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Department:  
**Rural, Environment and Agricultural  
Development**  
North West Provincial Government  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**



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# Media Advisory

**Department to host Agricultural Conference to continually seek improved farming ways**

**Tuesday, 13 February 2018**

**Haartebeespoort:** The North West Department of Rural, Environment and Agricultural Development will host the 10th Extension and Advisory Services Conference in order to provide a need and demand based knowledge in techniques and skills to communities in a systematic participatory manner, with the objective of improving their production, income and quality of life.

Through this year's theme: "Digitalization of extension and advisory services for radical socio economic transformation", the conference would create an opportunity to look at better ways to robustly utilise the Extension and Advisory services as a resource to achieve the sector specific National Development plan and Initiatives. In line with the Extension Recovery Plan (ERP), conferences are put in place to address the gaps identified in Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services using five pillars such as ensuring accountability and visibility of extension, improving image and professionalism, recruitment of personnel, provision of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure and re-skilling and re-orientation.

**WE BELONG**

**WE CARE**

**WE SERVE**

This North West province will also engage on a service delivery impact programme. The conference adopts a commodity approach and focuses on a robust programme aimed at empowering communities in order to stimulate economic activity. The department will visit areas of Brits and Makapanstad to establish food gardens, handover livestock infrastructure as well as Bull Subsidy scheme.

The Department will conclude with the awards ceremony to honour Agricultural Advisors and Managers who are making commendable contribution to the profession towards the long-term achievement of the objectives of the National norms and standards of Extension and Advisory Services. Winning categories include the Best paper presented at the conference, Best Agricultural Advisor, Best Senior Agricultural Advisor, Best Extension Specialist, Best Assistant Director (LDC Manager), Best Deputy Director and Best District.

**Details of Conference are as follows:**

- **Date:** Monday, 19 – Friday, 23 February 2018
- **Venue:** Eagle Waters, Hartebeespoort, Bojanala Platinum District
- **Time:** 08h00 daily

**NB: Formal dress code is required for Awards ceremony.**

**Media members are invited to attend and cover the conference.**

Please RSVP by not later than the end of business on Wednesday, 14 February 2018 to Ms Tsholofelo Dintwe on 083 5767 655 or email: tsholofelod@nwpg.gov.za

**Transport for community media will be available on request.**

**###Ends###**

**Issued by the Communication Services Directorate**

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