water \& sanitation

## INTERNET ARTICLE

## Government communicators urged to inform communities about state programmes

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It is the duty of government communicators to make sure that all state programmes including empowerment ventures, are communicated to the South African masses and communities at large.

This position was clarified and adopted as a tool for informing needy citizens about government empowerment programmes as well as ventures that benefit them socially, culturally or by any other means coming from the State.

This process is set to empower communities as citizens will be in the know about when and how to contact and access these benefiting or empowering ventures or services.

During a meeting of government communicators from various State departments, known as the Economic Sectors Employment and Infrastructure Development (ESEID) Cluster on Thursday, 26 May 2016 held at the head offices of the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in Pretoria, chairperson of the group, Mr David Jacobs, noted that this process was necessary for progress, especially in growing the country's economy.

This process will also enable and facilitate the process of communicating government-led efforts to stimulate and grow the South African economy - to create awareness of the ninepoint plan - its objectives, elements \& significance to grow the economy.

To inform the public, media and stakeholders for the implementation of the nine-point plan, including its phases, timelines and milestones are urged to report on progress made, to highlight challenges, to communicate measures in place to address challenges, and to consult and inform stakeholders/partners.

Involving and consulting stakeholders and partners towards implementation of the nine-point plan to grow South Africa's economy then becomes a national effort, where everyone is motivated to play their part.

It is encouraged that potential beneficiaries take advantage of the opportunities to grow the economy as mapped out in the nine-point plan. Potential beneficiaries are to be advised of the processes to follow.

The initiative also aims to communicate that South Africa is open for business and thus encourage investors to take advantage of opportunities - which will also help change myths and negative sentiment about South Africa.

Part of the process will also establish the ESEID Cluster Rapid Response team.
The Department of Water and Sanitation's (DWS') Communicator, Ms Doris Magwebu, presented some of the department's programme of action. These included DWS's recent launch of the Long-Term Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) solution venture, among others.

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