economic empowerment by creating opportunities for women-owned businesses to showcase their products and services, access new markets, establish business partnerships, and engage with potential investors and customers.

Government collaborated with ABSA on the initiative, which was launched by the Minister in the Presidency responsible for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, Sindisiwe Chikunga, on Saturday in Durban to mark the start of 2026 Women’s Month. Chikunga emphasised the importance of government and the private sector working together to empower women entrepreneurs, who continue to face structural barriers that limit their ability to start, sustain, grow, and compete in business. These barriers include limited access to markets and procurement, finance and investment, business development support, technology, information, networks, and supply-chain opportunities.

“Many women entrepreneurs operate in informal or small-scale markets, and struggle to transition into

sustainable, commercially viable enterprises. “There is a persistent gap between women-owned businesses and large corporations, between women-owned businesses and government procurement systems, and between women-owned businesses and mainstream markets — which results in limited market access and insufficient participation in high-value sectors and supply chains,” the Minister said.

Chikunga explained that the Women in Trade Fair seeks to address the disconnect between women entrepreneurs and viable markets by creating a platform that connects women-owned businesses with buyers, investors, government, corporates, financial institutions, and ecosystem partners. “We aim to move beyond showcasing products, towards actual commercial transactions, investment, procurement opportunities, business partnerships, and long-term market linkages. “This Trade Fair is not merely an exhibition — it is an economic empowerment and market access intervention. It seeks to achieve visibility, market access, business deals, procurement, investment, enterprise growth, job creation, and economic empowerment,” the Minister said.

Entrepreneurs on the exhibition floor had access to business pitch sessions, finance and development finance desks, procurement and buyer discussions, and support clinics. “Too often, women-owned enterprises are visible in policy language, but invisible in actual value chains. They are invited to events but not linked to buyers. They are encouraged to formalise but not supported through the compliance burden. They are told to access finance but not assisted to meet financing criteria.

“We are here to insist that this must change. Today’s programme must therefore shift from once-off visibility to structured economic participation,” Chikunga said. The Minister pointed out that when women-owned businesses are supported to grow, households, communities, local economies, and the country all benefit. “This is particularly important in the context of youth and persons with disabilities. Today’s programme deliberately includes women-owned enterprises, youth-owned enterprises, and enterprises owned by or inclusive of persons with disabilities.

“A truly transformed economy must recognise the different barriers faced by different groups, while building pathways that allow all to participate meaningfully,” the Minister said. She said that, for persons with disabilities, inclusion means accessibility, reasonable accommodation, and real economic opportunity. “For young women, it means support to enter markets early, to build enterprise capability, and to participate in emerging sectors. For women in rural and township economies, it means bringing support closer to where economic activity happens — not expecting entrepreneurs to carry every institutional cost alone.

“This is why coordination matters. Fragmented support will only produce fragmented outcomes. Today, we are saying that the State, working with partners, must become better at joining the dots,” the Minister said.

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IEC welcomes positive response to final voter registration weekend



The Electoral Commission (IEC) has welcomed the positive response from South Africans who used the final voter registration weekend to register to vote or update their details ahead of the Local Government Elections.

With only a few hours remaining until 5pm, IEC Chief Electoral Officer Sy Mamabolo urged those who have not yet visited voting stations to do so urgently, as all 23 699 voting stations across the country remain open. "We are delighted that South Africans have responded positively to this final voter registration weekend, but there is still a crucial window of opportunity for those who have not yet registered or who need to update their registration details. We urge every eligible citizen to

ensure that they are correctly registered and assigned to the right voting district," Mamabolo said.

The Electoral Commission said it had identified some challenges with its online data-free voter registration service. The Commission's technical team is working together with its partners to urgently resolve the matter. The Electoral Commission will announce the outcome of the voter registration drive. The Department of Home Affairs has also extended operating hours at all offices for the final voter registration Weekend on 1 and 2 August 2026. Mamabolo said the final voter registration weekend commenced on a strong footing, with more than 99% of the 23 699 voting stations across the

country opening promptly at 8am. The Commission reported that it had interacted with more than 238 000 citizens at voting stations and on the online portal on Saturday by 12pm. Mamabolo said the majority of transactions (198 232) were recorded at voting stations across the country, while the Commission's online data-free voter registration portal recorded 20 078 transactions, providing eligible voters with an additional convenient channel to register or update their details. "Preliminary figures indicate that the highest volumes of voter transactions are currently being recorded in KwaZulu-Natal (55 759), Eastern Cape (46 889) and Gauteng (41 774); this is consistent with historical patterns and reflects the population densities of the provinces.

"Other provinces, including Limpopo (29 680), Western Cape (19 693), Mpumalanga (17 218), North West (15 610), Free State (13 110), and Northern Cape (6 213), are also recording voter activity as citizens respond positively to the Commission's call to register and update their details before the conclusion of the voting station-based registration," he said. Eligible voters who missed the registration weekend can still register or update their details online or at their local IEC office until the voters' roll closes.

The online voter registration portal remains active, allowing voters to register and update their details accordingly to avoid missing this important occasion. The portal, registertovote.elections.org.za, will remain open until the election is proclaimed. Registered voters are also encouraged to verify their registration details online, through the IEC App or by contacting the Electoral Commission's Contact Centre on 0800 11 8000. Voters may also check their registration status by sending their identity number via SMS to 32810 at the cost of R1 per SMS.

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Government congratulates the SABC on its 90th anniversary



Government has congratulated the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) on the historic milestone of its 90th anniversary.

“As one of South Africa’s esteemed public institutions, the SABC has informed, educated and entertained

generations of South Africans, while telling the nation’s unique story,” said Acting Government spokesperson Nomonde Mnukwa in a statement. Mnukwa said the SABC’s ability to transform alongside South Africa and adapt to the changing needs of audiences across radio, television and digital platforms has been central to its journey.

“Through its transformation processes, the public broadcaster has remained a trusted source of news, information, education, sport, culture and entertainment for millions of South Africans. “Government recognises the SABC’s contribution to nation-building, social cohesion and the strengthening of democracy through programming that reflects South Africa’s diverse voices, languages and lived experiences,” she said.

Over nine decades, the SABC has captured many defining moments in South Africa’s history and served as a vital platform for public information, dialogue and shared national memory. “Its continued role in providing universal access to credible and reliable information remains crucial in a rapidly changing media environment.

“Government wishes the Board, management, staff, and everyone who has contributed to its proud legacy continued success, as the SABC embarks on its next chapter of service to the nation,” Mnukwa said.

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President appoints members of National Council on GBVF



President Cyril Ramaphosa has appointed members of the National Council on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide for a period of three years, effective from 1 August 2026 to 31 July 2029.

“As the Council assumes its term at the start of Women’s Month, President Ramaphosa expects that the Council will leverage the classification of gender-based violence and femicide as a national disaster to challenge harmful attitudes and practices, advance women’s economic empowerment, strengthen law enforcement and scale up

survivor-centred support,” the Presidency said in a statement.

Government officially launched the 2026 Women’s Month campaign in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, under the theme: “Empowered Women Empower the Nation.”

The launch recognised the significant contribution women make to South Africa’s economy while acknowledging the persistent challenges many continue to face, including limited access to finance, procurement

opportunities, markets, information, technology, and business development support.

These challenges are further compounded by poverty, unemployment, unequal pay, discrimination, and gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF).

The appointment was made in terms of section 6(1)(a) read with sections 6(2) and (3), and section 9(1)(a) of the National Council on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide Act, 2024 (Act No. 9 of 2024).

The Council is a statutory body mandated to provide strategic leadership on the elimination of gender-based violence and femicide in South Africa.

It is also charged with coordinating a multi-sectoral and inter-sectoral approach towards the implementation of the national strategy addressing gender-based violence and femicide at national, provincial and local levels and at community and other forums.

The President has appointed the following Council members:

- Dr Ramalepe Lebogang Mathibe*
- Ms Keitumetse Fatimata Moutloatse*
- Ms Caroline Peters*
- Dr Zubeda Dangor*
- Ms Vuyisiwe Numalo*
- Mr Anele Siswana and*
- Mr TWM Limema*

In terms of section 6(6)(a) of the National Council on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide Act, the President designated Mathibe as the Chairperson of the Council and Welheminah R. (Shoki) Tshabalala as the Deputy Chairperson.

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Team SA shines with medal haul at 2026 Commonwealth Games



Sport, Arts and Culture Minister Gayton McKenzie has congratulated Team South Africa on an outstanding performance at the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games, where the team started Saturday with 25 medals.

“This team went to Glasgow and did us proud. They have given it their all, and every single one of them comes home having helped to add another proud chapter to South Africa’s sporting history,” the Minister said in a statement. With one day left before the curtain falls on the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, South Africa could still add to its medal tally at the multi-sport

event in Scotland, which began on 23 July 2026 and ends on 2 August 2026.

By Saturday morning, Team South Africa had won 25 medals in Glasgow — seven gold, nine silver and nine bronze — placing the country seventh on the medal table, with competition continuing. A large part of Team South Africa’s delegation arrived at OR Tambo International Airport on Saturday morning as the competition nears its close. Although the Minister was unable to welcome the team, he conveyed a message of congratulations to the athletes and officials through the South African Sports Confederation, Olympic and

Paralympic Committee (SASCOC). Several South African athletes remain in Scotland and are expected to compete until the closing ceremony.

“To every young South African who watched these Games: these athletes were once just like you, and you can write your own names into the record books if seeing these achievements lit a fire in your belly. “And to every South African living with a disability who saw Nathan Hendricks, Christian Sadie, Danika Vyncke and Masala Makatu on that podium – that was a reminder that the focus of life should never be only on what you cannot do, or what may be denied to you, but rather should be on the many things you can do. By overcoming adversity, you inspire someone else facing their own struggles.

“We salute you all as the heroes you are, and I look forward to being with the whole team again soon,” McKenzie said. The Minister confirmed that the Ministry of Sport, Arts and Culture would be arranging a formal reception for the full delegation once all athletes had returned from Glasgow. “My office is arranging a proper occasion for the whole team, once they are all reunited, and SASCOC will hear from us this week. I also want to thank the coaches, doctors, physiotherapists, technical staff and team management for work that no camera records. And I want to thank the families who sat up through the night watching a child they raised compete under our colours and flag. This belongs to you as much as to them,” he said.

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Nonkosi Ngema Makes Historic Junior Springbok Women Debut



24th July 2026. The promising second-year student was honoured during the first-ever Capping Ceremony for the SA Under-20 Women’s team.

She was subsequently selected to represent South Africa in the historic Under-20 Women’s International Series against the USA Under-20 side, where she made her first appearance in the green and gold. Nonkosi’s journey to the national team began earlier this year when she was invited to the SA Rugby U20 Women’s Training Camp in Stellenbosch in April. Her hard work, dedication, and strong performances during the camp earned her a place in the squad for the international series. Her selection and debut represent a proud milestone not only for Nonkosi and her family but also for the Northern Cape rugby community and Griquas.

Young athletes across the province, particularly girls, now have a local role model showing that talent and commitment can lead to opportunities on the national and international stage. The Junior Springbok Women’s team is participating in a groundbreaking series aimed at growing women’s rugby at youth level in South Africa. Nonkosi and her teammates have already taken to the field against the USA, carrying the hopes and pride of the entire region. Her story serves as a powerful reminder that with determination and support, young people from the Northern Cape can shine on the biggest stages.

Congratulations to Nonkosi Ngema and the entire Junior Springbok Women squad. The Northern Cape stands firmly behind you.

By Katleho Malangabe

Warrenton has reason to celebrate as local rugby talent

Nonkosi Ngema, who plays for Griquas, has been officially capped for the Springbok U20 Women’s team and has already made her international debut on the

Northern Cape Strengthens Global Ties in Fight Against HIV at International AIDS Conference



By: Phumeza Stungu

The Northern Cape Province is making its mark on the global stage as it participates in the prestigious International AIDS Conference currently underway in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The event has brought together delegates from more than 80 countries, all united by a common goal — to share knowledge, research, and innovative strategies aimed at ending HIV as a public health threat.

Representing the province is a strong and diverse delegation led by the MEC for Health, Ms Nontokoza

Vilakazi, alongside the MEC for Social Development, Ms Manopole. They are joined by officials from the Provincial AIDS Council, representatives from the Northern Cape Department of Health, District AIDS Councils, and leaders from civil society. Among the civil society representatives are Mr Brandon Mfati from the Frances Baard District and Mr Reginald from the Namaqua District, both playing key roles in community-driven health initiatives. The conference serves as a vital platform for global collaboration, focusing on some of the most pressing issues in the fight against HIV and TB. Discussions have centred on strengthening community-led responses, reducing stigma and discrimination, promoting human rights, and advancing gender equality.

Delegates are also engaging with the latest innovations in HIV prevention, testing, and treatment, as well as exploring breakthroughs in HIV remission research. A significant emphasis has been placed on the prevention of mother-to-child transmission, a critical component in reducing new infections, as well as empowering young people to take leadership roles in the response to HIV. The importance of building stronger partnerships between governments and civil society organisations has also been highlighted, recognising that collective action is essential in achieving long-term success. For the Northern Cape delegation, the conference presents an invaluable opportunity to learn from global best practices and adapt them to the local context. The province continues to face challenges in addressing HIV and TB, making the insights gained

from this international engagement particularly relevant.

MEC Vilakazi emphasised the importance of collaboration and knowledge-sharing, noting that the province is committed to strengthening its response through evidence-based approaches. “We are here to learn, to share, and to ensure that our programmes are aligned with global strategies while remaining responsive to the needs of our communities,” she said. Upon their return, the delegation is expected to integrate the lessons learned into provincial programmes, with a focus on improving service delivery and enhancing the effectiveness of existing interventions. The knowledge gained will also support the Provincial Implementation Plan, ensuring that it remains dynamic and responsive to emerging trends in the fight against HIV and TB. Furthermore, the experience will reinforce collaboration with communities, stakeholders, and partners across the Northern Cape. By strengthening these relationships, the province aims to build a more inclusive and impactful response that reaches even the most vulnerable populations.

As the global community continues to push towards ending HIV as a public health threat, the participation of the Northern Cape delegation highlights the province’s commitment to being part of the solution. Through shared knowledge, innovation, and collaboration, there is renewed hope that meaningful progress can be achieved — both locally and globally.

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Local Municipality / Plaaslike Munisipaliteit / Masepala wa selegae

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Come and register for indigent beneficentation!

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- This intervention is designed to **accelerate outreach and improve access** to the indigent support programme.
- To maximise the impact we go out to the local radio platforms to **raise awareness** and encourage eligible residents to come and register.
- Officials work closely with **Ward Councillors** to conduct on-the-ground community/ward visits to register all potential indigents
- To **bring the registration services** directly to deserving and qualifying residents.
- The purpose is to identify and assist with the registration process to **enhance and improve** the lives of indigent beneficiaries

QUALIFYING CRITERIA:

- ID copy of the applicants
- You must be the account holder
- You must be staying in the house full-time
- You must not have more than one property
- The household income must not be more than **R6,000 per month** (The new amount was implemented the 1st July 2026)
- Affidavits if unemployed from the police station
- You must not have any business operating at the property (Tuckshop, Tavern or any other business)

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agriculture, environmental affairs, rural development and land reform

Department of agriculture, environmental affairs, rural development and land reform, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

GENERAL QUALIFYING CRITERIA

- All applicants must have a security of tenure or valid land use rights in respect of the land in question. Proof of the title deed to be attached on leased land (Failure to attach proof will lead to disqualification).
- Proof of Annual Turnover across applicant categories (subsistence, smallholder, and commercial) is mandatory.
- Applicants must be citizens of the Republic of South Africa aged 18 years and above.
- Applicant must be capacitated to act on behalf of the legal entity that he/she is representing.
- No public servant shall be considered. Public Servant refers to any persons working under the employment of government of the Republic of South Africa, including public representative at the national, provincial or municipal levels; traditional leaders who are recognized under any legislation; an employee of any company or entity where the state is a majority shareholder.
- Public representatives at national and local level shall only qualify for agricultural support after 12 months of terminating the relationship that had created a public duty. No public servant employee and or their spouse under civil marriages shall be considered.
- Only previously disadvantaged South Africans are eligible for funding.
- Project activities that require water use registration or license in accordance with the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) regulations will only be considered for funding once proof of water use authorization is provided. E.g. funding of irrigation related activities, feedlots etc.
- Project activities that require compliance with Natural Resources Management related legislation will only be considered for funding once proof of legal requirements is provided. E.g. Environmental Impact Assessment reports.
- Availability of bulk services (Eskom grid, water supply, etc.) if applicable.
- All previous and current financial and non-financial support received from public sector, national entities and development agencies as well as development programmes of private sector and commodity organisations should be declared or disclosed. Failure to declare will result in immediate disqualification.

TARGET CLIENT GROUP

SMALLHOLDER PRODUCER

- An individual or business entity practising agriculture for the purpose of household consumption and deriving source of income from agricultural, forestry and fisheries activities along the value chain with an annual turnover ranging from R50 001 – R1 000 000 per annum.
- Household Producers (Subsistence): A Household Producer (Subsistence) is defined as a producer that produces for household consumption and markets surplus production to generate additional income. These producers are not classified or registered as indigents by their municipality. They may market limited surplus production with an annual turnover of less than R50 000.

MEDIUM SCALE COMMERCIAL PRODUCER

- A venture undertaken by an individual or business entity for the purpose of deriving a source of income from agricultural, forestry and fisheries along the value chain. These are established enterprises with an annual turnover ranging from R1 000 001 – R10 000 000 per annum.

SCOPE OF FUNDING

- The department provides funding opportunities to farmers through various programmes which covers the following:
 - On/Off Farm Infrastructure development and farming equipment.
 - Production inputs including but limited to (procurement of seeds, seedlings, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, animal feeds, day old chicks, animal medications, etc.)
 - Provision of mechanization services
 - Procurement of breeding stock.
 - Business development support and planning
 - Conservation works
 - Training/Mentorship
- Department funding is not a right but a means to encourage citizens to be self-sustainable and self-reliant.
- Applicants are expected to contribute to the support as outlined in the policy.
- The support will be in line with the threshold limit of each target client. The Department has the right to not award based on the Departmental strategic priorities.
- The Department has the right to visit projects for verification as part of application assessment process. The Department has the right to request additional information that will assist various committees to take an informed decision.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Request letters must be submitted.
- In case of leased land owners title deed to be attached.
- Tribal Authorities to apply in case of communal areas, where applicable.
- Previous funding history will be required.
- Certified copies of required identity document must be valid for at least 3 months.
- In case of municipal commonages only lease agreements will be acceptable.
- In the absence of water rights certificate, 3 months valid water account from water user association can be attached.
- 3 Months valid certified copy of a title deed print out will be acceptable.
- 3 Months valid certified copy of livestock identification mark will be acceptable.
- Signed farmer list.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

For more information and how to access these grant funding the following DISTRICT OFFICES can be contacted:

No late, faxed, emailed or unsigned applications will be accepted

Frances Baard District

224 Cullinan Building Du Toitspan Road, Kimberley

Mr Tshiamo Monco

Cell: 082 559 0850

Z F Mcgawu District

Evleira De Bruin Building, C/O Nelson Mandela and River Street, Upington

Modibustad

Dr. Andrew Mjaja

Cell: 082 560 8455

Tel: 054 338 4800

John Taolo Gaetsewe

6236 Kgosi Mophi Street, Modibustad

Mr. O Molwobe

Cell: 082 559 3995

Tel: 087 630 0299

Namakwa District

52 Corner of Voortrekker and Magasyn Street

Mr Breyen Sali

Cell: 082 312 5802

Piketja Ka Sonne District

Water Building, 47 Church Street, De Aar

Ms N. Molegagadi

Cell: 082 559 7289

Tel: 087 630 0360

- THE DEPARTMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO APPROVE APPLICATIONS IN LINE WITH DEPARTMENTAL SCREENING & SELECTION PROCEDURES AS WELL AS BUDGET AVAILABILITY
- MEETING THE MINIMUM QUALIFYING CRITERIA DOES NOT GUARANTEE FUNDING
- IF NOT CONTACTED WITHIN SIX (6) MONTHS OF THE CLOSING DATE, CONSIDER YOUR APPLICATION UNSUCCESSFUL

De Aar Titans Show Character in Hard-Fought Victory



DEAAR

By: Simamkele Teka

De Aar Titans produced a determined second-half performance to defeat Carnarvon Young Lions 28–15 in an entertaining Pixley Ka Seme Rugby League clash on Saturday, keeping their playoff hopes firmly on track.

The match was fiercely contested from the opening

whistle, with both sides battling for control in a physical encounter. The Titans suffered an early blow when captain Clint Isaacs was forced off the field with a rib injury after a scrum collapsed. Despite the setback, the home side opened the scoring through Man of the Match Azakhiwe Afrika. Following a well-executed line-out, the Titans drove forward with a powerful rolling maul before Afrika crossed the try line. Manley van Staden added the conversion to make it 7–0. Carnarvon Young Lions responded with a converted try to level the

scores at 7–7, ensuring the contest remained evenly balanced.

The Titans regained the advantage before halftime when No. 8 Mouritz Erasmus picked up the ball from the back of a scrum and powered over for a superb individual try. Van Staden converted once again to extend the lead. The visitors reduced the deficit with a penalty goal just before the halftime whistle, leaving the Titans leading 14–10 at the break. The Young Lions started the second half strongly and took the lead for the first time after scoring a converted try, putting the home side under pressure. However, the Titans responded in impressive fashion.

Flyhalf Azakhiwe Afrika broke through the defensive line before delivering a perfectly timed pass to inside centre Atin Julius, who fought through three defenders to score beneath the posts. Van Staden's conversion restored the Titans' lead at 21–15. The home side wrapped up the victory late in the match when Jaydan Eiman finished off an excellent attacking move to score the bonus-point try. Van Staden maintained his perfect kicking record by converting his fourth attempt of the afternoon, sealing a deserved 28–15 victory. The win keeps De Aar Titans on course ahead of their final league fixture before the playoffs. They will face Noupoot Spartans on 8 August, with the venue yet to be confirmed.

Scorers – De Aar Titans Tries: Azakhiwe Afrika, Mouritz Erasmus, Atin Julius, Jaydan Eiman
Conversions: Manley van Staden (4)
Final Score: De Aar Titans 28 (14) – Carnarvon Young Lions 15 (10).

Kevin Nkoane Crowned FNB Festival 2026 Champions



By Katleho Malangabe

Learners from Kevin Nkoane Primary outdid themselves during the games played on the 25th July 2026. They came, they played, and they marched all the way to the trophy, and crowned the FNB Festival 2026 title in style.

Primary school learners from a Kimberley school did an excellent job in their soccer games. Medals dangling, trophy gleaming, and a school community bursting at the seams with pride. This wasn't just a win on the pitch, it was a precious moment that grassroots football in the Northern Cape is alive and kicking hard.

The FNB Festival has carved out a reputation for giving young players a proper stage, and this year's edition didn't disappoint. For Kevin Nkoane Primary, it was the perfect chance to show what they're made of, and they grabbed it with both hands. This kind of success doesn't just fill a trophy cabinet. It lights a fire under other schools, pushing them to take their own sports programmes seriously.

The hope now is that more learners across the Northern Cape will lace up their boots and chase the same dream.

 Pixley Independent

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IN THE NORTHERN CAPE**



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