



the dedet

Department:
Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
MPUMALANGA PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

Mpumalanga's economic story, in our words Temnotfo

January - March 2013 Edition



Improving the lives of citizens
during Human Rights Day!

BRICS to improve
SA's Economic position

Oman agreement
to assist with job creation

Litiko Letekutfufukiswa Kwetemnotfo,
Simondzawo netekuVakasha

Umnyango WezokuThuthukiswa KoMnotho,
iBhoduluko nezamaVakatjho

Department van Ekonomiese Ontwikkeling,
Omgewing en Toerisme

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HOD's remarks

Dr. Vusanani Dlamini



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One of the key responsibilities of the Department is to ensure that we implement our mandate of Economic Development vigorously. The Summit for leading emerging economic countries in the world (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) BRICS was held in Durban during March. Prior to that the Province got an opportunity to host a roadshow to inform key stakeholders of the aims and importance of the BRICS Summit. Our MEC YN 'Pinky' Phosa was delegated by the Premier DD Mabuza, to represent the Mpumalanga on his behalf. We can say without any doubt that the MEC did a sterling job.

As part of developing the economy of Mpumalanga, some officials from *the dedet* were sent to Oman on a mission to create job opportunities for the Province. The Oman government showed interest in assisting Mpumalanga to establish a Cable Manufacturing Plant. This will increase the value of exports for South Africa as a whole and will create a lot of job opportunities.

March is known as Human Right's Month and MEC YN 'Pinky' Phosa and MEC Sibongile Manana from the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation celebrated Human Right's Day by improving the lives of citizens at the Dr Pixley ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality.

As part of our mandate we need to emphasize the importance of our Environment as well. During the National Water Week celebrations in March, communities were encouraged to save and respect our water. Water is a rare resource and if not protected, we can encounter major water shortages in the future.

This publication is meant to give you an insight as to what our Department and government continue to do to fulfil our mandate, and also what we plan to do going forward.

Dr V Dlamini
Head of Department

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Mpumalanga Gambling Board achieved a clean audit in the last financial year

- by Ngobe Comfort

White River - MEC for Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, Mrs Pinky Phosa has urged the Department and its public entities to follow in the footsteps of the Mpumalanga Gambling Board (MGB), under the leadership of the Chairperson of the Board, Mr Jerry Vilakazi, which continues to achieve a clean audit.

Addressing the Board Members, MEC Phosa said, "MGB's achievement is what defines good governance, and I am humbled by this achievement. To me, they have set a tone which the Department and its public entities must follow.

I will also recommend that MGB should play a leading role in sharing their expertise with the Department's other agencies, and form the Chief Executives forum (CEO's) where they will share the secret of success, and mentor them towards achieving a clean audit report for the 2013/2014 financial year.

Accepting the inputs made by the MEC, MGB Chairperson, Mr Jerry Vilakazi said, "The board that I lead will continue to work around the clock to ensure that it sets a good example towards achieving a clean audit.

"I am passionate about good governance, and in the previous portfolio where I led, I ensured that achieving a clean audit becomes a priority. Team dedet will assist me. I am confident that I will achieve a clean audit for this Department," said MEC Phosa.

Jerry Vilakazi's sentiment were echoed by MGB CEO, Mr Bheki Mlambo by saying, "This year we will continue to ensure that we deliver on our mandate, and we have already prioritised the issue of licensing the fourth casino in the province, and I am confident that it will contribute towards job creation in the province."

The Office of the Auditor General was also present and shared their views on the clean audit report.

Mpumalanga C

Human R

MEC for Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, Mrs Pinky Phosa and the MEC for Culture, Sport and Recreation, Ms Sibongile Manana, brought tears of joy to three elderly women of Sinqobile Village in Daggakraal near Volkrust, where they presented blankets and garden tools to the women on Human Rights Day, 21 March 2013.

The two MECs took a detour to Sibathandabenje Stimulation Centre and presented the centre management with a cheque for R104 400, 5 big pots, 15 mattresses, 30 blankets and a fridge.

The 2013 Human Rights Day Commemoration at Dr Pixley-ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality was celebrated under the theme "The right of access to water and sanitation - our life our dignity!." The Human Rights Day event comes in the wake of the National Celebration of Water Week held in the province, in Amsterdam on the 20 March 2013.



One of the beneficiaries receive her blankets from the MECs

Commemorates Rights Day

- by Silence Mhlaba

Access to water is a constitutional right, and the provision of this basic human need to all communities is high priority for the Mpumalanga Provincial Government.

The Premier of the Province, Mr DD Mabuza in the 2013 State of the Province Address made this pronouncement, "We will accelerate the provision of bulk water and sanitation infrastructure, - Accordingly I am pleased to announce that the Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency will be assigned the responsibility to provide support to our municipalities with respect to bulk water and sanitation services. Communities in the province can have a major contribution to make in ensuring water is not wasted".

Human Rights Day (21 March) is both a stark reminder of the tragic Sharpeville massacre and a celebration of South Africa's unique constitution, which gives equal rights to all.



MEC Pinky Phosa and MEC Sibongile Manana handing a cheque of R104 400. 00 to Sibathanda-Bente Stimulation Centre



Some of the items donated by the MEC Pinky Phosa



MEC Pinky Phosa and MEC Sibongile Manana interacting with the beneficiaries

Mandla Hlophe with staff members of Achieve Magazine

Mandla Hlophe,
Managing Director
Achieve Magazine

the dedet produces a Young Entrepreneur

- by Comfort Ngobe

Nelspruit – One of the 2010 *Business Launchpad winners* hosted by *the dedet* is making a mark in the media sector. Mandla Hlophe, a young entrepreneur is a proud owner of a magazine called *Achieve*.

Achieve is a glossy lifestyle and business magazine for youth which has now grown into a provincial magazine, with a view of going national so that it will compete with the established magazines in the country.

Hlophe started his company in 2008, and won the *Business Launch Pad* competition in 2010. He comes from Kanyamazane Township. The 25 year old Mandla was mentored by Vusi Mashabane and Business Reporter Ellis Mnyandu.

He currently employs five staff members on a full time basis as well freelancers in the province to produce the magazine bi-monthly. The magazine is distributed by leading supermarkets and bookshops which include CNA, Exclusive Books as well as Spar Supermarkets and Shoprite.

“When I started the idea of a magazine, I knew what I wanted, however the challenge was funding so, when I heard about the *Business Launch Pad* competition I did not hesitate. I entered, and when I won I made sure that I channelled the prize to achieving my dream hence the name of the magazine is 'Achieve'.”

The magazine also targets small to medium businesses for advertising opportunities in the Lowveld area. One of the highest achievements in Mr Hlophe’s career was when he was profiled by the Star Newspaper, Daily Sun, Cape Town News, Lowvelder and Ziwaphe as a young entrepreneur and the man behind the brain of *Achieve Magazine*.

The magazine has featured prominent Mpumalanga personalities such as Ligwalagwala FM DJ - Dumisane Simelane, Wandile Moya - lead singer from Afro Traction, Teargas – a kwaito group, Mpumalanga born artist Ntokozo Mdluli, Stimela’s legend Ray ‘Chikapa’ Phiri and former Miss Mpumalanga- Mpumi Lephoko.

Bio-fuel Workshop to pave the way for job creation

- by Ngobe Comfort

As part of strengthening relationship between government and the private sector to ensure that Bio-Energy contributes towards job creation in the province, the Bio-Energy Cluster Committee held its first consultative workshop at Destiny Lodge outside Nelspruit.

The workshop was aimed at disseminating the latest information on bio-energy, especially on the recommendations of the pre-feasibility study on bio-energy about the mandatory regulations, and to update the delegates about the proposed regulations of pricing model for bio-fuel.

Welcoming and outlining the purpose of the workshop, Trade and Sector Development Chief Director, Dr Joyce Pakade said, "Mpumalanga has an abundance of agricultural feedstock and minerals resources that could contribute towards the implementation of bio-energy."

"The province has a number of farms that were redistributed back to communities through the land reform programme. Government could therefore take advantage of this programme, as dual strategy to assist the land reform beneficiaries, as well as implementing the bio-fuel initiatives. We will also ensure that we develop a working document that will serve as an implementation plan of the cluster committee."

"The Department will ensure that it engages local municipalities about the business opportunities on solid waste as per the recommendations of the pre-feasibility study on bio-energy. It will also apply the Brazilians model in terms of implementing bio-energy in the country that will ensure that SMME's are participating in the bio-energy initiative," concluded Dr Pakade.

Siya Bacela, SASOL Senior Manager for Chemical and Energy Portfolio stressed that the province must take advantage of the recent memorandum of understanding signed between government and the company.

SASOL has agreed to work closely with the Department to conduct pre-feasibility study on bio-energy in the province. This will assist the province in its quest to create job opportunities' through bio-fuel.

The workshop brought together national and provincial government departments as well as representative from various private sectors.



Dr Joyce Pakade



Attendees of the Bio-fuel workshop pausing for a picture



Save Our Sou



Piet Retief – The National Department of Water Affairs has urged South Africans to work closely with community structures, students, parents, religious organisations and the media to educate people about the importance of saving and preserving water.

Speaking at the event, Department of Water Affairs Regional Director, Ms Nolly Ndumo said, “The issue of saving and preserving water must be every body’s business to educate one another about the importance of water for the coming generations.

The Department of Water Affairs also committed to adopt a child in Mkhondo Municipality, and will send that child to a tertiary institution to pursue a career in water purification or any courses related to water. “People must remember that



Water - Source of Life!

- by Ngoebe Comfort

South Africa is a water scarce country and depends mostly on the water from the rain, and if we cannot preserve the little that we have, South Africa will struggle to provide clean water to communities," concluded Nolly Ndumo.

Delivering the message of support, Mkhondo Municipality Executive Mayor Bhekabantu Mtshali said that his municipality will work closely with national government departments such as Water Affairs, to ensure that it provides clean water to communities around Piet Retief.

An Environment Specialist from the Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, Mr Shobane Makhabane also echoed the sentiments of all speakers, urging for stringent water saving.

The National Water Week, an education awareness campaign on water saving, is an annual event.





*MEC for Economic Development,
Environment and Tourism
Mrs Pinky Phosa
delivering her speech*

BRICS will ce into Intern - M

Nelspruit –As the country was preparing to host the leading emerging economic countries in the world, BRICS (Brazil, Russia India China and South Africa) in Durban from 26 - 27 March 2013, the Mpumalanga provincial government in conjunction with the Department of International Relations and Co-operation hosted the BRICS road show at Ehlanzeni District in Nelspruit.

The road show was aimed at informing the people of the province about the importance of South Africa's membership to BRICS. It was also aimed at exchanging information on how

the South African government represents its people on economical and developmental issues in other developing countries.

Outlining the purpose of the road show, MEC for Economic Development Environment and Tourism, Mrs Pinky Phosa said, "On behalf of the Mpumalanga Premier, Mr David Mabuza and our people, we would like to express our gratitude to the President of the country, Mr Jacob Zuma for his sterling job, through which South Africa gained membership to BRICS, which is a symbol of hope that the livelihood of the people will improve when South Africa



Government SA's position International Countries

EC Phosa

- by Ngobe Comfort

benefits from associating with the four of the world's emerging economic countries."

"This BRICS road show therefore confirms the government's commitment to ensure that citizens participate in planning for a better tomorrow, and through collaboration with the four members, South Africa will benefit significantly in relation to economic investment opportunities," said MEC Phosa.

Also present during the road show was Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Ms Tina Joemat-Pettersson who said that, "Government is here to engage with you about our

role in the international community, and through BRICS we hope to deal with problems that affect our country especially the high rate of unemployment and inequality. We hope that being part of BRICS will enable us to address those challenges."

"It is not just going to bring us R50 Billion because we also intend to house international banks here, and create job opportunities. We will also ensure that we focus on projects linking Mozambique, Mpumalanga and Swaziland, in order to grow our economy," emphasised Ms Joemat-Pettersson.

Mpumalanga shows slight

Economic Highlight

“Despite the shrinkage of economic growth between 2010 and 2011, the provincial economy managed to create 36 000 jobs between the fourth quarter of 2010 and the fourth quarter of 2012,” said Mpumalanga Premier DD Mabuza, while delivering the State of the Province Address at the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature, on 01 March 2013.

The Economic outlook of the Province as extracted from the Premier's State of the Province Address:

Economic outlook

Unemployment

The fourth quarter of 2012 is showing the unemployment rate being the third highest of the nine (9) provinces. The youth unemployment rate is standing at 43%.

Poverty

In 2011, Mpumalanga's poverty rate was at 41.6 %, showing a 4 percentage point decrease from 45,6% in 2010.

Ehlanzeni still remains the highest with 45.3% poverty rate and Nkangala being lowest at 33.5%.

Economic Growth

In 2010, the economic growth rate of Mpumalanga was at 3,1% but decreased to 2,3% in 2012.

Performance on 2012/13 priorities

Creating decent work and sustainable livelihood

“There is slight positive development around the issue of poverty and job creation. It is a situation that demands all us to redouble our joint efforts if we have to achieve the targets as set out in the Mpumalanga Economic Growth and Development Path,” explained Premier Mabuza.

Provincial economy needs to grow at a rate of between 5% and 7% per annum so that the target of seven hundred and nineteen thousand (719 000) new jobs by 2020 is realised.

Sectors with growth potential: Manufacturing and beneficiation, mining and energy, agriculture and forestry, tourism and cultural industries, including the green economy.

Projects for Enterprise Development:

- Industrial Park to promote SMMEs and Cooperatives development.
- Procurement to enhance targeted procurement to promote local enterprises.

Projects for Sustainable Development and Environment:

- Mine rehabilitation to rehabilitate land for productive use, prioritising agriculture activities.
- Water reclamation to purify underground water for community.

To date, we have already entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with SASOL. We will be working with SASOL on the IKUSASA project which is geared towards rejuvenating Secunda into a SMART city in the next 50 years.

Other MOUs that we are in the process of finalising involve the country Oman for Fresh produce and SUMSUNG on Information Technology and Communication (ITC).

A MOU will be signed between the Provincial Government, MEGA and the China Development Bank Corporation during the BRICS Summit in Durban later this month.

This MOU will open avenues for the Chinese businesses to invest in the Province and the estimated value of the anticipated investment from China alone is about R1 billion with over 1000 permanent jobs created.

Mpumalanga Economy might grow

- by Silence Mhlaba

Aspects of the 2013 SOPA

Areas of strategic partnerships:

- **CSIR:** to promote Research and Development in order to position people of the province, particularly SMMEs and Cooperatives to seize opportunities in the economy;
- **Department of Communication:** to bridge the digital divide and ensure that people of Mpumalanga benefit from this sector with the many opportunities it provides;
- **Eskom:** On water and sanitation – a project is aimed at providing and improving water supply to communities, schools and health facilities within four local municipalities in Mpumalanga that does not currently have municipal water supply at a budget of R7,5 million.

Water delivery to power stations and opportunities exist for access to Kriel Town from the Komati Water Scheme Augmentation Project. An estimated cost of R25 million for the pipeline from KWSAP to Kriel Town would be spent.

- On the Majuba Rail Siding Project. Construction will commence in the second quarter of 2013 with an aim of establishing a private railway line that will be used to transport coal from the existing Transnet Coal Export railway line to Majuba Power Station coal stockyard in Amersfoort.

The project entails the construction of a 68km single heavy haul track taking off at a junction located 8km West of Ermelo to the existing Majuba Power Station.

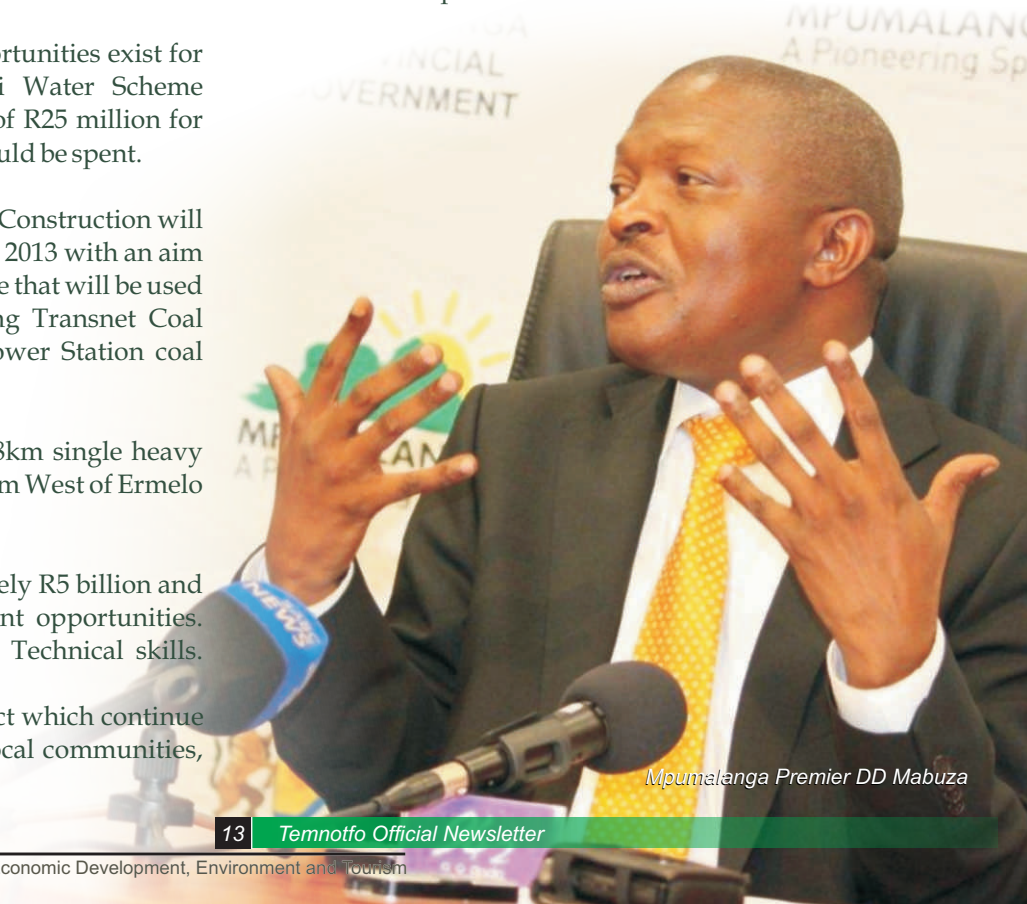
The project is estimated to cost approximately R5 billion and create between 3500 and 5000 employment opportunities. More than 280 people will be trained on Technical skills.

- On Coal Haulage and Kusile Project which continue to create huge opportunities for local communities,

particularly small business. The Kusile Power Station alone has employed 13 000 people in Mpumalanga. Companies that benefited in the construction of Kusile Power Station are 304 at a value of R2.5 billion.

170 small business enterprises and women business were trained on capacity building training programmes.

All the parastatals of government are part of these Partnerships. They should become aggressive in terms of developing SMMEs and Cooperatives. We expect to see the young people, women and people with disabilities swelling the numbers of people being selected by these parastatals for business development.



Mpumalanga Premier DD Mabuza

Respect Conserve our



Our water, our water and enjoy

- by Volksrust Environmental Centre

In South Africa, the water demand already exceeds the supply, and this has been seen in most municipalities. We live in a water scarce country and one of the driest among 30 countries in the world.

The country experiences erratic and uneven rainfall distribution, and the current demand for water is unsustainable. Water is a renewable resource but it requires careful management and protection due to its vulnerability to over exploitation and pollution. Only about a third of households in Mpumalanga have access to piped water inside their houses. Pollution of water resources is also on the increase. In this regard, the Volksrust Environmental Centre has conducted 235 educational and awareness campaigns to empower learners and communities on the importance of saving water.

The centre would like to encourage citizens to:

- Report water leakages to the municipality as a matter of urgency.
- Use a cup when drinking water from a tap – do not let water run.
- Water the garden early in the morning or late in the afternoon in order to limit evaporation.
- Use the plug when washing hands – do not wash hands under running tap.
- Never litter on the street, in your garden or on the pavement – as lot of garbage ends up in rivers.

**Save water
Save lives!**

Services taken to people

Representatives of different programmes of the Department recently attended the Provincial Legislature Outreach Programme to Volksrust in the Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Municipality.

The main aim of the “Taking Legislature to the People” was to ensure that members of the public access service delivery at their door steps.

The Department used the opportunity to reach out to the public with information on various services rendered by *the dedet*.

Black Economic Empowerment; Consumer Education; Environmental Awareness, Enterprise Development and Local Economic Development were some of the units involved.

Held at the Vukuzakhe Stadium, Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Municipality, the event helped to promote the objective of ensuring access to information which is a critical mandate of the Communication Directorate in the Department.

The Departmental exhibition showcased various information booklets, while the officials interacted with members of the public.

The Cooperative unit was represented by Mr Buri Rachoane and Ms Evelyn Motsepe, who were offering information to the community on how to start co-operatives and how to do a business proposal in order to access funding.

Ms Pretty Chiloane gave information on Black Economic Empowerment, explaining the importance of compliance to B-BBEE by business owners.

The day would not have been complete without adequate information on issues relating to the rights of consumers. Ms Zodwa Vilakazi from Consumer Services gave insight on intervening on unfair business practices and raised awareness on consumer rights and responsibilities.



ken e's stoep!

- by Searabo Motshwanedi



Ms Motsepe Interacting with youth member on how to formulate cooperative



Learnners accessing information in one of the dedet desk



dedet officials sharing information to the community

Oman Outbound mission to create job opportunities for the Mpumalanga

- by Ngobe Comfort

Nelspruit – The Oman government has expressed interest in assisting Mpumalanga to establish a Cable Manufacturing plant for the province. The Cable Manufacturing plant will assist in increasing the value of exports for South Africa while on the other hand creating job opportunities for the people of Mpumalanga, explained Dr Joyce Pakade - Chief Director, Trade and Sector Development.

Dr Pakade was part of a 17 - member delegation to Oman which included business people, officials from Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency (MEGA), officials from Department of Agriculture Rural Development and Land Administration and officials from the Department of Trade and Industry.

“The province will benefit from direct investments on projects that will be set up in the province as a result of negotiations entered between Mpumalanga business delegation and Oman Businesses.”

“It is also envisaged that the business to business negotiations, as well as government to government engagements, would ultimately result into business deals where there will be

opportunities for Mpumalanga’s planned fresh produce market to export fruit and vegetables, processed fruit juices, grain products and goat meat to the Sultanate of Oman,” said Dr Pakade.

The delegation to Oman was welcomed by Mr Chris Pepani, Oman’s Ambassador in South Africa and Mr Piere Jordaan, South African diplomat in Oman, who informed the delegation about business opportunities available in Oman and its neighbouring countries.

According to Mr Pepani, Mpumalanga can benefit a lot if it signs an agreement with Oman because Oman is a new market opened for Mpumalanga and the country at large. By virtue of its location, Mpumalanga provides a gateway to the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) countries, which consist of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman Qatar, Saudi Arabia. Mpumalanga can set a business foot print in those areas.

There is also a huge number of opportunities for Medical Doctors as well as engineers in the mining sector in terms of mineral exploration, supply of machinery and expertise that the people of Mpumalanga can take advantage of.



Mr Matsane (right) with Oman business representative from the Cable Industry



South African Ambassador, Mr Chris Pepani (left) with business representatives from Oman

Wetlands around Chrissiesmeer near Ermelo

Wetlands

- by Witbank Environmental Centre



Chrissiesmeer Wetlands

During February 2013, the Witbank Environmental Centre facilitated several activities to celebrate **World Wetlands Day**. Educators and Learners of the following schools attended the celebrations: Khayaletu, Duvha and Mokibe Primary, located in the Emalahleni Municipal area.

Every year on the 2nd of February, the world celebrates World Wetlands Day. This is a day when we reflect on the benefits that wetlands provide, and it also highlights the need for society to appreciate the value and functions of wetlands. Institutions and individuals seize the opportunity to undertake actions aimed at raising public awareness of wetland values. The theme for 2013 was **“Wetlands Take Care of Water.”**

As part of the activities, learners were encouraged not only to save water, but also to protect and conserve our natural resources, which include Wetlands.



Chrissiesmeer Wetlands



Gamble with care.

For the overwhelming majority of South Africans gambling is harmless entertainment. But for the very few who gamble more than they can afford over the Easter Holidays, it can become a problem.

If you, or someone you care about needs help, call the NRGP toll free problem gambling counselling line on **0800 006 008** or email counsellor@responsiblegambling.co.za and a trained counsellor will help you. Expert confidential help is available free of charge.

Winners know when to stop.

Toll Free Counselling Line | 0800-006-008



Pioneers in gambling regulation



This message is brought to you by the Mpumalanga Gambling Board, First Avenue, White River, 1240. Telephone: 013-750-8000.
Website: www.mgb.org.za. Facebook: www.facebook.com/mgbresponsiblegambling
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