



The dignitaries visiting the Offline Connect project. From left, Greater Tzaneen Municipality Mayor, Maripe Mangena; MEC for Agriculture, Baisikopo Makamu; Belgium AMBassador to South Africa, Didier van der Hasselt and MEC for Agriculture, Seaparo Sekwati.



MEC Seaparo Sekwati with the Belgium Ambassador to South Africa, Didier van der Hasselt.



The local community came to be part of the launch.



Chief Tinyiko N'wamitwa with Greater Tzaneen Mayor, Maripe Mangena.

Partnership brings change to community

The Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA) has launched five community upliftment projects in Xihoko village outside Tzaneen on Friday March 8.

The launch of the projects was meant to enhance community development in the province, the event was held at Gwambeni High School.

The projects were brought by the Tirelo Boshia Public Service Improvement Facility, a programme that is facilitated by the Department as part of cooperation agreement between the governments of South Africa and the Kingdom of Belgium to improve community development in the country.

The projects are being implemented through the Limpopo Provincial Government and the Limpopo Economic Development Agency (LEDA).

Since the cooperation agreement came into being in 2013, the DPSA has signed 66 agreements with various government departments and municipalities across the country aimed at funding service delivery improvements to the tune of R138 617 248 of which the five projects are amongst them.

The projects included Offline Content to schools without internet connectivity, the project involves provision of access to offline content such as basic

mathematics,

dictionary, periodic table, workbooks and most of all previous years exam Papers to improve learning and teaching in schools without Internet connectivity.

A public works programme focusing on research on alternative building construction materials. Emerging Farmers Portal and Mobile Application for farmers to interact with buyers. Bio- diversity Information Management System by the Limpopo Department of Economic Development and Limpopo Public Access Heritage Portal and Mobile Application by the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture.

The event host, Gwambeni High School received 26 laptops, 60 tablets and computer server and the school believes that the donations will bring an improvement in the Grade 12 results this year.

"Since we received the donations, we see a change, our learners are able to discover things on their own and also the teachers says it makes their job easier.

We are hoping for a 95% pass rate in the Grade 12 results this year through these computers,' explained Vincent Mabunda, Gwambeni High School Principal.