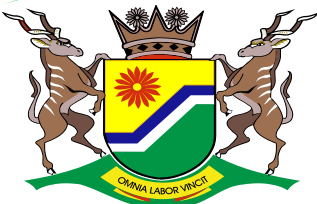


Policy & Budget Speech

2011/12

Sitfutfukisa Emakhaya



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Department:
Agriculture, Rural Development
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MPUMALANGA PROVINCE





BUDGET VOTE ADDRESS PRESENTED BY MEC FOR AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LAND ADMINISTRATION, MRS KC MASHEGO-DLAMINI (MPL)

Honourable Speaker
Honourable Premier, Mr DD Mabuza
Madam Deputy Speaker
Fellow Honourable Members of the Executive Council
Honourable Members of the Legislature
Abaholi bomdabu, amakhosi endabuko
Abalimi nosomabhizinisi
Organised farming
Ladies and Gentlemen,

There is an old African saying that holds that *“this earth was not given to us by our parents, but instead, it is borrowed to us by our grandchildren”*. It is therefore significant that I table this budget vote address in Youth Month; a few days before the national Youth celebrations.

Even more significant, is the fact that approximately 1 billion young people live in the developing countries of Africa, South Asia, Brazil as well as India and half of those young people work in the agriculture sector. And while the *Millennium Development Goal 1*, seeks to halve hunger by 2015, hunger and malnutrition rates in the world, continue to grow. This comes as a result of lower household incomes coupled with higher food prices.

Children and young girls are the most affected in South Africa, while young people in general are further compromised by the challenges of being the most affected by HIV/ AIDS, violence, crime, substance abuse and the unequal access to resources and power, especially in our rural areas.

Honourable Speaker, as the Province prepares for the youth celebrations at Verena in the Nkangala District Municipality, we note that our population is dominated by young people whereby up to age of 34 years old make up 71.9%. Let us therefore remember that because of their numbers and potential impact, young people and the rural youth in particular, must be a major part of any solution in creating vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities.



**Honourable
KC Mashego - Dlamini
(MPL)**

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SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Honourable Speaker, during the financial year 2010/ 2011, the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Administration (DARDLA) operated in a macro environment whereby Statistics South Africa reported the mid-year estimates of 2010 to include the provincial population to be estimated at 3.6 million people representing 7.2% of South Africa's population. This makes Mpumalanga the sixth largest among the provinces. Females constitute 51.2% of the provincial population and males 48.8%. About 1.79 Million or 47.8% of all our citizens live in poverty – this is almost half of all the people in the Province.

Mpumalanga Province also continues to face several challenges including:

- Rural areas that continue to be marginalised economically and are highly dependent on social grants;
- The highest unemployment rate in the country; shedding 34,000 jobs out of the 118,000 jobs that were shed by the South African labour market in 2010.
- Almost 49% of households earn less than R3500 per month. Pensions and grants are important sources of income contributing 22.1% of total household income. Social grant beneficiaries increased from 703 400 in March 2005 to 1.04 million people in March 2010 which indicates a high dependency on government with fiscal/budget implications. Up to 72.4% of social assistance grants in 2010 were child support grants.

During the financial year 2010/11, tourism contributed 3%, while agriculture contributed 3.4% to the provincial economy and primary industries contributed 21% to the Gross Value Addition (GVA). This indicates the large contribution of agriculture to both the provincial and national economies. Although the employment in the agriculture sector is declining, the sector remains the main player in job creation in the rural context of the province.

Despite the above mentioned challenges, the Department ensured improved service delivery, because it was once again afforded the privilege to "To improve the quality of life of all citizens and free the potential of each person, as well as to "Build a united and democratic South Africa."

SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Honourable Speaker, in remembering that old African saying that holds that *“this earth was not given to us by our parents, but instead, it is borrowed to us by our grandchildren”*, the Department focuses on the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources like water and the soil, for future generations. Soil erosion and degradation is widespread in areas that are densely populated, but our water and land resources are further compromised by invasive alien plants, bush encroachment and deforestation. The irrigation and livestock water demands in the province, also far exceed the quantities of water that are available for irrigation, limiting agricultural development. Most of the agricultural water storage dams in the Province are however either silted or damaged by floods and this presents serious challenges to subsistence and less resourced farmers.

Honourable Speaker, in the 2010/ 2011 financial year, the department delivered the following projects:

- Dam wall repairs at Shearer in Bushbuckridge and the rebuilding of an earth dam for livestock watering in Mgebodzi at Nkomazi were completed;
- An earth dam for livestock watering in Hluvukani at Bushbuckridge was also built

In response to the limitations posed by the scarcity of the water resources, for the 2011/12 financial year, the department has initiated small irrigation schemes for food gardens as well as a comprehensive water resource development in terms of boreholes, rain-water harvesting and recycling of domestic water.

Honourable Speaker, the **Land Care programme** continues to create awareness and build in relation to financial matters, social issues and cultural aspects on the management of land. The Land Care programme in the Province is also linked to the Expanded Public Works Program and in the 2010/ 2011 financial year, 392 jobs were created for the control of invader plants and bush encroachment.

In 2011/ 2012, 1500 job opportunities will be created targeting 600ha of invader/bush encroachment control.

The involvement of young people in the sustainable use of natural resource is given prominence through the introduction of the **Junior Land Care**. A total number of 18 Schools, representing all the districts of the province will implement Land Care projects this year. The Junior Land Care program supports participating schools in the construction of soil stabilisation structures, water harvesting, small irrigation systems and the fencing of school gardens.

A total budget of **R44, 531 million** is set aside for conservation of natural resources, engineering and land care.

Comprehensive Rural Development Programme

Honourable Speaker, our policy environment prioritised rural development, as one of the five (5) priorities of government, while the Outcomes Based Approach to governance moved the Department from a welfare model of governance to a productive model of governance. Outcome 7 of the Outcome based approach of governance, seeks to create vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities.

This afforded us an opportunity to deal with our backlog in a more coordinated and integrated approach and led to the signing of the Service Delivery Agreement with my colleagues in the Executive Council and Mayors which serves as a collaborated effort in implementing the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme.

Although, we faced many challenges in moving with speed in the roll out of CRDP in the province during the year under review, the Department managed to carry out an in-depth analysis of the socio-economic analysis of the seven municipalities namely Mkhondo, Pixley Isaka Seme, Chief Albert Luthuli, Nkomazi, Bushbuckridge, Thembisile Hani and Dr JS Moroka. Through the War on Poverty Programme more than 50% of households in the 30 CRDP wards were profiled. As mentioned in the State of the Province Address, Mpumalanga mastered the strategies that will make CRDP a reality to our rural people and contribute to job creation and the economy at large.

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Honourable Speaker, I would like to emphasise that Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) is not about social grants or hand outs. Instead, CRDP heeds the call of our President, Mr JG Zuma, when he declared **2011, the Year for Job Creation**. CRDP is about capacitating our people to create their own opportunities, businesses and employment. It should also be remembered that central to CRDP is optimising economic development within agriculture and other sectors of our economy. We therefore roll out CRDP, as we continue the struggle for restoring land, human settlements and dignity.

During the 2011/ 2012 financial year, the Department will lead and coordinate CRDP and thereby:

- Deliver 5,960 houses for deserving households;
- Cultivate 100,000 hectares for agricultural production, targeting both communal land and I and reform properties through the Masibuyele Emasimini Programme;
- Develop Community Health Care Centres which provide a 24-hr primary health care facilities;
- Establish more Early Childhood Development Centres;
- Establish bakeries;



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- Establish and support brick making factories;
- Drill boreholes for both food gardens and immediate domestic water relief;
- Improve livestock production in the Province through the Nguni Bull Programme and the Bull and Heifer Programme;
- Continue building the integrated schooling facilities in an attempt to relief the burdens faced by children of farm dwellers;
- Ensure safety in these rural communities.

Honourable Speaker, the Department was once again afforded the opportunity of being the initiator, facilitator, coordinator and catalyst for the implementation of Comprehensive Rural Development Programme. I am reminded by John C. Maxwell (2003) in his book called *Daily Inspiration for Leaders; 365 Daily Devotions*, when he quoted a Chinese proverb that holds that “*behind an able man, there are always other able men.*” The truth is that teamwork is at the heart of great achievement. One is too small a number, to achieve greatness - one cannot do greatness alone. Following the vigorous planning exercise and guidance from the Provincial Executive Council, all provincial government departments contributed a total of **R1.4 billion** towards the CRDP initiatives in the 30 wards of the seven municipalities.

Honourable Speaker, job creation remains the pillar for the CRDP whereby the infrastructure development and other social programmes will see the creation of **15,000** jobs of which at least **5,000** jobs will be permanent. The Mpumalanga Regional Training Trust will be central in developing the necessary skills that will support the roll out of the CRDP, considering the low levels of education and high failure rate of past matric examination results. A co-operative development programme to ensure the full participation of the local people is linked to CRDP.

Social mobilisation is key to the new approach of governance, whereby we moved from a welfare model of governance to a productive model of governance. In this regard, the Council of Stakeholders are the decision- making community bodies that ensure that communities are driving their own empowerment.

Masibuyel' Emasimini

Honourable Speaker, the Department promised during its previous budget vote address, to support crop producers in ploughing and cultivating 86 000 hectares of provincial land. Today, I am happy to announce that as part of addressing food security and job creation in the province, the Department has through the Masibuyel' Emasimini (ME) programme managed to put into production a total of **81 079** hectares. Heavy rain as well as flooding during the period November 2010 to January 2011 in some parts of the Province, prevented the Department from exceeding its target but a massive 94% of the target was achieved. At



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least **13,000** hectares of the ploughed and cultivated land belong to land reform properties whilst the rest is communal land. More than **54,000** households benefitted while a total of **483** job opportunities were maintained for the fleet management. The Department would not have been able to achieve those successes without the support that was afforded to the Masibuyel' Emasimini project.

Through the ME programme, the department is able to provide mechanization, infrastructure development, production inputs and advisory services to subsistence farmers. Both land reform projects and emerging farmers are supported through mechanisation, infrastructure development and advisory services. We rely on our partners in the sector including commercial farmers, financial institutions and others to partner with emerging farmers in order to maximize the potential of the sub-sector in the province.

With the support from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), and the Honourable President Mr. Jacob Zuma. The Presidency and the national Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) saw it fit to join the Province in expanding the Masibuyel' Emasimini programme and as a result the Province received an additional 85 tractors and implements which were handed over by the President in June 2010.

The Masibuyele Emasimini will continue to be a driver for rural development taking into cognisance our vast natural resources. In ensuring that all communities receive the required support in terms of mechanisation and production, the Province has allocated a budget of **R170 million** towards this programme. **R42 million** of this budget will be used by the capitalisation programme whereby we have earmarked a fleet of at least 300 tractors and more than 1000 implements. This will ensure the provision of at least **500** job opportunities for diesel mechanics, tractor operators, security guards and fleet managers.

Livestock Development

Honourable Speaker, I listened to our livestock farmers during public meetings as they complained that the Masibuyel' Emasimi Programme was excluding them. *Ngivile nabakhala njalo njalo babuta kutsi bona babuyela nini etibayeni ngobe bozakwabo sebuyele emasimini?* I am more than delighted that within a short space of time, the Department, livestock farmers, the Independent Development Corporation (IDC) and the University of Limpopo managed to initiate the Nguni Cattle Development Programme.

During this financial year, the Department set aside **R5.5 million** while IDC has contributed a grant of **R2.5 million** towards the re-introduction of these indigenous breeds of cattle. Qualifying beneficiaries will be loaned 25 heifers and 1 bull as a nucleus for production and will pass a new stock to other beneficiaries after a period of five years. *Ngalendlela sibuyele emgomeni weMaSwati wekusisa.*

The Department is also investing in the promotion of commercial breeds of cattle through our research facilities. Livestock improvement is enhanced through the provision of improved bulls and heifers using the same principles as with the Nguni project. The Department has therefore committed **R10 million** towards this programme.

Infrastructure Development

Honourable Speaker, through the Comprehensive Agriculture Support Programme and the Infrastructure Grant, the department continued to address the infrastructure challenges on land reform farms. Much progress has been made in the sugarcane growing areas and the conditional grants enabled the revitalisation of Magudu, Sibange and Spoons 8 projects in the Nkomazi areas.

In partnership with the Department of Water Affairs, the Department started upgrading the Mfumfane water mainline in order to improve the irrigation efficiencies for cost-effective sugar cane growing. The Mfumfane mainline targets subsistence and emerging farmers and as a result, more than 2,000 hectares of sugarcane growing areas will be improved in terms of saving water, as well as ensuring profitable agri-enterprises.

Phase 1 of the Champagne irrigation infrastructure was also completed and this will ensure an additional 200 hectares of citrus cultivation.

Honourable Speaker, the Department will continue to revitalise irrigation schemes and other farm infrastructure in Hoxane, Champagne and Saringwa in order to complete the in-field irrigation systems. The Department will also support the collapsed citrus and banana plantations. While our people are being blamed for the failure of these projects, we should not lose sight on the detrimental effect from the so called strategic partner South African Farming Management (SAFM) and those who were involved. Commitment from the community will ensure that the 3000 hectares is put back into production and ensure the jobs that have been shed in the past. **R25 million** has been budgeted for the revitalization of these irrigation schemes under the citrus and banana production. More funding is expected from the private investors.

The Department is also budgeting **R10 million** for the kick-start of the reviving of the Ngogolo, Mbhunu B, Nhlangu East and West sugarcane projects in order to sustain the subsistence and emerging farmers in the sugar industry. The Department will continue working with the sugar industry partners.

Value Chain Development

Honourable Speaker, a large part of the fresh produce market share is grown by Mpumalanga farmers but



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currently the value addition and processing of fresh produce is carried out in other provinces and in other parts of the world; while our farmers remain as farm gate price takers. In order to integrate our farmers throughout the value chain and taking advantage of the developed infrastructure around the Maputo Corridor, the proximity to Mozambique, Swaziland and other SADC countries; the Province is embarking on a feasibility study for a fresh produce market. We will tap from both local and international experiences, in particular from the leading fresh produce markets in France and Spain. The participation of the commercial sector is key for the success of this project.

Farm Workers

Honourable Speaker, it is true that agriculture is one of the leading providers of employment for people in the Province. At the same time we know that agriculture rarely provides a living wage and that the sector is typified by low levels of productivity, dangerous work and a lack of social protection. The Department therefore heeded the call of the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Me. Tina Joemat-Petterson in discussing the rights, challenges and opportunities of vulnerable workers in the sector. The Farm Workers' Summit was organised over two (2) days in July 2010 and farm workers, farmers, organised farming, organised labour, civil society organisations, political formations and various MEC's came out in support of farm workers.

Policy directives on rural development and agrarian reform, in promoting sound working relations were discussed. The Provincial Summit concluded with the establishment of the Mpumalanga Agri- Sector Forum. This provincial structure will oversee the implementation of the resolutions of the Farm Worker Summit, including the continuous monitoring of legislation.

Youth in Agriculture and Rural Development

Honourable Speaker, as we focus our attention to the young people during Youth Month, I want to say that I know that access to land is a barrier for entering into the agri- sector. I also know that in addition, young people face the challenges of lack of access to finance, lack of skills development and lack of business support in general.

I am proud to announce today that a few of the young farming entrepreneurs are present here today and I would like to single out Mr. Makhosini Dlamini. Mr Dlamini hails from Badplaas and is leasing 30 hectares of land that is currently under cultivation for potato production. Mr Dlamini is providing potatoes to Simba Chips for a variety of snack products. Mr. Johannes Matjila from Marapyane is also present here today. Mr. Matjila does poultry production and well as field crops such as maize and sunflowers on 50 hectares of communal land. The future is bright for young people in agriculture and I encourage all youth to look at Mr Dlamini and Mr. Matjila as role models. They are examples of what young people can achieve in the agricultural industry.



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During the 2011/ 2012 financial year, I am re- committing the Department to the cause of addressing the challenges of young people in the sector. I am pleased to announce that the Youth in Agriculture and Rural Development (YARD) Committees are working closely with various industry partners, including the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), in connecting young community leaders to entrepreneurship. This evening we will be launching the provincial YARD structure constituted by elected young leader representatives from the four districts that will work with the Department in advocating and developing policies for equal participation and representation of young people in the industry.

VETERINARY SERVICES

Honourable Speaker, the Department promote human and animal health through the delivery of comprehensive veterinary services. Services include vaccinating animals against diseases, while permits are issued for the movement of animals, both locally, nationally as well as for export purposes. Export establishments for dairy and game reserves are also registered with the Department Veterinary Services. Today, I wish to share with this House that through this programme a total of 202 000 animals were vaccinated against Anthrax, 70 000 against Rabies and 168 000 animals vaccinated against foot and mouth diseases which could severely affect the provincial economy if there is an outbreak.

From the recent notified foot and mouth disease outbreak along the border of Kwa-Zulu Natal and Mpumalanga, the Department was able to contain the outbreak from spreading into our Province. The Department also controlled the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak in the Nsikazi area. In order to preserve human safety, the Department continues to inspect abattoirs with 582 abattoir inspections conducted, 43 animal by-product facilities inspected, and 10 export establishments registered.

Following the introduction of the National Abattoir Rating Scheme, we are proud to confirm that the majority of abattoirs in the Province were rated within either the Silver and Bronze categories of hygiene and safety standards.

In the 2011/ 2012 financial year, this programme will continue promoting animal health, welfare and production and thereby promoting the health and welfare of both humans and animals through veterinary public health programmes. A total of **R92, 287 million** is allocated for animal disease control, agricultural infrastructure development, and veterinary laboratory services.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STRUCTURED TRAINING SERVICES

Honourable Speaker, with less natural resources and a growing population, It is important that the agricultural sector continuously look at new and innovative ways of using less natural resources, conserve natural resources for future generations and still ensure food security for every citizen. Today, we take pride that research in Mpumalanga Province produced improved, locally adapted crop varieties and better techniques for the growing of crops such as groundnuts, cowpeas, and cassava; as well as animals that are more productive and adaptable to most of our local conditions.

Honourable Speaker, in his State of the Province Address on the 25th February of this year, Premier Mr DD Mabuza expressed his concern at the fact that we are not fully exploiting the existing opportunities in crop and animal production. In responding to the Growth Plan of creating 720 000 jobs by 2020, we will continue investing in agricultural research, which will be properly planned, and informed by the needs of our people. It is through this research that we will:

- Improve farming techniques of farmers, especially emerging farmers;
- Improve cultivars and
- Increase productivity and skills development, including increased value addition and agro-processing.

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Honourable Speaker, the department has integrated the research and structured agricultural training to ensure the concentration of the academics for quality research and training. Through this integration, we will ensure that all research taking place at our research farms and training centres finds its way to the rural farms, where innovation is needed the most. College students will also get the opportunity to do experiential training and get exposed to new technologies through our research work.

A total of **R34, 7 million** is set aside for research activities, focussing on animal crop production and development research.

As part of the integration, the plans for the opening of the Marapyane College of Agriculture in January 2012 are moving speedily. As directed by the Honourable President Jacob Zuma, when he announced that the Marapyane College should be refurbished and re-commissioned; the renovation of the college has already been started. More than 200 young people are currently participating in the renovations as part of the roll out of the skills development programme. A budget of **R27 million** is set aside for the renovations as well as the skills development of young people at the Marapyane College.



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A total of **R43, 4 million** is allocated to providing structured agricultural training at the Higher Education and Training and Further Education and Training levels. Key services that will be provided include certificates and diploma courses on farm training and skills transfers as well as accredited further education and training courses. The programme will expand its academic offering to include Animal Husbandry and Forestry, as well as the B. Agric programme at NQF level 7 by 2012. The expansion will necessitate the establishment of additional infrastructure such as well equipped training centres, laboratories, accommodation facilities, administration blocks as well as employment of qualified personnel.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Honourable Speaker, during this Youth Month, we are reminded that young people need education and training in order to prepare them for becoming the farmers and community leaders of the future. Even more importantly, they must receive maximum support and access to resources if they are to become active partners in food security. To this end, it is noteworthy to mention that the Department awarded 222 bursaries during the 2010/ 2011 financial year. Majority (180) of the bursary holders were from the Province who are not attached to the Department while the rest were our extension officers.

Today, we are proud to announce that a total of 109 students have graduated from the Lowveld College of Agriculture in the 2010 academic year. These include 68 higher certificates and 40 diplomas in agriculture. The Department also developed a comprehensive learnership programme for the 3rd year students at the Lowveld College of Agriculture. In collaboration with the industry partners **83** students were placed at various farms in Mpumalanga and Limpopo Provinces whereby they are doing in-service training; while **15** students were placed with the Perishable Product Export Control Board (PPECB) and are participating in the Agri- Export Technologist Programme (AETP). The Agri- Export Technologist Programme awards a National Certificate in Perishable Produce Export Technology which is a scarce skill in the export market. In this way, the Department is ensuring the required skills that will be required for a sustainable fresh produce market.

We are further pleased to announce that through the Extension Recovery Programme, the Department continued to advance the skills levels of extension and advisory staff in ensuring that they become relevant and resourceful for today's farming businesses.



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LAND ADMINISTRATION

Due to competing land uses and the scarcity of land, the pressure to use agricultural land for other land uses are increasing, especially from the mining sector as well as human settlement, the Department however has the responsibility to protect high potential agricultural land to ensure food security for future generations. For this the Department would continue to ensure that it plays an active role in the IDP (Integrated Development Plan) and SDF (Spatial Development Framework) of our Municipalities and ensure that food security for future generations are protected. The Department is actively involved to ensure that Municipalities develop a rural chapter within their respective IDP's to ensure that rural areas receive the required development interventions in order to create vibrant rural areas which are conducive for economic development.

Land Reform remains a challenge within the Province and it is important that, especially in municipalities where the CRDP is being rolled out that the issue of land ownership be dealt with in a manner that would not only complement rural development but also enhance the tenure security of the rural poor. This intervention is also aimed at protecting the tenure rights of vulnerable workers of which farm workers and labour tenants remain the most exploited sector of the labour market. We will therefore continuously seek to redress of historical distorted land ownership patterns. The creation of Agri-villages which would offer security of tenure as well as the required supportive land uses and infrastructure are seen as a intervention that would decrease the vulnerability of the rural poor.

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Honourable Speaker, the Constitutional Court of South Africa found that certain sections of the Development Facilitation Act are unconstitutional and it ordered government to rectify this irregularity within a period of two years. As a result, it is evident that the Mpumalanga Provincial Government needs to commence with developing new provincial planning legislation in order to rectify our regulatory and fragmented planning legislation that do not address the developmental needs of the provincial growth path and the priorities of the developmental state. It gives me pleasure to announce to this House that the members of both the Mpumalanga Development Tribunal & Appeal Tribunal and the members of the Mpumalanga Townships Board have been appointed.

The Department intends to continue its support to municipalities for township establishment, in-situ upgrading and tenure upgrading in order to ensure that all residents within Mpumalanga enjoy security of tenure and the joy of a home or land ownership. A total of **R20, 456 million** is allocated for land tenure upgrade purposes, spatial planning and surveying in municipalities



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ADMINISTRATION FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE

During the 2010/ 2011 financial year, the Department was assessed by the Public Service Commission on matters of good governance. The areas of assessment included professional ethics, accountability, transparency, representivity, good human resource management and career development. Efficiency, economy and effectiveness was also assessed, in addition to impartiality and fairness. Public participation in policy making and the development orientation of the Department administration was also reviewed.

Honourable Speaker, the Department performed well in areas of professional ethics, accountability, efficiency, economy and effectiveness, as well as the developmental orientation of the administration. The Commission found that the public receives regular and timely information from the Department. Our programmes were found to address the five (5) priorities of government and it seeks to reduce poverty and promote development. Expenditure is well defined and it relates to the programmes for which it is budgeted.

Areas of improvement that the Public Service Commission highlighted includes representivity in terms of the race and gender balances within the Department; public participation in policy- making, as well as impartiality and fairness. The Department has since developed plans that address diversity management and meeting representation targets. The development of a policy on public participation in policy making is also underway and the application of the Promotion of Access to Justice Act will ensure impartiality and fairness.

For the 2011/ 2012 financial year, **R128, 057 million** is allocated to the administration, in ensuring that strategic leadership and governance issues are addressed.

CONCLUSION

As I conclude Honourable Speaker, I wish to appeal to this August House to approve the 2011/12 budget of **R969, 111 million** which is allocated in eight programmes as follows:

Programme 1: Administration = R128, 057 million

Programme 2: Sustainable Resource Management = R44, 531 million

Programme 3: Farmer Support and Development Services = R579, 452 million

Programme 4: Veterinary Services = R92, 287 million

Programme 5: Technology, Research and Development = R34, 712 million

Programme 6: Agriculture Economics = R9, 233 million

Programme 7: Structured Agriculture Training = R60, 383 million

Programme 8: Land Administration = R20, 456 million

The budget will enable us to drive the programmes that constitute the work of the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Administration.

Let me take this opportunity to thank Members of the Legislature, the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and Land Administration for oversight and continuous guidance. I also thank the Premier and the Executive Council for their leadership and support. My appreciation goes out to the Head of Department and all the personnel of the Department for hard work, dedication and commitment, because Together We Can Do More on ensuring a united and prosperous agricultural sector. A special word of gratitude is extended to my family for their love and understanding.

My appreciation is extended to all the stakeholders that continue to support us in our endeavours to realise our mandate. Without the patronage of farmers, farm workers, farm dwellers, organised farming and labour representatives; there is no food security and sustainable livelihoods.

I THANK YOU

Notes



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