



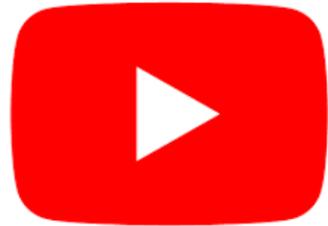
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# NEWSFLASH

A Commission for Gender Equality Newsletter

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## Building Gender Equality Knowledge In Communities

The Gauteng Office of the Commission for Gender Equality, in partnership with the Education of Hope Africa conducted a Public Education and Outreach programme in Kagiso (West Rand) in efforts to reach vulnerable communities.

The programme, held on 13 September, aimed to educate the community on gender equality related legislation, and to engage community members on definitions for human rights violations and gender discrimination.

The event also explored the right to dignity and safety and discussed the efforts of local stakeholders in preventing and responding to gender-based violence. "The Bill of Rights and Constitution provides for the protection of the civil, political,

and socio-economic rights of all people in South Africa, including the rights to human dignity, equality, non-racialism, and non-sexism" said CGE's Gauteng Public Education Officer, Koketso Sekhu. Sekhu added that the rights of vulnerable and marginalised groups in South Africa are still far from being realised, "The structural violation of rights persist. Women, girls and LGBTQIA persons suffer multiple forms of violence where the prevalence of rape and sexual assault is one of the highest in the world", she said.

Sekhu said by focusing on marginalised groups of women, women with disabilities as well as the LGBTQIA+ community, the programme contributed to the body of knowledge that will take effect in the township.

## A Student Talk on Cultural, Harmful Practices



The CGE North-West visited the North-West University's gender and development studies, third year students. The aim of this engagement was to help the students affiliate their studies to societal issues. The engagement with students took place on Tuesday, 13 September. CGE's North-West Education Officer, Tsholofelo Sabole, delivered a presentation wherein she addressed gender challenges

such as patriarchy, harmful cultural and traditional practices, gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health rights, poverty, unemployment, and access to land by women. "Despite various land policies that prescribe rights to land, in many communities, and women remain marginalised in access to and economic utilization of land" said Ms Sabole.

## Global Forum Network: Delivery of SDGs in South Africa



The Commission for Gender Equality's Western Cape Provincial Manager, Sixolile Ngcobo attended the political high-segment event of the Global Forum network meeting: Delivery of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in South Africa – the role of stakeholder engagement towards transformational pathways for change. The network meeting took place on Thursday, 7 September in Cape Town.

The panel discussion put a spotlight on South Africa's pathway towards delivery of the 2030 Agenda and how it integrated the SDGs and SDG-monitoring into national policy processes as well as the role of various stakeholder groups to contribute to transformation of most crucial development areas.

In South Africa, the National Development Plan (NDP) of 2012 pre-dates the SDGs but it is the key national development policy framework that is aligned with the indicated international and regional development frameworks. Filtering to the Provinces, the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy is implemented in line with the provincial architecture and needs. "Going forward it will be critical for South Africa to find ways to bridge the current data and statistical gaps. One of the glaring findings is that there are limitations in terms of the collection, analyses and recording of data that will feed directly to the 53 gender specific indicators as per UN Woman Gender Snapshot publication of 2019", said Ms Ngcobo.

## Empowering local government leaders to serve the public.



The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) hosted a KZN Portfolio Council Induction in Underberg, to assist community services portfolio chairpersons and members. During her address to the sitting, CGE Provincial Manager for KwaZulu-Natal, Ms Zanele Ncwane, touched on the relevance of the National Strategic Plan (NSP) on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide on local government.

"The NSP focuses, amongst other things, on comprehensively and strategically responding to gender-based violence and femicide, with a specific focus on violence against all women, across age, physical

location, disability, sexual orientation, sexual and gender identity, gender expression, nationality, and other diversities, and violence against children and how these serve to reinforce each other" she said.

CGE's Education Officer in the province, Thamsanqa Mncube spoke on gender mainstreaming. "There are a few objectives of gender mainstreaming including to create the conditions for the equitable access of men and women to resources and benefits". The engagement sought to generate knowledge to advance the work of SALGA.