

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE FEDERATION OF ESWATINI



ESWATINI INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR, (01-10 SEPTEMBER 2023) HELD AT MAVUSO EXHIBITION CENTRE

The National Cooperatives Federation of Eswatini (NCFE) office attended this year's (2023) Eswatini International Trade Fair, which was at the Mavuso Exhibition Centre for a duration of 11 days (1st to 11th September 2023). The Federation was joined by the three apex bodies namely ESWAMCU – mother body for all agricultural and multipurpose cooperatives, ESNYCA – mother body for youth cooperatives and ESASCCO – mother body for all savings and credit cooperatives. The Eswatini International Trade Fair is an annual exhibition, which is driven and pioneered by the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade through Eswatini Investment Promotions Authority (EIPA) wherein companies in the different industries locally and internationally can showcase and demonstrate their products & services, meet with industry partners and customers, study activities of potential competitors and examine recent market trends and spot opportunities. The Eswatini Cooperative (NCFE and 3 apex bodies) stall was also graced by the visit of His Majesty King Mswati III during the Trade Fair official opening day that was held on 2nd September 2023.



MANZINI REGION AWARENESS CAMPAIGN - MANKAYANE FEA CHURCH (20TH SEPTEMBER 2023)

A total of 100 people attended the Mankayane Awareness Campaign, which was held on 20th September 2023 at the Free Evangelical Church Hall. 89 participants represented primary cooperatives within the area, 2 representatives from Eswatini Revenue Service (ERS), 2 ESWAMCU representatives, 1 ESASCCO representative, 1 ESNYCA representative, 1 NCFE board member from the NCFE Education committee and 4 were NCFE staff members. The purpose of the awareness campaign was to sensitize primary cooperatives in the area about cooperative compliance as outlined in the Swaziland Cooperatives and Societies Act 2003 as well as the Commissioner of Cooperatives Guidelines of 2005



HHOHHO REGION AWARENESS CAMPAIGN, 22 SEPTEMBER 2023 (MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND TRADE AUDITORIUM)

A total of 80 people attended the Hhohho awareness campaign, which was held at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Auditorium in Mbabane. 66 participants represented the different primary cooperatives within the northern part of the Hhohho region, 14 participants were support personnel (1 representative from DGRV Eswatini, 1 ESWAMCU representative, 1 ESNYCA representative, 2 ESASCCO representatives, 2 NCFE board members (1 from the Education Committee and 1 from the Supervisory Committee), the Acting Commissioner for Cooperatives, 2 Hhohho regional officers, and 4 were NCFE staff members). The NCFE Executive Manager (EM), Mr. Thembinkosi Fakudze highlighted the main purpose of the awareness campaign in all the primary cooperatives that were invited to attend. He indicated that the fundamental reasons for the gathering was mainly to know the aspirations of the cooperatives, understand their needs, and know the services needed by the primary cooperatives as well as educating cooperatives about compliance guiding the operation of a cooperative in the Kingdom of Eswatini.



MANZINI REGION AWARENESS CAMPAIGN (MHLAMBANYATSI INKHUNDLA) - 25TH SEPTEMBER 2023

A total of 50 people attended the Mhlambanyatsi Inkhundla Awareness Campaign, which was held at the Mhlambanyatsi Inkhundla in the northern part of the Manzini region. 39 participants represented the different primary cooperatives within the northern part of the Manzini region, 11 participants were support personnel (1 representative from ESNYCA, 1 ESWAMCU representative, 1 ESASCCO representative, 2 Eswatini Revenue Service representatives, 1 NCFE Education Committee board member, 1 Manzini regional officer and 4 were NCFE staff members).

The engagement was formally opened by the Chairperson of the NCFE Education Committee, Mr. Thulani Magongo who welcomed all participants and thanked them for attending the educational meeting, which was mainly to capacitate all cooperatives on compliance issues governing the cooperatives in the Kingdom of Eswatini as stated in the Swaziland Cooperatives and Societies Act of 2003. Other speakers from the above mentioned stakeholders also presented their organizations as well as their products and services.



NCFE SERVICES LAUNCH TO PRIMARY COOPERATIVES – ECODEC (30 OCTOBER 2023)

The National Cooperatives Federation of Eswatini has launched services that shall be provided to all primary cooperatives on request. This event was held on 30th of October 2023. A total of 54 people attended the launch which was held at ECODEC. The services, which will be offered to the primary Cooperatives include Bookkeeping and Auditing, Website design, Security (Firewall), IT trainings and Email hosting. These services shall be priced at 40 percent less than the industry pricing.



LUBOMBO REGION AWARENESS CAMPAIGN - SITEKI SANU CHAPEL (4TH SEPTEMBER 2023)

A total of 90 people attended the Hhohho awareness campaign, with 79 participants representing the different primary cooperatives within the Hhohho region and the 11 were support personnel. The support personnel were: 1 ERS representative, 2 ESWAMCU representatives, 1 ESASCCO representative, 2 Hhohho regional officers, 2 NCFE board members (Education and Supervisory Committee respectively) and 4 were NCFE staff members.

The engagement was formally opened by the Chairperson of the NCFE Education Committee, Mr. Thulani Magongo who welcomed all participants and thanked them for attending the educational meeting, which was mainly to capacitate all cooperatives that were in attendance. The NCFE Executive Manager, Mr Thembinkosi Fakudze proceeded to introduce and present NCFE stating the Role of the NCFE to all existing cooperatives in an attempt to give all attendants the background of the Federation and spelt out the main purpose of the Federation to the cooperative movement in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

The Lubombo Regional Officer also took time to formally welcome both the stakeholders and primary cooperatives to the Lubombo awareness campaign. The Officer urged the participants to take advantage of the opportunity that was afforded by the Federation to them as a prospect to gain knowledge and understanding about the cooperative structure, which was to benefit and share with their primary cooperatives' members. He further encouraged the primary cooperatives to seek assistance and use the services offered by the Federation.



GERMANY COOPERATIVES (BANKS) VISITING TO LUBANE AND SNAT SACCOS RESPECTIVELY ON 1ST NOVEMBER 2023

The National Cooperatives Federation of Eswatini visited Lubane Savings and Credit Co-operative Society Ltd with the Germany Cooperatives young professionals. The Main purpose was to share information in the cooperatives sectors as well as benchmarking on best practice in the cooperative sector between the two countries. The information sharing was graced by the chairperson of Lubane SACCO; Mr. Khaya Mavuso. He did elaborate that the cooperative was formed in 1997 mainly for Eswatini Electricity Company employees and membership was later opened to the general public in 2010. The delegation later visited SNAT SACCO, which is a savings and credit cooperative society for teachers in the Kingdom of Eswatini.



YOUNG PROFESSIONAL BOOT CAMP AT MDOLOMBA EDEN GUEST HOUSE ON 2ND AND 3RD NOVEMBER 2023

The Global Youth Project, which is promoting the youth cooperatives working under the Federation conducted two days' workshop, which attracted 17 young professionals from SACCOs in the Kingdom of Eswatini and 3 were young professionals from Germany cooperatives at Mdolomba Eden Guest House. The event was officially opened by Mr Viet Gesenhues who is the Program Director Southern Africa .The purpose of the boot camp was to share information and experiences amongst the cooperators in attendance. The attendees also discussed skills and interests that may benefit youth cooperatives and young professionals within the youth cooperatives. Young professionals in attendance were from Sibonelo SACCO, Imbita saving and credit cooperative, Asikhutulisane SACCO, Saphumula SACCO, Akwandze Kukhanyeni multipurpose cooperative, Sandla Connect MPC, Lutsango LwakaNgwane SACCO, ESASCCO, NCFE, ESWAMCU and Germany cooperative representatives (Lilian and Justin).





HERITAGE PROPERTIES MPC VISITED BY 2 YOUNG GERMAN PROFESSIONALS, NCFE AND ESNYCA ON 6TH NOVEMBER 2023

Global Youth Project in collaboration with ESNYCA (Youth apex body for cooperatives in the Kingdom of Eswatini) hosted two young professionals from German cooperatives (one from a bank and the other from a Real Estate Cooperative) visited Heritage Properties Multi-Purpose Cooperative, which has a vibrant project at Mafutseni. The Multipurpose Cooperative has a membership of 180 members; 95 percent of them are women. The MPC purchased a farm in Mafutseni, which measures 91 hectare, which was sub divided amongst the members . The members collectively contributed E8.5 million to purchase the farm and paid transfer costs for the farm the government of Eswatini offices (Deeds office). The farm is adjacent to Dombeya Natural Game Reserve.



LADIES CORNER MULTIPURPOSE COOPERATIVE VISITED BY 2 YOUNG GERMAN PROFESSIONALS, NCFE AND ESNYCA ON 6TH NOVEMBER 2023

Ladies Corner Multipurpose Cooperative, was registered in August 2023 located at Enkambeni in the Hhohho region was visited by 2 young professionals from Germany, NCFE and ESNYCA on 6th November 2023. The cooperative has a membership of 10 members, which are strictly young females. The Ladies Corner MPC is currently growing 400 broiler chickens, which are to be sold once they are fully grown at the period of 6 weeks. The broiler chickens are grown in two stages, 200 chickens that were 5 weeks old and 200 chickens 4 weeks old at the time of visit. The broiler chickens are to be sold at E90 each. The target market for the MPC are butcheries, street vendors selling roasted meat and residents around Madlangempisi respectively MPC also has a contract with NAMBoard to supply baby marrow vegetables. They have 1.7 ha of land where they shall be growing these vegetables for NAMBoard. Currently, the MPC is mobilizing funds to purchase the farm inputs.

