



culture, sport & recreation

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

2024 / 2025

VOTE 11

Policy & Budget Speech



Mr FV Mlombo

MEC For Culture, Sport & Recreation



Thursday, 08 August 2024



09:00



Mpumalanga
Provincial Legislature



POLICY AND BUDGET SPEECH 2024/2025

8 AUGUST 2024 AT 09:00

Madam Speaker, Hon Lindi Masina

Deputy Speaker, Hon Sam Masango

The Chief Whip, Hon Evah Makhabane

The Premier, Hon Mandla Ndlovu

Colleagues in the Executive Council

Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Culture, Sport and Recreation, Hon Bosman Grobler

Members of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature

Leader of the House of Traditional Leaders, Kgoshi Mokoena and your entire Executive

Provincial Secretary of the African National Congress, Cde Muzi Chirwa

Executive Mayors and MMC's responsible for Sport in Municipalities

Acting DG of the Provincial Government, Mr Nyoni

The Secretary to the Legislature

Head of Departments

The Chairperson of TS Galaxy FC, Mr Sukazi

The Chairperson of Kruger United FC, Mr Wati

My Special Guest, Lindokuhle Mahlangu Imbongi from the Thembisile Hani Municipality

Madan Speaker

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and gentlemen.

Madam Speaker, I humble myself before you and before this august house and subject myself to people of Mpmulanga to assure them that the confidence they have bestowed on this Government led by the African National Congress is not misplaced.

The budget Speech of the Department of Culture Sports and Recreation is delivered today on the 8th of August 2024, almost a week since the Premier of the Province Hon Mandla Ndlovu delivered the Speech on the Opening of the 7th Administration in the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature. The speech by the Hon Premier set forth a clear program of action that this government will be pursuing and executing in the next five years.

Our Department regards the address by the Premier of the Province as indeed a clarion call to action to all of us, more so to the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation on the direction that this Province and the 7th Administration will be taking to ensure the radical transformation of society and the accelerated advance to the realization of a **Better Life for All**.

It is a call to move with accelerated radical speed in ensuring that we conform to the mandate of the Department, that of **Building Social Cohesion and Nation Building**.

Yes, Honourable Premier, we will move with speed:

To promote heritage and culture by ensuring that government invest in the cultural and creative industries, particularly in the film, music, arts, craft, books and publishing

To advocate for radical and qualitative transformation in sport and recreation and will provide adequate sport and recreation facilities.
To put measures in place to build social contracts which could help propel South Africa onto a higher developmental trajectory as well as to build a cohesive and equitable society.

To put measures in place to reduce the gap between the rich and poor, black and white, women and men, urban and rural, city and country.
To use the National Days celebrations as platforms to promote and safeguard our constitutional values.

To take a conscious and deliberate effort to undermine the manifestation of racism, tribalism, xenophobia, sexism and homophobia in sport.
To guard, foster, advance and promote active citizenship and social solidarity.

However, Madam Speaker, we are not so vile and unreasonable to believe that all the above commitments will be easy to achieve.

We understand the concrete political, economic and social conditions under which we pursue the struggle to transform society and build a National Democratic Society.

We know and understand Madam Speaker, as One Political Philosopher, once said that ***“men make their own history, but they do not make it as they please, they do not make it under self selected circumstances, but under circumstances existing already”***.

None of us should underestimate the negative impact that apartheid colonialism has had on Sport, non should underestimate the stranglehold and grip of apartheid colonialism in all the sectors of our life.

Not only did apartheid colonialism plunder and pillage our raw materials, our land, our rivers, our forestry, and our gold.

Not only did they seize Africa's mineral resources, our harbours, diamond, copper, forest to build their economies.

Not only did they repress, despoil, oppress and forced the African people into commercial slaves.... **But**

They also destroyed our culture, heritage, languages, created an inferiority complex amongst African people and undermined our schooling system.

They undermined our fundamental freedoms and the right of men to leave freely from the shadow of fear which cramp their dignity and make them to exist in servitude, poverty, degradation and contempt.

They were rapacious, they subserved the needs of the African people to their own demands, they circumscribed human rights liberties .

They undermined and frustrated our social and cultural advancement. They left us nothing but our resentment .

Madam Speaker , it is our conviction , that no political democracy can survive and flourish if the mass of our people remain in poverty without land and without tangible prospect of success .

No political democracy can survive under conditions where neo-liberalism enjoys a tight, stranglehold and grip on the culture, heritage, sport and religion of the masses of the indigenous native people of the land.

The journey may be long, and the effort required much greater but we continue to pursue the struggle for **Social Cohesion and Nation Building**.

Madame Speaker, the Department has three line programmes to drive the mandate of **Social Cohesion and Nation Building** in the Province. These include programmes such as **Cultural Affairs, Library and Archives** as well as **Sport and Recreation**.

PROGRAMME 2: CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The purpose of Cultural Affairs is to promote cultural diversity, multi-faith, multi-lingualism, transformation of the heritage landscape and in the process ensure that socio-economic development takes place in the province.

Madam Speaker, in the 2024/25 financial year the province will support the implementation of three(3) signature cultural events in its effort to promote cultural diversity and integration while enhancing cultural tourism. These events are as follows:

- a. Metro FM music awards** was hosted in April for the second consecutive year at Mbombela stadium.
- b. Innibos National Festival** was hosted in July at various locations within the City of Mbombela.
- c. The 9th Mpumalanga Cultural Xperience** will be held from the 29th November to 8th December 2024 in the three districts. The festival will comprise a variety of nine(9) pillars. These include the Carnival, Soul Session, Kasi, International, Choral, Marathon, Traditional, Comedy, Film and Gospel Xperiences.

Madam speaker, tomorrow is the 9th of August 2024 where we will be celebrating Women's Day to acknowledge the role played by women in 1956 towards the attainment of democracy and celebrate 30th years of democracy towards women development. The provincial event will be held at Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality, Fennie sports ground. This is one of the six(6) National Days commemorative days planned for 2024/25 financial year.

Madam Speaker, as already pronounced by the Honourable Premier, planning and design has commenced for the establishment of a **multi-purpose arena** due to a strong need of an indoor facility that can host major events, conferences, indoor sporting activities, conventions promoting social cohesion and enhancing economic activity in our province. The Department will ensure that implementation of the capital project is monitored and delivered on schedule. The total budget for planning and design of the **multi-purpose arena** for 2024/25 financial year is **R30 million**.

In the 2023/24 financial year, thirteen (13) cultural community structures were supported in the Province namely; *Miss Mpumalanga by Lukhanyo Girls Foundation, Creative artists' workshop by Zoe Creative Organisation, Gospel Music Awards by Mpumalanga Gospel Awards, Cultural festival by Pensele Multicultural Foundation, Promotion and restoration of morals and humanity by Moral Regeneration Movement, Cultural exchange with Kingdom of eSwatini by Lenhle YemaSwati, Cultural exchange with Kingdom of Kwazulu-Natal by Siggina Amagugu, Comedy show by Top Ace Entertainment, Artists management programme by CCIFSA (Cultural Creatives Industries Federation of South Africa), Best of Mpumalanga book production by Hlanyela Group, Emakhosi Film Production by Let there be light, 013 Summer Blaze festival by Jimeliz Foundation and Gospel Music festival crossover by Rising Sun*

This financial year we intend to support ten(10) cultural community structures that strives to develop and promote arts and culture in the province.

Madam Speaker, promotion of multilingualism and development of our indigenous languages remain top priority of the 7th administration. In the 2023/24 financial year two(2) anthologies of one act plays in indigenous languages which is isiNdebele and Siswati were produced through a writing competition. The books are titled “*Ipisi Imbethe isikhumba semvu*” and “*Ligcabho*”. In the 2024/25 financial year, the focus will be on the development of a terminology list in both indigenous languages.

Madam Speaker within the first 100 days of the 7th administration we have launched an online website of isiNdebele cultural and indigenous collections of 1 000 traditional concepts inclusive of; Attire (Imvunulo), Utensils (Amrhotjana) Indigenous Health Herbs and related illnesses (Imithi yesintu namalwele). These concepts also includes Indigenous Musical Instruments (linliliso zesikhethu), Traditional Dances (Imigido Yesikhethu), Indigenous Family (umndeni), Paintings (Imigwalo), Indigenous Agricultural terms (Zokulima) Cuisines (Ukudla Kwesikhethu).

The online platform will increase access to isiNdebele terminology that will benefit school children, language researchers and all those interested in learning isiNdebele culture and heritage. Our word of appreciation goes to the Non-Profit Organization called “*lthungelelwano LesiNdebele*” and their donor funder which is National Heritage Council who made this to be a reality.

The Department coordinated marketing platforms for creative industry products to create jobs through 17 arts and crafts cooperatives supported in all local municipalities. The support of the 17 arts and craft cooperatives will continue in the 2024/25 financial year.

Madam Speaker the Department provide support to the Mpumalanga International Film Festival (MIFF) which takes place from the 2nd to 10th of August 2024 dedicated to nurturing and promoting the film industry in Mpumalanga. This festival provides a platform for filmmakers to showcase their work, engage in meaningful industry discussions, and participate in various educational and networking opportunities.

The film festival which will run for nine days in various programmes that includes film screening and wildlife pitching program focusing on wildlife storytelling amongst others. The screening programmes were rolled out in the locations that cover the three districts such as Ilanga Mall Cinema in Mbombela, The Ridge Cinema in Emalahleni and the Secunda Cinema in Govan Mbeki.

Madam Speaker, South Africa is one of the 20 nation countries and the only African country to belong to the World Gold Panning Association. South Africa successfully hosted three World Gold Panning Championships in Pilgrims Rest. The latest edition was hosted in 2023 and recorded as a huge success. In 2024 team South Africa will participate at World Gold Panning Championships in Zlate Hory, Czech Republic from 19th to 24th August 2024. The championship presents an opportunity to display South African team's competitiveness and to market the country, particularly Mpumalanga province.

The 2024 National Gold Panning Championships will be hosted on the 20th to 23rd September 2024. The main target market is learners, domestic and international visitors to the museum town of Pilgrim Rest. We are aware of the challenges that the museum town face and we expect that this tournament will continue to be a catalyst for tourism in Pilgrim's Rest and Mpumalanga in order to be a destination of choice by visitors benefitting local hawkers and businesses.

Transforming the geographical landscape remains a top priority of the Department. In the 2023/24 financial year, twelve standardized geographic names features were reviewed in all regions. Nkangala region had the following features reviewed and some recorded as new registrations namely; Middelburg Hospital changed to King Nyabela Hospital. In Ehlanzeni region features reviewed and standardized includes Ngwenyameni River, Bhejane River, Gutshwa, Gutshwa Kop, Mvangatini, Khumbula, Siligane, Chweni Mbonisweni, Mbonisweni Mountain, Mgcobaneni. The third Region, Gert Sibande, reviewed and registered new feature named Kaluka village.

Madam speaker in the 2024/25 financial year the Department will review three(3) geographical names and features with a view of standardising them while popularizing existing names. The Department will also unveil the new name of Middelburg Hospital to King Nyabela Hospital. This project seeks to create public awareness on new names while transforming the geographic landscape of the province.

In an effort to optimise the output on the standardized geographic names and features, one of the priorities will be the correction of Mapoch which is a name of a Cave feature to Mabhoko Caves in Roossenekal. The Department will continue in an endeavor to capacitate Local Geographic Names Committee (LGNC) through local municipalities to ensure registration of many of the geographic feature to the South

African Geographic Names System, this will be done in cooperation with Provincial Geographic Names Committee (PGNCs)

During my 100-day programme I have also visited the Gert Sibande cenotaph, a monument depicting the names of Heroes and heroines of the liberation struggle. The Department will support both the Local and District municipality to relocate this history to a site identified.

Madam speaker the South African liberation struggle stands out as one of the most significant events of the 20th Century. The National Liberation Heritage Route (NHLR) is a complex combination of constitutive sites in different parts of the country representing significant historic moments that characterized the different phases of the liberation struggle.

As part of this national program, the Department conducted and completed two feasibility studies. The Lowveld Massacre and the Saul Mkhize Legacy Sites respectively are planned for development with the intention to celebrate and commemorate the contributions of the Heroes and Heroines of the liberation struggle in a befitting manner. In the 2024/25 financial year the Department will continue to collaborate with National Heritage Council in the implementation of the project.

PROGRAMME 3: LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

The Department is creating empowering social environment so that the youth, women and people with disabilities from diverse backgrounds can access world-class learning facilities and technology.

In the 2024/25 financial year, the construction of three(3) state of the art facilities is planned to be completed. These include Kwamhlanga public library at Thembisile Hani Municipality that has reached practical completion stage and is expected to be handed over during the month of August 2024.

Madam Speaker, the other two libraries under construction, one in Newtown at the Steve Tshwete Local Municipality and the other one in Ethandukukhanya at Mkhondo Local Municipality are at the final stage and will be accelerated for completion by the end of second quarter of 2024/25 financial year. These facilities seek to provide communities and school children access to information and resources, supporting literacy and education, as well as promoting lifelong learning.

In each financial year, the Department has the financial capacity to provide maintenance to only six (6) public libraries. In 2023/24 financial year the following libraries maintenance were completed; Silindile, Grootvlei, Phola, Funda, Msogwaba and Hluvukani. In the 2024/25 financial year, public library maintenance will be continued in the following areas; Embalenhle, Mkhondo, Botleng, Rietkuil, White river and Leroro. In addition, the library upgrade of Simile public library is planned for completion in the current financial year. The total budget for infrastructure projects for 2024/25 financial year is **R36 million**.

In the 2023/24 financial year the Department, in its endeavour to increase access in underserved locations such as remote rural areas and farming settlements, handed over two Mobile Library Buses to the Nkangala District to be used for this purpose.

Madam Speaker, in the 2024/25 financial year four(4) mobile library buses will be completed and delivered to Gert Sibande and Ehlanzeni regions respectively. Already two of the four Mobile Library buses are complete and will be handed over within the second quarter of 2024/25 financial year.

Madam Speaker, the Department will continue with the construction of new libraries that are planned for completion in the 2025/26 financial year. These includes public libraries in Mmamethlake under Dr JS Moroka Municipality, Louieville under Nkomazi Municipality and Warburton under Msukaligwa Municipality.

Madam Speaker, the support to one hundred and twenty (120) existing public libraries with resources such as, free internet and Wi-Fi, photocopier services, books including electronic books to increase access to information will continue.

The Department will increase electronic library material to public libraries from **5745** to **6745** to empower learners and communities with knowledge.

The Department is currently servicing (120) public libraries. In order for the libraries to remain relevant to the changing times, it would be prudent for the Department to invest more on ICT as it has already started.

The implementation of the Mpumalanga Library Management System in phases is at final stage as it intends to enable libraries to do cataloguing, classification, book circulation, inter-library loans, registration, management of administrators and patrons as well as retrieving reports. Libraries have started with the online circulation of books. The system currently hosts more than 13,800 patrons.

Madam Speaker the province will be hosting Oral History conference on the 11 - 13 Sep 2024 at eManzana, Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality. The event seeks to assist communities in retrieving neglected indigenous and community knowledge as a way of promoting social, economic and cultural development. The event target historians, researchers, students and learners, youth, adults and general public.

PROGRAMME 4: SPORT AND RECREATION

Madam Speaker, the purpose of sport and recreation programme is to promote, develop and enhance the sporting and recreation capabilities of the people of Mpumalanga.

South Africa was given an opportunity to host the 2023 Netball World Cup in the Western Cape from the 28 July to 06 August 2023. The key provincial focus was the road map on the trophy tour throughout the province leading to the success of the 2023 Netball World Cup.

The province will continue to benefit from the legacy brought by the 2023 Netball World Cup through the utilisation of double combo courts that were built and completed. These include KwaMhlanga, eManzana and Jeppes Reef double combo courts. The two remaining legacy projects eManzana and Jeppes Reef will be handed over during the women's month programme as part of investment to the girl child. These facilities seek to encourage people of all races in the province to promote and participate in community sport.

Madam Speaker on the 16th of July 2024 we launched the two sport tournaments; Mpumalanga Cycling Tour and Mpumalanga Sport Awards. The Mpumalanga Cycling Tour that is hosted in partnership with Mpumalanga Cycling Federation will begin tomorrow the 09 to 12 August 2024 at the Panorama route. This event seeks to showcase cycling potential in Mpumalanga and South Africa while enhancing sport tourism. The tour target professional cyclist and upcoming cyclists.

The second event which is the Mpumalanga Sport Awards will be hosted on the 14th of September 2024 in the City of Mbombela, at Communio church in partnership with Super Sport, DSTV channel. This event intend to reward athletes who performed exceptionally well in sport and recreation. Lastly it is envisaged that it will stimulate sport and recreation performance among athletes and teams. The awards target athletes, coaches, administrators and technical officials.

The province welcomed the host of the International Premier Cup in its shores that played between the 21st July 2024 and the 27th July 2024 at Mbombela stadium. The tournament aimed to address the elements of social cohesion, increase on local economic development and sport tourism as it involves three African teams TS Galaxy (Mpumalanga), Mbabane Swallows (Kingdom of eSwatini), Yanga Sporting Club (Tanzania) and one international team from Germany (FC Augsburg).

Madam speaker in the 2023/24 financial year an international boxing tournament was hosted at the Banquet Hall, Steve Tshwete Local Municipality that was also broadcasted by SABC sport.

In the 2024/25 financial year, as part of the continued programme to support the hosting of High-profile games in the province, the Department will support the host of international rugby match between South Africa and Argentina on the 28th of September 2024 at Mbombela stadium. The match tickets are sold-out as we strive to improve audience development, particularly to school children, promote sport tourism and social Integration while it also enhances Local Economic Development.

As part of development of sport, addressing the elements of sport tourism, the province will support the coordination of Mkhondo Horse Racing scheduled for the 07th of September 2024 at Mkhondo Local Municipality. The race seeks to promote rural horse racing sport through Imizamo Yabagibeli Horse Riders and it targets youth, tourists, horse owners and Traditional Leaders.

In 2024/25 financial year we planned to increase the number of schools, hubs and clubs provided with equipment and/or attire from 177 in the previous year to 315 in the current year. This programme seeks to empower athletes to excel in sport.

Madam Speaker we welcome the National Department of Sport, Arts and Culture in partnership with Department of Basic Education initiative to reconfigure school sport programme in favour of introduction of leagues system at the school level. In Mpumalanga the programme targets eight thousand (8 000) learners who will be given opportunities at regional district tournaments and participation to national tournaments.

Madam Speaker the Department continue to support the annual coordination of Kaapsehoop three-in-one and Nashua Loskop marathons. The Nashua Loskop marathon is the fourth biggest in the country and attracts best athletes from neighboring countries such as The Kingdom of eSwatini, Lesotho, Mozambique and Zimbabwe with more than 20 clubs participated in the race

The province pride itself with athletes from the province who are part of team South Africa at the Paris 2024 Olympics who are Josh Bruyns, Mel Janse van Rensburg, Benjamin Richardson and Ashley Erasmus. On the category of paralympic 2024 in Paris as well we have athlete from Nkomazi LM, Collen Mahlalela representing the province.

Implementation of multi-year High Altitude Training Center bulk services: stage 2 (portable water & waste treatment), in 2024/25 financial year. This year the construction of 7Mega litre reservoir is planned to be completed in order to move to other stages of the project.

In 2023/24 financial year, the Department participated in the National Indigenous Games that were held in Durban with a provincial team of 200 participants who obtained position 4.

Madam Speaker, the recreation and mass participation programme will continue to be rolled out in 2024 with activities such as indigenous games, big walk and recreation day. The programmes seek to give all South Africans and opportunity to participate in recreational activities to improve their health and wellbeing.

Madam Speaker the Department will continue to implement all the cultural, information services and sport in partnership with all relevant stakeholders.

Appreciation

As I conclude Madam Speaker, let me extend words of appreciation to Honourable Premier Mandla Ndlovu for entrusting me to lead the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation which has an important mandate of social cohesion and uniting the people of the province.

Let me also thank the Portfolio Committee on Culture, Sport and Recreation under the stewardship of Honourable Bosman Grobler for their support and oversight.

My appreciation also goes to the Head of Culture, Sport and Recreation, Mr Godfrey Ntombela as well as Management and the entire staff for the continued support. Lastly, I want to thank my family for their continued support.

Budget

Honourable speaker, allow me to table the Budget for (Vote 11) for the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation allocated according to the four (4) programmes for consideration by the house:

PROGRAMME	AMOUNT
Programme 1: Administration	R101 391 million
Programme 2: Cultural Affairs	R113 831 million
Programme 3: Library and Archives	R233 138 million
Programme 4: Sports and Recreation	R204 136 million
Total	R652 496 million

I thank you!

Ngiyabonga!

Baie Dankie!

Rea leboha!

Siyathokoza!

Hi nkhensile!

Ndolivhuuaa!

Enkosi!

Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation
Ikhamanga Building No. 5 Government Boulevard
2nd Floor Building Riverside Park | Mbombela
Tel: +27 13 766 5242 Fax: +27 766 8253 / 5591
Web: [https:// dcsr.gov.za](https://dcsr.gov.za)

