



tourism

Department:
Tourism
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Departmental BUDGET Speech 03 May 2016/17

Departmental

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Speech
03 May
2016/17



Hon.MEC Desbo Mohono

Budget Vote 10 Speech:

Department of Tourism, North West Province 2016

Honourable Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the North West Provincial Legislature

Tonakgolo ya Profense ya Bokone Bophirima, Motlotlegi Rre S O R Mahumapelo

Esteemed Members of the Executive Council,

Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature,

Leaders of all Political Parties represented in this Legislature,

Executive Mayors, Mayors, Speakers and Councillors present

Magosi a rona a atlotlegang a eteletswepele ke Motlotlegi Kgosi Zibi

Chairperson and Members of the North West Tourism Board

Representatives of all Tourism establishments across the province; Leaders of Unions, Community and faith-based Organisations

Students/ Leaders from our Mahikeng and Taung Hotel Schools Government officials,

Comrades and friends,

Media Houses,

BaagibaProfenseya Bokone Bophirima, moeng goroga re je, ja nala o fatlhoge.



Honourable Speaker and Members of the House, this year marks 60 years of our Freedom Charter, which stipulates that:

“South Africa belongs to all who live in it, black and white, and that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of all the people, that our people have been robbed of their birthright to land, liberty and peace by a form of government founded on injustice and inequality; that our country will never be prosperous or free until all our people live in brotherhood, enjoying equal rights and opportunities; that only a democratic state, based on the will of all the people, can secure to all, their birthright without distinction of colour, race, sex or belief and therefore, we the people of South Africa, black and white together as equal countrymen and brothers, adopt this Freedom Charter”. We remain firm in our belief that we must take special measures to affirm and transform the tourism industry as our black people were not exposed to the sector and ensure that, through our intervention, they can now access these long denied opportunities and they are adequately empowered.

Honourable Speaker, we appreciate the opportunity to table before this august House, the Policy Statement for the Department of Tourism in the North West Province that fully aligns itself with the inscriptions of the Freedom Charter .



The Department of Tourism in the North West Province, in its third year of existence, can also pride itself with enormous strides made thus far.

Honourable Speaker, the Department of Tourism will not be deterred by sinister forces in trying to build a united, non-racial, non-sexist, democratic and prosperous society. Despite earlier racial attacks that sought to provoke the people of South Africa, we are proud that this government sought to engage all parties and communities to take a firm stand against racism. Honourable Speaker, you will notice that our programmes for this fiscal year are aligned to the President's and the Premier's vision as outlined in the State of the Nation Address and the State of the Province Address respectively. We seek to ensure that the people of South Africa benefit out of this land that they so love; that they can create tourism products of note that the world would love to see and can create employment in the sector whilst enjoying this beautiful province that we call home.

“A Re Yeng Bokone Bophirima” allows us to claim our space as a province in this vast sector that is worth billions of Rands. We refuse, I repeat, we refuse to play second best to any Province. Speaker, we know that people across our country, continent and the world know about Destination Bokone Bophirima with its diverse tourism offerings.



Honourable Speaker, the Department aligns itself with the 5 concretes of the 5th administration. We will continue to channel our energies and resources towards advancing and protecting the gains made in the Provision of Tourism products and opportunities to our people. In our interactions with the Portfolio Committee as well as our stakeholders, everyone is endorsing our intentions as a department to reclaim our space in the tourism landscape with products that are uniquely Bokone Bophirima. To this end, we are exploiting cultural, educational tourism and other forms of tourism that will ensure that we showcase that which is uniquely Bokone Bophirima.

Motlotlegi Mmusu Kgotla, Lefapha le tlile go netefatsa fa le konotella mananeo a lone otlhe mo go rekiseng le mogo bapatseng pono, morero le moonono wa rona jaaka Porofense e leng “A Re Yeng Bokone Bophirima”. Mo malobeng re lemogile fa go le maleba go phutholola diphuka ka go tswela kwa mafatsheng a a kwa ntle, maitlhommo le maikaelelo e le go netefatsa fa re bapatsa moonono wa rona gaufi le kgakala.

Budget Allocation 2016/2017

The year 2016, forces all of us to tighten our belts if we are to succeed in making sure that our plans are realised. We are committed to putting into action serious discipline in our spending patterns to ensure that we do not run foul of the Public Finance Management Act and its prescripts.



The Premier has called for stringent measures to be taken in dealing with wasteful expenditure and we have taken heed of this directive. To achieve this, we will ensure that we use our finances optimally without compromising on quality.

Honourable Speaker, our 2016/2017 North West Department of Tourism budget Allocation under vote number 10 to be voted on is as follows:

Programme	Allocation (Rm)	Amount in words
Administration	R 84.031m	Eighty four million and thirty-one thousand rand
Tourism Planning	R 11.034m	Eleven million and thirty-four thousand rand
Tourism Growth and Development (including a transfer to the North West Tourism Board)	R134.196m	One hundred and thirty-four million, one hundred and ninety six thousand rand
TOTALS	R229.261m	Two hundred and twenty-nine million, two hundred and sixty-one thousand rand



OUR 2015/16 CHALLENGES:

Honourable Speaker, the Portfolio Committee would be privy to the challenges facing us a department and our entity, the North West Tourism Board in as far as the inadequacy of the budget is concerned.

As a result we are already exploiting opportunities that compel us to think and operate out of the box in making sure we realise the dream of reaching our goals. We can assure this august House that at the back of our minds are the ideals of the Freedom Charter, the National Development Plan and most importantly the deliverables of the Medium Term Framework (2014-2019).

- A. The 1st biggest challenge is the unfunded mandate (**operational costs**) of the Taung Hotel School. Honourable Members, we can assure you that the funding to develop the Taung Hotel & Conference Centre into a proper hotel school, inadequate as it may be at this point (**infrastructure costs**), has been secured and we are pleased to announce that the contractors are on site as we deliver this speech. Contractors have been urged to ensure that our VTSD suppliers benefit out of this R65 million investment. For the project to be completed successfully, the department will require another R80 million and to this end we will continue engaging Treasury to ensure successful completion of the facilities in time.



Our main aim, Honourable Speaker is to become the preferred school of culinary and hospitality expertise and luring students from the Free State, Northern Cape, Limpopo, Eastern Cape, Botswana, Namibia and other SADC regions. As this is going on, we will engage our counterparts in government to sort out the issue of funding for the mandate (operational costs) of this Hotel school as it has the potential to grow the economy of Taung and its surrounding villages. Honourable Members, my wish is to see the Hotel School project finished as soon as is possible for us to avoid dragging the project and rising costs.

Honourable Speaker, the financial challenges we face affects our development of the Dr KK District Hotel School. The building stands empty, awaiting renovations to make it habitable. We again, will pursue Treasury including National Department of Tourism to seek a minimum of R65 million, to ensure that this is realised in time so that the donated building does not stand unused for longer than is necessary.

- B. Motlotlegi Mmusa Kgotla le Maloko a ntlo a a tlotlegang, ntetlang go lo tlhalosetsa ka setheo sa rona sa Bojanala (North West Tourism Board). Mo ngwageng o o fetileng, lefapha le atlegile go tlhoma le go ikanisa maloko a Board. Mmusa Kgotla, go dira ga setheo ga go reye gore tsotlhe di lolame.



Setheo se tlhoka madi a a bonalang (**ke bua ka R40 million**) go bapatsa moonno wa “A Re yeng Bokone Bophirima”. The mandate of the North West Tourism Board (NWTB) is, amongst others, to market the province. We are conscious of the economic challenges that the world is facing but are pleased to report that despite this, tourism has continued to grow. Bokone Bophirima Tourism Sector generates about 4% of the GGP or direct contribution of R3.3 billion which includes R1,9 billion of Domestic Market and R1,4 billion of International Markets. Destination Bokone Bophirima supports an estimated 33 000 jobs. The Destination has 7, 9% and 5,3% market share within the Domestic and International Markets. Destination Bokone Bophirima is currently ranked 7 least visited destination in South Africa both in terms of Domestic Trips and International visitor arrivals

- C. Go atolosa diphuka tsa rona ka go ngoka bajanala go raa go tswela gaufi le kgakala. Se se ka kgonega fela fa go na le ledi le le bonalang go bapatsa le go rekisa porofense ya rona ya Bokone Bophirima. Ga jaana, re gaisiwa ke diporofense di le robedi (8) ka tekanyetso kabo ya papatso le thekiso ya diporofense tsa tsone. Re neilwe maikarabelo a go godisa seemo sa bojanala gore re ipone re le mo maamong a bone(4) ka ngwaga wa 2020 mo



nageng ka bophara mme kwa ntle ga tekanyetso kabo e e lekaneng, seno e tla nna e le toro fela.

Human Resource utilization and capacity development

Honourable Speaker, it prides us to report to this house that we are committed to ensuring that the set employment equity targets are met. Out of a component of thirteen SMS (13) members, we have exceeded the set 50% employment equity target in respect of women representation (8 out of the 13 are female). We are as a matter of fact standing on 61 % female SMS members, while 39% are males. SMS members. This augurs well with the notion that indeed women can lead when they are given a fair chance. In addressing employment of people with disabilities, the department is standing at 1.2% and is committed to meeting our 2% target by close of this financial year.

We continue seeking opportunities to attract the necessary skills to ensure that we meet our targets and objectives. We have also placed about 10 learners on Professional Cookery Learnership Level 4 at the Mahikeng Hotel School. We are proud to announce to the house that some of the students that we are funding are our guests in the house today. They will be graduating during the July month graduation ceremony at the Mahikeng Hotel School.



We are pleased to announce that our students have set up a “pop up” kitchen to showcase the expertise that our culinary students have. Please support them at the square once we are done with the budget speech. Your support will encourage our students to strive for higher standards of service in their chosen fields and boost their morale.

Tourism Growth, Development and Transformation

Bokone Bophirima remains 65% rural with the remaining 35% left between undeveloped and underdeveloped Villages and Small dorpias. We have challenges of deteriorating tourism infrastructure, limited products and enterprise development. To date we should acknowledge that some villages are better developed than others. We have notable tourism products in all districts of the province with each district having pockets of excellence. Our small dorpias have always had tourism products. We are pleased Honourable Speaker, that villages are coming on board in developing tourism products. The Townships are not to be left behind and they are grabbing opportunities that these new pockets are presenting.

We will continue ensuring that Tourist guiding is prioritised as we need tourist guides to direct tourists to all available products and destinations. Honourable Speaker, we are committed to continued structured



engagements with District Tourism Associations to address issues of the knowledge base and tour packages that remains the responsibility of tourist guides and tour operators. We further urge all other districts that are not organised to come on board. Honourable Members, we continue to acknowledge and reward excellence in our various fields. We take this opportunity to acknowledge that being organised works for our tourism establishments and destination. The Dr. K K District Tourism Association is a good example of this and this is evidenced by the many awards that the district has been able to amass.

Honourable Speaker, in collaboration with the National Department of Tourism, we have managed to secure funding to support tourism infrastructure, namely Manyane Lodge in Mahikeng Game Reserve, which is set for completion in July 2016. Almost R43million has been invested in this project and 154 jobs were created employment for our local community members of Dihatshwane, Lomanyaneng, Top, Lonely Park and Extension 39.

Again the National Department of Tourism, through its Social Responsibility Programme in the last financial year, announced its intention to invest money to re-vamp and re-position Lotlamoreng Dam in Mahikeng. We are happy to announce that the National Department has committed R15 million and a service provider has been appointed to commence on the project.

In positioning Bokone Bophirima as a business events destination, we have partnered with Sun International in bidding to host the May 2017 United National World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) World Eco Tourism Conference.

Further, in aligning ourselves to the 5 concretes and the development of rural tourism, we will continue to support the Bray July event and ensure that it occupies premier tourism and entertainment spot on the calendar of events to enjoy in South Africa. The uniqueness of Bray July, that being, an opportunity to see normal farm workers partaking in horse racing as jockeys for a day and enjoying a safari experience like no other, makes it a worthwhile investment. The event also presents an opportunity for all people of the North West and of the country to come together for a unique get-together which many years ago would not have been possible. We will continue to engage other relevant government stakeholders and corporates to ensure that we keep this event top of mind.

The Department is also committed to promote Sports Tourism and in this regard we will partner with the Department of Education and Sports Development and Sun International to host the inaugural Small Dorpie Golf Challenge culminating in the professional and amateurs entry at the Nedbank Golf Challenge.

Honourable Speaker, we are happy to report that we have finalised 3 of the strategies that the department had set itself to complete. Members of the Portfolio Committee have also been furnished with copies of the Draft Provincial Tourism Airlift Strategy which we will engage on in the course of the year.

We have over and above the development of these strategies, developed the tourism infra structure and spatial development plans that will be shared with all key stakeholders in the immediate future. We will in this financial year, establish a tourism research forum involving key public bodies and academic institutions to identify and prioritize tourism focussed research.

Honourable Speaker, our various interactions are yielding results. A snippet of this is the group of Irish journalists that visited the province after our interactions at UK Trade Mission. We are also hosting, in September 2016, a Mega Familiarisation (Mega-fam) Trip consisting of travel agents, tour operators and media coming from the UK. Last week, we were fortunate to host 2 delegates from the Jean Doursant School of Professional Cookery from Paris, France. We look forward to sharing details with the Portfolio Committee in due course.

Conclusion

Honourable Speaker, let me at this stage take this opportunity to firstly thank the Almighty who continues to strengthen and bless me beyond any imagination. I am humbled and grateful for everything He has done for me thus far. Secondly I take this opportunity to thank my political home, the African National Congress for bestowing the honour of leading our people to the promised land. I would also like to thank our honourable Premier for the support and guidance in my leadership role.

To my colleagues in the Executive, thank you for your work ethic and support. Thank you to Team Tourism and all those who have been with us on this journey. Again let me send my cordial gratitude to both the Chairperson and Members of the Portfolio Committee for your guidance and oversight and also a big thank you to the Chairperson of the Tourism Board.

To my family, I am speechless at the manner in which you continue to be a pillar of strength especially the fact that I am always on the road. Particularly to my husband, Rre Mohono, I am truly blessed and grateful to have you in my life and most importantly your understanding of the calling of my work. To my children, Pana, Koki, Tshepi, Munaka, Motlalepule and my Princess: all of you remain my source of inspiration and I am truly blessed to have you in my life. Bagaetsho, go tsamaya ke go bona.

An African proverb says: **“If you want to walk fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together”**. I look forward to us all walking this journey together!

Honourable Speaker, we table the 2016/17 budget for consideration by this august House.

I THANK YOU. KE A LEBOGA.

**MEC-DESBO MOHONO
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM
NORTH WEST PROVINCE**



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tourism

Department:
Tourism
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

“A Re Yeng Bokone Bophirima”

VISION:

Leading a dynamic, sustainable, diversified and vibrant tourism sector for the North West Province

MISSION:

To lead and grow a dynamic, sustainable, diversified and vibrant tourism sector for the North-West Province through:

- Promoting partnerships and collaboration with all key stakeholders, in particular the private sector ;
- Promoting cultural and heritage tourism in the North West;
- Strengthening institutional capacity;
- Promote good corporate and cooperative governance; and
- Branding and marketing of North West province as a tourism destination; and
- Creativity and innovation.

www.nwpg.gov.za/tourism



“A Re Yeng Bokone Bophirima”

