

**NATIONAL DAY OF HEALTH & SAFETY IN MINING 2020**  
**SPEAKING NOTES – DR THUTHULA BALFOUR, 17 JULY 2020**



As an industry we recognise that we are part of communities, not separate from them. We cannot isolate companies or employees from communities, nor would we want to. Their burden is our burden too.

**Khumbul'ekhaya supports industry's COVID-19 response**

- Managing the health and safety of employees a key priority for mining industry
- Khumbul'ekhaya "remember home" strategy launched in 2019 by CEO Zero Harm Forum, following deep introspection and engagement on health- and safety-related issues in the mining industry
- Three key Khumbul'ekhaya research projects have been repurposed to deal with COVID-19 as a priority:

<b>Research</b> to fundamentally understand the nature of COVID-19	<b>Behaviour change</b> specifically on COVID-19	<b>Geographic information system</b> mapping to enhance decision-making
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As Roger mentioned, early on in the process, the CEO Zero Harm Forum re-allocated funds from our Khumbul'ekhaya initiative to support research, behaviour change and geographic information mapping (GIS mapping).

The research is critical to support the mining industry and others in understating the pandemic and it will add to the body of knowledge on the disease and how to deal with it both within and outside the mine gate.

**Behaviour change for COVID-19 prevention and infection control**

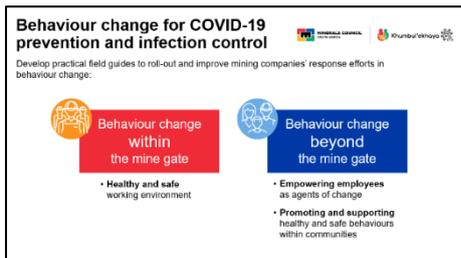
<b>PURPOSE</b>	SA mining, supported by Minerals Council, is seeking to share leading practices and improve the industry's capacity to promote and enable behaviour change in order to prevent and contain the COVID-19 pandemic, both within and beyond the mine gate, among employees and communities.
<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research healthy and safe behaviours required in context of COVID-19 prevention and infection control efforts in SA mining industry</li> <li>Identify, consolidate and curate leading practices across mining sector</li> <li>Develop practical field guides to share and disseminate leading practices, to improve response efforts across sector</li> <li>Support roll-out of field guides with practical problem-solving workshops with mining companies</li> </ul>

Today, we would like to give focus to the work we have done with companies and behaviour change experts as we launch a Behaviour Change Field Guide that re-enforces behaviours to support healthy and safe ways of working in the context of COVID-19.

This field guide is based on leading practices as described and tested by members of the South Africa mining sector, as well as leading organisations around the world. The document offers practical steps to help members establish appropriate behaviours and ways of working that help limit the spread of COVID-19 and ensure alignment with legislation.

This includes:

- gauging the response to COVID-19 and assessing the need for behaviour change;
- supporting the skills and behaviours of key personnel;
- and creating a behaviour change programme.



Two versions of the field guide are being developed, with the first – Within the Mine Gate Field Guide – launching today.

The Beyond the Mine Gate Field Guide, which is still in development, looks at empowering employees as agents of change and promoting and supporting healthy and safe behaviours within communities.

Both guides will be continually iterated with subsequent, improved versions as more research is conducted. The Minerals Council believes that these documents have value beyond the mining sector and is therefore making them freely available.

We have published this guide on our website and we are making it freely available to all sectors.



While the *Beyond the mine gate* guide is not yet available, we have developed and published today a series of posters and speaking notes to use by mining companies, in workplaces and in their communities. The material has been made available in four different languages – English, SeSotho, isiXhosa and isiZulu.

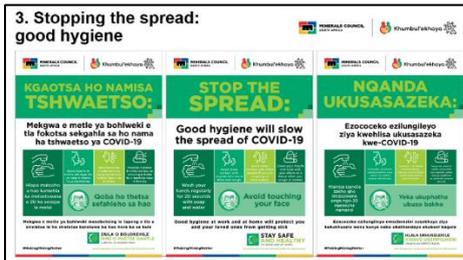
And, in them, we have seven key messages:



Our overall commitment to eliminate fatalities at work; to stamp out occupational illness such as silicosis and TB; slow the spread of COVID-19 at work and at home, all in pursuit of Zero Harm.



That COVID-19 will be with us for some time to come, and dealing with it, with precaution, is our new normal.



Stopping the spread through good hygiene.



Stopping the spread through social distancing.



Stopping the spread by wearing masks.



Addressing gender-based violence.



Dealing with mental health.

This material is being distributed to all member companies and beyond. And is available for downloading from our website.