

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR SASSETA STAKEHOLDERS

SASSETA *plug*

16TH EDITION • MARCH 2026



**Commemoration of
Human Rights Day**

**Continuing the Mandela
Day Commitment at Tumelo
Home**

**SASSETA Hosted Career
Fair in Maboloka**



CONTENTS

3	Message from The Acting Chief Executive Officer
5	Message from The Chairperson of The Board
6	Editor's Note
7	Empowering KwaZulu-Natal Stakeholders to Unlock Discretionary Grant Opportunities
9	Training in chairing a business meeting effectively
10	SASSETA ETQA Quality Promotion Workshop for Stakeholders
12	Mpumzuza Traditional Authority Matric Excellence Awards Ceremony
14	Employees Treated to a Relaxing Spa Experience
15	Continuing the Mandela Day Commitment at Tumelo Home
16	Maluti TVET College Electrical Centre of Specialisation Launch
18	A Valentine's Day Filled with Surprises and Appreciation
20	DEL Launches Major LAP Investment to Create 30 000 Jobs
22	SASSETA Engages Learners at the 5th Newcastle Annual Career Expo
24	Commemorating Human Rights Day
26	Guiding the Next Generation: AgriSETA Career Summit
27	Moripe Holding's Career Guidance Information Fair and Capacity Building
28	Shaping Young Futures: Career Fair in Mmaboloka
30	Breaking Barriers: Career Access Comes to Rural Doorsteps of Moletsi



MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



As we reflect on the last quarter of the 2025/2026 financial year, it is with a sense of pride that I share developments and milestones that have shaped this period for SASSETA.

In our previous edition, we introduced the Board members who resumed their duties on 30 September 2025. We are now pleased to officially welcome the following Board members, appointed in December 2025 and who commenced their duties in January 2026:

1. **Adv. Chris Setlhako** – Board Chairperson (Independent)
2. **Mr Samuel “Sammy” Mashita** – Organised Labour
3. **Adv. Jeno Singh** – Organised Labour
4. **Ms. Anna Mashigo** – Organised Labour
5. **Lt. General Malungisa Sitshongaye** – Organised Employers

Their expertise, leadership, and commitment to skills development in the safety and security sector come at a pivotal time. We are confident that their guidance will strengthen governance, sharpen our

strategic direction, and enhance our impact across all stakeholder groups.

In January, SASSETA hosted a board induction and strategic planning session to ensure that newly appointed board members were adequately oriented and equipped to fulfil their governance responsibilities. This engagement was critical in establishing an understanding of SASSETA's legislative mandate, operational environment, and current organisational performance.

The session enabled the board to participate meaningfully with organisational documents, including the Strategic Plan, Annual Performance Plan, and governance frameworks. It also provided insight into programme performance, current challenges, financial standing, and stakeholder expectations, ensuring that board members are well-positioned to provide informed oversight and strategic guidance. The outcomes of this

NEWS AND EVENTS

engagement have laid a foundation for aligning our programmes with national priorities, improving service delivery, and ensuring responsiveness to the evolving needs of the sector.

This quarter, our work has been further guided by national priorities as outlined in the 2026 State of the Nation Address delivered by President Cyril Ramaphosa. The President reaffirmed government's commitment to strengthening the link between skills development, employment creation, and economic growth, particularly for young people and women.

In response, SASSETA continues to prioritise programmes that create clear pathways from learning to earning, ensuring that skills development initiatives are directly aligned with labour market needs. The emphasis on expanding public employment programmes and strengthening coordination between skills development and sustainable work opportunities reinforces the importance of our mandate in enabling meaningful economic participation.

This commitment was demonstrated through the recent career exhibition hosted by SASSETA at Mmadikete Lion Secondary School in Maboloka, located in a rural area of the North West Province. During this engagement, the SASSETA team conducted a workshop for Grade 9 learners, offering guidance on subject choices and highlighting scarce and critical career pathways within the safety and security sector. By equipping learners at an early stage with career information, SASSETA is supporting decision-making that aligns education choices with future skills demand. This initiative contributes to building a strong pipeline of skilled individuals who are prepared to transition from education into meaningful employment.

Beyond our core mandate, SASSETA remains committed to making a positive social impact. Following our visit to Tumelo Home for the Handicapped in Ivory Park during Mandela Day last year, we identified opportunities to provide more sustainable, long-term support. While food donations were appreciated, it became evident that the home faced ongoing challenges requiring more impactful interventions. To address this, SASSETA engaged with the management of the home to better understand their most pressing needs. Items such as blankets, heaters,

comforters, and exercise bicycles were identified to improve the living conditions of the children, particularly during extreme weather conditions. On Tuesday, 10 February 2026, SASSETA returned to Tumelo Home to officially hand over these essential items. This visit was not only about delivering resources, but also about reaffirming our commitment to dignity, care, and sustainable community support. Through such initiatives, we continue to show that our role extends beyond skills development, we are also partners in building resilient and supportive communities.

Stakeholders are reminded that the 1st Discretionary Grants Funding Window for the 2026/2027 financial year is now open and will close on 6 April 2026 at midnight. We invite Private Security and Legal Sector employers registered with SASSETA and contributing to the Skills Development Levy (or formally exempt), as well as CBOs, NGOs, NPOs, Cooperatives, and Non-Levy Paying Entities operating within the safety and security sector, to take advantage of this opportunity and submit their applications.

As we move forward, SASSETA remains committed to delivering on its mandate with excellence, integrity, and accountability. We will continue to strengthen partnerships, drive skills development initiatives, and align our efforts with national priorities to support economic growth.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all stakeholders for their continued support and collaboration, and we look forward to building on this momentum in the new financial year. ■

Mr Vukani Memela
Acting Chief Executive Officer



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD



The board is encouraged by the policy direction outlined in the 2026 State of the Nation Address, specifically the emphasis on developing a capable, skilled, and ethical workforce to drive national growth. This commitment aligns strongly with SASSETA's mandate of fostering skills and talent within the safety and security sector.

Government's focus on professionalising the public service and ensuring that appointments are based on skills, qualifications, and experience resonates deeply with our work. For example, SASSETA has implemented targeted training programmes for law enforcement officials and security personnel, ensuring that promotions and placements are merit-based and supported by practical competencies.

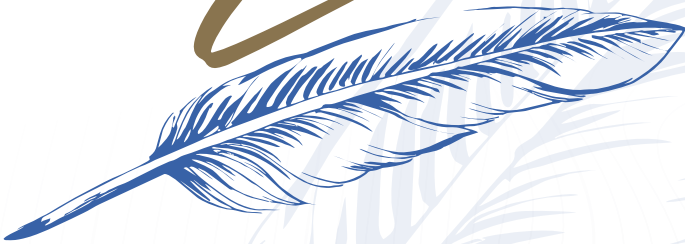
The prioritisation of skills development as a pathway to employment and economic participation, especially for youth, underscores the importance of collaborative partnerships between government, employers, and training

providers. SASSETA facilitates such partnerships, for instance, by coordinating workplace readiness programmes where young graduates gain hands-on experience helping to translate training into tangible career opportunities.

We remain confident that by aligning our strategy with national priorities, SASSETA will continue to contribute to building a safer and economically active society, where every South African has the chance to develop and apply their skills effectively. ■

Adv. Chris Setlhako
SASSETA Board Chairperson

Editor's NOTE



Mpho Majatladi
Editor

As we conclude the final term of the financial year, we are excited to share the latest updates, achievements, and insights from the organisation's activities. This period has been marked by a continued commitment to skills development, innovation, the resounding success of our projects, and capacity building within the sector.

In this newsletter, we introduce the newly appointed SASSETA board members. We also showcase key achievements, impactful projects, and share updates from across the sector. These stories reflect the collective effort invested in strengthening the safety and security industry while creating meaningful opportunities for skills development and employment. Throughout the year, SASSETA has remained committed to advancing skills development initiatives that empower individuals and support organisations within the sector. From training programmes and learnership opportunities to stakeholder engagements and industry collaborations, SASSETA continues to play a pivotal role in creating an enabling environment for skills training in the safety and security sector.

As we close this financial year, we remain focused on sustaining momentum and building upon the progress we have achieved.

We collectively need to recommit all our efforts to work together to drive skills development and make a positive impact in our communities in the new year.

Thank you for being part of the SASSETA community.



Ivy Masondo
Marketing and Communications Administrator



Tsholofelo Nyamathe
Communications Practitioner



Nosipho Keuti
Administrator: Multimedia and Social Media



Mmakgabo Makubelo
Marketing Officer



Empowering KwaZulu-Natal Stakeholders to Unlock Discretionary Grant Opportunities

By Ivy Masondo



Safety and Security Sector Education and Training Authority (SASSETA) hosted an informative Discretionary Grant Workshop for KwaZulu-Natal stakeholders on Friday, 13 February 2026, at the Elangeni Hotel.

The session formed part of SASSETA's ongoing commitment to strengthen partnerships within the safety and security sector and ensure that funded

projects are implemented effectively and in full compliance with SETA requirements.

The primary aim of the workshop was to capacitate stakeholders who currently have approved projects, while also guiding prospective applicants on the correct processes for applying for discretionary grants using the newly introduced Integrated Management Information



Systems (IMIS). With the transition to this new online platform, it was essential to ensure that employers, training providers, and other partners clearly understood how to navigate the system, submit accurate information, and avoid common compliance pitfalls that could delay funding or learner certification.

A total of 29 stakeholders attended the session, representing a diverse range of organisations within the province. The workshop created a practical learning environment where participants were not only guided through policy requirements but were also taken step-by-step through the technical aspects of capturing learner details on the IMIS system. Demonstrations were conducted to show how to register learners correctly, upload supporting documentation, and monitor progress throughout the learning programme cycle.

Key topics covered during the workshop included learner registration processes, learner certification procedures, and the implementation of Occupational Qualifications. Attention was given to the importance of accurate learner data capturing, as errors at the registration stage often result in certification delays. Stakeholders were also engaged in discussions around common challenges experienced in learning programmes, with SASSETA officials providing clarity on compliance requirements and offering practical solutions for improvement.

In addition, updates on discretionary grant developments, including improvements in turnaround times, system enhancements, and monitoring processes were shared with stakeholders. These updates ensured that stakeholders remain aligned with current regulatory expectations and funding priorities within the sector.

After each presentation, stakeholders were allowed to raise questions and engage directly with SASSETA staff. The interactive discussions highlighted the importance of ongoing communication and collaboration between SASSETA and its partners. The workshop concluded with a renewed sense of commitment from stakeholders to implement projects efficiently, ensure quality training delivery, and contribute meaningfully to skills development within KwaZulu-Natal. ■



Training in chairing a business meeting effectively



On 12 and 13 February, SASSETA took the Practitioners and Officers for a training in chairing a business meeting effectively at Wits. The workshop/training was aimed to equip attendees with the role clarifications during meetings, how to conduct oneself as a chairperson during meetings and how to deal with conflict in a meeting.



SASSETA ETQA

Quality Promotion Workshop for Stakeholders

By Nosipho Keuti

On 27 March 2026, SASSETA, in collaboration with QCTO, hosted a stakeholder engagement workshop at Premier Hotel, Midrand. The purpose of the workshop was to highlight challenges encountered by stakeholders during project implementation, present new developments within SASSETA, and provide guidance on learner registration processes, the External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA), and Monitoring and Quality Assurance.

Opening the workshop, SASSETA Executive Manager for Learning Programmes, Ms Juwaryia Amod, welcomed attendees and outlined the purpose of the engagement. “QCTO has joined hands with SASSETA so that we can take you through the experiences and what to expect in terms of the new occupational qualifications,” said Ms Amod.

Mr Thabo Mngomezulu, Deputy Director of the Office of the Domain Expert, delivered a presentation on learner registration. Mr Mngomezulu guided stakeholders through the

required procedures for registering learners in the system and provided a comprehensive overview of the assessment process.



In his presentation, Mr Johannes Mbango Mngomane presented a detailed report on EISA, after which Ms Nonhlanhla Dlamini guided attendees through the certification processes and the changes being implemented by QCTO in this regard. During the question-and-answer session, stakeholders raised several concerns, including the view that QCTO's fees are increasing and placing undue strain on small businesses. Mr Chauke acknowledged the questions and queries raised, indicating that the organisation would reflect on the feedback received. Prior to the lunch break, Ms Lydia Machobane, ETQA Manager, presented new developments at SASSETA, including the introduction of new occupational qualifications and a call for assessors and moderators to assist with the marking of learner scripts.

Mr Tumelo Kgopa, Learning Programmes Practitioner, presented an overview of learning programmes and project implementation. He highlighted the Discretionary Grant (DG) fund window, which opened on 15 March 2026. The workshop concluded with a session dedicated to identifying key areas for improvement in project implementation. ■



NEWS AND EVENTS



Mpumzuza Traditional Authority Matric Excellence Awards Ceremony

By Ivy Masondo

The Mpumzuza Traditional Authority Matric Excellence Awards Ceremony was held on Wednesday, 4 February 2026, at St. John Paul High School in Elandskop, Pietermaritzburg. The event brought together learners, educators, traditional leadership, government representatives, and stakeholders to recognise academic achievement and to encourage a culture of excellence among young people in the Mpumzuza area. From the early hours of the morning, the school grounds were filled with energy as learners arrived in large numbers, eager to take part in a programme dedicated to their future.

The main aim of the ceremony was to celebrate learners who performed well in the 2025 matric examinations and to motivate current learners to remain committed to their studies. The event sought to send a clear message that education remains a powerful tool for personal growth and community development. By recognising both

learners and educators, the Traditional Authority reinforced the idea that success in education is a shared responsibility between schools, families, leadership structures, and government.

An important part of the day was the exhibition of youth education and development opportunities. Various organisations were invited to exhibit and engage directly with learners. SASSETA was among the invited stakeholders and participated by providing information on career paths, skills development opportunities, and training within the safety and security sector.

The SASSETA exhibition attracted strong interest, with learners asking questions and seeking guidance about possible careers after school. The high turnout of learners at the exhibition reflected a real appetite for information and a desire to make informed decisions about life after matric.



The formal programme was opened with welcome remarks by His Royal Highness iNkosi Khethokuhle Zondi, who emphasised the importance of discipline, respect, and hard work in achieving success. Throughout his address, Inkosi yeSizwe encouraged learners to remain focused, even in the face of challenges such as poverty, peer pressure, and limited resources. He reminded them that excellence is not reserved for a few but is possible for every learner who commits to consistent effort and self-belief. iNkosi further urged parents, educators, and community leaders to continue supporting learners beyond the awards ceremony. He stressed that encouragement should not only come at moments of celebration, but also during times of difficulty. His message resonated strongly with learners, many of whom come from rural backgrounds and face daily obstacles in pursuing their education.

Messages of support from government leaders and the KZN Department of Education reinforced these sentiments, highlighting the link between education, skills development, and economic participation. The presentation of awards to learners, educators, and schools was a proud moment that showcased the positive outcomes that can be achieved through dedication and support. Overall, the Mpumzuza Traditional Authority Matric Excellence Awards Ceremony

was a meaningful and well-attended event. The strong learner turnout, active participation at the exhibitions, and words of encouragement from iNkosi yeSizwe created an atmosphere of hope and motivation. The event not only celebrated past achievements but also inspired learners to look ahead with confidence and purpose. ■





Employees Treated to a Relaxing Spa Experience

By Tsholofelo Nyamathe

The Marketing and Communications team organised a Spa Day for the SASSETA employees on 04 February 2026. This wellness initiative was designed to promote relaxation, appreciation, and overall wellbeing in the workplace. Thanks to the service provided by Office Angels, colleagues enjoyed a refreshing break from their busy schedules and an opportunity to unwind and recharge.

The Spa Day was open to all staff members, each invited to indulge in soothing neck and back massages. Sessions were arranged in the boardrooms to ensure comfort, privacy, and a seamless flow of participants throughout the day. From relieving muscle tension to creating moments of calm, the experience was curated to uplift both body and mind.



The atmosphere was filled with excitement as colleagues eagerly awaited their turn. Hosted in the early days of the month of love, the initiative served as a reminder of the importance of recognising and valuing employees' wellbeing. Among those who embraced the experience was Ms Audrey Sibanda, the organisation's Housekeeper. She expressed heartfelt appreciation for the thoughtful gesture, sharing that the treatment left her feeling relaxed, valued, and energised. Her sentiments were echoed by many and captured the spirit of the event care, gratitude, and appreciation. ■



Continuing the Mandela Day Commitment at Tumelo Home

By Ivy Masondo

In July 2025, during Mandela Day, SASSETA spent a meaningful day at Tumelo Home for the Handicapped in Tembisa. What began as a simple act of giving groceries soon became something much deeper. Our team shared laughter, stories, and time with the children and caregivers, and in doing so, we were reminded that service is not only about what we bring, but about the relationships we build.

During that visit, it became clear that while food support was appreciated, the Home faced ongoing challenges that required longer-term intervention. As part of our commitment to make a sustainable difference, SASSETA engaged with the management of Tumelo Home to better understand their pressing needs. Among the items identified were blankets, heaters, comforters, and exercise bicycles to improve living conditions for the children, especially during extreme weather conditions.

Responding to this need, on Tuesday, 10 February 2026, SASSETA returned to Tumelo Home to officially hand over these items. This visit is not only about delivering equipment, but also about honouring the promise made during Mandela Day that our engagement would not end with a single visit. By returning, we reaffirm that meaningful community support requires continuity and accountability.

NGO's manager, Mr Soli Khuthama from the centre, expressed words of gratitude and a kind gesture to SASSETA and further mentioned that the donations will go a long way toward mentoring

the lives of children. We also gave them the courage to stretch their hands, reach out to as many kids as possible and change their lives. "The provision of the donation will significantly improve the daily comfort and well-being of the children residing at the Home," he said.

In closing, Ms Mel Rajagopal, the Acting Executive Manager - Research, Skills Planning & Reporting, remarked that nationally, living with disability is a problem in SA, and the effort of caregivers is overlooked, yet it is a difficult job and unappreciated. SASSETA understands that social responsibility is not measured by a single day of action, but by consistent effort over time. Mandela Day encourages each of us to dedicate 67 minutes to service, but the true message calls for sustained involvement beyond symbolic gesture. ■





Maluti TVET College Electrical Centre of Specialisation Launch

By Mmakgabo Makubelo

Safety and Security Sector Education and Training Authority (SASSETA) attended the official launch of the state-of-the-art Electrical Centre of Specialisation (CoS) at Maluti TVET College on Thursday, 05 February 2026. The event was held at the Kwetlisong Skills Academy Campus in the Free State Province and was attended by industry professionals, academics, students, SETAs, and local high school learners. It provided an opportunity to interact with potential employers and partners.

The Centre of Specialisation (CoS) programme is spearheading the transformation of the college system to make it more relevant and responsive to industry labour demands, while simultaneously enhancing the capacity to deliver high-quality, advanced occupational programmes. The new Centre is equipped with state-of-the-art machinery, and its facilities replicate real workplace conditions, meeting the operational standards

required for artisan development and training. This Centre of Specialisation is unique and the first of its kind to be established in the Phuthadijhaba area.

The initiative aims to strengthen the capacity of the institution system to deliver trade qualifications in partnership with employers. As the sole centre in the district, it will address shortages in trade and skills identified as priorities for national development. It will enhance the college's ability to provide high-quality trade qualifications that align with employers' needs. The Centre will respond to the demand for priority trades essential for implementing the government's National Development Plan broadly, and its National Infrastructure Plan in particular.

In his address, the Principal of Maluti TVET College, Mr Tsotetsi, emphasised that this Centre of Specialisation will benefit local communities,

NEWS AND EVENTS



as there is no similar centre nearby where their students can undergo trade testing. Students will no longer need to travel long distances to access trade testing Centres for artisanship. The college will now provide efficient and professional artisanship training through this newly established Centre. Mr Tsoetsi expressed his gratefulness for the fruitful partnerships formed with SETA, who contributed to the implementation of this Centre. He invited local schools, and feeder institutions, to witness the official launch of the Centre and to learn about the artisanship programmes offered at the Centre of Specialisation.



The Minister of Higher Education and Training, Mr Buti Manamela, praised Maluti TVET College as an innovative institution of choice during the launch of its Electrical Centre of Specialisation (CoS), which is equipped with state-of-the-art technology. The opening of this centre addresses a national goal of closing the skills development gap in the country, a key government priority. It also tackles the lack of skills development among young people, enabling them to thrive in the highly demanding world of work. This Centre will further help reduce the unemployment rate and stimulate local economic growth.



The minister also encourages the college to foster industry partnerships and promote participation, particularly in artisanship training and development. Industry specialists play a vital role in developing comprehensive systems to which TVET colleges should align their artisanship training programs. The Minister stated students should benefit from well-aligned industrial artisanship training that equips them with the essential skills and competencies required for their trades, particularly in the engineering sector. The Centres of Specialisation (CoS) Programme is a pilot project initiated by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET). It demonstrates the department's commitment to strengthening artisan development and preparing students for the evolving demands of industry. These Centres will continue to shape a future in which TVET colleges will become the institutions of choice. They are tailored to meet specific South African conditions and aim to produce the artisan of the 21st century. College students will attend both the theoretical and practical skills components of a qualification and complete their training and apprenticeship at these Centres. ■



A Valentine's Day Filled with Surprises and Appreciation

By Tsholofelo Nyamathe

On 13 February 2026, employees were greeted with a heartfelt Valentine's Day gesture that set a warm tone across the organisation. Each staff member received a rose, a box of chocolates, and a message expressing appreciation for their commitment and contributions. This simple yet powerful token was designed to spread love, gratitude, and a sense of belonging among colleagues.

The excitement of the day did not end at the office doors. The celebration extended to social platforms as many colleagues shared photos of their roses and chocolates online. Their posts reflected joy, gratitude, and a sense of pride in being part of a workplace that values and acknowledges its people.

The employees described the gesture as uplifting, thoughtful, and appreciated. The atmosphere was filled with smiles, demonstrating that even simple acts of kindness can leave a lasting emotional impact. As Dr. Bob Nelson said, "You get what you reward." This was clearly reflected in the enthusiastic participation and genuine gratitude expressed throughout the day.

A warm and sincere thank you goes to SASSETA for making Valentine's Day memorable, recognising employees not only for their hard work, but for their presence, their energy, and the value they bring to the workplace. ■



Happy
Valentine's Day





DEL Launches Major LAP

Investment to Create 30 000 Jobs

By Petronella Mtsweni

The Department of Employment and Labour continues to intensify its fight against unemployment through the implementation of employment creation programmes. One such initiative has created 30 000 jobs in Gauteng through the Labour Activation Programme (LAP).

The Department recently hosted the official handing-over of LAP contracts to various service providers at Saulsville Arena in Pretoria on 20 February 2026. The programme is managed by the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) and aims to support training interventions and employment opportunities.

The LAP is designed to enhance enterprise development and preserve existing jobs by providing targeted support to distressed companies. The Department undertook a rigorous process to appoint service partners who will assist with the implementation of training programmes and the placement of learners into employment opportunities.

The keynote address was delivered by the Minister of Employment and Labour, Mrs Nomakhosazana Meth. In her address, the Minister emphasised that youth unemployment remains alarmingly high, describing it as not only a labour market challenge but a national crisis that requires urgent and coordinated action. During the event, the Minister handed over R1.5 billion worth of cheques to beneficiaries participating in the UIF's LAP initiative.

Remarks were also delivered by the Premier of Gauteng, Mr Panyaza Lesufi. He highlighted the importance of strengthening safety and stability in communities and raised concerns regarding illegal activities, such as the illegal mining commonly known as Zama-Zamas. The Premier also emphasised the need for government to rethink the over-reliance on tender processes, noting that some infrastructures are intentionally damaged in anticipation of future tenders.

Beneficiaries of the LAP also shared testimonials on the positive impact of the initiative.



Presentations were made by Afric Training College, represented by Chief Academic Officer Mr Nyiko Bvuma (Engineering Sector), Veb Cele and Associates (Furniture Making and Agriculture Sector), and Thaku Trading (Hospitality Sector). The beneficiaries expressed their appreciation for the programme, highlighting its role in job creation, partnership funding and relief for struggling businesses.

Safety and Security Sector Education and Training Authority, among other SETAs, attended the event as invited guests, demonstrating their continued commitment to skills development, employment creation and collaborative partnerships that support South Africa's economic growth. ■





SASSETA Engages Learners at the 5th Newcastle Annual Career Expo

By Ivy Masondo

The Safety and Security Sector Education and Training Authority (SASSETA) participated in the 5th Annual Newcastle Career Expo held from 23 to 27 February 2026. The organisation was invited to exhibit and engage with learners seeking guidance on career opportunities and further study options. SASSETA was represented at the event by Ms Thabile Gama.

The expo brought together a range of stakeholders, including higher education institutions, Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs), skills hubs, private sector organisations and government departments. Each exhibitor was allocated a time slot to present information and interact with learners. The event was officially opened by a representative from the Department of Basic Education, Mr Xolani Khanyile Career Guidance Specialist Amajuba District who highlighted the positive impact of the annual career expo. In his remarks, he noted that the initiative has





contributed to a consistent and commendable matric pass rate since 2022. He also thanked all participating organisations for their continued efforts to guide and support learners in making informed decisions about their futures.

Several institutions of higher learning attended the event, including University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban University of Technology, Mangosuthu University of Technology, Tshwane University of Technology, Majuba TVET College and Vaal University of Technology. Representatives provided information on their academic programmes, application dates and available bursaries.

Throughout the week, learner participation was encouraging, with 3,681 learners visiting the SASSETA exhibition stand to learn more about opportunities within the safety and security sector. The strong interest from learners demonstrated the importance of platforms such as the Newcastle Annual Career Expo in supporting informed career choices. ■

NEWS AND EVENTS



Commemorating Human Rights Day

By Ivy Masondo

The theme Living the Constitutional Wall encourages individuals to move beyond awareness and actively practise the values of the Constitution in their everyday actions. It highlights the importance of fairness, inclusion, and accountability in how we engage with others and deliver services to our Stakeholders. This initiative got the staff to share how they exercise and promote human rights in their respective roles. Additionally, it invited staff members to write short messages on cards, sharing how they exercise and promote human rights in their respective roles. These messages reflected a wide range of perspectives, from ensuring fair access to opportunities to treating stakeholders with respect and dignity and supporting inclusive skills development.

The activity encouraged staff to think beyond policy and consider the practical ways in which their work contributes to building a more just and inclusive society. Whether engaging with learners, supporting employers, or facilitating training programmes, each role within SASSETA has a part to play in advancing human rights.

SASSETA commemorated Human Rights Day on Friday, 20 March 2026, recognising the importance of this day in South Africa's history and its continued relevance today. Human Rights Day, observed annually, serves as a reminder of the country's journey towards freedom, equality, and dignity for all. The day honours those who fought against injustice and highlights the progress made in building a democratic society founded on the values of the Constitution. It also calls

NEWS AND EVENTS

on individuals and organisations to respect, protect, and promote human rights in their daily lives. These rights include equality, access to opportunities, freedom of expression, and the right to be treated with dignity and respect.

Human Rights Day is not only about reflecting on the past, but also about shaping a future where everyone has equal access to opportunities and is treated with respect. It reminds us that human rights are a shared responsibility and must be upheld in all aspects of society.

As we move forward, the messages captured on the wall will serve as both inspiration and accountability, reminding us of all that human rights are not only to be remembered on one day, but to be practised every day in how we serve our stakeholders and communities. ■





Guiding the Next Generation: **AgriSETA Career Summit**

By Ivy Masondo

The Safety and Security Sector Education and Training Authority (SASSETA) participated in the AgriSETA Career Summit held on Thursday, 5 March 2026, at the Pretoria West Campus of Tshwane South TVET College. The summit was organised by AgriSETA in partnership with the Department of Agriculture to provide career guidance and information to learners from schools in the surrounding communities

The event formed part of ongoing efforts aligned with the National Skills Development Plan 2030, which emphasises the importance of making career development services accessible to young people. The summit brought together various stakeholders, including education institutions and industry representatives, to share information about study opportunities, training programmes and possible career paths.

Approximately 500 grade 9 – 11 learners from targeted schools (Seshego, Edward Phathudi,

Phelindaba and David Hellen Peter Secondary School) attended the event and were given the opportunity to visit exhibition stands where organisations provided information about their sectors. The learners engaged with exhibitors, asked questions and collected information that may assist them in making decisions about their future studies and careers.

SASSETA was represented at the event by Ms Tjale and Ms Masondo, who interacted with learners throughout the day. They shared information about opportunities within the safety and security sector and explained the different career paths available. Their engagement with the learners helped create awareness about the role of the sector and the importance of skills development in supporting safer communities.



Moripe Holding's Career Guidance Information Fair and Capacity Building

By Petronella Mtsweni

On the 5–6 March 2026, Moripe Holding, together with the Insurance Sector Education and Training Authority (INSETA), hosted a Career Guidance Information Fair at KwaMhlanga Hall in KwaMhlanga, Mpumalanga. The event targeted Grade 11 and 12 learners from KwaMhlanga and surrounding areas, who attended in large numbers to benefit from this important initiative. The event aimed to empower high school learners and teachers with career guidance and exposure to bursary opportunities that could help them develop skills relevant to various sectors. It also assisted learners in making informed career and educational decisions.

The initiative was endorsed by the Thembisile Hani Local Municipality (THLM), as it benefited learners within the municipality by fostering self-awareness, exposing them to diverse career paths and providing practical insights into industry requirements. The programme helped learners connect their interests with potential career goals, offered networking opportunities with professionals and reduced uncertainty around

career choices. The event was officially welcomed by Ms Simphiwe Mahlangu from THLM. The Safety and Security Sector Education and Training Authority (SASSETA) was invited to participate both as a speaker and an exhibitor. Representing SASSETA, Ms. Siviwe Madasi shared valuable insights on skills development programmes, career pathways available in the safety and security sector, and opportunities learners can pursue within the industry. Other Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) were also given the opportunity to present their programmes and services.

Following the formal programme, learners proceeded to the career guidance exhibition area, where they engaged with various organisations to explore different career opportunities and pathways to success. Among the exhibitors was SASSETA, which showcased its skills development initiatives and programmes available to learners interested in pursuing careers within the safety and security sector. ■

Shaping Young Futures: Career Fair in Maboloka

By Ivy Masondo



As part of our Career Development Plan and Quarter 4 targets for the 2025/2026 financial year, SASSETA hosted a career fair for Grade 9 learners at Mmadikete Secondary School in Maboloka, Northwest, on Tuesday, 17 March 2026. The aim of the event was to guide learners as they prepare to choose their subjects for Grade 10 and to help them understand different career paths within the safety and security sector.

Grade 9 is an important stage in a learner's school journey. At this level, learners are expected to make subject choices that will influence their future studies and career options. Many learners, especially in rural areas, do not always have access to clear and simple career information. This career fair was organised to support learners with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions. A total of 210 learners attended the event, showing strong interest in learning more about their future opportunities. The turnout reflected the need for career guidance in the area and the importance of such initiatives in supporting young learners.

The event brought together learners, educators, and SASSETA representatives in a shared space

focused on learning and growth. Learners were given the opportunity to listen, ask questions, and engage directly with information about careers in policing, law, corrections, and other related fields.

Key highlights of the career fair included:

- Information sharing materials:**
Career guide pamphlets were provided to learners so they could take the information home and discuss it with their families.
- Career guidance sessions:**
Learners were given simple explanations about different careers in the safety and security sector. This session helped learners understand what each job involves and what subjects are needed in school.
- Subject choice support:**
Information was shared on how subjects like Mathematics, Life Sciences, and Languages can open doors to certain careers. Learners were encouraged to choose subjects that match their interests and strengths.
- Question and answer opportunities:**
Learners were given time to ask questions. This helped them clear up confusion and gain a better understanding of what is expected in different careers.
- Motivation and encouragement:**
Ms Mafohla encouraged learners to take their education seriously and to believe in their ability to succeed, regardless of their background.

The learners showed great interest and participation throughout the event. Many of them expressed that it was their first time receiving clear information about careers in the safety and security sector. Teachers and school management also welcomed the initiative, appreciated SASSETA's efforts in reaching out to their learners, noting that it helped support the work they are already doing in guiding learners. They



highlighted the importance of such programmes, especially in areas where learners may not have regular access to career guidance services.

This career fair also forms part of SASSETA's ongoing commitment to skills development and education. By working directly with schools, SASSETA aims to build awareness at an early stage and ensure that learners are better prepared for the future.

The career fair at Mmadikete Secondary School was a meaningful and impactful event. It provided learners with basic but important information, helped them think about their future, and supported them in making better subject choices. SASSETA will continue to support learners across different communities to ensure that no learner is left behind when it comes to career development and opportunities. ■



Breaking Barriers: Career Access Comes to Rural Doorsteps of Moletši

By Mmakgabo Makubelo

Kgoshi Kgabo Moloto hosted 1st Moletši Annual Career Expo where SASSETA attended and participated in for comprehensive career guidance and presenting available opportunities in the safety and security sector. The event took place on 26 March 2026, at the Royal Palace in Moletši, Limpopo Province.

The Annual Career Expo aimed to bridge the gap between institutions of higher learning, aspiring professionals, and industry leaders by providing a platform for high school learners to interact with exhibitors and explore various post-school career paths. The Expo raised awareness of available opportunities, motivated learners, and instilled hope, particularly for those from rural communities by connecting them with potential employers, educational institutions, and SETAs, thereby empowering them with the knowledge and resources necessary to succeed in their chosen careers.

The Expo was attended by approximately 5 000 Grade 10–12 learners from more than 40 secondary schools in the Moletši area. Many

of these learners come from rural and under-resourced communities. They benefited from direct access to credible information on post-school education, training opportunities, and career pathways, which supported informed decisions about their futures. The Traditional Authority recognises the importance of initiatives that contribute to the empowerment and development of youth and views this Career Expo as aligned with the values, aspirations, and developmental priorities of the Moletši community.

Learners had the opportunity to engage with the SASSETA team to learn more about the available opportunities and programmes offered by the organisation. The team assisted learners by providing detailed information on the programmes and funding options available through SASSETA. Learners were introduced to a wide range of career paths within the safety and security sector in the country. Additionally, representatives from other SETAs, TVET colleges, universities, and training providers were present to share valuable information on career prospects, funding, and training opportunities.



In his address, the Minister of Higher Education and Training, Honourable Buti Manamela, encouraged learners to explore careers in high-demand fields to ensure alignment with industries offering strong growth prospects. He emphasised the importance of considering Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges as a valuable first-choice pathway to higher education. Additionally, He urged learners to take advantage of opportunities offered by SETAs, scholarships, and bursaries to further their education, as well as to explore financial assistance provided by the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) and apply within the application window.

In his remarks, the host, Mr Kgoshi Kgabo Moloto, encouraged learners to remain committed to their education and to view the successful completion of matric as a gateway to future opportunities. He reaffirmed the Tribal Authority's commitment to creating platforms that empower rural youth by providing access to information and opportunities. This is the Tribal Authority's first-ever career expo, aimed at bringing together key organisations from higher education institutions, SETAs, employers, industry professionals, and other government

agencies to share valuable information and offer insightful sessions for learners and out-of-school youth. This event presents a great opportunity for our community, youth, and high school learners, who should seize it to gather as much information as possible to make informed decisions about their career interests and pathways. He urged the community of Moletsi particularly parents, teachers, and school governing bodies to unite in supporting the education of their learners, fostering greater cooperation to improve the learners' results and progress.

Learners, teachers, and the royal house were extremely grateful for the positive response and active participation of various organisations and exhibitors who provided much-needed insights and helpful sessions. These sessions assisted learners in exploring the vast career pathways available in the post-school. Learners were empowered with valuable information to help them choose the right direction for their preferred futures and careers. The royal house acknowledged the presence of all participating institutions and professionals for their role in enlightening the youth of Moletsi and the broader community. ■



TALK TO US!

Effective communication is always a two-way street. We need to hear from you to make sure that we are covering important events in our sector and giving you, our reader, what you want to see in the newsletter.

Please let us know if something has happened in your sphere of operation that would be of interest to our readers, or if there is something in this magazine you would like to comment on.

Send your contributions, comments, news and views to newsletter@sasseta.org.za. The contribution will be featured in the next edition.

We look forward to hearing from you!

CONTACT DETAILS



MIDRAND OFFICE



011 087 5555



callcentre@sasseta.org.za



Building 2, Waterfall Corporate Campus, 74 Waterfall Drive, Midrand, 2090
PO Box 7612, Halfway House, 1685



NEWCASTLE OFFICE



Ms Thabile Gama | 084 807 9469



tgama@sasseta.org.za



Majuba TVET College, CPD Campus
Centre for Population Development
Nelson Mandela Drive, Section 2, Madadeni, 2951



DURBAN OFFICE



Ms Snothando Ndlovu | 079 493 5597 | 087 049 3196



sndlovu@sasseta.org.za



eThekweni TVET College, 262 D'Aintree Avenue, Asherville, Durban, 4019

Connect with us on social media platforms:



Sasseta - Safety and Security SETA



sassetaseta



SASSETA SETA



SASSETA



@SassetaOfficial



www.sasseta.org.za

