



**LIMPOPO**  
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR BUDGET VOTE SPEECH  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT –  
VOTE 4  
DELIVERED BY THE MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, ME NANDI  
NDALANE  
TO THE LIMPOPO PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE**

**DATE: 07 MAY 2020**

Honourable Speaker

Honourable Premier,

Honourable colleagues in the Executive Council

Chief Whip of the Majority Party

Honourable members of the Provincial Legislature

Leadership of the Ruling Party and other Political Parties present here today

Chairperson of the Agriculture and Rural Development Portfolio Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A very good morning to you all

In compliance with time restrictions aimed at combating the spread of the novel Coronavirus, I therefore would like to waste no time but to swiftly table the budget vote for the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development. I must indicate, however that the detailed speech shall be sent to the portfolio committee for oversight purposes. In the same vein it is of great importance to indicate that the

Department continues to make huge strides in delivering on its fundamental objectives. We remain confident that food security will continue to be maintained in the province and further that this Department shall continue to play a big role in providing employment opportunities to the masses of our people.

Honourable Speaker

I therefore would like to present the budget for our Department as follows:

The department was allocated two billion, thirty-one million, three hundred and eleven thousand rand (R2.031 billion) for the financial year 2020/21. The allocation is made up of one billion seven hundred and fourteen million three hundred and four thousand rand (R1 714 304 000) equitable share allocation and conditional grants amounting to three hundred and seventeen million and seven thousand rand (R317 7000). The overall budget has increased by thirty million and five hundred and eleven thousand rand or 1.5 percent year on year. The amount for conditional grants comprises two hundred and thirty million five hundred and fifty eight thousand rand (R233,558 million) for comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP), Letsema receives seventy million four hundred and eighty thousand rand (R70, 480 million), Land care grant is at twelve million nine hundred and seventy thousand rand (R12 970 million) and EPWP is allocated six million six hundred and ten thousand rand (R6 610 million) while land care will get Thirteen million rand (R13 million).

Honourable Speaker our budget according to our programmes is allocated as follows:

**Programme 1: Administration** has been allocated four hundred and twelve million three hundred and ninety-nine thousand rand (R412.399), to cater for administrative costs and contractual obligations. Critical also under this programme is continuous development of human resources which is key to the effective and efficient execution of the plans of the Department. As a result, an amount of forty-nine million, eight hundred and thirty-five thousand and two hundred and ninety-nine rand (R49,835,299) has been set aside for the filling of 112 vacant posts.

**Programme 2: Sustainable Resource Management** has been allocated Ninety-two million three hundred and eighty-five thousand rand (R92.385 million) to provide agricultural support services to farmers in order to ensure that there is sustainable management of agricultural resources and manage the effects of climate change

through alternative production technologies, such as climate smart agricultural technologies.

**Programme 3: Farmer Support and Development** has been allocated One billion two hundred and twenty million three hundred and sixty-four-thousand-rand (R1.220.364 billion), which constitutes 60% of the budget of the Department. The allocation includes CASP and Letsema conditional grants. The budget is for farmer support programmes and projects, ranging from agricultural infrastructure and equipment for primary and secondary production activities; production inputs; mechanisation support to farmers and farmer capacity building.

As pronounced by the MEC for Finance during the Provincial Budget Speech, the budget includes the fifty million rand (R50million) ring-fenced for projects to implement the Revitalisation of Agriculture and Agro-processing value chain in the Province. Included also in this Programme is support for food security initiatives.

**Programme 4: Veterinary Services** receives sixty-six million and six hundred and thirty-two thousand rand (R66.632 million) to render veterinary services, i.e. animal disease control, veterinary public health, certification of animals and animal products for export as well as providing a laboratory diagnostic service which detects disease-causing agents in submitted samples. This is also to strengthen measures in the prevention and management of the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak. Included in the budget is two point five million rand (R2.5 million) for the construction of animal handling facilities.

**Programme 5: Research and Technology Development** receives sixty-two million one hundred and seventeen thousand rand (R62.117 million) to render agricultural research services and development of information systems with regard to agricultural and natural resource utilization technologies.

**Programme 6: Agricultural Economics Services** has been allocated twenty-seven million three hundred and five thousand rand (R27.305 million) to provide timely and relevant agricultural economic services to the sector in support of sustainable agricultural and agri-business development towards increasing economic growth.

**Programme 7: Structural Agricultural Training** receives an allocation of one hundred and forty-three million seven hundred and ninety-one thousand rand (R143.791 million). Included in the allocation is the budget for the two Colleges of Agriculture in the Province to provide student academic programmes, College infrastructure revitalisation and provision of skills development programmes for farmers.

**Programme 8: Rural Development** has been allocated six million four hundred and eighteen thousand rand (R6.418 million) to facilitate and coordinate the planning and implementation of integrated rural development programmes in line with the Limpopo Integrated Rural Development Strategy (LIRDS).

Honourable Speaker

I would like to express our deepest gratitude to the chairperson of the Portfolio Committee, Honourable Masekwameng and committee members. The progressive engagements we continue to have and the valuable guidance you are providing demonstrate how serious we take this responsibility of leading and delivering to our people. I would be failing in my duty, if I cannot recognise and appreciate the great work done by our head of the Department, Ms Ramatsimele Maisela for leading our team with aplomb. I'm aware that it is through her leadership that men and women of our Department consistently uphold the highest possible standards in delivering services to our people. I remain convinced that our desired poverty free society is achievable. Our promise to our people is that we will continue to put them first, work hard and leave no stone unturned in our pursuit to the eradication of poverty and the realisation of food security and a better life for all our people.

I thank you