

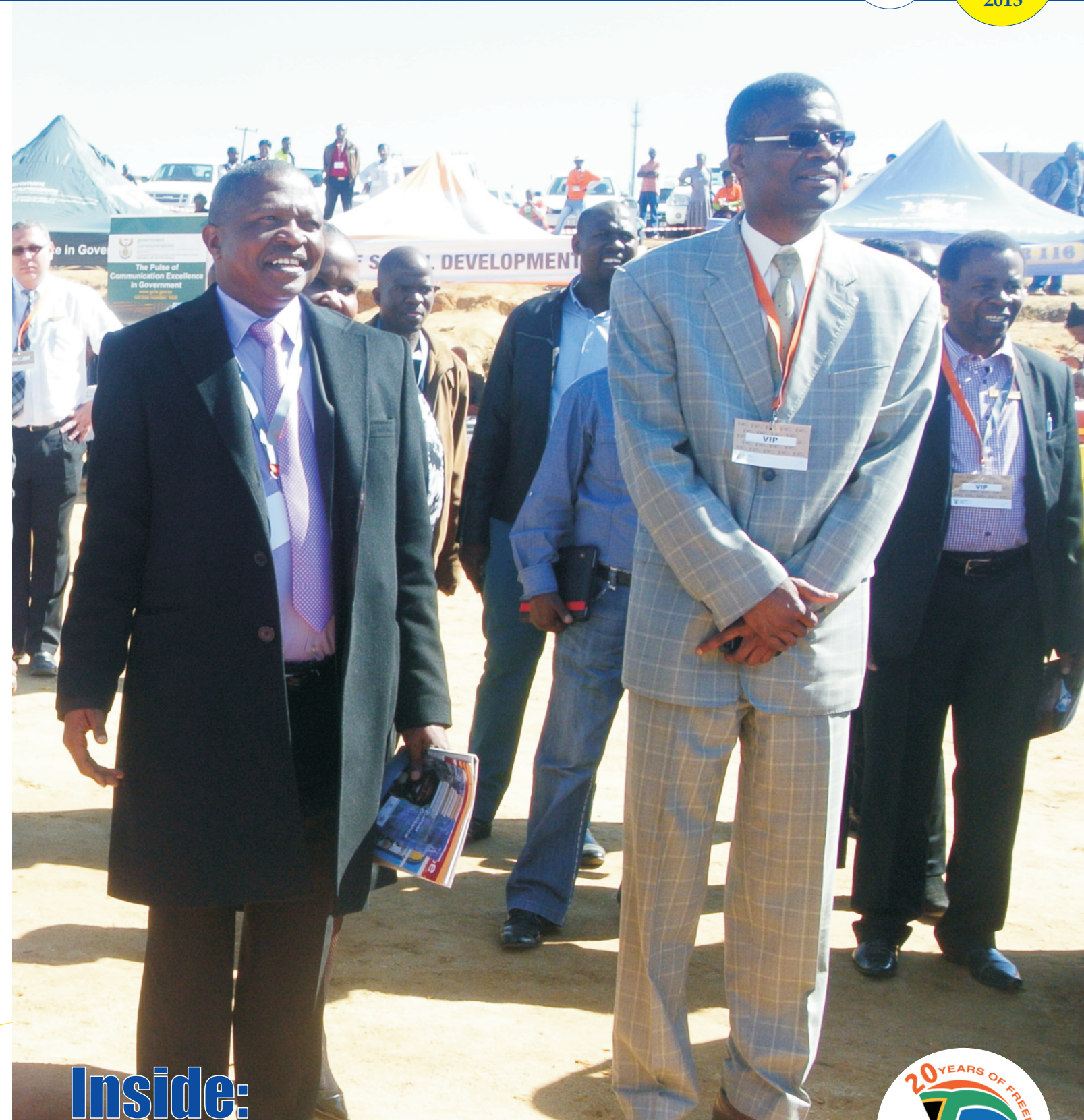
2013



**MEC Madala Masuku will table the
Adjustment Appropriation Bi11, 2012**

November 2013

**Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature
Building No1, Government Boulevard
Riverside Park Ext 2**



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Mr Madala Masuku

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internet kiosk closes digital divide

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affordable lending and responsible borrowing



Ingcebo is about rich content and effect of financial advices to the readers

Message from HOD

The Department of Finance is progressively moving towards the ideal position of excellence.

Everyday, we push the limits in pursuance of the objective of getting the province deliver programmes that are supported by financially sound policy framework.

This past quarter was particularly significant for the department.

As the custodian of financial management policy and promoters of financial accountability, we place great value on constant and consistent compliance with legislative requirements for clean and accountable delivery in our Province.

All departments and public entities submitted their annual financial statements to the office of the Auditor General on time.

We will soon announce the outcomes of the audit of departments when we table consolidated financial statements of the Province.

The month of July is very special for the whole world. It has rightly been termed Nelson Mandela Month in Mpumalanga. The department used this Mandela focus month to reach out to communities in the true spirit of Dr Mandela from Msholozhi, Elandshoek to Elukwatini.

Read about these and other stories that reflect on the work of the department in the second quarter in this edition.

Bid Advisory Centre within reach of communities

Bid documents and other related bid/tender information are available from the following:

Supply Chain Management Offices:

1. NELSPRUIT

Riverside Government Complex Building no 9, Government Boulevard, Nelspruit, 1200

Telephone number:
Mr VS Ngobe (013) 766 6339 or
Ms FMM Mantshintshi (013) 766 8269
Fax number:(013) 766 8455

2. MALELANE

Department of Public Works Malelane Block A
Contact Person: Ms. Margaret Zitha: 082 675 8748
Fax No. : (013) 7800023

3. MORETELE

TLC offices in Mammethlake Satellite Office at the Mammethlake Police Station
Contact Person: Mr. Tsepho Ngwatle ;Telephone number: (012) 721 3955

4. MIDDELBURG

Department of Public Works Cnr. Lillian Ngoyi and Dr Beyers Naudé Streets – Old TPA Building, Upper ground floor, Office numbers A20, 21 and 25

Contact Person: Ms Lorraine Motebu or Mr Donald Ndala
Telephone number: (013) 282 8776
Fax number : (013) 282 8776

5. ELUKWATINI

Elukwatini Sub Regional offices Office numbers A49 and A50 (opposite Elukwatini Community Hall) Stand number 12 Extension A, Elukwatini, 1190.
Contact Person: Ms Sibongile Malopi . Telephone no: 017 883 1396/7

6. PIET RETIEF

Department of Social Services, Population and Development Old TPA Building – 18 Joubert Street (Cnr Kruger and Joubert Street)

Contact Person:Ms Janet Nkosi ;
Telephone number :(017) 826 1671
Fax No: (017) 826 0577

7. KWAMHLANGA

KwaMhlanga Government Complex Department of Finance, Building No. 12, Computer Centre

Contact Person: Ms TA Sibanyoni: 082 460 9565 , Ms Sophie Masanabo: 083 659 9817; Ms. Emily Mnguni: 082 678 6364 or Ms Lucky Choba: 082 322 3443
Fax Number: (013) 947 2250

8. EVANDER

10 Cornell Road (previously occupied by Evander Home Affairs Offices), Evander, 2280
Contact Person:Mr Andries Mahlangu or Ms Mendy Kabini;
Telephone Number: (017) 632 1607 or 1540 or 1549
Fax Number: (017) 632 1395

9. BUSHBUCKRIDGE

Bushbuckridge Advice Centre Department of Finance, Protea building (old Telkom building)
Contact Person: Mr July Mashabane: 072 109 7629 or Mr Cecil Tshabangu: 082 573 2570
Fax: (013) 799 0535

Please note that bid documents can be collected at any of the above-mentioned satellite offices,

but bid/tender documents can ONLY BE SUBMITTED at the following Supply Chain Offices:

**Nelspruit,
Bushbuckridge,
KwaMhlanga,
Evander,
Piet Retief, and
Middelburg**

Editorial Team

Editor : Letshela Jonas
Sub - Editor : Kulani Mavunda

Photography : Kanego Lewele
Dennis Nkosi

Contributors : Kanego Lewele
Paul mnisi
Sinqobile Shabangu

Layout and Design : Dennis Nkosi
Thuli Khumalo

Send your letters and comments to:

The Editor, **Ingcebo**
Building No 4, Upper Ground Floor
Communication Directorate
E-mail: info@mpg.gov.za

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Disclaimer:

Opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the Mpumalanga Provincial Government, the MEC or Management of the Department of Finance.

Government promotes affordable lending and responsible borrowing

The Government has signed an agreement with the representatives of major retail banks, the Banking Association of South Africa (BASA) to improve responsible lending and prevent households from being caught in debt spiral.

The agreement includes several measures, including the review of loan affordability assessment, appropriate relief measures for distressed borrowers, reviewing the use of debit order and limiting the use of garnishee orders.

What is responsible lending and borrowing?

One definition of “irresponsible borrowing” could be “knowingly over indebting oneself” so affordability of borrowing is important as well as consumers not taking huge risk.

- ❖ Excessive lending to households even if such loans are not attractive
- ❖ Illegal collection practices such as keeping ID documents, bank cards and PINs
- ❖ Selling in appropriate credit products to maximise margins
- ❖ Extending unaffordable loans to pensioners and social grant recipients
- ❖ Abuse of consumer credit and asset insurance, including excessive fees and charges

The Reserve Bank’s September 2012 *Quarterly Bulletin* shows the ratio of household debt to disposable income remains high at 76.3 percent in the second quarter of 2012.

Concerning indeed!

According to the *Bulletin*, the percentage of retail borrowers in good standing, meaning those that have no accounts in more than 1 or 2 months in arrears, is at its lowest since records began in June 2007. It fell to 53 percent according to the June 2012 Credit Bureau Monitor from 63.6 percent in June 2007. The number of accounts in good standing is 74.5 percent.

Source: moneymanagementtips.com

Message from the MEC



MEC for Finance Madala Masuku

Recognising confidence of our people through responsible public finance support and guidance

“
Let’s join hands
for a better future
for all”

The Provincial Government is determined to ensure continuous improvement in the way budgets are allocated, spent and accounted

The commitment to ensure fiscal prudence and financial accountability is key to the delivery of a better future that we wish for all the people of Mpumalanga.

During the past two month (August – September 2013) we demonstrated our resolve to deal decisively with issues affecting the administration.

Improving financial management

The Premier, Mr DD Mabuza led the campaign to stream roll the financial management improvement plans at the local government sphere.

Working together with the Members of Mayoral Committees who are responsible for Municipal Finances, we took the baton to become actively involved in effective implementation of the improvement plan.

Growth in spending trend

The financial performance report of Provincial Government for quarter of 2013 threw some valuable lessons to the administration.

Although spending levels were low, the most encouraging statement is that percentage and rand spending were better compared to the same period in the last financial year

Jobs milestone

Further the current administration took office during economically troubled times, we are however excited that the Province reached a million jobs milestone in the first quarter of 2013.

Better management in the country

The National Assessment of Management Practices in the public sector conducted by the Presidency, places the Mpumalanga Province as joint top of the rest on issues covering HR, Financial Management etc

At the level of the department, we succeeded in implementing key commitments as pronounced in our policy and budget speech.

- The Executive Council endorsed Provincial Asset Management Framework
- Government reduced the litigation costs, saving funds earmarked for delivery of critical services amongst others

Surely we have something to be proud about, and more is still to come.

As you read this publication, you will also note that the Department of Finance has stepped out to reach to communities. Improving access to internet.

Let’s join hands for a better future for all.

ELUKWATINI CLOSES



Joyous moment: MEC Madala Masuku and Mayor of Chief Albert Luthuli Municipality cut ribbon and formally open the Elukwatini internet kiosk



Mpumalanga's Department of Finance handed complete set of internet-connected computers to the community of Elukwatini, fulfilling a commitment to assist the rural communities to bridge the digital divide.

The official ceremony to hand over 10 computers, all with free internet service was held at the Chief Albert Luthuli Municipality on Friday, 27 September 2013.

MEC for Finance, Mr Madala Masuku said the internet facility "presents an opportunity to expedite growth and development in our communities, especially rural communities who never had a fair chance of accessing online government services".

The Chief Albert Luthuli Municipality has the lowest penetration of information and communication technology amongst local municipalities averaging 20 percent with the highest being Govan Mbeki in the Gert Sibande District.

According to Census 2011, the proportion of households with access to internet increased drastically between 2007 and 2011.

Mpumalanga thrive well in job creation – MEC Madala Masuku

Mpumalanga's job creation number and employment growth of 3.4 per cent in the second quarter of 2013 were the highest and best among the nine provinces, says MEC Madala Masuku in his statement during a media briefing on Wednesday 14 August, 2013.

The announcement comes amid the global economic outlook that seemed fragile and challenging due to the continuing deeper recession in the Eurozone and a slowdown in a number of systematically important emerging market economies.

MEC Masuku said, "The latest Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) of Statistics South Africa, indicated that Mpumalanga performed well in the labour market on a quarterly and also on an annual basis.



The net job creation (especially in the trade, finance, construction, agriculture & utilities industries) for Mpumalanga was 33 000 jobs (one third of the net job creation nationally) in the second quarter of 2013 and 49 000 jobs (17.9 per cent of the net job creation nationally – especially in the community services, agriculture & manufacturing industries) on an annual basis (between the end of the second quarter of 2012 and 2013)."

Mpumalanga also recorded the third highest job creation figure on an annual basis and the joint second highest employment growth (5.2 per cent) in the same period.

MEC Masuku mentioned that the 2013 growth forecast for Mpumalanga has also been revised down to a level of just a more than 2 percent, in line with national growth expectations.



MEC Madala Masuku and Premier David Mabuza joining Minister for Home Affairs Ms Naledi Pandor and her Deputy Ms Fatima Cohen during the Ministerial Imbizo at Elukwatini.

MEC Masuku applauds stakeholders for their undying efforts

MEC for Finance Madala Masuku applauded different stakeholders for their determination in addressing societal challenges such as access to identity documentation.

Speaking at the Home Affairs Ministerial Imbizo held in Elukwatini on Tuesday, 6 August, MEC Masuku said it has become a problem that our people are still struggling to receive social and economic support services because they do not have identity documents.

"We cannot deny the fact that many of the people living in our province with are not from this country.

"However there is also a fact that the third generation of the resident was born in the country and that is where the challenge starts."

Masuku urged the members of the community to take part in their ward meetings wherein all the societal issues are discussed.



MEC was accompanying the Minister of Home Affairs Ms Naledi Pando, Premier of Mpumalanga Mr David Mabuza during the imbizo.

The leadership visited the Oshoek border that separates Swaziland and South Africa before the proceeding to the imbizo in Nhlazatshe where the ID documents were handed to the successful applicants.



INTERNET KIOSK DIGITAL DIVIDE



Here it is and some of the computers at the new Elukwatini internet kiosk centre

"In 2007, 3.7 per cent of households in Mpumalanga had access to or used the internet compared to 7.2 per cent of South African households.

"By 2011, Mpumalanga's proportion of households with access to internet increased to 31.4 per cent of households and that of South Africa to 35.2 per cent.

Illustratively, this means at least one member of 337 993 households in Mpumalanga had access to or used the internet either at home, work, place of study, or Internet cafés," said MEC Masuku.

MEC Masuku thanked, the Executive Mayor of Chief Albert Luthuli Municipality, Cllr Busi Shiba and her team for providing the building and agreeing to manage the facility on behalf of the community.

The Department of Finance will provide technical support to the internet centre.

Sabelo Mogola, a grade nine learner at Takheni High School commended the work by the department and all stakeholders involved to bring internet services to his community.

Sabelo said, "We really appreciate the kind gesture by MEC Masuku and all who made this possible for us. it's really a privilege that from now on I will be able to learn and get information right here at my door-step without having to travel long hours to town for the only available internet café.

"We thank you so much and hope this will also assist us to improve our intelligence before matric," said Sabelo Mogola.



MEC Masuku renovates children's centre for Madiba

Mpumalanga MEC for Finance, Madala Masuku spent 67 minutes with grade R children as part of the celebrations of Mandela Month Programme in Elandshoek on Thursday, 12 July 2013.

Inspired by the call to make every day Mandela Day, MEC Masuku and team of officials started the birthday celebration of the Former President, Dr Nelson Mandela, early by giving the Ntabamhlophe Centre a face lift and handed child-friendly toys to elated children.

"The renovation of the centre, by the officials, signifies the length of the journey we can traverse if all, individually and collectively, can dedicate just 67 min of our time, to good causes in the Province, said MEC Masuku.

He said the best birthday gift that any citizen can give to Dr Mandela is by helping improve the living conditions of the less privilege where they live.

"I am happy that we are able to honour Madiba by sharing responsibility. Everyone must carry the caring spirit with them, help others in need, that is the key to nation building", said MEC Masuku.

MEC added that the pouring of well wishes and acts of caring and providing assistance to the children will help the father of the nation to recover from his current health challenge.

The departmental officials replaced broken windows, fixed doors, painted walls with friendly colours, before MEC Madala Masuku and Executive Mayor of Ehlanzeni District, Cllr Letta Shongwe handed brand new chairs and tables, drawing books and toys to the learners at the centre.

The School Governing Body, parents and community welcomed the initiative and its contribution to continued awareness about the legacy of former President Mandela.

Parent, Mrs Busi Ngulube said the renovation of the centre conveys a lasting message about what former President Mandela stands for.

"The campaigns of this nature assist in growing children who knows the wonderful legacy of former president," said Mrs Ngulube.

The Principal, Mr Jah Lusiba also expressed his happiness for the contribution made by the MEC, Executive Mayor and officials in identifying their centre for such an important occasion held in the name of Nelson Mandela.

