



Participants during the organised march from the sports ground to Bredasdorp Clinic.

World Aids Day in Bredasdorp

Thobela Mata

Agulhas National Park commemorated World Aids Day with stakeholders in Bredasdorp

The Agulhas National Park, the Biodiversity Social Projects (BSP) and the People and Conservation (P&C) division organised an event that gave Bredasdorp streets a rather festive air.

The event, held on 30 November at the Park Street Sports Ground, involved SANParks: Agulhas BSP and P&C, the

Aids Foundation SA and the CWP (Community Work Programme), which worked together to plan and organise the event for the very first time. It was attended by more than 300 Expanded Public Works Project (EPWP) participants from Agulhas Working for Water, Wetlands and Ecosystems projects and the Aids Foundation SA and the CWP, which is also have an EPWP arm.

Invited speakers ranged from health care professionals, a pastor, project managers and participants sharing

invaluable information declaring a war on HIV/Aids and a plea for support to those living with HIV/Aids from our surrounding communities. In opening the event, the MC Thobela Mata, (Assistant Project Manager: Agulhas BSP, said "World Aids Day provides an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, to show support for people living with HIV and to remember those who died from illnesses related to Aids".

Each speaker took to the podium and emphasised the importance for people

to know their HIV status, and hence the theme for this year, "Know your status".

A march was organised from the sports ground to Bredasdorp Clinic, where participants held banners and placards aloft stressing the importance of "Know your Status", and chanting and singing accordingly.

The purpose of the march was to spread the message on the streets of Bredasdorp. The idea was also for participants to have fun while raising awareness.