



...the theater, no less.
"This's my dog job," he
...I'll look at it."
"Oh, this doesn't look real,"
and Eppie, who as a chorus
member in this, has not
...the Opera Pacific production,
plays a guard and an hickory
...protesters. "I think change
...the location and there adds
...to the story, a plot
...from this obviously, like."
...the female lead.
...her plane and
...at the cockpit, the
...the next scene,
...Eppie, she the
...the original's a different than
...the next scene.

TAG



The TAG is the official newsletter of Touching Africa. We report on the activities, sharing stories as we make a difference through touching Africa.



Touching Africa Gazette



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TAG HIGHLIGHTS (E-TAG)

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Become a member of or shareholder in the Touching Africa Co-operative Financial Institution, a business established to complete integrated business solutions through financial services. The TACFI aims to promote the social and economic welfare of its members and encourages savings by providing a means whereby such savings will receive a competitive rate of interest.

Read more on page 10...



Congratulations to AGES, who has been in existence for 30 years. The AGES Group's Faith Conviction has always encompassed being an expression of the body of Christ. TA blesses AGES and encourages them in their vision and purpose to serve the people of Africa through effective natural resources as well as environmental and social development and management.

Read more on page 15...



Saki Tlotleng plays a big role in the social development sector in North West as well as on a national level, reporting to the Deputy President Mabuza. He is the North West Provincial Chairperson of the Men Sector within the South Africa National Aids Council (SANAC). He guides numerous men towards financial growth and empowerment on a very practical level.

Read more on page 3...



The Touching Africa Co-operative UNIT consists of several co-operatives that represent specific services available in TA. This unit will play a major role in the future development programs funded by the expected surplus in the Touching Africa Co-operative Bank (TACB). These co-operatives represent a structured network with a shared vision to make a difference in the African society.

Read more on page 11...



TA Projects: 1) Seboni Creative Centre have been teaching women various crafts while sharing meaningful interactions. Many have found great job opportunities. 2) At the Real Life Centre and the Naledi school, new offices have been built. 3) As part of the launch of The TA Training and Education Services Co-operative, BEEP presented a course in basic Financial Management, done in co-operation with the North West University.

Read more on page 17...



We recently conducted dolomite risk awareness as part of the development of the Dr KKDM Dolomite Risk Management Strategy framework in various communities. Our communities are eager to acquire knowledge involving dolomite. We are in the process of arranging for access in the rest of the communities where gravity surveys are scheduled to take place in the DR KK district municipality.

Read more on page 7...



Various TA Associates are developing a Rural Development Program, initiated by Mosiamise Rural Development. This collaboration is a co-operative expression of TA's vision – to impact and make a practical difference in our African communities. This program is based on the delivery of water and sanitation supply, a main contribution to the dignity of any rural community.

Read more on page 14...



As part of the Dolomite Risk Management Strategy, a strategy has been developed aiming to inform dolomite affected and affecting parties of the risk at hand. Dr KKDM discovered that the dolomite within its jurisdiction could potentially impact 50 of its communities. Therefore, we invited the Dr KKDM volunteers to assist us in spreading awareness, promoting safety in helping the most vulnerable people and communities.

Read more on page 19...



In association with Africa Fresh Coffee, we have the opportunity to offer you the freshest African Coffee. We source the finest coffee beans, grown and harvested by farmers in Africa. Be a part of the Touching Africa vision by branding your business along with "proudly supporting Touching Africa" on the packaging. Join us as we empower people, contribute to the upliftment of communities, transcend poverty and benefit the people at the source of our coffee!

TOUCHING AFRICA CO-OPERATIVE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

TACFI is a business formed as a Secondary Financial Co-operative with limited liability in terms of the provisions of the Co-operatives Act.

Our objectives are:

- a) To promote and advance the social and economic welfare of TACFI members by enhancing access to financial services under sustainable conditions; by providing financial services in accordance with the provisions of the Exemption notice.
- b) To encourage savings by providing a means whereby such savings will receive a competitive rate of interest.

SERVICES

Within the financial and commercial sectors Touching Africa CFI provides **complete integrated business solutions through financial services.**

The TACFI will render financial services to all TA associates and offer the following services:

- Open savings accounts for its members
- Borrow money from other organisations including government agencies and banking institutions
- Grant secured and unsecured loans to members
- Invest money from its members in investments approved by the Board.



Membership shall be limited to persons who qualify to be part of this Co-operative and meet one of the criteria as listed below:

- Persons who are employed by common employer (s) who are members of Touching Africa
- Have common membership in Touching Africa through the TADT, TA NPC or TA Cooperatives
- Reside within the same defined community, rural or urban district, and which group receives funds from members against the issue of shares or by means of the subscriptions of members.
- Members of a secondary financial co - operatives consisting of primary financial co - operatives also meet a common bond definition.

BE PART OF HOW WE SERVE

As a network of vision oriented individuals, organisations and institutions, social to corporate enterprises and business entities that associates themselves with the heart of Touching Africa.



MEMBERSHIP AND SHARES

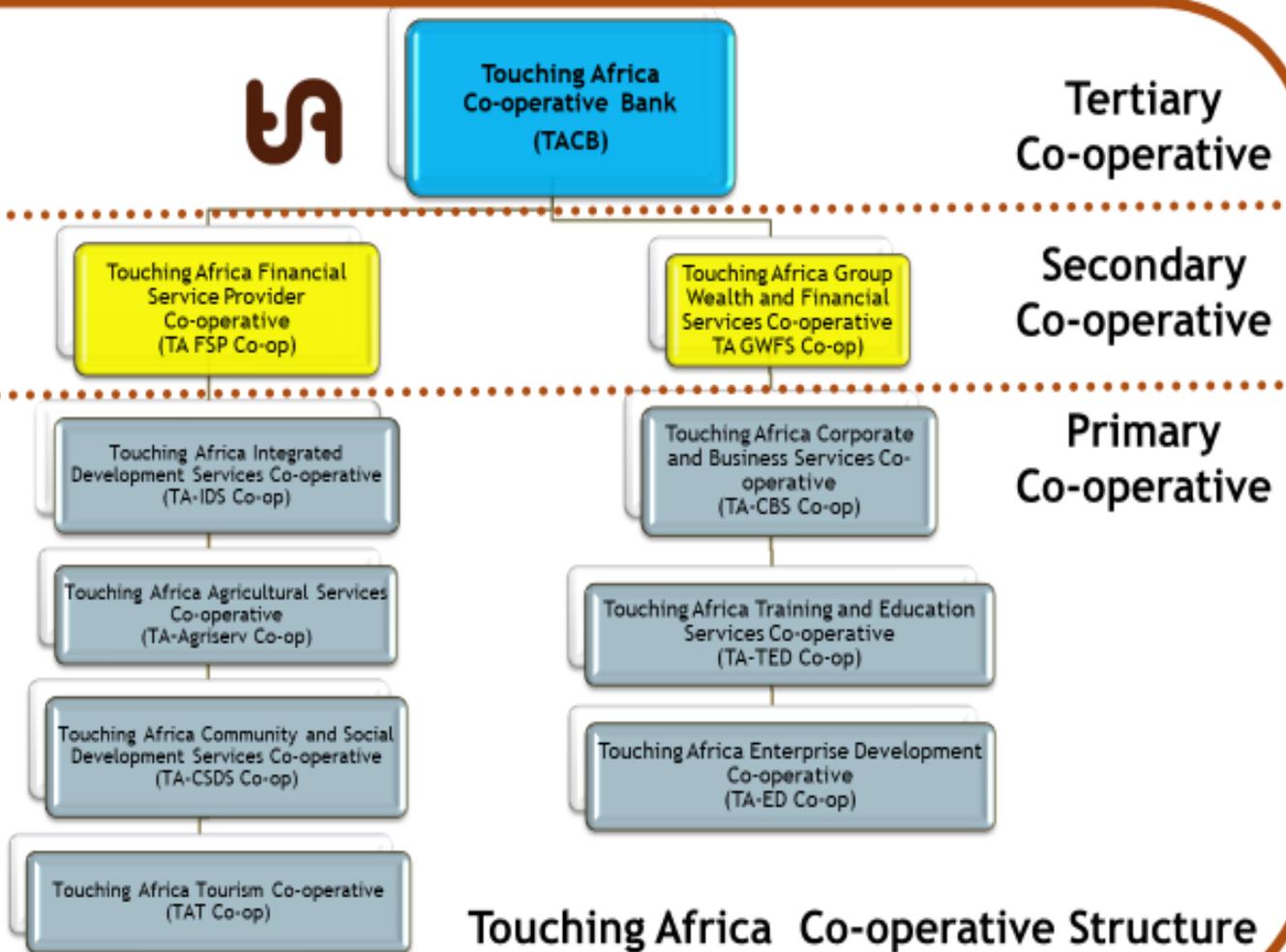
Potential clients, participants and Touching Africa Associates making use of the services of the TACFI, will have the choice to only partake as a client, or to subscribe as a member of the TACFI. The following will be applied to membership:

- A once-off joining fee of R250 will be payable with subscription and will act as contribution to the activities of the Touching Africa Development Trust (TADT) in the implementation and allocation of surplus to development projects.
- For a Member to join the Co-operative, a minimum of one share at a nominal value of R1 000.00 each must be fully paid upon application.

The Co-operative shall ensure that the funds of Members are held in safe and secure investments by investing or depositing funds in such instruments as prescribed through Section 14 of the Co-operatives Bank Act.

TOUCHING AFRICA CO-OPERATIVES

~ By Tiaan Liebenberg ~



TOUCHING AFRICA CO-OPERATIVES AS FRAMEWORK

We are now in the process of developing the Touching Africa Co-operative UNIT, consisting of several co-operatives that represent specific services available in Touching Africa. This unit will play a major role in the future development programs funded by the expected surplus in the Touching Africa Co-operative Bank (TACB).

These co-operatives, as summarised in the figure above, represent a structured network with a shared vision to make a difference in the African society. Each co-operative has its own application and specialist field of operation, reflecting the diverse nature of all the different companies, organisations, entities and individuals that support the Touching Africa Initiatives and eventually the TACB. The establishment of the co-operatives is almost completed, rendering a framework for the functionality of the proposed TACB.

Primary Co-operatives

1. Touching Africa Integrated Development Services Co-operative



The Touching Africa Integrated Development Services Co-operative (TA-IDS Co-op) represents Touching Africa associates that render one-stop professional, scientific-specialist, engineering and technical services to Governmental institutions and community-based authorities (such as Traditional Authorities) on a holistic and sustainable turn-key basis. The focus will be on basic community service delivery such as water, sanitation, housing and roads. The services will include planning, design, specialist consulting, implementation, construction, operation and maintenance, training, skills transfer as well as capacity building.

The dream is that this co-operative will offer a one-stop service to municipalities, traditional authorities and other governmental and community-based institutions from access to capital and financial support, institutional assistance up to project implementation – needed for a holistic solution.

2. The Touching Africa Tourism Co-operative



The vision of the Touching Africa Tourism Co-operative (TAT Co-op) is to render excellent eco-tourism services through the networking of high-quality facilities and opportunities, as part of the sustainable development of Africa and its people. All tourist facilities belong to various Touching Africa Associates with incredible and breath-taking destinations, currently listed in Mozambique, South Africa, Namibia, Botswana and Zambia.

This Co-operative will offer clients a variety of options in Southern Africa, including a system to research and book tourism activities online. It is also a dream to unlock village and community-based tourism in Southern Africa through this process.

3. The Touching Africa Agricultural Services Co-operative



The Touching Africa Agricultural Services Co-operative (TA-Agri-serv Co-op) represents various Touching Africa Associates that render services within the agricultural sector, with a shared purpose to contribute to the sustainable growth and development in Africa. This co-operative provides a variety of services across the entire agricultural value-chain, adding value to communities and putting them first.

On project level the TA-Agri-serv Co-op will work hand-in-hand with the TA-IDS Co-op, ensuring that the provision of basic services to communities are integrated with agricultural development.

4. The Touching Africa Community and Social Development Services



Various NPO's, social enterprises and other community-focused Touching Africa Associates joined forces to

establish the Touching Africa Community and Social Development Services Co-operative (TA-CSDS Co-op). This co-operative will assist and develop communities through various existing and new projects, initiatives and social-development services. The aim of the TA-CSDS Co-op is also to support NPO's and social enterprises through training and capacity building, contributing to the growth of their projects and funding opportunities.

5. The Touching Africa Corporate and Business Services Co-operative



The Touching Africa Corporate and Business Services Co-operative (TA-CBS Co-op) consists of various Touching Africa Associates rendering corporate and business services. Through the TA-CBS Co-op, these services are now available to all Touching Africa Associates. The TA-CBS Co-op will also provide support to Touching Africa related projects by offering effective corporate services within the framework of Kingdom principles.

This co-operative will deliver legal services, business institutional services, fiduciary services, strategic business development and corporate solutions to new and existing businesses.

6. The Touching Africa Training and Education Services Co-operative



The Touching Africa Training and Education Services Co-operative (TA-TED Co-op) represents Touching Africa Associates operating in the training and education service sector. These training services include, amongst others:

- A diverse range of specialist training, aimed at transferring skills and knowledge on a structured basis from one associate to another, when needed. This will be based on needs and skills audits within the ranks of the Touching Africa Associates.
- Social development programs including basic training in reading, writing, social skills and skills development for the unemployed.

- Governmental based packages and services.
- Faith-conviction based training and workshops.

7. The Touching Africa Enterprise Development Co-operative



Although corporate and business services, as well as training and education, are included in other Touching Africa co-operative's services, the Touching Africa Enterprise Development Co-operative (TA-ED Co-op) will specifically focus on the identification, establishment and development of enterprises within the Touching Africa framework. It will build on the existing Black Enterprise Empowerment Program (BEEP) that has been a part of Touching Africa for years. This co-operative will encompass enterprise-, change- and conflict management, leadership development and business ethics.



RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

~ Karabo Dube, Stephan Pretorius and Susan Crosby ~

Various members of Touching Africa Associates are currently involved with the process of developing an innovative program in support of rural development. This **Rural Development Program** has been initiated by and is being developed in partnership with **Mosiamise Rural Development**. This collaboration is a co-operative expression of our vision in Touching Africa – to make a practical difference in our African society as communities are physically impacted. Our dream is to establish a program that is not only successful – but more importantly that also IMPACTS the communities of Africa!

This **rural development program** is based on the delivery of two basic services - water and sanitation supply. These services are a foundational contribution to the dignity of any rural community. It is also from the platform of sustainable water and sanitation services that other related industries can develop 'down the line' – where agricultural and related economic development becomes an important focus within a rural community.

The supply of water and sanitation services is unquestionably a positive contribution to development, but the real value to people is the dignity and value that access to these services brings within a society. This is making a significant **impact!** It is relatively easy to report on how much water has been provided to so many people – our dream, however, is that families once impacted will report back and give testimony of their lives that have been changed!

This program started at a small pilot project at SIGA village, in the Northwest Province, located approximately 50 km northwest of Sun City and Pilansberg. From the perspective of sustainable sanitation solutions, our aim is to provide 20 'Enviro-Loo' installations which will demonstrate the value of a waterless, on-site sanitation system for a rural community. In respect of water supply, our aim is to optimise the existing boreholes that supply water to the community. The optimising of the water supply network will be by developing additional groundwater

resources, upgrading the water storage facility, and by establishing water supply directly to a number of households. The reticulation, all be it very basic, is in line with our vision of supplying water directly to households in the rural community. In the future and as more funds are secured, attention would be given to local AGRI development which would have its own dedicated groundwater development.

It is from this starting point that the program is structured in collaboration with **Mosiamise Rural Development** so that it becomes both scalable and sustainable on a more regional basis within the rural community of South Africa. The initial institutional entities involved in the project structure are the '**Rural Development Trust**' as developed by **Mosiamise Rural Development** and the '**Touching Africa Development Trust**' representing the Touching Africa organisation. **Enviro Options** (suppliers of the Enviro Loo) together with the engineering company **Matukane and Associates** provide technical guidance

to the sanitation services. In the water sector, the **AGES Group** will lead the team with support at a contractual level from **Gabora Drilling and Construction**. Several services providers within the Touching Africa Network will be also be involved with service delivery – including **Crebus** and **AgricultSure** from the AGRI sector.

Going forward and moving toward more regional implementation of the project, a specific 'Water and Sanitation Project Vehicle' will be developed by Mosiamise Rural Development. This regional implementation will be structured through a **Social Impact Bond** together with the established services providers within the Touching Africa Network. Through this Social Impact Bond both 'Impact Investors' and 'Government Agencies or Departments' can be involved as funders or financial contributors toward development. The first aim will be to have an impact on an estimated 28 000 households in the rural areas in the northwest of the Bojanala District, Northwest Province. This area is selected as it is one of many in the country that is not currently serviced by any long-term water supply strategy.



MOSIAMISE
RURAL DEVELOPMENT

From the onset, the **Rural Development Program** will focus on total involvement from the community. In this regard, as part of the pilot implementation, Mosiamise with the assistance of Prof Erwin Schwella is assessing the viability of setting up a **Village Innovation Lab** in SIGA village. This innovation lab provides opportunity for participation of all sectors from the community where they can share their ideas, give inputs that impact their community, and where every idea is considered important. This innovation lab also provides a platform from where behavioural changes can be monitored and from where strategic changes can be planned and implemented in order to have a real impact on the society. Further, engaging communities through this process of the Innovation Lab will ensure that technology and services are not forced onto communities, but that ownership and appreciation of the technology is developed as part of project implementation.

Multigenerational change in the society that is real and positive is only possible where there are people with **VISION** to bring about change, and where there is **UNITY** amongst role players to do so. The partnership and cooperation between **Mosiamise Rural Development** and **Touching Africa** creates such an opportunity, because both parties have a passion



to touch Africa as an expression of seeing the Kingdom of God on a very practical, tangible, and hands on level. We are excited as the sons of God and we treasure our unity, as this gives a platform of establishing value. It is from this platform that we can unlock the opportunity and make an **IMPACT** on the rural communities of South Africa!

We are sincerely convinced that we are partnering together as we take our part in a global move of God's GLORY, that enables us to move in 'perfect unity so that the world may know the LOVE of God' (John 17: 22-23).

AGES GROUP - 30 YEARS IN THE MARKET PLACE

~ By Stephan Pretorius ~

Congratulations to AGES, who has been in existence for 30 years. The AGES Group's Faith Conviction has always encompassed being an expression of the BODY of CHRIST.

Touching Africa blesses AGES and encourages them in their vision and purpose to serve the people of Africa through effective natural resources as well as environmental and social development and management, as expression and part of the corporate BODY of CHRIST.

May the future of AGES always reflect what is captured in the AGES logo:

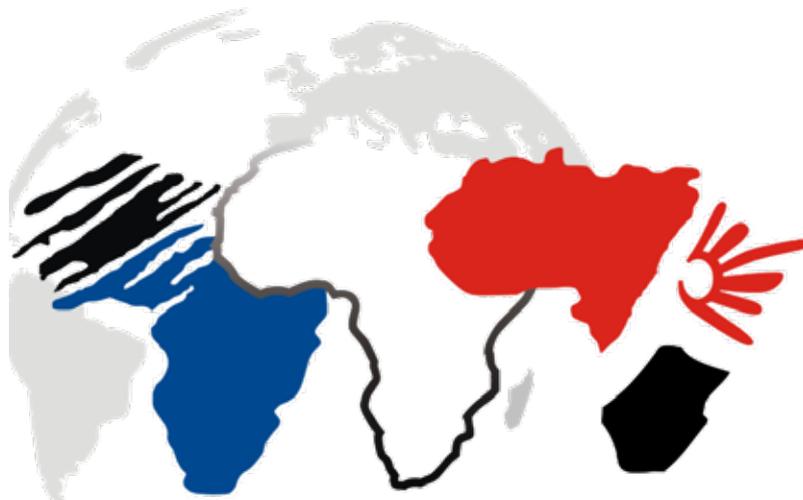
Through and in our position of adoration to God and His Kingdom (the figure in worship in the third Africa),

We change darkness through the grace of God, the redeeming power of Jesus Christ on the Cross (black and red in the third Africa),

To a status of purity, righteousness where no judgement has any place (white in the second Africa),

Resulting in a "blue drop" condition affecting the environment and social health of a society (blue in the first Africa).

May AGES keep the Kingdom truth in mind: The Kingdom is like a mustard seed. It is "the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches" (Mat 13:32).



TOUCHING AFRICA PROJECTS ARE ALIVE AND WELL

~ By Deon de Klerk ~

It is a sheer privilege for me to highlight the projects that are still running.

Seboni Creative Centre (SCC)

SCC experienced great times teaching the women various crafts and more specifically, how to handle sewing machines. They also used the opportunity to share Scripture and to have heart to heart talks with the women involved. Many of the women who have crossed paths with SCC have found great job opportunities.

Elfrieda Klopper and Maggie Bezuidenhout are very grateful for the support from Touching Africa and the use of the room in the Real Life Centre in Ikageng. They feel that their involvement to empower the women is in line with their calling and they are convinced that they forged lifelong friendships. Through the friendships and relationships that they had forged, they were in

a position to have a positive influence on the women's lives. The more recent projects were mostly manual and included the following:

- Small mattresses made from old pillows and pillowcases. They gave these to two day care centres.
- Knitted dolls were handed to day care centres too.
- Handbags, crocheted baby dresses and protea flowers were made from waste materials and sold to cover costs.

SCC is currently in the process of moving out of the Life Centre Room to a house in Smit Street, but they are looking for a more permanent space. Their current projects include:

- Handmade material nappies
- Handmade sanitary pads
- Handbags made from waste materials;

We are proud of what they have achieved and what they are still doing.

REAL LIFE CENTRE (RLC)

RLC had to overcome a lot of huge hurdles recently. Peter Africa, who manages the center, experienced health problems. Fortunately, he is recovering well, and TA is praying that he will soon be able to resume his important work.

Meanwhile, the Naledi school is going from strength to strength. New offices have been built and this phase will be concluded with the building of the school hall. It will also be used as a training center for the Touching Africa Training and Education Services. The final



phase will be completed by building additional classrooms.

TA is proud to be part of a project that delivers tangible evidence of our heart for our Seboni projects.



BROAD ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM (BEEP)

As part of the launch of the The Touching Africa Training and Education Services Co-operative, BEEP presented a course in basic Financial Management. It was done in cooperation with the School of Economic Sciences of the North West University's Potchefstroom Campus.

The course aimed to demonstrate ways of budgeting as well as understanding the value of savings. The methodology was to learn more about games, video games and interactive learning. This was outstandingly presented by Prof Ermie Steenkamp in the beautiful special venue designed for this purpose (see photos below).

Nine People attended and enjoyed the course immensely. They learned a lot about how to work with their money.

Our plans for the future include repeating the financial course and also starting with a new group of potential entrepreneurs. We will include new ideas and a fresh approach in training them.

If you want to get involved in any of our projects, you are welcome to contact us.

***Deon de Klerk:
084 200 4450***



TRAINING DOLOMITE RISK MANAGEMENT VOLUNTEERS

~ By Louisa Ralepelle ~

Disasters often occur without warning and can have devastating effects. Whilst it remains impossible to predict all natural disasters, scientists have been able to analyse data patterns and trends to help us identify which areas are more susceptible to risk.

In 2017, Kgoma Africa was appointed by the Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality (Dr KKDM) to develop a framework for Dolomite Risk Management Strategy (DRMS). As part of the DRMS, a Risk Communication Strategy was developed aiming to inform dolomite affected and affecting parties of the risk at hand. Dr KKDM discovered that the dolomite within its jurisdiction could potentially impact 50 of its communities. Therefore, we invited the Dr KKDM volunteers to assist us in spreading awareness.

These volunteers have committed to promote safety in helping the most vulnerable people and communities to be safe through making them aware of the measures that need to be taken when living on dolomite.



SAKI TLOTLENG - MEN SECTOR

~ By Stephan Pretorius ~

We are proud of Saki Tlotleng, one of our Touching Africa Board members who is playing an enormous role in the social development sector, especially in the North West Province. Saki is now the North West Provincial Chairperson of the Men Sector within the South Africa National AIDS Council (SANAC). As member of the National Executive Committee of the Men Sector, he is also making a difference at

national level and in reporting to the Deputy President Mabuza.

Saki is facilitating important interactions between Government initiatives and the society to ensure that real social development can take place at grass-roots level. His personal vision is to touch the people in such a way that men can be guided towards financial growth and empowerment on a very practical level. We support him in this process and trust that his input will change the circumstances of many families as part of the expression of the Kingdom of God!





DR KK DOLOMITE AWARENESS

~ By Nkateko Ndoke ~

We had the opportunity to conduct dolomite risk awareness as part of the development of the Dr KKDM Dolomite Risk Management Strategy framework (DRKKDM DRMS).

This was sparked by the starting of our second financial year where gravity surveys are planned to take place; and we had to arrange for access into the communities for the field teams. Initial meetings were held with community leaders and ward councilors (where available). In some of the communities, the leaders requested that dolomite awareness sessions be done as dolomite is a controversial topic in their communities because of

lack of understanding. It was apparent in the awareness sessions we conducted that the communities are willing to get the knowledge and understanding around the dolomite topic. The challenge is that there is already negativity around the topic of dolomite as the community think that they are not going to have development if there is dolomite in their area.



We had the opportunity to conduct sessions with two communities, Goedgevonden and Boikhutso where we had a good turnout. People highlighted their concerns and worries around the dolomite topic. In other communities (Boikhutsong, Welgevonden), the awareness was done with the community leaders who conveyed the message to their respective communities. Thus far, we have been allowed access in the above-mentioned communities to do the gravity survey work.

We are in the process of liaising with the Speakers' offices in both JB Marks and Matlosana to continue to arrange for access in the rest of the communities for which gravity surveys are scheduled to take place in the DR KK District Municipality.



Members attending the dolomite risk awareness

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»»»» Product available *»»»»*

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- Contact Sankie Monyane at 018 2976588 or smonyane@ages-group.com

To discuss and order any other packaging as well as your need for dual branding:

- Contact Dawid Stolz at 082 786 9722 or email dstoltz@touchingafrika.com
- Contact Stephan Pretorius jnr at 079 528 1371 or email spretoriusjnr@ages-group.com

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Coffee and make your
cup of coffee count!*





WRITE AND SHARE YOUR STORY

We invite you to share your stories with us as we take hands to make a difference

Email Anrie: Avanrooyen@touching-africa.com

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Like our facebook page, Touching Africa Initiative, where regular updates can be seen.

