



MOPANI BULLETIN

Mopani District Municipality

Official Quarterly Newsletter January - March 2019

MOPANI HOST EDUCATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS



"To be the food basket of Southern Africa and the tourism destination of choice"

Editor's Note



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municipalities. The stories that have been covered will go a long way to restore hope among communities.

Most stories are highlighting efforts that are being put in place by the political head of the institution, Executive Mayor Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale, Councillors, senior managers and other officials of the District Municipality.

The communication team is determined to ensure that all newsworthy stories from across the district are covered. Let me also take this opportunity to appreciate our colleagues from the media and local municipalities who are also doing their best to cover service delivery stories that are happening within our District Municipality. The Mopani District's communication would go unnoticed if it was not of the cooperation we are getting from the media and fellow communicators.

District government communicators and Government Communication Information System representatives are also holding quarterly forums that are creating a platform for them to share best practices in the sector. It also helps to align the communication strategies of the District and Local Municipalities with that of the National Government. This is also done to improve the manner in which we are communication with the people we serve on a daily basis. Readers of this publication are urged to give feedback on the content of this quarterly edition. Such feedback can be sent to the contact details provided above.

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EXECUTIVE MAYOR 'S FOREWORD



**Executive Mayor
Cllr Nkakareng Rakgoale**

We have come to the end of the third quarter of 2018/19 Financial Year, and we are entering yet another critical phase in the IDP/Budget processes. Our public participation program is imminent, and we wish to take this opportunity and urge our communities to give inputs on the draft, so that our final determination at the level of council is better informed by the wishes of our people.

Allow me to congratulate municipalities that have been performing better in the MIG spending as pronounced by Premier Stan Mathabatha during his State of the Province Address. Four of our six municipalities are amongst the top 10 municipalities in the province on MIG spending. Greater Letaba Municipality is leading municipalities on MIG spending followed by Maruleng Local Municipality. Ba-Phalaborwa local Municipality and the Mopani District Municipality are also amongst the top ten. The fact that we have the most number of municipalities falling within the top ten bracket in the province, speaks to our commitment to improve the quality of lives of the people we are serving in our district.

As the Mopani District Municipality we must also take pride in congratulating municipalities that have recorded improved audit outcomes from the 2017/18 Auditor General's report.

We congratulate again the Greater Letaba Municipality for obtaining an unqualified audit opinion. We also congratulate Maruleng Local Municipality for also receiving unqualified audit opinion. By and large, all our municipalities are showing a clear commitment to improve their audit outcomes, and we are quite confident that things can only get better going forward.

As leadership, we are worried about the amount of water we are losing due to illegal connections and vandalism on our water infrastructure. We are also constantly having to respond to water challenges in areas where our infrastructure is vandalised and our equipment stolen. We are making an appeal once again to our communities, that let us safeguard state property. In areas where we have drilled boreholes, the community must make sure that such is protected at all times. The other challenge we are facing is that we have not had enough rainfall over the summer season, and the dam levels have not increased as expected. We are continuing to call on communities to use water sparingly.

In just less than six weeks from now, we are going to the polls as a nation. President Cyril Ramaphosa has declared May 8th as the date for the National and Provincial Elections. We are again making a call to all our registered voters to go and vote. We appreciate the work done by our ward committees in assisting the Independent Electoral Commission during its Campaign on Voter Address Harvesting. Indeed, you have shown your commitment to strengthen democracy in our country. Let us join President Cyril Ramaphosa on this journey of growing South Africa together.

Members of the Mayoral Committee visit the Middle Letaba water purification plant

Water supply capacity of the Middle Letaba purification plant has increased after 15 segmentation tanks that were blocked with mud were cleared. The water purification capacity has increased from 15 to 20 million litres per day. This follows an intervention by the Mopani District Municipality Executive Mayor Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale, who deployed Members of the Mayoral Committee to the plant to get first-hand information on the technical challenges experienced there.

The MMCs were accompanied by Alson Matukane, who is a member of the advisory team to the Department of Water and Sanitation Minister Gugile Nkwinti.

A team of technicians from the Mopani District Municipality has also managed to repair some of the water pumps that were dysfunctional before the visit by the MMCs. The Middle Letaba Dam is supplying water to communities in some parts of Mopani and Vhembe District Municipalities.

Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Finance Japisa Mathonsi who led the delegation says there are plans to resuscitate four boreholes that are at the precinct of the purification plant, as the Middle Letaba Dam levels have dropped to eight percent due to drought. The boreholes are intended to augment water supply capacity of the water scheme.

"As the district municipality we are happy that segmentation tanks have been cleared. We will also make sure that we come with plans to fix the four boreholes that have been vandalised by criminals. We believe that when the boreholes are equipped water provision to our communities who are benefiting from this plant will no longer be disrupted," said Mathonsi.

Meanwhile security has been deployed at the plant to ensure that the water infrastructure is protected at all times. Previously Eskom transformers and borehole machines were stolen at the plant. Communities are urged to join hands with the Mopani District Municipality and law enforcement agencies to clamp down on theft and vandalism of water infrastructure.

Some of the water pumps repaired by the Mopani District Municipality technicians.



Advisor to Minister of Water and Sanitation Alson Matukane interacting with MMC for Water Services Homegirl Zandamela, MMC for Sports, Arts and Culture Matshidiso Mokgobi and MMC for Agriculture Masilo Maloko during their visit to the Middle Letaba purification plant.



A team of MMCs, technicians and Mr Alson Matukane inspecting manholes at the Middle Letaba Purification plant.



End in sight for Lenyenye stench as project concludes



Ward 31 Councillor, Justice Ramodipa doing inspection with Gift Mongwe who is the Site Manager at the Lenyenye Sewer Plant

Ward 31 Councillor, Justice Ramodipa next to the emergency sewer pond at the Lenyenye Sewage Plant.

Mopani District Municipality has completed the upgrading of Lenyenye Sewage Plant, which will bring an end to a stench that troubled the residents of that community for years.

The project which cost just under R42 million, involved the construction of RBC unit, drying beds, disinfection unit, construction of inlet canal, construction of manholes, installation of sluice gates, installation of walk ways, installation of rotors, installation of crawler beams, installation of aerators on the emergence pond, electrification of the system and a power generator. The contractor is finalizing concrete palisade fencing at the plant.

Ward 31 Councillor, Justice Ramodipa who has been leading the ward since 2011 says the stench will stop once the old sewer pond is closed off. "This project took longer than it should have due to technical problems. We have to appreciate the patience of this community that has to put up with this stench every day. The completion of this project demonstrates our commitment to address service delivery within our communities.

"The stench is still there, but it is mainly because the old sewer pond has not been closed off. The closure of the old sewer pond will bring an end to the stench, and that is not something that will take long from now," said Ramodipa.

Ramodipa says the closure of the old sewer pond will also benefit young people in the ward. "We are going to close the pond, but we already have a plan in place to convert it to a sport field. There is a shortage of sport fields in this community, and we think the closure of that pond will create an opportunity for us to make proper preparations to have it used as sport field.

"Youngsters have already approached me to say they want to use it for soccer matches, and I said to them they should give us some time to prepare so that we prevent situations where balls will be kicked into the new emergency sewer pond," added Councillor Ramodipa.

Challenges of shortages of water in Maruleng local Municipality being resolved



1. **Mopani District Municipality Executive Mayor Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale during a report back meeting at Metz village.**
2. **A member of a local water committee in ward 9 of Maruleng Municipality appreciating the intervention by the Executive Mayor.**

A technical team of Mopani District Municipality which has been deployed in ward 9 of the Maruleng local Municipality has managed to restore water supply in some parts of Rakoma and Metz villages. Illegal connections, vandalism and theft have been identified as some of the contributory factors to water shortages in the area. The Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale who visited the area two weeks ago, gave a report back to the community structures and Letsoalo Traditional Authority on the progress that has been made. Rakgoale says the district municipality is doing its best to supply communities with running water.



"Technicians who have been dispatched in this area promised me that they will work tirelessly to ensure that challenges of water shortages of water are resolved as soon as possible. I also want to call upon the leadership in this area to make sure that criminals who are making it their duty to vandalise our infrastructure are reported to the law enforcement agencies. As the District Municipality we are losing a lot of money due to criminal elements and illegal connections." said Rakgoale.

Residents of Rakoma are now getting water from 30 stand pipes that have just been fixed by a dedicated team of satellite managers and

technicians. Three of the nine dysfunctional boreholes and a main pipeline have been fixed.

A member of the local water committee Pheneous Modula says the community welcome the intervention by the Executive Mayor. A team of technicians will remain in Maruleng until challenges of water shortages in identified areas are resolved. Meanwhile tests have been done on the Mametja-Sekororo water treatment works and water will be abstracted from Blyde Dam. The plant will supply 28 villages when the project is complete. Villages next to the treatment plant which include The Oaks and Finale will start getting water in June.

MEC Makamu urges businessmen to give back to communities



MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development Basikopo Makamu with Chief Hlaneki and Trevor Rikhotso of Nghanhanga Construction during the handing over of Nwamankena graveyard ablation facility

Limpopo MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development Basikopo Makamu has called on businesses, especially funeral parlours to give back to the communities where they are operating from.

Makamu was speaking at N'wamankena village where he handed over an ablation facility at a local cemetery on the 9th of February 2019. The facility has been built by a local businessman, Trevor Rikhotso of Nghanhanga Construction as a donation to the community of Nwamankena and Chudu in the Greater Giyani Municipality.

Rikhotso said he became worried when he saw the elderly citizens and women having to use bushes to relieve themselves during funeral proceedings at the graveyard.

"We did this to restore the dignity of our mothers. We are not a big company, but we felt that with the little that we have, we should give back to our communities by building this facility," said Rikhotso.

The company also donated cleaning equipment and R10 000 to a group of volunteers who will clean the ablation facility and the cemetery's precinct.

Speaking during the event, MEC Makamu welcomed the donation by Nghanhanga construction, saying "Trevor Rikhotso of Nghanhanga Construction has heeded the Thuma Mina call by providing the community of N'wamankena with a fully-fledged cemetery ablation facility. The icon of our struggle for freedom and democracy, Dr Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela is surely beaming with a giant smile as he watches over what the community of N'wamankena is about to receive."

Makamu urged funeral parlours to assist government in building ablation facilities in communities where they operate from. "Work together as funeral undertakers and give back to these communities. Identify cemeteries and built something similar to what Nghanhanga has built for the community of N'wamankena."

"Imagine a South Africa teaming with patriotic business people like Mr Rikhotso. We will roll back the frontiers of poverty, inequality and unemployment in no time. Our country can be a great country that is able to provide for its citizens," he said.

Chief Hlaneki also praised Rikhotso for his generosity. "If a person is educated but is not able to use his education to better the lives of his community, then that education is useless. We appreciate that you are prepared to share the little that you have with this community of Nwamankena and Chudu."



MEC Makamu washing his hands outside the fully-fledged ablation facilities at N'wamankena.



The mayor of Greater Giyani Municipality Basani Shivambu, MEC Makamu and MMC for Finance Cllr Japisa Mathonsi

Executive Mayor deliver uniform, pledge to build house for Sithole family



The Executive Mayor leading the sod turning ceremony and some of the Uniforms delivered to the family

The Mopani District Municipality Executive Mayor Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale has officiated in the sod turning ceremony of a house and an ablution facility for a child-headed family at Mageva village in the Greater Giyani Municipality. The 26 Sithole family members are forced to be cramped in two mud houses and another poorly built structure. Rakgoale has also announced that food parcels will be made available for the family on a quarterly basis.

Motivational speaker and Pastor Dr KS Maluleke, Speaker Wireless Sedibeng and the Greater Giyani Municipality Mayor Basani Shivambu joined the Executive Mayor. "As the Executive Mayor, I want to start by appreciating the great work done by our Community Development Workers as we learnt about this family through them. We are urging businesses and ordinary community members to come forth and commit as we want to see this family having a proper house," said Rakgoale.

Rakgoale handed over school uniforms to the 19 children, while she also announced that the municipality would also assist Remember Sithole to get admission at Yingisani special school. The 11-year-old Remember Sithole lost his sense of hearing just after witnessing the brutal murder of his mother by their stepfather in 2012.

The keynote speaker Dr KS Maluleke encouraged the Sithole family members to always trust in God. "What I'm asking you to do is that continue to pray and trust in God who is able to perform miracles. In actual fact, God has started working in this family through good Samaritans like the Executive Mayor Nkakareng Rakgoale and other stakeholders," said Dr Maluleke.

Members of Mayoral Committee, traditional leaders, pastors, and government officials pledged to donate building material to help build the house and an ablution facility for the family.

Mulimelwa Tshikumbane, the 16-year-old whose mother also passed on a few years back struggled to hold back her tears, as she shared their hardships. She said that before the intervention by the Executive Mayor they had spent two days without a meal. "I want to thank the mayors for donating the food parcels and other basic amenities to us. It has been tough. Before your donation, we have been without a meal for two days. We pray that God bless you, for you are our good Samaritans."



Dr KS Maluleke delivering a keynote address during the sod turning ceremony of a house at Mageva

The Deputy President and Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality assist destitute families in Giyani



Mopani District Municipality Executive Mayor Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale, MMCs and Councillors with recipients during the handing over of food parcels and school uniforms at Giyani Section F.

Two needy families received food parcels and school uniforms from the Mopani District Municipality Executive Mayor Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale. The urgent intervention was made just four days after Deputy President David Mabuza committed that he will buy school uniforms for eight children from the two families that he visited previously. Rakgoale who was accompanied by Members of the Mayoral Committee and other councillors handed over school uniforms and food parcels to the Nkuna and Mashimbye families on the 31st of January 2019.

Rakgoale has encouraged the children to study hard and not be discouraged by the background of their families. "My main message to you is that, you must take your school work very serious and not be deterred by the circumstances that you are being raised under. I know that if you can study very hard you will be able to pass and further your studies at institutions of higher learning, as government has made opportunities available for children like you", said Rakgoale.

During the visit, Mabuza and Premier Stan Mathabatha also committed that two houses will be built for the families, while the District Municipality will be providing water and sanitation.

MMC Mathonsi, Greater Giyani Mayor hand over food parcels to needy families



MMC for Finance Japisa Mathonsi with the Mayor of Greater Giyani Municipality and other community structures handing over food parcels to needy families in ward 9 and 19 of Greater Giyani Municipality.

Mopani District Municipality's Member of Mayoral Committee for Finance Councillor Japisa Mathonsi and the Mayor of Greater Giyani Municipality, Councillor Basani Shivambu handed over food parcels and toiletries to four families in the Greater Giyani Municipality on Saturday, the 09th of February 2019.

The two leaders were joined by ward councilors and other community structures in delivering the food parcels on behalf of Deputy President David Mabuza who had made the promise to the families during his recent visit to the district.

Food parcels and toiletries were delivered to the Baloyi and Mabunda families at Mahlathi village in Ward 19 as well as Mavis Chavalala of Homu 14-A and Anna Novela of Homu 14-B in ward 9.

MMC Mathonsi has appealed to the ward councilor and community structures to ensure that the two families and other needy families are considered when there are available job opportunities through the Expanded Public Works Programme. "We have a major road construction project coming up as announced by the Deputy President, so we have to find ways to ensure that needy families such as these are prioritized when appointing labourers."

She said that officials from the municipality must work closely with SASSA to ensure that the social welfare programme benefit needy families. "Government has a relief programme through SASSA, which is aimed at assisting people who are experiencing hardships."

Thomas Mabunda barely held his tears back when receiving his food parcel in front of his children. "I do not have much to say, except that we are grateful for this donation. We really were not expecting it today," he said

District Inter-Governmental Forum lauds ward committees in voter address harvesting campaign



1. The Mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi delivering the welcome address.

2. MMC Nyiko Baloyi saying that the resolution on the issue of free Wi-Fi as taken in the previous forum should have a new time frame, and the next forum sitting should get proper progress report.

3. The Mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi with the Municipal Manager for Mopani District Municipality, Mr Republic Monakedi

The Mopani District Municipality Inter-Governmental Relations Forum has commended the work done by ward committees in assisting the Independent Electoral Commission in its drive for voter address harvesting ahead of the May 8th general elections.

The forum convened its quarterly meeting on Wednesday, the 20th of March 2019 at the Tzaneen Country Lodge. The Mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi said "When we last met in September last year, we spoke of the need to find innovative ways to encourage our ward committees to assist the IEC in their Voter Address Harvesting Campaign.

"We must appreciate the work done by our ward committees through the Offices of the Speakers in carrying out this task. On behalf of this Forum, I wish to convey our words of appreciation to the ward committees that have been on the ground responding to this call," he said.

Delivering the welcome address on-behalf of the Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, Shayi also called on the Forum to strengthen interaction with communities in order to keep them updated on service delivery programme and policies of government.

"The Imbizo approach is a good platform for us to interact with our communities to get to know of their challenges, but it also presents an opportunity for us to communicate our plans to these communities, as it is one of the key pillars of the back to basics approach," he said.

Shayi congratulated municipalities that have achieved unqualified audit opinions from the Auditor General. "We congratulate again Greater Letaba Municipality for an unqualified audit opinion. We also congratulate Maruleng Local Municipality for also receiving unqualified audit opinion. We must also acknowledge the work done by Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality in moving from a disclaimer to qualified audit opinion. Greater Giyani Municipality has also moved from adverse to qualified.

"At this level, we should be able to learn best practices from municipalities that are not only spending grants allocated, but are also able to give proper accounts for how tax payers 'money is spent,'" he added.

Mopani District Municipality receives accolade from SALGA Limpopo

The South African Local Government Association in Limpopo has named Mopani District Municipality as the Best Performing Municipality in the Province under the Category "Separation of Functions."

The Extended SALGA Council of Speakers Indaba was held at Karibu Leisure Resort under the theme: "Inspiring good governance through strong oversight." The Indaba was attended by speakers, chief whips and chairpersons of Municipal Public Accounts Committees (MPAC).

Delivering the keynote address to the Indaba, the association's first provincial deputy chairperson Councillor Pule Shayi condemned the killings of SAMWU leaders in the Vhembe District and Councillor Thabang Maupa of the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Municipality in



The Speaker of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Wireless Sedibeng with the Award for Best Performing Municipality in Separation of Functions.

Sekhukhune. He also condemned the attack on the municipal manager of Mopani District Municipality Republic Monakedi.

Pule congratulated municipalities that have done well in achieving unqualified audit opinions and others for their spending on Municipal Infrastructure Grants. Delegates also received a presentation from the Provincial Electoral Officer on the IEC state of readiness for the 2019 National and Provincial elections. Shayi also urged the delegates to use the platform to come up with ways of ensuring that consequence management is properly applied to some councillors and senior managers who are engaging in alleged corrupt activities. "I must say that corruption compromises service delivery to our people. Bad conduct by some councillors create an impression that local government sphere is a breeding ground for corruption," said Shayi.



SALGA first deputy provincial chairperson Pule Shayi delivering an opening address at the Extended SALGA Council of Speakers Indaba.



Councillor City Modjadji responds to questions after making a presentation on the councillors code of conduct.

Mopani District Municipality and Maxprof assist people with special needs



The Executive Mayor, Members of the Mayoral Committee, Councillors and some of the recipients of wheelchairs.

"I know that it is not easy for the employees at this special school to always take care of our lovely children but you are doing your best to ensure that they receive the education that they need from this school. I am urging you to continue the great work you are doing. Look all these kids, they are all clean and very happy."

The Executive Mayor Rakgoale, also urged businesses to plough back to communities where they are operating from, as a way of appreciating the support they are getting from the people they serve. She thanked Maxprof for once again giving back to the people of Mopani District Municipality.

"I also want to take this opportunity and thank our partner, Maxprof for always seeing a need to come on board and assist government in caring for its people. If we all work together we will be able to cover a lot of ground in terms of assisting people with special needs and better their lives. I know that Maxprof never disappoints and I want to take this opportunity and thank them."

Meanwhile Modubatse Secondary School at Ga-Kgapane township received 120 chairs. The school is one of the best performing schools in the district. Rakgoale urged the school management and learners to work hard in order to see improved matric results.

The Mopani District Municipality in partnership with Maxprof embarked on a two-day program of handing over wheelchairs and other assistive devices to people with Special needs. The program started on the 27th at the Letaba Special School in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality, where the Executive Mayor Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale officiated in the handing over of six wheelchairs, walking canes, braille machines and other assistive devices to the people with disabilities. Speaking during the function, Rakgoale thanked the staff members of the Letaba Special School and family members of the recipients for taking care of people with special needs.



Representatives from the Department of Basic Education in Mopani accepting donations of dictionaries from the Executive Mayor.



The Executive Mayor just after handing over sun screen lotion to the learners with albinism.

MOPANI HOST EDUCATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS



Homu Gill from DZJ Mtebule High School in Nkowankowa is the top learner with the highest aggregate marks. She has also scored 300 out of 300 in physical science. With her is the executive mayor, hosi Ntsanwisi, district manager, mayor of Greater Tzaneen, School Principal and the circuit manager.

The Mopani District Municipality Executive Mayor Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale has wished well to the top achievers in the 2018 National Senior Certificate, during the district's Excellence Awards held at the Karibu Leisure Resort on the 18th of January 2019. Rakgoale urged them to go out and pursue career paths that will in turn benefit the local economy as per the expectations of the National Development Plan.

Addressing learners, principals, teachers and parents, Rakgoale said the 2019 prospective students must choose studies that will equip them with multi skills for various occupations.

"While I know that you have already applied your minds on what careers you shall be pursuing this year, I do hope that you shall be choosing courses or careers that will prepare you extensively for more than one occupation. It would even be better if you can be choosing careers that will prepare you to be your own employers," she said

She said that education was the solution to the challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality. Our economy is not growing as we had envisaged when adopting the National Development Plan, and may not be able to create enough jobs for our people," Said Rakgoale.

Rakgoale also used the opportunity to call on stakeholders to join hands and ensure that there is no disruption of teaching and learning this year. "It can't be that when a community is unhappy about shortage of water, they resort to burning schools or disrupts schooling. School building should be sacred, and respected by everyone in our communities. It must be communities that care for our school buildings." added Rakgoale.

Gill Homu, a 2018 grade 12 female learner from the DZJ Mtebule High School in the Nkowankowa Circuit received the top individual award. She is the top learner with the highest aggregate marks of 1649. Gill also received an award for having achieved 300 out of 300 in Physical Sciences and 280 out of 300 in Life Sciences. Her dream is to pursue studies in Actuarial Science.

DZJ Mtebule High School, St George College, and Meridian College were amongst the schools that received the most awards. Hoerskool Merensky received the top award for overall pass in the category of public schools from quintile 4-5 after registering a 97,31 pass rate, while Makala High School got the award for quintile 1-3 after registering 98.46 pass rate.

The Executive Mayor presented laptops, tablets, trophies and certificates to the best performing learners, principals and circuit managers. The top ten learners have also been awarded bursaries by the Mopani District Municipality.



1. MPAC Chairperson Cllr City Modjadji during the public hearing at the Disaster Management Centre.
2. Municipal Public Accounts Committee members listening to the answers provided by the senior managers led by the Municipal Manager Republic Monakedi during the MPAC public hearing.
3. Director for Technical Services Paradise Shilowa, Director for Community Services Dumisani Shithlangu, Municipal Manager Republic Monakedi and the CFO Quite Kgatla responding to questions posed by the MPAC members.

Mopani District Municipality MPAC holds the Public Hearing on 2017/18 Draft Annual Report

The Mopani District Municipal Manager Republic Monakedi has told the Municipal Public Accounts Committee members that the municipality has developed an audit action plan which will see improved audit outcomes for this financial year. Monakedi has been responding to questions from MPAC members, during the public hearing on the 2017/18 draft annual report held at the Disaster Management Centre in Tzaneen on the 25th of March 2019. The questions mainly revolved around the Auditor General's report for the previous financial year.

The MPAC Chairperson, Councillor City Modjadji has called on management to ensure that supply chain management processes are always followed to avert negative audit outcomes. Modjadji says the District Municipality must start implementing a consequence management system which will result into the correct handling of municipal funds. "We are not saying you must start dismissing people for the sake of it, all we are saying is that come up with ways that will ensure that there is full compliance when dealing with supply chain management processes. Officials who have contravened the law must be taken for disciplinary hearings and also be held accountable. We want to see positive Auditor General outcomes" said Modjadji.

Council Speaker Wireless Sedibeng gave welcoming remarks and also highlighted the importance of the MPAC public hearing saying "this public hearing's main objective is to ensure that there is clean governance and improved service delivery in communities. We must not only convene it for compliance and also ensure that we participate fully by sharing ideas and learning from the mistakes of the past", said Sedibeng.

Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Finance Councillor Japisa Mathonsi who spoke on behalf of the Executive Mayor Nkakreng Rakgoale, commended the MPAC for having organised a successful public hearing. Councillor Mathonsi urged senior managers, MPAC and councillors to work as a collective in an effort to ensure that there is clean governance and accountability.

DPSA hands ICT equipment to farmers and learners



Belgian Ambassador, His Excellency Mr Didier Venderhasselt with MMC for Finance in Mopani District Municipality Councillor Japisa Mathonsi and the mayor of Greater Tzaneen Municipality Councillor Maripe Mangena arriving at Gwambeni High School for the event.

The Department of Public Service and Administration has launched five projects that are aimed at enhancing community development, during an event held at Gwambeni High School at Xihoko village in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality on the 08th of March 2019.



Learners at Gwambeni High School with some of the gadgets donated to the school.

The projects are funded through the Tirelo Boshia Public Service Improvement Facility, which is a programme of the Department of Public Service in partnership with the Belgium Development Agency. The department signed a memorandum of agreement with the Kingdom of Belgium in 2014 with the aim of improving service delivery in South Africa.

Since the start of the initiative, 65 farmers have been trained in Limpopo and equipped with ICT technology through the e-agriculture project. Farmers received laptops and will be able to log onto a farmer's portal where they will connect with other farmers, the department of agriculture and rural development as well as linked to the markets.

The school received a donation of 60 tablets and 26 laptops which will allow the school to participate in the Offline Content programme, which involves provision of access to offline content such as basic mathematics, dictionary, and workbooks without internet connectivity.

Other projects launched in the province include the Limpopo Public Access Heritage Portal and Mobile Application, the Bio-diversity information Management System led by the Department of Economic Development, and a public works programme focusing on research on alternative building construction materials.

Delivering the keynote address, Limpopo acting Premier who is the MEC for Economic Development Seaparo Sekoati assured the delegation from the Kingdom of Belgium that the money spent on the projects will not go to waste. "Limpopo has embraced this project and will not allow it to collapse, and will make sure that these projects are further enhanced and sustained. The community must care for the equipment donated," he said.

The Belgian Ambassador, His Excellency Didier Venderhasselt said the Kingdom of Belgium has a good working relations with South Africa and will continue to support development initiatives. "The cooperation between Belgium and South Africa goes back a long way. From 1994, the year of the first elections, after the dark years of apartheid, Belgium stood at the side of the newly-born South Africa," she said.

"From the start, we have focussed on capacity and institutional development. Our cooperation with South Africa was always closely aligned with the plans of the local authorities and the NDP. We have for instance, assisted South Africa to find a best way to address land reform which we consider a legitimate political objective," he said.

The school principal for Gwambeni High School, Vincent Mabunda said the equipment will help the school to improve their results.

Mopani hosted the 6th Annual National Fire Safety and Prevention Seminar



1. Vincent Van Der Westhuizen, the MDM's Assistant Fire Chief Officer lead delegates to the 6th Annual National Fire Safety and Prevention Seminar in the reading the Firefighter prayer.

2. Executive Mayor Nkakareng Rakgoale, the Deputy Director-General for the National Disaster Management Centre, Dr Mmaphaka Tau (left) with members of the mayoral committee and Director for Community Services in Mopani, DD Shitlhangu as they watch the vehicle extrication exercise.

3. A team from Mopani District Municipality and Marce perform a vehicle extrication exercise during day two of the seminar at the Tzaneen Country Lodge.

Mopani District Municipality hosts a four-day Annual National Fire Safety and Prevention Seminar at the Tzaneen Country Lodge. The 6th annual seminar which was organised by the National Disaster Management Centre started on the 26th of February to the 1st of March 2019.

The seminar was held under the theme: "Locating the sustainable delivery of fire services within the national development agenda of South Africa."

Addressing delegates at the seminar, the Mopani District Municipality Executive Mayor Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale has urged the participants to use the seminar to share best practice in order to ensure the safety of communities and property. "You must emerge from this seminar better equipped with innovative ways to improve on fire safety, which should assist us to save our lives and that of the citizens of this country, as well as minimize damage to properties.

"We must always strive for improvement around issues of fire safety, because the extent of damage to which the fire may cause is largely dependent on our level of preparedness to handle it. If we are sloppy and clumsy, it can result in lost lives that would ordinarily have been saved," she said.

The Executive Mayor also lauded the work of Mopani Fire and Rescue Team, saying "Our Disaster Management Team as led by the hard-working Mr Steyn has also had to deal with a lot of traumatic situations in the past few months. I have experienced first-hand the trauma that many of you are exposed to on a daily basis.

"This may also be an opportune moment for me to salute the sterling work done by Mopani Fire and Rescue Services and the rest of you for the excellent work you do in our communities. We appreciate your commitment and emergency preparedness to serve the people of South Africa by ensuring fire safety," said Rakgoale.

The stakeholders led by the Executive Mayor and DDG Mmaphaka Tau signed a pledge which committed them to work jointly with other social partners to increase capabilities of fire services, including through reviewing the fire services legislation in order to ensure that the fire safety and prevention.

Residents of Runnymede and surrounding areas will soon have a community library.



MMC for Sports Matshidiso Mokgobi, Hosi Nwamitwa and MEC for Sports, Arts and Culture Thandi Moraka during the sod-turning ceremony held at Rannymede

Sports, Arts and Culture MEC Thandi Moraka has officiated in the sod-turning of a state of the art library at Runnymede outside Tzaneen. Moraka who was accompanied by the Mopani District Municipality, Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Sports Matshidiso Mokgobi and the Greater Tzaneen Municipality EXCO member Sannie Tiba said that community members will no longer travel long distances to access a library in the town of Tzaneen.

"I am here today to officially hand over a contractor to the community of Runnymede and construction work will soon start. I'm urging all community members in this area to cooperate fully with the contractor as we do not want to see construction work coming to a standstill because of the 30% percent share. We want young people to stop walking long distances to access a library in Tzaneen," said Moraka.

Hosi Phyllia Nwamitwa of the Baloyi tribe applauded the department for finally keeping a promise it has made a while ago. She says the building of a library in the area is long overdue.

"The building of this library will encourage the youth to stay focussed in their studies as they will access books that are relevant to their studies. We believe education will go a long way in developing young people who normally roam the streets after school," said Hosi Nwamitwa.



MEC Thandi Moraka addressing community members and other stakeholders just before the official sod-turning ceremony

Thousands of work opportunities created in the first half of **2018/19** financial year



Director Faith Maboya presenting progress report on behalf of Mopani District Municipality and its locals, during the EPWP forum held at Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality. Next to her is the Mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi who chaired the meeting.

Mopani District Municipality and its five local municipalities have created 4332 work opportunities since the start of the 2018/19 financial year, of which 924 were created between October and December 2018. The District EPWP Forum received the second quarter report during a meeting held at Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality on Thursday, 14 March 2019.



Cassius Mongwe from Dan village says "I use to just sell chips at home, but this opportunity provides not only an income, but also a much-needed experience for me. I hope the experience I have gained here will help me in my search for permanent employment."

Mopani District Municipality has contributed 1515 work opportunities since the start of the 2018/19 financial year, but Greater Tzaneen Municipality is still the biggest contributor so far with 1620 jobs created.

The forum resolved to work with Disability Desks in all municipalities to ensure that there is full participation by people with disabilities in the Expanded Public Works Programme.

The Mayor of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality Maripe Mangena applauded the work being done by the forum, but also called on all municipalities to take the forum seriously. "The mayors, directors, and coordinators must respect the EPWP forum because it is an important forum.

"There is a general perception that EPWP is for people who just sit under a tree and earn money at the end of the month for doing nothing. It is our responsibility to ensure that this programme is seriously monitored," said Mangena.



Catherine Ntsie from Mokgolobtho village in ward 17 of Greater Tzaneen says "I have been overly depended on the child support grant to provide for my three kids. This work helps supplement the child support grant. It is a very good opportunity for us, and we pray for extension of our contract beyond the 12 months."



Thomas Mathebula from Xikukwane village says "I have been job hunting from 2017. With the money I get here I'm able to buy food and other basic necessities for my wife and two children. I have four children, two were fortunate to get employment recently."



Vongani Ngobeni from Dan Ext 2 says "I am orphaned, and through the money I receive here I'm able to provide food for the family. I support my child, my siblings and my sister's children. I have been job hunting for more than a year, so the programme at the right time for me."

New Regional Mall opens in Giyani



Dignitaries cut the ribbon to symbolize official opening of Masingita Mall, from left: Mayor of Greater Giyani Municipality Councillor Basani Shivambu, Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality Nkakareng Rakgoale, Minister of Sport and Recreation Tokozile Xasa, the Secretary General of the African National Congress, and Mike Nkuna, the Executive Chairman of Masingita Group of Companies. One of the shoppers who flocked to the Mall.

Residents within the Greater Giyani Municipality will no longer travel long distances to access retail shops and some recreational facilities. This follows the grand opening of the new Masingita Regional Mall on the 28th of March 2019.

The Mopani District Municipality Executive Mayor Councillor Nkakareng Rakgoale has officiated in a ribbon cutting ceremony. The glittering ceremony was attended by dignitaries including Sports and Recreation Minister Tokozile Xasa, former Free State Premier and ANC Secretary General Ace Magashule and the local Mayor Basani Shivambu.

The mall which is a brainchild of Mike Nkuna, the Executive Chairman of Masingita Group of Companies opened its doors and attracted thousands of people who flocked for shopping. Speaking during the formal program Nkuna said that the mall is the largest and most sustainable retail centre in the Greater Giyani area. "Masingita Regional Mall intends to limit outflow and retain some of the primary and secondary catchment area's retail expenditure due to the regional offer at hand, and thereby revitalize the local economy.

"The regional mall has created well over 1500 jobs during construction and approximately 1750 direct and indirect decent permanent jobs are planned during its full operation. Not only is Masingita Regional Mall a contributor to local economic development that is massively contributing to other socio-economic investments with direct impact on the revenue base of the Greater Giyani Local Municipality," he said.

Executive Mayor Nkakareng Rakgoale welcomed the development saying that it will help in creating jobs for the people of Mopani. "We are happy to see successful black entrepreneurs investing in our communities. This development is going to create more jobs that will contribute to the target as set out in our National Development Plan."

Minister Xasa who delivered a keynote address emphasised that government is determined to ensure that there is a conducive environment for property developers to do their businesses.

One of the shoppers Khensani Mabasa from Nwazekudzeku village says they welcome the opening of the mall in the rural town of Giyani. "We will no longer have to travel to our neighbouring towns such as Tzaneen, Thohoyandou, Polokwane and Phalaborwa. This development is great, my fellow villagers are among hundreds of people who have been employed here and I believe this will go a long way in developing the local economy."



VISION

To be the food basket of Southern Africa and the tourism destination of choice

MISSION

Provide Services to the people and co-ordinate activities of other service providers resulting in the enhancement of sustainable social, physical and economic well being for all

Mopani District Municipality

Giyani Main Road, Government Buildings
Mopani District
Limpopo Province, South Africa

Private Bag X 9687, Giyani, 0826

Tel: +27 15 811 6300 | Fax: +27 15 812 4302

www.mopani.gov.za

VISION

To be a successful agro-production and eco-cultural-tourism hub, ensuring affordable access to basic services for all households

MISSION

To promote:

- Local, accountable democracy through active and informed community participation and co-operative governance;
- Social upliftment and environmental management to ensure a balance between improved quality of life and safe and healthy communities;
- Economic advancement to alleviate poverty and unemployment and to sustain the economy;
- Universal access to need-satisfying infrastructure and service rendering in a sustainable, affordable manner;
- Municipal transformation and institutional governance advancement.

Greater Letaba Municipality

Botha Street, Civic Centre
Modjadjiskloof
PO Box 36, Modjadjiskloof 0835

Telephone Numbers
+27 (0) 15 309 9246

www.greaterletaba.gov.za



Vision

To be the fastest growing economy in Limpopo, this will ensure access to basic services to every household.

Mission

To exceed our constitutional mandate in delivering developmental services to our people through partnerships with stakeholders.

Greater Tzaneen Municipality

Agatha Street, Civic Centre
Tzaneen
PO Box 24, Tzaneen 0850

Telephone Numbers
+27(0) 15 307 8000

www.tzaneen.gov.za



Vision

"Best Tourism Destination in Limpopo by 2020"

Mission

- To ensure financial viability, sound administration, and accountable governance for investor attractiveness;
- To render all stakeholders with quality and affordable infrastructure and services for enhancing a safe and better life for all;
- To manage the environment for future sustainable economic growth;
- To build the mining industry for economic growth;
- To position Ba-Phalaborwa as a tourism destination of choice.

Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality

Civic Centre Nelson Mandela Drive
Phalaborwa
Private Bag 01020, Phalaborwa 1390

Telephone Numbers
+27 (0) 15 780 6300

www.ba-phalaborwa.gov.za



Vision

The Vision of the Maruleng Municipality is to become the powerhouse of socio-economic development through sustainable and integrated agriculture and tourism.

Mission

The Mission statement reads as follows: "Maruleng is committed to the provision of integrated basic services and sustainable infrastructure development in an accountable manner"

Maruleng Local Municipality

64 Springbok Street
Hoedspruit
PO Box 627, Hoedspruit 1380

Telephone Numbers
+27 (0) 15 793 2409

www.maruleng.gov.za



Vision

A municipality where environmental sustainability, tourism and agriculture thrive for economic growth.

Mission

A democratic and accountable municipality that ensure the provision of services through sound environmental management practices, local development and community participation.

Greater Giyani Municipality

Main Road BA 59, Civic Centre
Giyani
Private Bag x9559, Giyani 0826

Telephone Numbers
+27(0) 15 811 5500

www.greatergiyani.gov.za

