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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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MEDIA STATEMENT

Wednesday, 21 February 2024

NW TO STRENGTHEN AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT AS A CATALYST FOR LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION – SOPA 2024

Mahikeng - The North West Provincial Government has set aside R91 million for the 2024/2025 financial year to oversee the agricultural infrastructure backlog. This has been announced by the Acting Premier Nono Maloyi during the 2024 State of the Address which took place at the North West Provincial Legislature on Tuesday, 20 February 2024.

Agriculture infrastructure remains one of the key factors towards the impact of the sector as a key economic driver. Over 800 farmers are set to benefit from this intervention aimed at ensuring that farmers have resources to grow and produce in agriculture. This remains a foundation upon which the agricultural industry is based.

Maloyi has reiterated the importance of investing in the sector as a way to ensure that it grows. “The agriculture sector is yet to reach its full potential through meaningful participation of emerging farmers in this growing sector,” he emphasised.

As one of the critical infrastructure inputs, Acting Premier said in the coming financial year, land would be disbursed to 300 farmers. This will see the extension of farming to many other irrigated areas as well as dry-land farming in rural areas. The province will further transfer leased land to 614 farmers for ownership. “This intervention is intended to strengthen and empower emerging black farmers to join mainstream economy,” Acting Premier Maloyi added.

Further to agriculture support, another R77 million will be used to empower farmers with inputs such as livestock, feeds and medication. About 81 farmers will be supported with 1 734 goats.

The Government of South Africa has rolled out different agricultural developmental programs including the Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP) that enables access to infrastructure for smallholder farmers so that they progress towards commercialisation.

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Issued by the Office of the Premier

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