

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR SASSETA STAKEHOLDERS

SAFETY *plug*

12TH EDITION • MARCH 2025



SASSETA Empowers KZN
Youth at the 4th Annual
Career Expo

The first roll-out of the
External Integrated
Summative Assessments

SASSETA Roadshows:
Empowering Stakeholders
Across South Africa

CONTENTS



- 4 **Editors Note**
- 5 **SASSETA Participates in the 2025 NexGen Career Expo at Rakoko Secondary School**
- 7 **SASSETA Empowers KZN Youth at the 4th Annual Career Expo**
- 8 **SASSETA Roadshows: Empowering Stakeholders Across South Africa Handover Ceremony**
- 10 **Empowering TVET Stakeholders**
- 12 **The first roll-out of the External Integrated Summative Assessments**
- 14 **SASSETA ETQA Hosts Quality Promotion Workshop in Polokwane**
- 16 **National Certificate: General Security Practices Graduation at the University of Pretoria (UP)**
- 18 **SASSETA Staff Celebrate Love and Camaraderie on Valentine's Day**
- 22 **Welcome Aboard! Meet Our New Employees and Interns**
- 25 **Inspirational Story**



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dear Stakeholders,

As we approach the close of another successful year, it is an ideal moment to reflect on the remarkable accomplishments and milestones we have achieved at SASSETA. This year has been marked by growth, collaboration, and an unwavering commitment to improving skills development in the safety and security sector.

Our focus has remained steadfast on enhancing the quality of training and ensuring that both training providers and learners are equipped with the right resources to succeed. Through targeted workshops, strategic engagements, and key initiatives, we have strengthened our partnerships and advanced our mission to drive excellence across the sector.

A significant milestone this quarter is the conclusion of the term for our SASSETA Board and Chamber Committees, which commenced on 1 April 2020 and will conclude on 31 March 2025. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Board and Chamber Committee members for their exceptional leadership, dedication, and expertise throughout this term. Their strategic guidance and commitment have been instrumental in SASSETA's success, including achieving an impressive average performance of 97% against our targets over the term and securing clean audits year after year. Their contributions have laid a solid foundation for sustained excellence and impact in the sector.

As we transition to new leadership, we look forward to welcoming a new Board and Chamber Committees that will bring fresh perspectives and renewed energy. We are confident that their vision and leadership will further strengthen SASSETA's ability to advance skills development and drive meaningful impact in the safety and security industry.

As we prepare for the year ahead, I encourage all of us to remain focused on our goals, continue to support each other and embrace the opportunities for growth and collaboration that lie ahead. Together, we can build a stronger, more skilled workforce that will have a lasting impact on both the industry and the country at large.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment. I look forward to the exciting future we will create together. ■

Thamsanqa Mdontswa
Thamsanqa Mdontswa
 SASSETA CEO

Editor's NOTE



Mpho Majatladi
Editor



Ivy Masondo
Marketing and
Communications
Administrator



**Tsholofelo
Nyamathe**
Communications
Practitioner

This last edition of the 2024/2025 Financial Year showcases the developments and the impact we are making together in the sector.

We are thrilled to share with you the success of our recent roadshows. The roadshows introduced the new IMIS system to our stakeholders. The feedback has been positive, and we are excited about the benefits this new system will bring. SASSETA, as the QCTO delegated Quality Partner (QP) also rolled out the first of the External Integrated Summative Assessments.

The 4th quarter has not only been a time for celebrating these key milestones. It has also been a time for the SASSETA team to put in the hard work to close off the financial year successfully.

We continue to invite you to share your thoughts, events, and suggestions with us. Your contributions will help shape the future of The Safety Plug as an effective platform for communication and connection.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to improve skills development in the safety and security sector.



SASSETA Participates in the 2025 NexGen Career Expo at Rakoko Secondary School

By Nosipho Keuti

On 31 January 2025, the Safety and Security, Sector, Education and Training Authority (SASSETA) was proud to be one of the 45 exhibitors at the highly anticipated NexGen Career Expo. The event, hosted at Rakoko Secondary School in Mabeskraal, Northwest, was organized by the South African BRICS Youth Association (SABYA), to guide learners from the Dinaledi Circuit in exploring a wide array of career paths and opportunities.

The career expo was a significant event for students, educators, and various stakeholders,

offering a unique platform for learners to engage with industry professionals and gain valuable insights into potential career trajectories. SASSETA, in line with its mission to empower individuals through education and training, played a vital role in providing learners with information on career development opportunities within the sector.

The event saw notable attendance from government officials, with the Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Buti Manamela, and the Deputy Minister of Women, Youth, and Persons



with Disabilities, Ms. Mmapaseka Steve Letsike, among the distinguished guests. Both deputy ministers delivered encouraging speeches, underlining the importance of education and the vital role that both universities and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges play in shaping the future of South Africa's youth.

In his address, Deputy Minister Buti Manamela urged the learners to broaden their educational horizons by considering both universities and TVET colleges as valid pathways to success. He highlighted the significant role TVET institutions play in equipping students with both practical skills and theoretical knowledge, emphasising that these institutions are crucial in developing well-rounded individuals who are ready to contribute meaningfully to the workforce.

Deputy Minister Mmapaseka Steve Letsike, speaking from the perspective of the ministry responsible for women, youth, and persons with disabilities, expressed deep commitment to the development of South Africa's young people. She highlighted how the ministry strives to ensure

that youth is equipped with the necessary tools, resources, and opportunities to build their future. "As a ministry in the presidency responsible for women, youth, and persons with disability, we are committed to young people, and we want young people to have the tools, resources, and opportunities they need to build their future," she said.

SASSETA's participation at the event reinforced the authority's dedication to facilitating access to quality education and training, ensuring that young people are well-prepared to navigate the competitive job market.

As the day unfolded, learners engaged with exhibitors and attended informative sessions that covered a range of career paths, from traditional professions to emerging fields. The interaction with professionals in various industries allowed students to ask questions and gain real-world perspectives on what is required to succeed in different careers. ■



SASSETA Empowers

KZN Youth at the 4th Annual Career Expo

By Ivy Masondo

The 4th Annual Career Expo in KwaZulu-Natal took place from 24 – 28 February 2025, bringing career guidance and skills development opportunities to youth in the region. The first leg of the event was hosted in Newcastle, followed by the second event at Rorke's Drift Khula Education Resources in uMzinyathi under the local municipality.

The expo aimed to equip learners and job seekers with valuable information about career pathways, training opportunities, and employment prospects. SASSETA's Newcastle official was present at the event, engaging with attendees and sharing insights into careers within the safety and security sector.

Through its participation, SASSETA reaffirmed its commitment to empowering young people with the knowledge and resources needed to

build sustainable futures. The event successfully connected participants with industry experts, institutions, and potential employers, further strengthening career development initiatives in the province. ■





SASSETA Roadshows: Empowering Stakeholders Across South Africa

By Yonela Mfaku

SASSETA recently concluded a series of successful roadshows, which took place from 11 February 2025 to 13 March 2025. These events were held in all nine (9) provinces of South Africa, aiming to educate stakeholders on the new Employer Management System.

The roadshows provided a platform for SASSETA to introduce its new system, IMIS, which is designed to enhance the submission of Workplace Skills Plans (WSP) and Annual Training Reports (ATR).

The Roadshows afforded the stakeholders an opportunity to be introduced to the new Stakeholder Portal that features Profile creation, SDF-related functionalities, discussions and support. The stakeholders also received step-by-step guides and live demonstrations of the Mandatory Grants system, ensuring they are well-equipped to navigate the new platform.

The SASSETA roadshows were well-attended by employers, skills development facilitators, and the government.



These events provided a valuable opportunity for stakeholders to engage with the new Employer Management System, ask questions, and receive guidance from SASSETA experts.

By hosting the roadshows, SASSETA demonstrated its commitment to supporting its stakeholders and promoting skills development in the safety and security sector. As the organisation continues to innovate and improve its system, stakeholders can expect enhanced services and support.

The introduction of the new IMIS system marks an exciting new era for the organisation. With its enhanced Employer Management System, SASSETA is poised to make a significant impact on the skills development landscape in the safety and security sector. ■



Empowering TVET Stakeholders

By Ivy Masondo

Commitment to Sustainable Skills Development

SASSETA remains dedicated to its mandate of supporting skills development in the safety and security sector while contributing to national skills development initiatives. The TVET Stakeholders Capacity Building Workshop is a testament to this commitment, ensuring that training institutions and industry stakeholders work together to build a workforce that meets both current and future industry needs.

The capacity-building initiative aligns with SASSETA's commitment to enhancing employability and productivity by ensuring that TVET graduates possess the necessary skills to thrive in various sectors. By strengthening the relationship between TVET institutions and industry, the workshop

SASSETA proudly hosted the TVET Stakeholders Capacity Building Workshop, which took place

on Tuesday, 18 February 2025 at the Midrand Premier Hotel. This significant gathering aimed to equip stakeholders in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector with the necessary knowledge, tools, and insights to enhance skills development, industry alignment, and workforce readiness and to create sustainable pathways for students, leading to improved job placement rates and economic growth.

SASSETA recognises the crucial role that TVET institutions play in bridging the gap between education and employment, and this initiative fosters stronger collaboration between training providers and industry players. The workshop brought together a diverse group of participants, including TVET college representatives, host employers, policymakers, and skills development practitioners.

SASSETA Practitioners presented the following critical themes:

- Overview of Learning Programmes and Project Management - Understanding effective strategies for developing and managing learning initiatives within the TVET sector.
- Policy and Compliance - Understanding SASSETA's role in skills development and compliance with national skills policies.
- Work-Based Learning Opportunities - Strategies to increase partnerships between TVET institutions and industry for workplace exposure and internship.
- Learner Registration and Invoicing & Payment processes - best practices for streamlining learner enrolment, and financial processes, and ensuring efficient payment systems.

- Areas for Improvement in Project Implementation - Identifying challenges in project execution and strategies to enhance effectiveness and impact. Compliance to South African Laws
- Funding and Support Mechanisms - Exploring SASSETA funding opportunities available to TVET colleges and students.
- National Artisan Moderation Body Processes (NAMB) - Understanding the regulatory framework, assessment processes, and certification requirements for artisans.
- Technology and Innovation in TVET - Adapting to digital transformation and integrating modern tools in vocational training.

Ms. Amod, Executive Manager for Learning Programmes, expressed her appreciation for all stakeholders' active participation and engagement. She emphasised the importance of continuous collaboration in addressing challenges and seizing opportunities within the TVET sector.

The success of our skills development initiatives depends on our collective efforts to create meaningful learning experiences and employment pathways for our youth. By working together, we can drive impactful change, enhance the quality of our programmes, and build a stronger workforce for the future. "Let this workshop be the foundation for ongoing partnerships and sustainable development in vocational education." Her words resonated with attendees, reinforcing the shared commitment to empowering TVET institutions and ensuring that graduates are well-equipped to contribute meaningfully to the workforce.

The TVET Stakeholders Capacity Building Workshop represents a pivotal step in strengthening the sector and ensuring that education and training institutions remain aligned with industry needs. By fostering collaboration, enhancing knowledge, and refining best practices, SASSETA reaffirms its commitment to developing a skilled, capable, and future-ready workforce. Together, we can build a sustainable path for growth and innovation in the TVET sector. ■

The first roll-out of the External Integrated Summative Assessments

Ivy Masondo

The QCTO sets the standards through the model of qualifications, the provisioning as well and the assessment of the Occupational Certificate: Non-Commissioned Police Officials, which includes the External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA). SASSETA as the QCTO delegated Quality Partner (QP) is mandated to manage and monitor the implementation of EISA examinations for Occupational Qualifications.

EISA is a single, national assessment that leads to competent learners being awarded Occupational Certificates. The purpose of the final EISA is to allow qualifying learners to become officially recognised as practitioners of a particular trade or occupation. This is an integral and critical component of QCTO's quality assurance system as it ensures that the assessment of occupational qualifications, part-qualification, and trades is standardised, consistent, and credible.

The intended outcome was to assess learners enrolled on the Occupational Certificate: Non-Commissioned Police Official 56836, Level 6, which was implemented by SAPS Academy Ulundi as the QCTO-accredited assessment centre.

The first paper was scheduled for 04 March 25 and the second paper on 06 March 25. The response was positive as 138 out of 144 learners qualified to write the exams.



The process was monitored by SASSETA and invigilated by appointed invigilators in conjunction with SAPS Officials who delivered the question papers on the morning of the exam date.

The EISA instruments and memos were developed and moderated by SASSETA appointed Service Providers and were validated by the QCTO. This was a 3-hour paper written by all learners on the planned EISA dates. As a result, it becomes a SASSETA intellectual property which will be safely kept and SASSETA's position.



SASSETA in conjunction with the QCTO conducted curriculum implementation monitoring visits and pre-EISA readiness in preparation for the EISA. The purpose of these visits was to ensure that SAPS Academy Ulundi is supported as this was the first EISA to be conducted.

This report highlights the successful execution of the first EISA, ensuring that learners are assessed in a standardised and credible manner, ultimately contributing to the quality assurance of occupational qualifications. ■

The response from stakeholders was positive, indicating successful implementation and support for the EISA process.





SASSETA ETQA

Hosts Quality Promotion Workshop in Polokwane

By Ivy Masondo

ETQA department, in collaboration with the Learning Programmes department, organised a capacity-building workshop for stakeholders in Limpopo on 19 March 2025,

The primary aim of the workshop was to provide valuable insights into the QCTO accreditation processes and the accreditation of assessment centres. Additionally, the workshop addressed the current status quo of qualifications and the extended learner enrolment dates.

The workshop was designed to help stakeholders understand how to align their training and assessment practices with the council's requirements. It also served as a platform to share best practices to ensure the successful implementation of projects. Participants actively engaged in the session, contributing to a collaborative and informative environment. ■



National Certificate: General Security Practices Graduation at the University of Pretoria (UP)

By Ivy Masondo



SASSETA proudly sponsored the Universities South Africa (USAf) to train university security services personnel, empowering security personnel with essential skills and competencies. Ramazwi Security Services & Training Agency successfully trained graduates from the University of Pretoria who were one of the beneficiaries of the USAf Project, marking a significant step in strengthening campus security.

The General Security Practice (GSO) National Certificate Graduation ceremony was a momentous occasion, celebrating the achievements of security personnel who completed rigorous training to enhance safety and protection at university campuses. SASSETA's sponsorship underscores its commitment to upskilling security professionals and ensuring safer learning environments for students and staff.

Through the USAf-led initiative, security services staff at universities have gained valuable insights and hands-on experience in risk management,

emergency response, and crime prevention. The training provided by Ramazwi Security Services & Training Agency is designed to align with national security standards, equipping graduates with practical knowledge to handle real-world security challenges effectively.

The newly trained security personnel will play a crucial role in enhancing safety measures, deterring threats, and fostering a secure educational environment. Their certification signifies not just a personal achievement but also a collective advancement in maintaining secure university premises.

SASSETA remains dedicated to expanding skills development initiatives that directly impact national security, workforce readiness, and industry growth.

Congratulations to the graduates on their hard-earned success! ■



SASSETA Staff Celebrate Love and Camaraderie on Valentine's Day

By Yonela Mfaku



Happy Valentine's Day





14 February 2025 was a day filled with joy, love, and warmth at the SASSETA offices. The staff came together to celebrate Valentine's Day, showcasing their team spirit and camaraderie.

The SASSETA team dressed to impress, donning red and white outfits to mark the special occasion. The colourful attire added to the festive atmosphere, making the day even more memorable. Throughout the day, staff members took breaks to capture memories of the celebration. Laughter and smiles filled the air as colleagues posed for photos, creating lasting memories of the special day.

The Marketing Manager took on the role of God of love for the day, and handed out chocolates, spreading love and appreciation throughout the office.

The Valentine's Day celebration at SASSETA was more than just a romantic day. It was a celebration of the strong bonds and friendships that exist within the team. The day served as a reminder of the importance of love, kindness, and compassion in the workplace.

As the day ended, the SASSETA staff reflected on the joy and happiness they shared. The Valentine's Day celebration would be remembered as a testament to the power of teamwork and camaraderie. ■





Welcome Aboard!

Meet Our New Employees and Interns

By Ivy Masondo



Ms Rebone Makeketa (HR Administrator)

Born and raised in Pretoria, Ms Makeketa holds a Bachelor of Commerce in Human Resource Management and Industrial Psychology from North-West University (Mafikeng Campus).

She first learned about SASSETA while working as a Human Resource Development Administrator at the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation (NECSA) in 2022, where she engaged with various SETAs. Through this experience, she gained insight into SETA accreditation, training programs, and skills development, recognising SASSETA's valuable role in enhancing workforce capabilities.

To young people still in school or seeking employment, she advises staying proactive, focused, and engaged in continuous learning. She encourages networking, internships, and mentorship opportunities, emphasising that resilience and skill development—through online courses or workshops—can enhance employability.

"Opportunities often arise when we least expect them, so staying prepared and motivated is key," she says. ■



Ms Miliswa Mgwali (CEO's PA)

Ms Miliswa was born in Port Elizabeth (now Gqeberha) and she holds a B-Tech degree in Public Management from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

With 15 years of experience in the administrative field, she brings a wealth of expertise in communication, time management, and task prioritisation. Her strong interpersonal skills have enhanced Ms Miliswa's ability to engage effectively with stakeholders and manage complex administrative functions.

Ms Miliswa first became aware of SASSETA through social media and was inspired by the organisation's commitment to providing skills development and qualifications for South African citizens in the safety and security sector. ■



Ms Vuyolwethu Matshaya (GPM Administrator)

Ms Vuyolwethu Matshaya, also known as Vuyo, is a dynamic and energetic professional from Gqeberha (formerly Port Elizabeth). As a dedicated mother of two, she brings enthusiasm and a strong commitment to personal and professional growth.

Vuyo holds a Diploma in Public Administration and Management from UNISA (2019) and a Higher Certificate in Banking Advice Services from Milpark Business School (2011). With a solid background in the SETA environment, she has gained valuable insight into the sector, including SASSETA's impactful work in skills development and education.

Recognising that not everyone has the means to obtain a formal qualification, Vuyo encourages young people to stay focused and seize every opportunity to learn a skill—whether in beauty, trades, or technical fields such as nail technology, hairdressing, plumbing, or carpentry.

Her passion for empowerment and skills development aligns with SASSETA's mission, making her an asset to the team. ■





Ms Phumzile Chauke (Intern)

Ms. Chauke joins the SASSETA team as a Grants and Project Intern. Originally from Myakayaka, a village in Tzaneen, Limpopo, she pursued her studies at Westcol TVET College, earning a National Diploma in Management Assistant, and later obtained a Higher Certificate in Archives and Records Management from UNISA.

Ms. Chauke brings extensive experience in Office Support, Project Delivery, and Records Management, having worked at Leratong Hospital, G-Fleet Management, and the South African Reserve Bank (SARB). At SARB, she played a key role in digitisation, data management, and project execution.

In her new role at SASSETA, she is eager to gain hands-on experience in Grant Management, including application evaluations, fund disbursement, and project monitoring. She looks forward to collaborating with colleagues, learning from mentors, and contributing to SASSETA's impact on safety and security education. ■



Mr Khuthadzo Neluheni (Intern)

Khuthadzo Neluheni joins SASSETA as a Grants and Projects Intern. Born in Tshisaulu, Venda, he developed a passion for economics, accounting, and finance from a young age. He pursued his studies in Financial Management, earning a Diploma in the field.

With over five years of industry experience, Khuthadzo has excelled in budgeting, financial reporting, and team leadership. As a Team Leader in his previous roles, he successfully managed financial operations, guided teams to meet performance targets, and ensured compliance with financial policies.

In his new role at SASSETA, he aims to expand his expertise in grant management, financial planning, and project coordination. Passionate about using his financial knowledge for impactful projects, he is eager to contribute to effective resource allocation and organisational success. ■

If you see it, Report it!

TOLL FREE WHISTLEBLOWING HOTLINE
0800 162 111

SMS 30916 | Email sasseta@thehotline.co.za | thehotline.co.za (use 0800 162 111 to report)

INSPIRATIONAL STORY

Inspirational Story for this week!

NOKUPHIWA MKHIZE

Meet Nokuphiwa Mkhize (27) from Tugela Ferry. Studied Human Resource Management at Dundee Technology Centre. She completed her Work Integrated Learning Programme funded by SASSETA, at the Department of Home Affairs in April 2024. Nokuphiwa has been permanently employed by the same employer (Dept. of Home Affairs) as a Civic Services Clerk since May 2024.

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

#MajubaAlumni #Partnership&LinkagesUnit



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



sndlovusasseta.org.za



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

www.sasseta.org.za

