

RE-TABLING OF BUDGET VOTE 1: OFFICE OF THE PREMIER – PRESENTED BY PREMIER OF LIMPOPO DR PHOPHI RAMATHUBA TO THE LIMPOPO LEGISLATURE, 19 JUNE 2025

Speaker of the Legislature Honourable Dr Makoma Makhurupetje,
Deputy Speaker of the Legislature Honourable Tebogo Mamorobela,
Chief Whip of the Legislature,
Chairpersons of Various Committees,
Members of the Executive Council,
Members of the Legislature,
Leaders of Political Parties,
Traditional Leaders in our midst,
Members of the Religious fraternity,
The Director General and all Heads of Department,
Members of the Media,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning,
Ndi matsheloni,
Avuxeni,
Goeie More.

We return today to this esteemed assembly after the MEC for Finance has re-tabled the provincial budget on 10 June 2025.

As I stand before you, I wish to re-table Budget Vote One for the Office of the Premier. This is in response to the changes and requirements stemming from adjustments within both the national and provincial budgets.

Our statement of intent regarding the R554 million allocation remains unchanged, Honourable Speaker. We reaffirm the commitment shared on 08 April 2025.

The Office of the Premier does not operate in isolation; it serves as the central hub for leadership, coordination, and support within the provincial administration. The office of the Premier is strategically located to make sure it strengthens the unity amongst our resilient people of Limpopo, who continue to work hard in fighting common enemies of poverty, unemployment, inequality and tendencies of tribalism which we saw this week trying to raise its ugly head in some other parts of our country directed to the beautiful people of our province.

A video that has surfaced this week of a youth leader from MK Party referring to another individual as “iShangane from Limpopo.” Is unacceptable and as the Premier of this province I feel if left unchallenged will continue to undermine the people of our province and the work we do daily to unite our people while celebrating our cultural diversity upon which as a province we were founded, we are proudly representing the VaTsonga/Machangani, Vhavenda, Northern Sothos, AmaNdebele, Batswana, Afrikaners and English communities there is no such an animal called “Ishangane la se Limpopo”, maybe somewhere else not in our province

As the 7th Administration, we will not tolerate derogatory language directed at our residents, whether from political parties, organisations or any other entities. This provocation will not be accepted by our government.

Honourable speaker our commitment towards providing leadership and support is reflected in the allocation of 63% of the R554 million to Compensation of Employees, with the remaining 37% dedicated to goods and services. These warm bodies are tasked with the responsibility of providing support, monitoring and evaluation to all our 10 departments and their state own entities.

Through our three programmes - Corporate Management, Institutional Development Support and Planning, Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation - we strive to strengthen governance in Limpopo, empowering all departments to deliver impactful services for our communities.

Honourable Speaker, we recently returned from China, continuing our work following the Investment Roundtable Discussion held in May 2025. Our participation in the 116th International Infrastructure Investment and Construction Forum (IIICF) in Macao illustrated the potential for infrastructure investment in Limpopo.

The IIICF is a globally recognised platform that encourages international collaboration in infrastructure development, promotes cross-border investment and showcases innovations in the sector. This year's forum attracted senior officials, business leaders and global investors from over 70 countries.

Our goal was to advocate for investment in infrastructure, particularly focusing on our Musina-Makhado and Fetakgomo-Tubatse Special Economic Zones (SEZs), ensuring that their functions become a reality in our lifetime.

Honourable Members, I hereby table the budget for Vote 1: Office of the Premier, 2025/2026.

Thank you.