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**Rural, Environment and Agricultural
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Media Advisory

OFFICIAL SEND OFF FOR NW AND MPUMALANGA DAFF FEA 2016 WINNERS – KENYA FIELD TRIP

Friday, 13 January 2017

Mahikeng- The Department of Rural, Environment and Agricultural Development (READ) will host an official send-off ceremony for the North West and Mpumalanga DAFF (Department of Forestry and Fisheries) National 2016 Female Entrepreneurs Awards winners. Nthabiseng Kgobokoe of Batswana Farms and Training based Mahikeng, winner in the Best Subsistence Producer and Makhosazane Sambo the Top: Entrepreneur: Smallholder from Mpumalanga will undertake a week field trip to Kenya as part of their prize winning.

MEC Manketsi Tlhape will deliver the message of support to the women on behalf of the two provinces. Sakata Seeds, a well-known vegetable and flower seeds company also the sponsors of the trip will grace the event.

Over and above the prize money awards, the DAFF FEA programme provides continuous support to women in the form of trainings, excursions and exchange programmes. The two identified winners will visit Kenya and get infinite exposure of the sector and further knowledge.

FEA Awards, a collaborated effort of DAFF, the provinces and private partners is an annual initiative that seeks to acknowledge, encourage and increase the participation of women, young women and women with disabilities in the sectors of agriculture, forestry and fisheries. Its major thrust is to accentuate the fact that women play a significant role in food security, job creation, economic growth and poverty alleviation.

Details of the event are as follows:

- **Date:** Monday, 16 January 2017
- **Time:** 11h00
- **Venue:** Thorndale Farm, Ramatlabama, Mahikeng

Media is invited to attend and cover the event.

Issued by Directorate: Communications Services

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