

1ST QUARTER, ISSUE 1
AUG–OCT 2011

SENQU UPDATE

“abantu abanye, umasipalati omnye, uhambo olunye”

MEC CAPA LAUNCHES VUKANI MANGWE AGRICULTURE PROJECT IN SUNDUZA

By Tlotlisang Koena

It was a very windy and dusty day in the fields of Sunduza village on Friday 09 September, when the MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Eastern Cape Ms. Zoleka Capa came to officially launch Vukani Mangwe Agricultural project. The visit was influenced by the provincial EXCO Outreach that was in the Joe Gqabi district from 7– 9 September 2011. Even though the outreach was to take place at Gariep Local Municipality, where the Premier Ms. N Kiviet and her Executive attended, this year they had decided that other local municipalities in the district should benefit and get a visit of at least one MEC per local municipality; hence the visit by MEC Capa in Senqu.

ABOUT VUKANI MANGWE PROJECT

Vukani Mangwe is an agricultural project which was started in the early 80's, the project was started by a mere 18 members from the community and has since grown from strength to strength, as it has now co-opted up to 33 members. Through the Vukani mangwe project the people of Sunduza have been able to fight hunger in their community, as there is always enough fresh fruit and vegetables at disposal to feed the community.

The project is known for planting many kinds of fruits and vegetables, it has received much recognition and support from government to ensure that it grows further and becomes sustainable. With the installation of an irrigation system and funding from the department of Agriculture, the project is bound to grow into a competitive business in the fresh produce market. Last year Senqu municipality made a contribution to the project by donating a tractor which was presented by the former Mayor Dumzela.

THE EVENT

The event was held in Sunduza village next to the fields where the irrigation system had been installed. It was said that the main reason for the event taking place there, was for the visitors to get to see the actual results of the project. The MC for the event was Ward Councillor & Speaker of Senqu Municipality Mrs. N August, the Speaker handled the event well, through out she expressed excitement and appreciation of such an event being held in Sunduza. Other speakers in the event included the Mayor of Senqu Cllr. Nozzie Mtyali who did the welcoming address and also expressed appreciation to Vukani mangwe for putting Senqu on the map on the agricultural sphere; the Director General in the Department also took to the stage and spoke

about a number of initiatives that department of agriculture is embarking on to empower agricultural projects especially in the rural areas. The Deputy Director General Ms. K Manzi focused on the textile Co-operatives program, which is an initiative of the department whereby the department ha budgeted over 3 million to develop textile co-operatives in the Eastern Cape through skills development and funding.

When the chairperson of the Vukani mangwe project Mr. Mafantiri took to the stage, he couldn't show enough gratitude to the government and the municipality for all their initiatives in making sure that their project grows, he promised that they would work even harder to turn the project into a sustainable



Beautiful people of Sunduza during the event

business. Traditional leaders were also present in the event, there was music and dance during the proceedings of the event, and the project had beautiful displays of the fresh fruits and veg they produce, there was also a display of traditional gourmets designed by the textile co-operatives. Chief Mehlomakhulu did the vote of thanks at the end of the programme.

KEY MESSAGES FROM THE MEC'S

ADDRESS

In her address the MEC emphasized the importance of government working together with communities to achieve great things, she said that the presence of the municipality, traditional leaders and government departments in the event proved that there is finally a sense of unity and integration, which the government is hoping to achieve through the slogan “working together we can do more”. The MEC promised that as the department responsible for agriculture and rural development, they will support the project to ensure that it reaches its potential. “Vukani Mangwe should have a fresh produce depot in Sterkspruit and supply many fresh produce markets in East London and surrounding towns so that the economy of Senqu grows, even the products should be branded Vukani mangwe” said the MEC with enthusiasm.

The MEC said she would be coming back to the Joe Gqabi district over a two days session to spend time with farmers and agricultural projects, to interact and come up with ideas and implementable solutions on development and improvements to be made in agriculture and farming. Ms. Capa did not forget to mention that during September is dedicated to fallen heroes of the struggle, those known and unknown, she then took a moment to remember them and went on to say “trough development and empowerment of ordinary citizens, their legacy will live on” the event was an overall success.



MEC Capa during her keynote address, she was presented with a traditional blanket & hat by the project.

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YAZI OCEBA BAKHO

By Unathi Jaza

Unyulo——looRhulumente baseMakhaya lonkaya ka-2011 lifikile; ze-lwadlula ngaphandle kwamagingxi-gingxi. Kwesi- isigaba, u-Masipala i-Senqu, ukunika ithuba lokubawazi iinkokheli zakho owazinyulayo. Umtheth`sihlomelo nosekela ubume bo-Masipala (Municipal Structures Act) unika ukuba, Oo-Masipala banendidi ezibini zo-Ceba; u-Ceba we Ward kwakunye no-Ceba oyi-PR (party representative) ukutsho. *Okokuqala*, u-Ceba we-Ward, ngu-Ceba ovotelwe waza-wanyulwa luluntu ngokubanzi kwi-Ward nganye ku-Masipala. Ngamanyeamazwi, le-nkokheliyi-nkokheli ekuthekwavunyelwana luluntu ngokubanzi ukubamayi- sebenzisane nqo no-Masipala ekuziseni inkonzo eluntwini. *Okwesibini*, u-Ceba oyi-PR; ngu-Ceba othunyela nangowuphi um-Butho we-Zopolitiko. Oku kukuthi, nawuphina um-Butho wezoPolitiko uthi athumele ilungu lalo lizokugada izidingo zawo. Keelilungukwi-bhunga lika-Masipala kuthiwangu-Cebaoyi-PR (Party Representative Councillor). Lilonke, ezintlobo zo-Ceba zombini; zisebenzisana no-Masipala i-Senqu, umsebenziwazo kukuziswa kwe nkonzo ngex-hesha,ngaphandle kwelahleko nangendlela esemgangakweni eluntwini. Ngenxay olunxanduva, kungoko ke ezinkokheli zikwa yinxalenye ye-Bhungalika-Masipala (Municipal Council) nesebenza njenge palamente. Eli-Bhunga lenzwa ngo-Cebabendawo abanyulwe ngabantuu kusuka ekuhlaleni; ezinkokheli ngabonabantu abathatha izigqibo ngenkqubo zonke zikamasipala, ukusuka-kuhlahlo-lwabiwo-mali (budgeting) kunye ne-nkonzo zonke zikamasipala (service delivery). Kwalapha kwinkokheli ku-khethwa u-Sodolophu

(Mayor) ekunguye umtu okhokhelabanzi ibhunga, encedisana kunye no Somlomo.

IT'S TIME TO KNOW YOUR LEADERS

The 2011 local government elections have come and passed successfully. It is now time to get to know the councillors representing you in your ward, who were elected during the elections. According to the Municipal Structures Act, Municipalities have two types of councillors; Ward and PR councillors. A Ward councillor is democratically voted and elected by the people of any given ward. In other words, it is a leader that is nominated by members of a Ward. On the other hand, a PR councillor is deployed by a given political party. This means, any respective political party sends a representative to safeguard the interests of that particular party. This is determined by voting outcomes after the local government elections. However, both of these two types of leaders have interest in the efficient, effective and timely service delivery to the communities in their respective wards. For that reason, the Ward and PR councillors serve and are representative members in the Municipal Council; which is the supreme body in the administrative structure of the Municipality.

In other words, they are members of a body that works like parliament. This body constitutes members from different political parties; which amongst these members is the Mayor, Speaker and all Councillors. These leaders are the highest decision-makers in the day-to-day operation on the Municipality; including budgeting and delegation of authorities the municipality staff.

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW MAYOR

I am pleased to welcome you to the municipality's newsletter "Senqu update", which will be a mouthpiece of the municipality and bring you updates on development and service delivery on all government activities happening within Senqu.

The vision of the new Council over the next years is accelerated service delivery, especially in the rural communities of Senqu. This will be done by ensuring that the staff of Senqu works harder in delivering the mandate of government, to better the lives of people. It therefore calls for dedication of Senqu employees to their work, and strengthened team work. We also hope to ensure that there is growth on all existing LED projects, to see them become independent and sustainable so that they create employment opportunities for the unemployed, and open way for new projects. I therefore call upon everyone who is a stakeholder in this vision to participate in ensuring that it is achieved; this involves all employees, government departments, the private sector and everyone residing in Senqu.

To ward councillors, Senqu internal departments and all other government departments, let's use the available platform of the newsletter to profile our projects and developments, let us communicate to our people so that they are on par with all government developments, and that we live true to the batho-pele principle of transparency.

SENQU MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL



YEAR 2011 TO 2014



CLLR N.Y. Mtyali (Mayor)



CLLR N.P. August (Ward 17) and (Speaker)



CLLR M. Mpelwane (Chief Whip and EXCO- Head of Technical Services)



CLLR G. Mbonyana (EXCO- Head Community Services)



CLLR N. Kwinana (Ward 04) and (EXCO- Head of Corporate and Support Services)



CLLR J. Constable (EXCO- Head of Budget and Treasury)



CLLR M.M. Mafilika (Ward 16) and (EXCO- Head of Integrated Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation)



CLLR S. Mziki (EXCO Member)



CLLR B.S. Majodina (Ward 01)



CLLR P.G. Key (Ward 02)



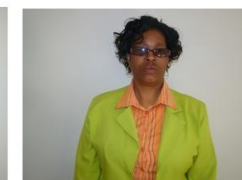
CLLR N. Nombula (Ward 03)



CLLR J.J. Lamane (Ward 05)



CLLR N.C. Mraji (Ward 06)



CLLR N.A. Mkhontwana (Ward 07)



CLLR M.G. Moeletsi (Ward 08)



CLLR A.P. April (Ward 09)



CLLR S. Mfisa (Ward 10)



CLLR M.N. Ngendane (Ward 11)



CLLR M.P. Bingwa (Ward 12)



CLLR L.M. Tokwe (Ward 13)



CLLR M.J. Mjali (Ward 14)



CLLR S.S. Ndzongana (Ward 15)



CLLR B. Ngogodo (Ward 18)



CLLR N.C. Motekwana (Ward 19)



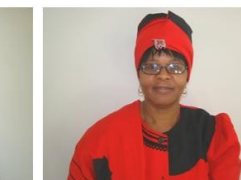
CLLR S.S. Tindleni



CLLR G.N. Mvunyiswa



CLLR M.A. Mshasha



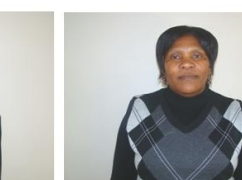
CLLR A. Kwinana



CLLR I. Elia



CLLR M.J. Sereba



CLLR N.M. Nthako



CLLR M.A. Mangali



CLLR R. M. Joubert



CLLR I. Mosisidi



CLLR A. Sobhuza



CLLR M. Senoamali



CLLR I.S. Van de Walt

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Tlotlisang Koena

Welcome to the first ever external newsletter of Senqu Municipality “Senqu Update”, it is with great enthusiasm that I am able to release this newsletter to you. With this quarterly publication the municipality aims to reach out and extend its communication platform with you, the community of Senqu, to keep you up to-date with all government developments and activities, and I hope that the publication will achieve and meet all expectations you have as the community. I therefore call upon your support and interactive contribution in ensuring that we bridge the communication gap between government and the public, that we are able to truly promote unity within Senqu. The newsletter will be released quarterly, so I hope that we will embrace it and make it a product that belongs to all. Consistent contribution is important in order to make the newsletter sustainable, interesting and a success.

I am expecting to receive news that are happening all around Senqu, in communities and within government departments, so that there is a sense of information sharing and we can all be informed about activities taking place within our municipality. I invite departments to share in on this opportunity, while scheduled interviews would be conducted with selected departmental heads, staff in general, are also called upon to share developments within their respective directorates. I would welcome participation in all events to take place in the municipality and welcome timeous invitations.

Ps, this newsletter will be freely available to the public, so welcome and enjoy your tea break with the update! In this months issue I feature all the programmes and events that have been happening in the past months. ENJOY!

The participation of communities in the municipality's IDP is important, because the service delivery plans in the IDP affect people within the communities. According to the Local Government Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000, public participation is an important aspect of local government; therefore municipalities should have continuous consultation and engagement with communities from the development to the implementation of IDP's.

Kwezimbizo zika Sodolophu abantu bayebaveze imicelamingeni eminintsi; “kusenintsi okufuneka urhulumente ekwenzile ukuphucula impilo zabantu” utshilo uSodolophu wase Senqu uMs. Nozzie Mtyali. Kwimicelamingeni esuka ebantiwini kungabalwa amanzi asokoliso, umbane awukabikho kwezinyeilali ngakumbi ezintsha, indlela zasezilalini azikabikho semgangathweni omhle, nezinye ezininzi ingxaki. uSodolophu omtsha uthembise ngo-

“SENQU MUNICIPALITY STRENGTHENING PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY THROUGH IDP OUTREACH”

Yilonto ke uSodolophu nesigqeba sakhe bebephume uphulo ukuya ebantwini nge IDP outreach- Imbizo zika maspala. Ezimbizo zincipha umaspala ukuba akwazi ukungcwangcisa ngohlahlobi womali. Kwaye zinika uluntu ukuba lube neencebiso, kunye neziphakamiso ezincipha umaspala ukuba akwazi ukuzisa uphuhliso ebantwini. intsebenziswano phakathi ko maspala noluntu ibalulekile, ngoba umaspala kufuneka azazi izidingo zabantu phambi kokuba anikezele ngeenkonzo.

kuba umaspala uzakusebenza nzima nakumbi ukulingisa lemicelamingeni.



Usodolophu' Mtyali ethetha nabahlali kwenye yeembizo Edward 13, Mbonisweni

SENQU COMMUNITY SUCCESSFULLY ELECTS NEW WARD COMMITTEES!

By Unathi Jaza

South Africa had its third local government elections in May; and the terms of new Councillors has already begun. In terms of Section 72 of the local Government: Municipal Structures Act (No.117 of 1998) “only metropolitan and local municipalities of certain types may have ward committees”. Senqu Municipality is therefore not left out from this provision. After an intensive consultation with the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) and Eastern Cape Department of local Government and Traditional Affairs, Senqu Municipality embarked on a two weeks successful ward committee election of members in all of nineteen (19) wards.

The ward committees are a very important structures created to assist the democratically elected representative of a ward (the councillors) to carry out their mandate. According to the Ward Committees Resource Book, published by DLG in 2005, “We must engage one another in a similar manner on a whole range of important specific issues such as improving service delivery and strengthening local government, including the Ward Committees. These Committees, whose members are ordinary workers, play a critical role in ensuring the necessary contact between the people and government.” The Ward Committee is made-up of members from the community; representing a number of interests within the community and the ward. In other words, ward committee members are elected to represent the various groups represented in the community in a ward and report on matters

affecting the ward or emanating from the ward to the municipality, through its ward councillor and in accordance with the processes determined by the Senqu Municipality. These ward committees are guided by the Code of Conduct which outlines the sole responsibilities of the members of ward committees and recommends standards of ethical conduct with which each member of a ward committee must comply.

The roles and responsibilities of a ward committee

Ward Committee play a critical role in

- The preparation, implementation and review of Integrated Development Plan (IDP)
- The establishment, implementation and review of a municipality performance management system
- Monitoring and review of the municipality's performance
- Decisions about the provision of municipal services
- Communication and dissemination of Information to the broader community
- Community meetings
- Managing grievance and complaints and doing door to door work in community.

Senqu Municipality has finalised the processes of the establishment of Ward Committees; and in September 2011 all word committees will be going for special training offered by the South African Local Government Association (SALGA).



Community members participating during the elections of ward committees



Enquiries: TA Dyantyi
REF: Housing Unit
(IPME SECTION)

Date: 24 OCTOBER 2011

ISAZISO

Umaspala iSenqu ucela bonke abantu abaphunyelwa zizindlu ze RDP kwi (Lady Grey 1000 house project) abangakhange ba vele ngaphambili ukuba mabavele ukuzo thatha izitixo zezindlu zabo. Umaspala ukwa cela nabantu abatixe izindlu zabo eHerschel RDP project kwaye bengahlali kuzo ukuba mabavele nabo, ngoba kuya-lungiswa kwezo zindlu kwaye izitixo ziyafuneka. Kuthathwe isigqibo sokuba abantu xabengaveli emva kwee nyanga ezintathu, ezozundlu zizakunikwa abanye abantu abalindele izindlu, ngoba ziya moshwa ezizindlu zingena bantu.

Wonke umntu ochaphazelekayo maka qhakamshelane no maspala kulomnxeba 051 603 1300; okanye 0738055853 bacele u Ntsikelelo Adam, okanye 0738185248 u Mbulelo Jeje kwa housing.

NAME AND SURNAME	ERF NUMBER
MFABE NONTULI LETTICIA	2012
MOHAE THABISO	2414
KHOSI TULU DINA	2370
GUSHA MBEXESHI SIZE	2601
VINTWA JAFTA KLEEINBOOI	2217
NKONKA ERIC WETI	1990
BEGINSEN MPEFU SARAH	1889
DYAN NOSAKUTHINI	1473
NDAMANE MVULAZANA JANE	1674
PHANI NONGAKUBANI	2337
MALIEHE MADIKOTSI ADA	1644
LISANI NOASET	2381
PIETERSE SENNY SUSANA	1994
RABELA JANE NONXULUMANISO	2148

CELEBRATING WOMEN’S MONTH WITH POLICE!

On the 9th of August South Africa celebrated women’s day. Women’s issues are so highly recognised that Government declared August women’s month. During the women’s month, government institutions, private companies and media go out of their way to publicise and strengthen programmes related to women empowerment.

The department of Police (Aliwal North headquarters, which includes Lady Grey and Sterkspruit), celebrated the month by hosting a number of events related to crime awareness campaigns around Sterkspruit, Lady Grey and Aliwal North. “Most of these events were aimed at women empowerment. The crime awareness campaigns were aimed at educating communities about crime related to women and child abuse, and to educate women about their rights to fight such abuse”, said Lieutenant Nthako. There were three events that took place around the Senqu area; the main event took place at Kwezi Naledi stadium in Lady Grey on the 18th of August. The other two events took place at Sterkspruit and Transwilger township in Lady Grey on different dates.

A number of government departments, especially those in the social and safety cluster, supported the events arranged by the police. The departments of Health, Social Development, Education, Correctional Service, Justice were some of the few departments who participated in the women’s month celebrations in Senqu. Senqu municipality, Non- Governmental Organisations and Community Police Forum (CPF) members were also not left behind in the celebrations. When interviewed, Lieutenant Nthako said interactions with

community members during these events, clearly demonstrated increased crime related to women and child abuse, and the reason is due to an increase in the level of substance abuse. Most people turn to drugs and alcohol to deal with social problems, which then changes their behaviour and they end up being violent to their partners and children”

However, the Lieutenant said they are making a breakthrough with their initiatives and educational campaigns. “The turnout and participation of community members in these events has been impressive” she said. Many people attended the events and seemed to be willing to work with the police in combating crime. The youth were encouraged to stop using drugs, and assist police to fight women and child abuse within communities. The events were also supported by an ex-offender who shared his experiences with the youth and parents. He warned people about the dangers of substance abuse and being a criminal. He pleaded with parents not to protect their children even when they are doing wrong things. The slogan was “Rebuilding the social fabric in our society; let’s strengthen families’ parenthood through exemplary and visionary mentorship”.

The events were a success and achieved the mandate, because immediately after the outreaches police in Lady Grey received tip-off’s about drug sellers and users in the Kwezi Naledi township. Money and a number of drugs were confiscated and offenders behind bars!



Some of the drugs confiscated by police in Lady Grey after receiving a tip-off from the community; proving a successful August month campaign for the police.

Other woman’s month activities

The police have also engaged on sport as part of their campaign, Senqu municipality and Disaster are part of such sports tournaments. The sports promote healthy lifestyle and team building through sports within the work environment. The police stations of Aliwal North, Jamestown, Burgersdorp and Lady Grey together with Senqu municipality and Joe Gqabi Disaster have competed on several occasions on netball and soccer codes. During most of the tournaments held, Senqu

municipality has won on both netball and soccer.



MAYOR MEETS SENQU STAKEHOLDERS

In preparations for the outreach programme currently underway in Senqu; the Mayor Ms. Mtyali invited all government departments to a meeting. The main aim of the Mayor’s meeting with the stakeholders, was to get an update and feedback on developments around service delivery issues in Senqu. She also wanted to understand the various departments’ plans for Senqu in the current financial year.

The Mayor was however not very pleased with the turn-out of delegates, because not all departments that were invited showed up for the meeting. She expressed that integration of government programmes and activities is an important aspect of a performing municipality. She hoped that the municipality and its stakeholders, government departments, would strengthen their Inter Governmental Relations (IGR) structures. Most departments that were represented in the meeting, shared the same sentiments with the Mayor. They said IGR was a concern amongst government departments, because at times departments compete about rendering services to people, instead of integrating these services.

The meeting however proceeded and the departments present made their presentations. At the end of the meeting it was decided that there should be a follow-up meeting, where the Mayor would ensure that all departments within Senqu attend. It was also clear that departments needed to work hand-in-hand with the municipality to strengthen integration and alignment of government developments & initiatives.

PROVINCIAL HERITAGE CELEBRATIONS IN SENQU!

The month of September is known to be heritage month in South Africa, this is the month in which South Africans honour, celebrate and embrace the cultural diversities in the country. Ngesintu kuthiwa lenyanga yinyanga yokukhumbula amasiko nezithethe zakwantu.

This year Senqu was very fortunate to have been selected to host the Eastern Cape provincial event of heritage day celebrations. “The event surely put Senqu in the map, and it has provided an opportunity for people in the arts and crafts sector to market and sell themselves to the whole province” said the chairperson of the IPME Standing committee Cllr. Mafilika. The Tourism section of the municipality reports to the IPME Committee .

The provincial event was held over two days the 23– 24 September 2011. On the 23rd there was a memorial lecture held at the Bensonville Hall in Sterkspruit in the afternoon, which was attended by prominent government officials, DG’s and MPL’s from the Eastern Cape Legislature. The lecture was delivered by Minister of Human Settlement, Hon. Tokyo Sexwale who in his lecture, spoke a lot about the history of Joe Gqabi and Chris Hani, and their contributions to democracy, as well as how the area of Joe Gqabi was home to these freedom fighters. There was also some sports

activities and exhibitions held at Witterbergen village on the 23rd; where many schools around Sterkspruit got to participate and the youth showcased their talents.

The main heritage day event was held at Nkopane JSS on Saturday the 24th, both villages are in ward 13 of the municipality where Cllr. Tokwe is the ward councillor, She has also expressed much excitement that such an event of this calibre will be host in their ward. The Premier of Eastern Cape Ms. N Kieviet delivered the keynote address on the day, where she expressed the need to nurture and protect our culture and heritage. All speakers on the day expressed the same sentiment and encouraged youth especially to familiarise themselves with their history and culture.



Some of the beautiful cultural dances and traditional crafts that Senqu has to offer, which were on display during the Heritage day celebrations.

BACK PAGE

WARD NEWS!

This section of the newsletter the ward news, will feature developments, activities, latest news happening within the wards. I will be interacting with the ward Councillors visiting the wards and sharing information on the latest updates. This feature will be a regular in the newsletter.

WARD 07

Ward 07 in Sterkspruit, which covers Macacuma and Thaba lesoba villages, is one the wards I was invited to visit. The ward has a number of active LED Projects, which the people in the ward are enthusiastic about as they say the projects have made great impact in the ward. During the visit, it was clear that Ward Councillor, Mkhontwana and her community are dedicated and passionate about these community projects, due to the amount of work done and the success that the projects have achieved so far.

The major projects that were visited and profiled were Ikaneng Pottery project in Thaba-Lesoba,

Mngcunube Community Based Project and Mxgojeni Poultry Project both based in Macacuma village.

The purpose of profiling these projects within the wards has encouraged and motivated other communities within Senqu to unite and establish

successful projects in their communities, so that they could achieve something greater in bettering their lives while fighting poverty.

Ikaneng is a pottery project that creates traditional pots (ingqayi), and sewing of Sesotho traditional dresses (seshweshwe). The Ikaneng Pottery Project was started in 1981 and was at the time led by a young lady from Lesotho named Mmathabo. She started it with five other ladies



The women of Ikaneng with the dresses they sew an their ingqawe pots

wards at Senqu, the main function of the project is to plant food gardens in the households of the communities, the food gardens

are sustained by the project. They plants food item as cabbage, beetroot, spinach, etc.

So that people have vegetables to go by. The project has not stopped at only planting food gardens. They have contribute in bettering the community of Macacuma as a whole, “they have renovated the pre-school with new windows and re-painting it, they also re-painted a local school and fixed the fencing of the school, they really make a big contribution in this community” said ward Councillor, Mkhontwana.

who only wanted to make ends meet for themselves and their families. They didn’t exactly know that it will become this much of a success. They went through a lot of trials and tribulation but they always kept their eyes on the silver lining around those grey clouds. Mmathabo dedicated her life to the project, ensuring growth and sustainability. The project has been to Greece to represent Eastern Cape and exhibited products to showcase Senqu’s talent. They have also been to Grahamstown several times to showcase during the arts festival. They have really proven that if women put their minds together, they can come up with something great.

Mngcunube and Mxgojeni these two projects are based in Macacuma village and have made a great impact in fighting poverty and promoting unity in the village, more especially the Mngcunube community works project.

Mngcunube is a poverty alleviation project initiated from the national Community Works Programme (CWP). The project is currently in 4



The food gardens planted by Mngcunube project

The project has employed more than 200 community members and they get a stipend. The municipality has also been instrumental in making the project a success by donating water wheelbarrows to the project.

The Mxgojeni project is also community based, and has already received funding from Social Development in partnership with Senqu municipality. The project is a poultry project which mostly trades eggs and chicken to a variety of customers, major customers include local supermarkets around Sterkspruit. The project is run by 6 aspiring women and 2 males from the community of Macacuma.



WARD 10

Makhetheng is getting a facelift and being upgraded with the construction of new access roads in the area. The people of Makhetheng have been complaining for some time to get proper access roads. “we are very excited to see that the municipality has listened to our complaints” said one community member. The municipality is constructing roads for the first time in most areas at Makhetheng, since it is a new village and there were no roads previously.

Still in ward 10, the town is also getting a development in the form of a new

taxi rank. The construction of the new taxi rank is in full swing. The taxi rank is going to make a huge impact and change the lives of the people in Sterkspruit for the better, especially the motorists because taxis used to cause traffic jam around town. The taxi association welcomed the project with warm open arms, as they



Construction of roads at Makhetheng village

say they’ve been struggling for a long time now. “the taxis were scattered all over town because the old rank is very small, we are very pleased that the municipality has been able to think of us this time around” said a leader in the taxi association.

Construction already began in April early this year, the new taxi rank is about 20 000 square meters long, with 34 Hawker facilities, with 8– 10 taxi bays that will accommodate about 15-20 taxis a bay, bays will all have shelter and the rank will be paved through out! The rank is situated next to the Caltex garage.

Other developments in town include the paving of the main streets in EXT 1, which were not previously surfaced.

Upcoming projects in your area

- The Khwezi Naledi stadium is being upgraded, and lighting will be installed in the stadium for late games
- Khwezi Naledi roads will also be paved.

Contact Senqu

Update editorial

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