

LANGUAGE SERVICES

International Mother Tongue Day

The Department marks international Mother Tongue Day annually. The importance of usage of the language that the people understand in order for them to access information, services and knowledge put at their disposal by government is always emphasized.

Multilingualism in the FSPG

There is a firm commitment on the part of the Free State Provincial Government to establish an enabling framework for implementing a multilingual dispensation in the FSPG. To achieve its objectives, the present language unit needs to be transformed from a service-rendering unit to a service-management unit that will facilitate and exercise quality control over language-related services outsourced by FSPG departments.

This requires that all departments should make funds available for outsourcing which has the potential of establishing a language industry in the province to contribute to job creation and elevate the status of our indigenous languages. A mindshift is needed to address the low status presently assigned to our African languages, the Khoi, San and Sign Languages, which calls for language development functions to be added to the unit's responsibilities.

To ensure effective communication between the government and the language communities in the province, interpreting as a means to achieve this objective should play a major role. In order to link and coordinate language activities between national, provincial and municipal levels and promote multilingualism across the province in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, a Provincial Language Forum administered by the Unit will be established. To make Batho Pele a reality in the province, the government should communicate with its clients in a variety of media and languages and the provincial language unit will play an important role in facilitating achievement of this directive of the Batho Pele Whitepaper.

LANGUAGE SERVICE UNIT CONTACT DETAILS

Name & Initials	Building	Telephone	E-mail
Mahanke, M	Business Partners	051 410 4705	mahanke@sacr.fs.gov.za
Enslin, J	Business Partners	051 410 4703	enslinj@sacr.fs.gov.za
Nel, C	Business Partners	051 410 4801	cnel@sacr.fs.gov.za
Van der Merwe, G	Business Partners	051 410 4754	vdmerweg@sacr.fs.gov.za
Masolane, T	Business Partners	051 410 4756	tshidae@sacr.fs.gov.za
Ramathe, M	Business Partners	051 410 4752	mpai@sacr.fs.gov.za