

Editorial

Welcome to the 2nd edition of Izwi lase OPSC for the 2017/18 financial year. We are about to close the second quarter which in its nature is special in the calendar of many South Africans due to the celebration of Mandela Day (18 July), the commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the women's march to the Union Buildings against the pass laws (09 August) and the recent commemoration of Heritage day (24 September) under the theme "The Year of OR Tambo: Celebrating our Liberation Heritage". Heritage day recognises and celebrates the cultural wealth of our nation. It is celebrated by remembering the cultural heritage of the many cultures that make up the population of South Africa.

During this quarter a number of activities took place and we are pleased to be sharing some of the highlights with you in this edition.

On 30-31 August 2017 the PSC participated at the 11th Public Sector Innovation Conference hosted by the Centre for Public Service Innovation (CPSI) at Emperors Palace. Commissioner Phumelele Nzimande was one of the speakers and she presented a paper under the theme "Positioning Public Sector Innovation for the 4th Industrial Revolution".

Senior Management of Team PSC attended the 3rd National Development Plan Public Lecture on 15 September hosted by the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME). The event was held at the ZK Matthews Great Hall (UNISA) as part of the celebration of the 5th anniversary of the adoption of the National Development Plan (NDP) 2030. The lecture was delivered by Mr. Jeff Radebe, Minister in the Presidency responsible for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation and Chairperson of the National Planning Commission.

We also launched the 1st edition of the Pulse of the Public Service Bulletin through a media briefing. The Bulletin, based on governance matters, will be released quarterly to the public and stakeholders to inform them about the work of the PSC.

This edition also has a new feature called "Did you know". The aim is to share interesting and educational facts with Team PSC.

We conclude the edition with pictures of Team PSC Head Office at the commemoration of Heritage day at Derdepoort Recreation Centre on Friday 22 September, regulars such as Information Resource Centre corner and Jokes.

Contents

<i>Editorial</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>PSC participate at the 11th Public - Sector Innovation Conference</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>3rd National Development Plan Public Lecture</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>PSC launch the Pulse of the Public Service Bulletin</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>PSC celebrates Heritage day</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Did you know?</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Information Resource Centre Corner</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Jokes</i>	<i>10</i>

PSC PARTICIPATE AT THE 11th PUBLIC SECTOR INNOVATION CONFERENCE

The Public Service Commission recently participated at the 11th Public Sector Innovation Conference hosted by the Centre for Public Service Innovation (CPSI) on 30-31 August 2017 at the Emperors Palace. The conference, under the theme, “Positioning Public Sector Innovation for the 4th Industrial Revolution” created a platform for robust discussion, learning and sharing on innovation amongst public officials and other key stakeholders.

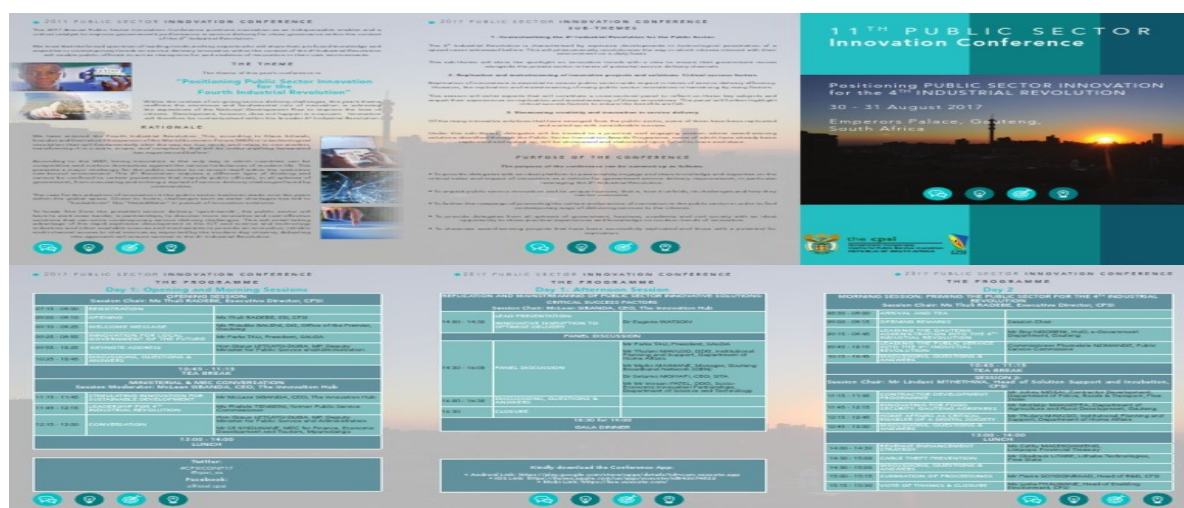
The conference positioned innovation as a crucial enabler and a critical catalyst to improve government’s performance and to create innovative and creative public services that will radically enhance access to service delivery within communities.

The 4th Industrial Revolution is a new ideology centered on new technologies that are fusing the physical and digital worlds impacting all disciplines, economies and industries. The 4th Industrial Revolution has a potential to enable innovation, propel new business models and improve the delivery of public services.

Addressing the conference, former Deputy Chairperson of the PSC, Ms Phelele Thengeni said that in order for government to partake in the 4th Industrial Revolution, there should be a repositioning of the public sector that will address poverty, unemployment and inequalities.

She further said that there’s a need to appoint leadership that will take communities out of the current challenges through innovative ways. The type of leaders that are ethical and have consciousness and a conscience to enhance moral compass and value driven public service.

Commissioner Phumelele Nzimande also addressed delegates and shared the importance of digital and ICT skills, if government is to transition into the 4th Industrial Revolution. She challenged government employees to start being technology-savvy because in the near future manual operation of systems will be a thing of the past. She said that in a digitalized world that we live in, things such as manual application of leave and filling of Z83 for employment should be replaced by online applications. She concluded by promising that the Public Service Commission (PSC) will engage with the Department of Public Service and Administration to scrap out the Z83 which makes it difficult for job seekers, especially young people, to apply for positions in government.



3rd NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN PUBLIC LECTURE

The Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME) hosted the celebration of the 5th anniversary of the adoption of the National Development Plan (NDP) at the ZK Matthews Great Hall, UNISA, on 15 September 2017. The NDP was adopted by a multi-sectoral constituency, parliament, political parties and civil society in 2012. It prioritises economic growth as a critical tool to deal with poverty, inequality and unemployment.

The keynote speaker was Mr Jeff Radebe, Minister in the Presidency responsible for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation and Chairperson of the National Planning Commission. The lecture presented an overview of the NDP Vision 2030 and reflected on its implementation, paying particular focus to youth and women empowerment, including challenges and achievements over the past five years.

The NDP serves as a blueprint for the work that needs to be done to achieve a prosperous society for South Africa. The NDP rests on the following six pillars: mobilisation of all South Africans, active engagement of citizens in their own development, expansion of the economy and making growth inclusive, building of key capabilities - human, physical and institutional; building a capable and developmental state and fostering strong leadership throughout society.

Addressing the audience, Minister Radebe said that through the implementation of the NDP, lives of South Africans are being transformed. "We aim to ensure that all South Africans attain a decent standard of living through the elimination of poverty, unemployment and reduction of inequality".

The NDP is a call to action to unite as a country and identifies the role that different sectors of society need to play in reaching its goals.

Minister Radebe mentioned that there are several pockets of excellence in the performance of government against the NDP 2030 targets which includes creation of jobs, better access to healthcare, access by millions of South Africans to clean water and proper sanitation; access to internet and relevant devices by previously disadvantaged schools; access by youth to post school training opportunities; etc

The Minister said that although there are successes in the implementation of the NDP, overall progress towards impact indicators during 2014/15-2016/17 reflects a need to accelerate progress during 2017/18 -2018/19.

In conclusion Minister Radebe called for all South Africans to intensify the national dialogue to seek common solutions and concrete actions to deal with slow growth and poverty through partnerships with business, organised labour and all stakeholders who share a commitment to ensuring inclusive growth.

The Chairperson of the PSC, Advocate Richard Sizani and the former Chairperson of the PSC, Professor Stan Sangweni were in attendance.

3rd NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN PUBLIC LECTURE con...



PSC LAUNCH THE PULSE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE BULLETIN

In an effort to keep the public, including stakeholders informed about the work of the PSC, on Thursday, 21 September 2017, Commissioner Michael Seloane launched the PSC Bulletin titled: The Pulse of the Public Service, at a Media Briefing held at ABSA Towers. The bulletin which will be released quarterly is based on governance matters in the Public Service relating to the following areas:

- Grievances handled by the PSC;
- Complaints lodged with the PSC;
- Management of Financial Disclosure Framework;
- Service Delivery Inspections; and
- Report tabled in Parliament.



PSC CELEBRATES HERITAGE DAY

On 24 September 2017, South Africans celebrated Heritage day under the theme: “The Year of OR Tambo: Celebrating our Liberation Heritage”. This day gives us an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the cultural wealth of our nation.

On Friday, 22 September 2017, members of Team PSC at the National and Gauteng Office celebrated Heritage day at Derdepoort Recreation Resort. Colleagues in the Provinces will celebrate Heritage day on different dates. Everyone was clad in their traditional attire to showcase their heritage.



PSC CELEBRATES HERITAGE DAY cont...



DID YOU KNOW

The 2017 national Public Service Month (PSM) took place across the country from 1 to 30 September under the theme: **“Together Moving, the Public Service Forward: We Belong, We Care, We Serve”**.

The month is generally used to celebrate and recognise public servants who follow the **“Batho Pele”** principles which require them to be polite, open and transparent and to deliver good service to the public.

As Team PSC we are further expected to live up to our values which should give direction to our actions and describe how we behave. We uphold the following values:

- Integrity
- Equity
- Honesty
- Excellence
- Dedication
- Respect for professionalism
- Empathy
- Respect for human dignity
- Responsiveness



Jul/Aug/Sept 2017

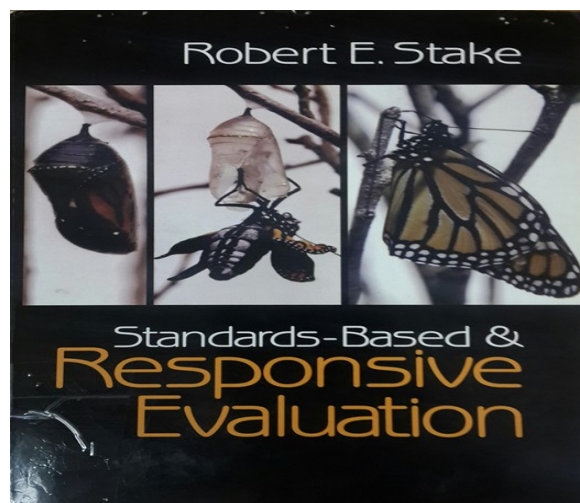
INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTRE

Book Review

Title: Standard-Based & Responsive Evaluation

Edited by Robert E. Stake

Reviewed by: Nelly Lukhero



Abstract:

This book begins with the main strategic choices an evaluator needs to make between approaches, quantitative by explicating criteria, needs, standards and performance or qualitatively by studying the activity aspirations, problems and accomplishments of the participants and critical observers. After reading the book the reader will have a better appreciation of evaluation as a process that needs to be custom-fit to the situation.

Standard-based & responsive evaluation explores the many conceptual choices an evaluation needs devoting attention to stakeholders, weighing ethical risks and writing useful report.

The book presents evaluation as a series of choices for the reader:

- To remain independent or to join with program staff or stakeholders
- To evaluate personal experience as evidence or to show it as based
- To aid development formatively or to assess the existing program summative
- To support the standard and ethical codes of professional associations.

This is definitely a must read. To get a copy of this interesting book, members of Team PSC can contact the Information Resource Centre at the following numbers:

Nelly Lukhero: X 1129

Molebogeng Mothotoana X 1124

Jokes

Holy Water

Q: How do you make holy water?

A: Boil the hell out of it.

Family Dinner

The business I work for had a dinner together with all family members. Before the first speech, the emcee gave the following announcement, “we kindly ask if you can please put all cell phones and children on vibrate”.

THE DUMBEST POLICE CALLS

- A deputy responded to a report of a vehicle stopping at mailboxes. It was the mail carrier.
- A woman said her son was attacked by a cat, and the cat would not allow her to take her son to the hospital.
- A resident said someone had entered his home at night and taken five kg of bacon. Upon further investigation, police discovered his wife had gotten up for a late-night snack.
- A man reported that a squirrel was running in circles on Davis Drive, and he wasn't sure if it was sick or had been hit by a car. An officer responded, and as he drove on the street, he ran over the squirrel.

THE POINT OF A CONFERENCE CALL

A conference call is the best way for a dozen people to say “bye” 300 times.