



MEC for Culture, Sport and Recreation
Ms Norah Mahlangu-Mabena

Policy & Budget Speech *2016/2017*



culture, sport & recreation
MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



AFRICAN UNION ANTHEM

Let us all unite and celebrate together
The victories won for our liberation
Let us dedicate ourselves to rise together
To defend our liberty and unity

O Sons and Daughters of Africa
Flesh of the Sun and Flesh of the Sky
Let us make Africa the Tree of Life

Let us all unite and sing together
To uphold the bonds that frame our destiny
Let us dedicate ourselves to fight together
For lasting peace and justice on earth

O Sons and Daughters of Africa
Flesh of the Sun and Flesh of the Sky
Let us make Africa the Tree of Life

Let us all unite and toil together
To give the best we have to Africa
The cradle of mankind and fount of culture
Our pride and hope at break of dawn.

O Sons and Daughters of Africa
Flesh of the Sun and Flesh of the Sky
Let us make Africa the Tree of Life

POLICY AND BUDGET SPEECH 2016/17

28th April 2016

Madam Speaker, Honourable Thandi Shongwe

Deputy Speaker, Honourable David Dube

Honourable Premier of our Province, David Mabuza

Honourable Members of the Executive Council

Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature

Honourable Members of Parliament

Kgoshi Mokoena, Chairperson of the House of Traditional Leaders

MMCs for Culture, Sport and Recreation from District and Local Municipalities

Head of the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation, Mr Sipho Mnisi and other Heads of Departments

Leadership of Cultural Forums

Leadership of Sport Federations

Language experts

Leadership of Multi Religious Formations

Traditional Leaders

Traditional Healers

Representatives of the Creative Workers Union of South Africa

Comrades and friends

Members of the media

Invited guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Honourable Speaker, the ANC-led government continues to be hard at work to improve the lives of the people and create a democratic, non-racial, non-sexist, united and a prosperous South Africa. We are indeed better placed and experienced to bring about more meaningful changes to the lives of all the people and we will never surrender the cause of creating a country that will respond to the needs and aspirations of all the people.

We are celebrating the gains of democracy in the country and we are happy that we are presenting the Policy and Budget speech of the Department of Culture, Sport



and Recreation fresh from commemorating Freedom Day which celebrates the first democratic elections that were held on the 27th of April in 1994 to bring to an end an era of shame and oppression in the country. However, as we commemorate Freedom Day, we are reminded of the reality that we are still confronted with, through the scourge of racism where our people are discriminated against and deprived of economic opportunities due to the racist past of our country where resources and opportunities were concentrated to the minority.

The ANC-led government is faced with a mammoth task of eradicating the racist legacy which is confronted vigorously so that we could build a patriotic socially cohesive society in our province and significantly contribute to nation building. The Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation is committed to work together with people from all diverse backgrounds to confront inequality and racism in the province and the country. Our programmes seek to unite all our people and inculcate the spirit of mutual trust amongst people so that we can together confront challenges that still besiege us. However, we shall not be derailed by opportunist agent provocateurs who want to undermine the gains of democracy by conducting themselves in a manner that is not consistent with the Constitution.

Mpumalanga province is a place of champions and achievers of high note and this was epitomized by excellent performances of the sons and daughters of our soil who dominated competitions of national and international importance and put our province on the map. We are proud of Ntandoyenkosi Kunene who is the current reigning Miss South Africa and we are looking forward to her participation in Miss World and Miss Universe beauty pageants. We have no doubt that she will emulate Rollene Strauss and be crowned Miss World. We also congratulate the newly crowned Miss Mpumalanga, Elaine Mkhabela.

We are equally proud of Karabo Mogane who mesmerized South Africa with his melodic voice and he was a clear favourite from the moment he entered Season 11 of the SA Idols. When he was eventually confirmed as Idols Winner, to many of us this was as expected as he is highly talented. Karabo is already doing very well in the entertainment industry as he has made history by scoring the Disney Junior deal. We congratulate him and appeal to our people to support him and other artists by buying his music and not support piracy as this destroys earning potential of artists and robs them of their livelihoods.

JR Bogopa, the choir Master of Team Mpumalanga in the Clash of Choirs this year made us proud when the team won the competition and this was a cherry on top for our artists. We are spoiled when it comes to artistic talent and we will continue to win more accolades going forward as we have abundance of talented artists. Congratulations JR and your Choristers. I thank all the people who voted for the sons and daughters of this Province.

We continue to interact with the people on matters of service delivery and we are encouraged by the constant messages of appreciation that we get from various communities in Mpumalanga who appreciate the interventions that we have made in their lives. We also value those who criticize us constructively and offer valuable and informed advice on how we can improve when we implement our programmes.

Achievements in the 2015/2016 Financial Year

Honourable Speaker, we are proud of our achievements in the 2015/16 financial year. We have made significant strides in the lives of the people in the province by bringing in services closer to them. We achieved 93% of our targets in the Annual Performance Plan as we were determined to roll out services to communities. Our target remains to achieve 100% in terms of our plans, even though we were faced with a harsh economic situation that affected resource allocations, we optimally used the resources and entered into strategic partnerships with the private sector through Public Private Partnerships to take service delivery to new heights.

We have built two new libraries in the province at Emthonjeni and Glenmore respectively, so that the community can have access to the latest literature and Information Communication Technology including Internet, Free Wi-Fi, computers and Photo Copying Machines. This will have a positive impact into the literacy and numeracy levels of people more in particular to the learners who will use the libraries to improve their grades. The previous Government ignored service delivery in previously disadvantaged communities and we are determined to erase this legacy. We are moving in this regard as we now have a total of 114 libraries in the Province that enable us to create access to information and we will gradually cover more scope as we continue to build new facilities.

The Archives Building is now operational and is contributing positively in the cause of keeping records for provincial departments and municipalities in the Province. The Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation is the custodian of records and archives in the province in terms of the Mpumalanga Archives Act of 1999 and National Archives and Records Services act of 1996 (as amended in 2002).

We have been assisting the Legislature, Provincial Departments, Municipalities and State Owned Entities to create records properly in terms of set standards. The assistance has come in a form of making sure that they have tools such as sound policies, correspondence system (file plans), registry procedure manuals and schedule of records other than correspondence system. We have recorded a great improvement by our clients especially municipalities.

Honourable Speaker, we know that the unemployment rate continues to be a frustrating aspect among communities in the province. In this regard, we created work opportunities for 153 young people and were afforded an opportunity to push back the frontiers of poverty through the Extended Public Works Programme. The Department also won both provincial and national awards respectively, for implementing the Extended Public Works Programme above expectations at the Kamoso Awards. The Provincial awards being; Best Implementing Department of EPWP projects, Best Cultural Sector, Best Social Sector, Best Innovative Social and Cultural Sector projects. The departmental project, 'My Village, My Art', was selected the best Nationally.

Honourable Speaker, we have also worked towards ensuring that schools in the province participate in sport by providing 200 schools with sport equipment and attire as per established norms and standards. We also supported 60 clubs in all the regions of Mpumalanga with sport equipment and attire on the following codes; Football, Cricket, Handball, Boxing, Volleyball and Table Tennis. An outdoor gym was built and handed over to the Msukaligwa Local Municipality for use by the community free of charge.

We also assisted Mbombela United during their playoffs and they qualified to gain



promotion to the National First division and the Province now has two clubs at this division. The other club is Witbank Spurs.

Programmes for the 2016/17 Financial Year

The Premier, Honourable David Mabuza, when delivering the State of the Province Address 2016 committed the provincial government towards building cohesive and sustainable communities that represent and serve all races, culture and creed of our population. In this regard, the department will support and initiate events that celebrate arts, culture, language, history and heritage inclusively in the province.

Our leaders have always stood against racism and worked tirelessly to uproot it as shown by what former president of the African National Congress, Oliver Tambo once said and I quote: **“We seek to create a united democratic and non-racial society. We have a vision of South Africa in which black and white shall live and work together as equals in conditions of peace and prosperity”**. Unquote

In the 2016/17 financial year, we will continue with efforts of nation building so that we can achieve social cohesion in the province as we have been mandated to lead Outcome 14 which is, Nation Building and Social Cohesion as part of the Medium Term Strategic Framework. Therefore, the Department has adopted the long-term nation-building goals for South Africa as advocated by the National Development Plan.

Programme 1 – Administration

Honourable Speaker, we are committed to promote good corporate governance and management so that we can render services in an effective and efficient manner consistent with the caring attitude of the ANC-led government. We will not tolerate any form of corruption in the department and services will be rendered in an open and transparent manner and we will also observe all Regulations and Acts governing Public Service as we are determined to achieve a clean audit at the end of the financial year.

Programme 2 – Cultural Affairs

Through the Cultural Affairs Programme, we seek to improve people’s knowledge and values that are enshrined in the Constitution as well as creating equal opportunities for people amongst others as a way of achieving nation building.

Honourable Speaker, the Department will in the current financial year host the Mpumalanga Cultural Festival as one of the provincial signature events that will attract visitors to the Province to share in our inclusive celebration of culture and heritage. The festival will serve as a vehicle to foster social cohesion in the province and it will expose our rich artistic excellence. We have no doubt that it will become a success and attract people to the province of the rising sun.

Arts and Culture

This financial year we will establish the Provincial Film Office as directed by the Executive Council. The Film Office will assist to regulate the development of the film

industry and serve as an information centre for film development in the province.

The Department will continue to support events that celebrate arts, culture, language, history and heritage inclusively and in this regard we will continue to support the Innibos Festival this current financial year to affirm the belief that as the people of Mpumalanga, we need to foster a common sense of nationhood through the inclusive celebration of our diverse heritage and culture. We will also extend support to eleven community based cultural programmes that assist us to deliver arts programmes to the communities and these include Izithethe Arts Institute, Cultural and Creative Industry Federation of South Africa(CCIFSA), South African National Community Theatre Association, Film structure, Mpumalanga Living Cultural Affairs, Mpumalanga Choral Music Association, Big Fish Entertainment, Melokuhle Arts Development and Casterbridge Music Development Agency amongst others. We have set aside a budget of **three million, four hundred and fifty thousand rands** in this regard.

We have also set aside **Six Hundred Thousand Rands** to support structures that promote matters of languages in the province which include Mpumalanga Writers Association, Mpumalanga Provincial Language Committee, Silulu SeSiswati and IsiNdebele Dictionary Unit.

328 jobs for young people in the province will be created through the Extended Public Works Programme and we will support 30 co-operatives to promote heritage and culture as part of investing in the cultural and creative industries.

Heritage

Honourable Speaker, we will continue commemorating National Days in the province to honour our heroes and heroines of the liberation struggle. A booklet on the history of commemorative days will be produced for distribution in schools. This year is the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the tragedy of the late Mozambican President, Samora Machel where both presidents of Mozambique and South Africa are expected to lead proceedings as we honour one of Africa's finest revolutionaries.

In a quest to preserve the heritage associated with the history of gold in the Province, the Department in collaboration with the South African Gold Panning Association (SAGPA), took Team South Africa to the World Gold Panning championship in Spain where the team brought home nine(9) medals. This Financial year, the Department and SAGPA will support Team SA to participate in the World Gold Panning championships scheduled to take place in California from 7th to 11th October 2016.

Standardization of Geographic Names

Honourable Speaker, we have embarked on a process of renaming the government buildings here at the Riverside Government Complex. After a process of consultation with various stakeholders, names have been proposed to the Executive Council for ratification. It is anticipated that building 1 to 8 and some open spaces within the Government Complex will soon boast their own new names and identities. In addition to the 223 national features standardised since 2000 to date, the Provincial geographical names committee has submitted a schedule of a further eight (8) names to the South African Geographical Names Committee for consideration.



Honourable speaker, we are proud to highlight that since the name of the Mpumalanga Capital City has been renamed from Nelspruit and Gazetted in 2009 as Mbombela, it will in this Financial year be unveiled and officially launched. We call upon municipalities to strengthen and provide adequate support to the Local Geographical Names Committees.

Programme 3: Library and Archival Services

Honourable Speaker, we are going to build six(6) new libraries in the 2016/17 financial year in the province as part of redressing the legacy of the past and creating a literate society. The libraries will be built at Balfour, Dipaleseng Local Municipality, Boekenhouthoek and Verena which are both in Thembisile Hani local Municipality. We will also complete the last phases of libraries in Mgobodzi, Nkomazi Local Municipality, Acornhoek in Bushbuckridge Local Municipality and Thusi Ville in Msukaligwa Local Municipality in the first quarter of the new financial year. We have set aside an amount of **thirty six million two hundred and thirty two thousand rands** for this purpose.

The Mashishing and Simile Public Libraries in Thaba Chweu Local Municipality will be upgraded. We will also be supporting six (6) libraries in Mkhondo, Victor Khanye, Mbombela, Dr JS Moroka, Chief Albert Luthuli and Nkomazi Local Municipalities. The support will include provisions for maintenance and renovations, library material, furniture, equipment, security services, compensation of employees and logistical support. An amount of **seventeen million** has been set aside for upgrading and supporting of these libraries.

Programme 4: Sport and Recreation

Honourable Speaker, sport is undoubtedly a uniting tool that brings the nation together and we are using it to achieve social cohesion and nation building in the province. Former President Nelson Mandela once said about sport and I quote: **“Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair. It is more powerful than government in breaking down racial barriers.”** Unquote

The Provincial teams are doing fairly well in their respective leagues and Mpumalanga Black Aces is currently placed fifth in the Premier Soccer League and they are having their best season by far. Witbank Spurs and Mbombela United are neck on neck placed fourth and fifth respectively in the national first division and they are on the verge of qualifying for the playoffs to the Premier Soccer League. The Pumas will make us proud when the Curry Cup kicks off judging by their previous performance. The Mpumalanga Sunbirds have won one game and lost two in the Brutal Fruit League and we are confident that they will bounce back and challenge for top honours.

We remain committed to make sport accessible to all people in the province through transformation and we are fully behind the decision of the Minister of Sport and Recreation, Fikile Mbalula, to revoke the privileges of Athletic South Africa, Cricket South Africa, Netball South Africa and South African Rugby Union to host or bid to stage any major international events in the country due to their failure to meet their transformation targets for 2014/15.

Recreation

Honourable Speaker, we must acknowledge the challenge and shortage of Recreational facilities in the Province. We are working with Municipalities to address this challenge.

Honourable Speaker, we want people to have access to gyms so that they could live healthy lifestyles through regular exercising. In this regard, we will be erecting a community Outdoor Gym in Kamhluswa at Nkomazi Municipality.

Honourable Speaker, we are targeting to ensure that one hundred and ten thousand people throughout the province actively participate in organised recreation events to promote healthy life styles through our programmes and we have set aside an amount of **one million, seven hundred and seventeen thousand** for this purpose.

We will also host the Annual week long Youth Camp in the province to capacitate young people from diverse backgrounds on life skills.

Sport Advancement

The Department will scout and identify athletes with potential throughout the province and we will then identify 50 of these athletes and ensure that they are given further support through the sport academies that includes payment of coaching fees, basic training, transport and accommodation. The three(3) sport academies in the regions will also ensure that 150 athletes in the province are supported through medical and scientific aspects which will also include dietary and training needs.

We are also supporting Christel Kriel from White River in her quest to qualify for the Rio Paralympics. Kriel is fulltime in the academy programme where she is assisted with her swimming, technical and medical aspects. We are committed to develop athletes who will represent the country in prestige sporting events like the Commonwealth Games 2022 which will be held in Durban. We are hopeful that some of the athletes from the Province will be part of Team South Africa.

School Sport

Honourable Speaker, the journey towards the 2022 Commonwealth Games starts at school level where future stars to represent the country will emerge. As a result we will work with the Department of Education to ensure participation of all schools in sport. The department is investing in school sport by providing 160 schools with sport equipment and attire. Over the years, school sport has proven to be a conveyor belt of fresh and new talent for different codes. Through the school sport tournaments, the Department working together with the Department of Education will ensure that 5000 learners participate at sporting tournaments at District level where 1300 learners will be selected to participate at Provincial level. Thereafter the cream of the crop of 800 learners will be selected and afforded an opportunity to test their sporting skills at the National School Sport championships.

Club Development

Honourable Speaker, we just came out of the Loskop 50 Km Ultra Marathon, where a South African athlete, Charles Jiyane, won and brought to an end the dominance of athletes from neighbouring countries who previously took top honours for successive



years. We set aside **seven hundred thousand rands** to support the marathon as our core mandate is to promote matters of sport in the province and to promote healthy lifestyles among people by encouraging regular exercising and participation in sport.

Conclusion

Honourable Speaker, as a Department we will continue promoting artistic excellence in the province and creating a province of champions as we work together with our people to create a better province.

We will also continue to honour our heroes and heroines of the liberation struggle as we are deeply indebted to them for their gallant fight and immense contributions that brought the apartheid regime to its knees. The month of April reminds us of the killing of the former Commander in Chief of Umkhonto we Sizwe and General Secretary of the South African Communist Party, comrade **Martin Thembisile “Chris” Hani** by reactionary elements that attempted to undermine our revolution. We are also reminded of the killing of Umkhonto we Sizwe young cadre, **Solomon Kalushi Mahlangu** who was brutally killed by the apartheid regime but his prophetic words that his blood will nourish the tree for freedom has since been realized and we will fondly remember these heroes of the struggle.

The ANC-led government carries the aspirations of South Africans as is trusted by the people who have given us an overwhelming majority to govern this Province and will continue creating better lives for all. The Premier of Mpumalanga, Honourable David Mabuza, continues to be exemplary in his leadership of the Mpumalanga Provincial Government and working together with our people, we will do more. I want to take this opportunity and extend words of appreciation to Premier Mabuza for his guidance as we implement our mandate, my colleagues in the Provincial Executive, Honourable members of the Legislature and more in particular the Portfolio Committee on Education and Sport that enables us to account properly to this august house.

We also appreciate the support we get from the leadership of the African National Congress and its entire membership in the province and we will continue working together with the movement to advance the national democratic revolution. We remain resolute to guard the gains of democracy, we will not rest on our laurels and will rally to the cause of uprooting the tendency of undermining democratically elected leadership of our country in various spheres of government and attempts to force a regime change by anti-democrats which is disguised as support towards democratic institutions.

Honourable Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Head of Department for Culture, Sport and Recreation, Mr Sipho Mnisi and the entire staff component of the Department for their continued support as we are a dedicated team that works tirelessly to service the people of Mpumalanga.

I also thank my family for the support, thank you very much.

Honourable Speaker, I therefore present to the house, Budget Vote 11 of the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation amounting to **R451 million** divided as according to the following programmes.

Programme 1. Administration	81,679 million
Programme 2. Cultural Affairs	86, 838 million
Programme 3. Library and Archives	187, 240 million
Programme 4. Sports and Recreation	96, 150 million
TOTAL	451, 907 million

I thank you! Ngiyathokoza! Ngiyabonga, Baie Dankie!



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