

**Media Release**  
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**For Immediate Release**

## **Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality wins award at 8th SALGA NCF Awards**

The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) wishes to congratulate Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality from the Nkangala District Municipality in Mpumalanga for their exceptional achievement and performance in the Crisis Communications category (local municipalities), which they received at the 8<sup>th</sup> SALGA National Communicators Forum (NCF).

SALGA held its 8<sup>th</sup> National Communicators Forum (NCF) at Mentors Country Estate in Jeffery's Bay, Eastern Cape under the Kouga Local Municipality from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> of February 2025. The SALGA National Communicators Forum convenes all local government communicators from all 257 local municipalities across the country to promote peer learning, provide a forum for discussion on how to improve local government communications, and offer solutions to problems that communicators encounter. The forum's theme was on *"Amplifying our voice, driving change, embracing innovation to enhance excellence in local government communication."*

The NCF awards aim to celebrate and recognise the significant contributions made by local government communicators in communicating the myriads of issues affecting municipalities and citizens across the country.

Some of the key discussions at the NCF were on:

- (a) Reflections of National Communicators Forum.
- (b) Data-Driven Communication: Understanding & Engaging the South African Consumer.
- (c) Lessons from the Frontline: Municipal Success Stories in Driving Accountability Engagement.
- (d) Understanding South African Demographics and Spending Behaviour: Insights to inform Community Engagement and Municipal Communication.
- (e) Strengthening Crisis Communication – Building Resilience in Disaster Management:
  - Climate Change and Environmental Challenges.
  - Strengthening Disaster and Fire Response for Resilient Communities.
- (f) Advancing South Africa's Brand Through Local Government Communication:
  - Championing Country Branding through Local Government Communication.
  - The role of municipalities in promoting local tourism as part of South Africa's global appeal.
- (g) Digital Evolution in Local Government Communication – Leveraging AI and Emerging Technologies for Citizen Engagement:
  - Strengthening Trust in the Digital Age: Cross-checking and Combating Misinformation.
  - Transforming Citizen Engagement Through Digital Innovation.
  - Bridging the Digital Divide: Inclusive Communication Strategies for South Africa's Diverse Communities.

- Citizen-centric Digital Engagement.
- (h) Reflecting on Past NCF Outcomes: Lessons and Insights.
- (i) Collaborative Planning: Shaping the Future of Communication Achieving effective local government communication – undertaking the audiences.

SALGA remains committed to empowering municipalities to effectively inform and serve their citizens, making tangible and measurable improvements to the quality of life for communities across the country.

## ENDS

**Issued by: South African Local Government Association (Mpumalanga)**

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