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LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF THE MEC**

BUDGET SPEECH 2024/25

Tuesday, 13 August 2024

Speaker of the Legislature, Honourable Makoma
Makhurupetje
Deputy Speaker, Honourable Tebogo Mamorobela

Honourable Premier; Dr. Phophi Ramathuba

Members of the Executive Council
Chief Whip of the Legislature Honourable Essop Mokgonyana
Chair of Chairs Honourable Thabo Mokone
Honourable Members of the Legislature
Leader of the opposition political parties Honourable Lawrence Mapoulo
Our Esteemed Traditional Leaders
Director General
Head of Department
Members of the Media and Business Communities
Distinguished guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

Thobela!
Silotshile!
Aaaaa!
Avuxeni!
Goeie More!

I stand before you today, not so new in the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. Weeks have gone by, and we can safely say that we have adjusted the machinery, and we are working as oiled as this machinery could be. In the heart of Limpopo's vast and diverse landscape lies an intrinsic part of its identity: agriculture.

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This sector not only feeds the nation but also supports a significant portion of the population, underscoring its pivotal role in ensuring food security and rural development. As Nelson Mandela famously said, "The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall." This sentiment is particularly resonant when considering the challenges faced by South Africa's agricultural sector and the broader rural economy.

Honourable Speaker

Agriculture has long been the backbone of Limpopo's society, deeply rooted in its history and cultural fabric. As we look to the future, it is imperative to address the current challenges and embrace new opportunities for growth and development. The 7th Administration, under President Cyril Ramaphosa and Premier Dr. Phophi Ramathuba, has recognized this urgency and is poised to focus on crucial areas such as job creation, business sustainability, agro-processing, and farmer aid.

We are now living in times of unity in the country, that which the governance forces us to work together for the betterment of our country. In this National Government of Unity, we look to drive inclusive growth and job creation, reduce poverty and tackle the high costs of living, while at the same time, building a capable, ethical and developmental state.

Honourable Speaker,

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Just a fortnight ago, the Premier gave our department a directive that it leads the re-opening of the Lebowakgomo Chicken abattoir, urgently. Together with my Economic Development, Environment and Tourism Counterpart, Vho- Matibe Tshitereke, we have visited the abattoir, and work is well underway to ensure the re-opening before December of this year.

In anticipation of this beautiful project that will now see the light of day, I have instructed the department to engage in a broiler house assessment programme, that which has been carried out within a 100 km radius of the abattoir. Its outcome indicates that the total cost needed to refurbish government broilers to full functionality is estimated at thirteen million rand (R13m). The programme will thus benefit existing broilers in the Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality at large, creating at least a thousand jobs, while at the same time increasing business for some broilers.

The 7th Administration under President Cyril Ramaphosa has placed a strong emphasis on revitalizing the agricultural sector and rural economy.

Honourable Speaker,

The fruit and vegetables of Limpopo form an important part of South Africa's export basket. More than 45% of the annual turnover of the Johannesburg Fresh Produce Market originates from Limpopo Province. The percentage contribution of Limpopo agriculture to national agriculture is 7.6% and 2.3% to the provincial Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The Province is the biggest producer of avocados. Of the current crop of about 120 000 cartons per year country wide, about half is produced in two Limpopo regions, Letaba and Tzaneen. Exports are rising exponentially. In response to this demand, and the potential of the Chinese market, almost 1 000 hectares (ha) per year of new land is being planted with avocados in South Africa. We have a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Asian market in relation to the export of the avocados and red meat.

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The same amount of new macadamia planting is underway every year, according to Macadamias South Africa (SAMAC), adding to the existing 19 000 ha. The Province is the country's largest citrus production area, accounting for 40 percent of the total area planted. Plans are underway to expand the industry by over 3000 ha in the next few years.

The other big sellers are mangoes and tomatoes. Limpopo grows three-quarters of South Africa's mangoes and two-thirds of its tomatoes. The Waterberg District produces large quantities of red meat. Capricorn District has potatoes in abundance. Vhembe District in the north specializes in citrus and subtropical fruits and Mopani District has those fruits too. Sekhukhune District in the south-east produces grain. In future we look to work closely with LEDET to ensure that raw materials are processed through agro-processing so that we create our own jobs in the province.

According to Statistics South Africa's General Household Survey Limpopo has the highest number of food secure households at a rate of 87%. Limpopo is followed by Gauteng and Western Cape at 86% and 82% respectively, while Northwest is the lowest at 75%.

Honourable Speaker,

Our **Sustainable Resource Management Programme** is allocated with an amount of 125 million for the 2024/25 financial year. This programme remains the cornerstone of agricultural practices since it is about caring for the very soil agriculture is derived from and the provision of infrastructure to support farming activities.

As part of infrastructure investment projects, the department will implement 54 agricultural projects which includes livestock water infrastructure aimed at long-term solutions for drought mitigation, rehabilitation, and recovery purposes within the province.

In 2024/2025, a total of 36 irrigation projects will be implemented and 257 small holder producers will benefit from this programme, with an injection of One hundred million (100 million) rand and 603 temporary job opportunities benefit.

Regarding the revitalization of Small-Scale Irrigation Schemes, we pronounced in the 2023/2024 budget speech that notable progress has been made in four irrigation schemes through the revitalisation of infrastructure development.

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The development of Mogalatšane Irrigation Scheme infrastructure is 100% complete and 40 hectares are now planted with cotton.

Significant progress has been achieved at Hereford Irrigation Scheme, owned by Tafelkop Farmers Association. A total of 15 producers each received full support package of irrigation system, the development included bulk water supply and in-field irrigation system development, establishment of shade nets covering one hectare per plot, refurbishment of packing facility, construction of ablution facilities, and storage facility to ensure compliance with South African GAP market requirements.

This intervention by the department has resulted in the creation of 64 permanent jobs and 320 seasonal jobs. Two schemes could not be implemented due to community conflict and land claims which are still under investigation.

The department will rehabilitate about 1 400 hectares (ha) of degradation, clear 1 400 ha from alien and invasive plants, as well as bush encroachment. In promoting the adoption of climate smart agricultural technologies, the department has targeted 600 hectares to be cultivated under Conservation Agriculture practises and 550 producers to use climate smart technologies.

Vhumatshelo Holdings and Projects is an example of a vegetable project, practicing various conservation techniques such as minimum tillage and mulching to conserve soil moisture. The project has adopted climate smart technologies, with 4 hydroponics tunnels system, and Agro-Processing Facility. This crop farming project is in Tshilwavhusiku, Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District. This project was made possible through the department CASP funding.

Through the policy advocacy of our national Department, the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD), the department is implementing the uptake and adoption of Conservation Agriculture within the auspices of the **LandCare conditional grant**, which has yielded the benefits of increased production and environmental management.

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The department has allocated thirteen point six million rand (R13,6m) to LandCare to spur efforts of combating soil erosion and thus improving agricultural productivity. However, this is a meagre allocation considering the vastness of the state of land degradation and the climate change effects that affect the productivity of the sector. We will work with other partners and United Nations (UN) agencies to mobilise additional resources in order to broaden the scope of interventions.

As highlighted, one of the strategic priorities is that of having a radical investment in job creation. In responding to the investment of jobs, reduction of poverty and tackling the cost of living, the department is utilising the Expanded Public Works Programme conditional grant to bridge the gap of unemployment through creation of temporary work opportunities and training. To continue this quest the department was allocated **four million, seven hundred- and fifty-three-thousand-rand** (R4 753m) incentive allocation for 2024/25, with the target of creating 1 520 work opportunities.

Honourable Speaker

Madame Speaker,

Our **Agriculture Development and Farmer Support Programme** has been allocated seven hundred and fifty-nine million two hundred and seventeen thousand rand (759 217 000), which constitutes 42.6 percent of the Departmental budget.

Smallholder producers to the total of 2 795 will be supported and 10 370 subsistence farmers will be supported. A smallholder producer is defined as a venture undertaken by an individual or business entity for the purpose of household consumption and deriving a source of income from agriculture activities along the value chain. Subsistence producer refers to Producer that produces primarily for household consumption to meet the daily

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dietary needs. Support will include, amongst others, on and off farm infrastructure, technical and advisory services and development training.

A total of 3 000 households will be supported with agricultural food production initiatives. These are households, practicing agriculture at the household level. Me Hloledi Ramoadi, a backyard vegetable and broiler producer from Ga Sekgopo in Mopani District, is feeding her family with the produce from this garden. We are proud of this female producer who is leading by example. Through the CASP 1 000 farmers will be trained, including the impartation of soft and technical skills. In all of the above activities the target group is Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities.

The Department has intensified its effort to develop the skills and knowledge required for a successful agricultural sector. Through the agricultural graduates' programme, a total of 140 agricultural graduates were appointed and placed on 35 small holder and commercial projects across the province. A further 300 graduates were placed on farms through a collaborative partnership with Brucol Global, a local company establish by our former graduate Mr Bruce Diale, thus creating employment and ensuring better livelihoods for them and their families. The graduates are placed for a period of 24 months to gain practical knowledge and skill under the supervision of the host farmer and an experienced agricultural practitioner.

Tumiso Ngoepe from Ga-Matlala, graduated from Sir Harry Oppenheimer Agricultural High School in 2005 and was awarded a bursary by the department to study Agricultural Engineering in KwaZulu Natal in 2006. Her career of choice was influence by her granny koko Phahledi and was sealed during a school visit to the Grain SA Nampo Agricultural Show in 2003.

Tumiso holds an honours degree attained in 2010, and she is a professional Engineer since 2020. Tumiso was the first female engineer to be appointed by the department since 2011. She is the brain behind Rahlagane Table Grapes project design and implementation.

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Rahlagane Table Grapes project is a youth owned grape exporter project based in Moganyaka Village, under Ephraim Local Municipality, Sekhukhune District.

Following the constituting of the 7th Administration (Government of National Unity) after the general elections, President Ramaphosa outlined the **strategic priorities** for the next five years.

One of those priorities is to build a capable, ethical and developmental state.

In marching towards achieving this uncompromising priority, the Department already implemented the functional Organisational Structure. The purpose of the review was to reposition the Department to respond to the needs of the Farming Community by placing the right people with required skills, qualifications and adequate requirements to bolster our Service Delivery Model of Agro-Ecological Zones.

We have had our challenges in recent days. Among them, the much talked about black frost and veld fires. Provincial Disaster Management Centre (PDMC) has requested the Head of the National Disaster Management Centre to classify Veldfire and Black Frost damage in line with Section 23(1)(b) of the DMA, and Section 12(1)(a) as a provincial disaster.

On the 24th of July, the Provincial Disaster Management Centre (PDMC) presented the Black Frost and Veld Fires incidents at the National Joint Coordination Committee to inform the members of the national joint coordination about the damage based on the preliminary report.

Subsequently, PDMC submitted a formal application for the classification of Black Frost and Veld Fires as a matter of procedure pending the final damage assessment report from the Agriculture Department.

As we speak, our department has consolidated the damage report on Black Frost representing a significant number of farmers affected. A signed report will be sent to the Provincial Disaster Management Centre today to enable the provincial head of the centre

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to send to their national counterpart for classification. Once that is finalised to the full satisfaction of the committee, it is then the Premier may declare a disaster.

Honourable members

To mitigate such risks, we encourage the farmers to insure their crops as per industry standards.

We are hopeful of positive outcomes so that the resources could be able to assist the farmers who lost dearly, and ultimately put on a cushion for consumers who may later feel the brunt with escalated prices.

Honourable speaker

The department continues to enhance and improve the quality services in ensuring good governance guided by the National framework towards professionalisation of public service.

Over and above appointing critical and scarce skills with necessary requisite the ethical conduct of employees plays a pivotal role that we provide agricultural advisory services in an impartial manner, heartened by our conduct of serving our community with respect, dignity, integrity, courteous behaviour, treating people equally and observing non-racialism.

We took cognisance of the elements of professional conduct as captured in the Batho Pele Principles.

As we adhere to the call made by President of building a capable, ethical and developmental state, the department's commitment to transformation is guided by affiliation to good governance.

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During 2023/2024 financial year the Department received unqualified audit opinion. The action plan for 2024/ 2025 has been developed to ensure credible, reliable performance reporting against predetermined objectives and compliance.

At the same time, to illustrate good governance and sound financial management, the department has undertaken to pay all legitimate invoices in the stipulated 30 days.

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The six out of the eight agricultural high schools in the provinces viz; Merensky, Kheto Nxumalo, Mandela Barlow, Harry Oppenheimer, Kuschke and Dimani have also benefited from the placement of graduates from the collaboration with Brucol. A total of 17 graduates are serving at these schools assisting with agricultural practicals and farm management. On completion of the programme, the graduates who submit bankable business plans are supported to establish agricultural enterprises. Indeed, Mr Diale is a testimony to the success of the graduate's programme and we count him among our success stories in this regard.

In 2024/25 Dimani and Merenski High Schools in Vhembe and Mopani District respectively will be supported with the development of poultry units. In addition, at Sebone Primary School a borehole will be drilled and equipped in support of their vegetable garden. Thusanang Special School in Bela Bela received support through the Letsema conditional grant. Plans are in place to assist Rethushegile Disability School in Phalaborwa.

As regards the Cannabis Industry Developments, the Department is continuing to unlock the potential of the Cannabis Industry in the Limpopo Province. The Limpopo Cannabis Forum (LCF) has been established, and this brings all stakeholders together.

Honourable Speaker,

The Veterinary Services Programme has been allocated with two hundred and sixteen million and fifty-nine thousand rand (R216 059 million). This budget allocation will assist in fighting Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). I am delighted to report to this august house that the last reported case of FMD outbreak in the Province was in 2022 currently there is no reported case of FMD in Limpopo Province. The department through Veterinary

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Services has managed to control the spread of FMD through vaccination and strict animal movement control.

I therefore wish to make a clarion call to all farmers, livestock owners and the people of the Province to stay on high alert and know how to recognise FMD symptoms and implement strong biosecurity measures.

In response to the market challenges experienced by livestock farmers within the Redline Zone the department in collaboration with DALRRD, the Agricultural Research Council (ARC), Mopani and Vhembe Districts and relevant Tribal Authorities will be accelerating establishing the Red Meat Value Chain System in view to unlock the identified market challenges. The programme entails the establishment of three Quarantine Centres, making available four Mobile Auction Facilities to activate sustainable formal off-takes.

As a result of climate change and global warming Limpopo Province continue to experience extreme weather phenomenon that more often leads to devastating disastrous events. These unfavourable weather events often disrupt daily on-farm operations, destroy the livelihoods of the farmers leading to food insecurity and poverty as well as causing some huge economic setbacks.

In support of the ***operation thibela malwetsi temong*** initiative to manage crop and animal disease, the department will continue to implement biosecurity measures to control both crop and livestock diseases.

The Department has allocated R4,9 million under the Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programmes Crop Protection pillar aimed at supporting an estimated 800 farmers.

The Department is also responsible for the control of animal diseases in the province through the directorate of Veterinary Services to ensure health livestock herds and animal

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products such as meat, milk and eggs. The following are the disease that the department will be focussing on:

- Foot and Mouth Disease: targeting to vaccinate 75 000 cattle in Vhembe district municipality (Musina, Collins Chabane and parts of Thulamela) and Mopani (Greater Giyani, BaPhalaborwa and Maruleng) with a budget of R 8 000 000.
- Anthrax and Black quarter targeting to vaccinate 300 000 cattle and Brucellosis targeting to vaccinate 30 000 heifers between 4-8 months old with a budget of R 2 000 000
- Rabies: targeting to vaccinate 55 000 dogs and cats with a budget of R1 250 000
- Dipping of communal cattle against external parasites: targeting 1 000 000 livestock units with a budget of R7 000 000.

In the fight against stock theft, we would like to reiterate our commitment to work with the South African Police Service, Organised Agriculture (RPO, NAFU, NERPO, AFASA) and our broader rural farming communities to fight the stock theft scourge. We have strong collaborations with SAPS-Stock Theft Unit, and we envisage the establishment of one Livestock Pound in Mopani District – Greater Letaba Municipality as one of the stock theft hot spot areas.

Agricultural Education and Training has been allocated one hundred and forty-nine million and thirty-one thousand rand (R149 031 million) for the two Colleges of Agriculture in the Province, being Madzivhandila and Tompi Seleka. The governance of the two colleges has been fortified through appointment of an advisory council to provide an oversight and ensure adequate support to management in the offering of both higher education and skills programmes in the Colleges.

Madame Speaker,

According to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Report of 2023, there is a positive indication that the Agriculture Sector consistently contributed positively to the provincial GDP since 2013. The agriculture sector contributed 2.1% or R5.8 billion to the province's growth in 2013. This contribution increased to 2.3% (R6.9 billion) in 2014 and

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further to 2.7% (R10.2 billion) in 2017, correlating with years of bumper crops due to favourable climatic conditions. Furthermore, Statistics South Africa's Quarterly Labour Force Survey of 2023 (QLFS data of 2023), indicates that, the employment trends in the agricultural sector had a positive impact on our people 's lives.

In 2024/25, the **Agricultural Economics Services Programme** has been allocated Sixty-Eight Million Four Hundred and Fourteen Thousand Rand (R68 414 000) to provide timely and relevant agricultural economic services to the sector in support of sustainable agricultural and agri-business development to increase economic growth. Included in this allocation is Thirty-One Million Three Hundred and Fifty Rand (R31 350) million for funding of Revitalization of Agriculture and Agro Processing Value Chain (RAAVC) projects. The RAAVC Plan is aligned to the National Agriculture and Agro-processing Master Plan (AAMP) which aims to contribute to the expansion and increase of agricultural production across the value chain, and in turn the sector's inclusive growth, job creation and food security as espoused in the National Development Plan, Limpopo Development Plan, and Limpopo Socio-economic Recovery Plan.

RAAVC projects are under various stages of implementation with over 300 jobs created and about 1 000 000 beneficiaries benefiting from the initiative.

The 2024/25 RAAVC projects are a combination of continued projects as multiyear projects and new ones, which are as follows:

Majeje Citrus in Mopani District; here the Department has invested at least 30 million rand over three years, on behalf of the community- This in total, is a 130-million-rand programme.

In conjunction with the private sector, a total area of 466 hectares has been debused in this project, and two hundred and twenty (220) hectares of citrus orchards have been established. On the irrigation side, a total 220 hectares of irrigation has been installed.

The solar plant with the capacity of 520 KVA is completed and operational. Office building and ablution facilities are complete. Construction of dam A is complete, and the partner is busy constructing the second dam. Currently the farm employs 30 permanent workers and 40 seasonal workers. It is estimated that at harvest next year, the farm will

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have a staff complement of 400, of which 50 permanent and 350 seasonal. The Department is supporting the project with R6 million in 2024-25. I am impressed with the progress made, and we are promised to have the first fruit by harvest season next year. This is what the ANC government is taking head on to ensure that there are jobs for the people of Limpopo.

Moshomo o tshaba diatla Premier! dilo di tšhentšhitše.

- Hydrological assessment at Zebediela Estate in Capricorn District has been completed and the refurbishment of water infrastructure will continue during 2024/25 with the allocated budget of R3 million. The revitalisation of Zebediela Estate is gaining momentum with the imminent finalisation of the costed Agriculture Master Plan. It is the intent of the Department to explore the possibility of submitting the implementation of the Master Plan as regards to infrastructure development to the Budget Facility for Infrastructure (*BFI*) at National Treasury for consideration.
- Monyetla Hatchery in Modimolle District (R10 million) will be developed in line with the White Meat Cluster in collaboration with the Independent Development Corporation (IDC)
- Kgarose Kgaros – looking into Agro-processing in Capricorn District (R4 million) and Tshilwavusiku Secondary Cooperative in Vhembe District (R7 million) are part of the RAAVC profile of projects.

The Department is in the process to develop and implement a model to cluster and focus on RAAVC projects per district per financial year to maximise impact. LDARD has identified five Agricultural Development Zones (ADZs) where support is given to farmers to promote production in the sector through assessing the competitive advantage of all the Districts to ensure proper planning. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between LDARD and various Commodity Producer Organizations is providing a conduit for cluster approach per commodity. Stakeholders/role-players such as Commodity

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Organisations, Private Sector, Organised Agriculture and Development Organisations will form part of the model.

As regards to access to markets, the Department is continuing to work with the Perishable Products Export Control Board (PPECB) to audit farms for South African Good Agricultural Practices (SAGAP) and GLOBAL GAP compliance purposes.

Through the 2023 BRICS Summit delegates from Saudi Arabia, China, Iran visited South Africa to audit facilities to export meat to their countries. All three countries have opened the markets for the exportation of South African beef. Only the FMD control areas were excluded. In Limpopo Province, Vhembe and Mopani Districts are excluded.

The Department continues to integrate rural development as a cross-cutting element of all the programmes and projects to deal with rural poverty effectively through an integrated agrarian transformation and the strategic investment in agricultural infrastructure that will benefit farmers in rural communities.

Thus, Six Million Two Hundred and Eighty-Seven Thousand Rand (**6 287 000**) to cater for **administration and coordination of rural development activities** in the Department.

Madame Speaker,

Before I conclude, allow me to speak to the matter of dwindling fiscus resources. This fact necessitates the Department to form partnerships with the private sector and role-players in the agricultural sector. The Department is doing well in this regard and below are a few examples:

- The Department is working closely with De Beers Venetia Mine which is currently supporting 1500 farmers in Blouberg -Capricorn and in Musina in Vhembe respectively.
- Through the support of PEPSICO and Kgodiso Development, two potato producers signed off-take agreements with SIMBA (Pty) Ltd for a total of 100 ha

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with an estimated delivery volume 5000 tonnes. These two producers benefited through our Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP) for infrastructure development and have advance to a stage where they are able to apply for loans at development finance institutions.

- In Sekhukhune District, the collaboration with Grain SA bearing fruits with more farmers/ producer benefiting from training and mentorship. Grain farmers who affiliated to the Grain SA Production programme contribute funds for procurement of production inputs to Grain SA and the District assist them with additional inputs for grain production, which is mainly maize.
- Through the partnership with Cotton SA capacity building for both cotton farmers and extension practitioners are taking place. During 2024/25 producers in the Cotton Cluster will be supported by mechanisation to put up 250 hectares of cotton production.
- The Department in partnership with Impact Catalyst and the ARC – Animal Production Institute (API) will be conducting situation analysis on primary production segments and develop a Provincial Master Plan for improvement towards sustainable supply to the envisaged Red Meat Value Chain. In the same vein the department is looking into collaborations with the Private/ Business Sector, particularly at Agro-processing and Distribution level. I can safely confirm that engagements with business is at an advance stage, and I am confident that the province will soon be self-reliance on meat production and will see a significant reduction on dependence on imports from Namibia and Botswana.

Honourable Speaker,

Following the constituting of the 7th Administration (Government of National Unity) after the general elections, President Ramaphosa outlined the **strategic priorities** for the next five years.

Honourable speaker

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The department continues to enhance and improve the quality services in ensuring good governance guided by the National framework towards professionalisation of public service.

Over and above appointing critical and scarce skills with necessary requisite the ethical conduct of employees plays a pivotal role that we provide agricultural advisory services in an impartial manner, heartened by our conduct of serving our community with respect, dignity, integrity, courteous behaviour, treating people equally and observing non-racialism.

We took cognisance of the elements of professional conduct as captured in the Batho Pele Principles. As we adhere to the call made by President of building a capable, ethical and developmental state, the department's commitment to transformation is guided by affiliation to good governance.

During 2023/2024 financial year the Department received unqualified audit opinion. The action plan for 2024/ 2025 has been developed to ensure credible, reliable performance reporting against predetermined objectives and compliance.

In conclusion, the path forward for South African agriculture and rural development involves a concerted effort to address historical injustices, support smallholder farmers, and promote sustainable practices. The 7th Administration's focus on job creation, business sustainability, agro-processing, and farmer aid represents a crucial step towards achieving these goals. By aligning policy with the pressing needs of the sector, South Africa can cultivate a future of food security and rural prosperity, ultimately fulfilling the promise of a more equitable and thriving society.

It is worth noting that Agriculture as a school subject of choice, is beginning to take the spotlight among the new generation across the province. This school subject had long

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been termed too 'unattractive and for the lower class and not for the youth'. We have taken a stance to make it fashionable and trendy to the youth.

In 2024/2025, the other two (02) projects will also be supported: Shadtonez Project will be supported with the development of 10-hectares towable centre pivot, reservoir, booster pump, irrigation, fertigation unit, 22 medium pressure pipelines and connections to power source, pack shed and ablutions facilities. Sekgale will be supported with 1500-layer structure, grading, and ablution facilities.

Summary of 2024/25 Budget Allocation

To implement our strategic priorities, the department's main appropriation allocation for 2024/25 amount to R1.782 billion. This is an increase of R11.8 million or 0.7 percent from the previous financial year 2023/24.

I wish to direct my

I further wish to extend my sincere thank you to the Chairperson

I wish to that the Acting Head of Department Mr Jethro Nowata and all at the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Programme	2024/25 R'000	% Share
Ata	370 634	20.8%
Sustainable Resource Use and Management	125 449	7.0%
Agriculture Producer Support and Development	759 217	42.6%
Veterinary Services	216 059	12.1%
Research and Technology Development Services	87 521	4.9%

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Agricultural Economics Services	68 414	3.8%
Agricultural Education and Training	149 031	8.4%
Rural Development	6 287	0.4%
Total payments and estimates	1 782 612	100.0%

Category	2024/25 R'000
Equitable Share	1 461 652
Conditional Grant	320 960
Land Care	13 674
EPWP	4 753
CASP	247 211
Letsema	55 322
Total payments and estimates	1 782 612