



culture, sport & recreation

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# 2019/20

## POLICY AND BUDGET SPEECH

11 JULY 2019

*MEC CULTURE, SPORT & RECREATION  
LL NTSHALINTSHALI*



**DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE & SPORT AND RECREATION 2019/20**  
**POLICY AND BUDGET SPEECH BY HON. LL NSTHALINTSHALI**

**11 JULY 2019**

Honourable Speaker, Shiba

Honourable Deputy Speaker, Mkhathshwa

Honourable Premier, Mtsweni-Tsipane

Honourable Members of the Executive Council

Honourable Chief Whip: Mlombo

Honourable Deputy Chief Whip: Masilela

Honourable Chair of Chairs: Honourable Skosana

Honourable Members of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature

Honourable Chairperson of the Education, Culture, Sport and Recreation Portfolio Committee,  
Hlophe

Members of the Mayoral Committees

Acting Director-General Mr Mohlasedi

Acting Head: Culture, Sport and Recreation Dr Lubisi

All Heads of Departments

The ANC leadership in Mpumalanga Province

Leaders of the Alliance Partners in Mpumalanga (SACP, COSATU & SANCO)

Chairperson of the Mpumalanga House of Traditional Leaders, Inkosi Ngomane

Chairperson of the Mpumalanga Moral Regeneration Movement, Reverend Nthali

President of the Mpumalanga Sports Confederation Mr Zwane

Sport Federations, various NPOs and NGO formations in the Province

Players in the Creative Industry

Esteemed Guests, Mr Sukazi (TS Galaxy), Mr Bart Harmse (Mpumalanga Cycling Union), Matsulu  
Cricket Club, Daantjie Boxing Club

Exhibitors

1. Honourable Speaker, it is always important for the Country to remember that our liberation struggle that led to this democracy was underpinned by sacrifices made by men and women who shared unity of purpose.
2. Today as we table this Policy and Budget Speech, we wish to acknowledge the 56th Anniversary of the Rivonia Trial. In 1963, liberation fighters were caught in a raid by the apartheid police. The Rivonia trial was the biggest political trial the country has ever seen. Liberation heroes and heroines such as Lionel Bernstein, Dennis Goldberg, Arthur Goodrich, Bop Hippié, James Kantor, Ahmed Kathrada, Nelson Mandela, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba, Andrew Mlangeni, Elias Motsoaledi, Walter Sisulu and Harold Hlophe laid the foundation for our freedom and democracy which we enjoy today.
3. Just yesterday we were celebrating the birthday of another struggle hero Solomon Kalushi Mahlangu who was born in Doornkop, Middleburg. He was sentenced to death for his involvement in the liberation struggle. We should never forget the sacrifices made by young people of his caliber in the country.
4. Madam Speaker, as we enter into the 6th administration, his Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa, articulated seven focus areas as priorities which include Social Cohesion and Safe communities. Our communities must feel a sense of pride in its National Identity. South Africa belongs to all who live in it and therefore a socially cohesive society must form a corner stone of building our nation.
5. We are driven by the distinctly new era of hope and mandate that is reverberating in all corners of South Africa led by our President Cyril Ramaphosa.
6. Madam Speaker, while we should acknowledge the tremendous work done over the last 25 years, we are under no illusion that our communities still face daunting challenges. In our efforts to bring confidence to our communities and build a Socially Cohesive South Africa, our programmes and policies will reflect a bias towards achieving this priority.

7. The country is faced with a mammoth task of turning the economy around and ensure that there is social cohesion amongst communities, promote cultural diversity and unity for purpose.
8. Madam Speaker, during the election campaign, we have traversed the length and breadth of our Province, from Mbuzini to Marapyane; from Vukuzakhe to Acornhoek.
9. From the iconic God's Window to the rolling hills of the Makhonjwa Mountain we engaged with communities and their messages to us was reaffirming their commitment to the policies and principles of the Ruling Party. We took guidance from their messages to prioritize areas affected by inadequate service delivery.
10. Some of the major challenges facing the Province are that we are losing a grip on the core values enshrined in the our Constitution that include, Patriotism towards our National Anthem & National Flag especially our loyalty to the flag and its symbolism, tolerance and cultural diversity.
11. The department has met and engaged with the Provincial House of Traditional Leaders to work together in restoring moral values (Ubuntu) and cultural identity amongst our communities. There are several cases of loss of moral values visible and escalating in our communities. This is a societal matter and not only for police, therefore we call for the entire society to work with police especially government to restore the values that are been eroded.
12. Honourable members, we all have a constitutional obligation to ensure that we do not fail our communities. Political differences will not change their situation around, however meaningful debates and dialogues on policy implementation will move our work a few steps forward.
13. As a caring government we will work together with our people to vigorously confront poverty, unemployment and inequality so that we can ensure that people have access to decent work, services and more importantly, are afforded opportunities to flourish in the areas of Sporting, Culture and Creative Industry Sectors.
14. Madam Speaker, we would be failing our constitutional mandate if we did not condemn the prejudice and marginalization of women in sport. We have seen one of our best produced talented South African athlete, Mokgadi Caster Semenya, being marginalized on the pretext of having high levels of testosterone.
15. The Province wishes to add its support to the voices of the many local and international individuals and organisations that call for fair treatment of one of our own against the position of the International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF).

16. The guidance as articulated by the Honourable Premier Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane calls for all government programmes and policies across all departments and agencies to be directed in pursuit of the articulated priorities. The Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation, our programmes will respond towards the realization of Social Cohesion and Safe Communities.

## **CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

17. Madam Speaker, the Department has prioritized Culture and Creative Industry Sector since the Province is rich in cultural diversity and artistic talent, it will be opportune to harness this potential to the benefit of our people.

18. The province we delighted to announce that we will be hosting the SATMA Awards announcements of nominees on the 17th August 2019. As a province we attended the SATMA Awards which were held in Polokwane June 2019 where our artists were awarded in various categories.

19. Join me in celebrating the following accolades:

- A special mention goes to Smangele Radebe from Thembisile Hani Municipality after her song, Is'gwebo Sentambo, won the Best Song of the Year at the 2018 South African Traditional Music Achievement Awards (SATMA).
- We also congratulate Amagcokama popularly known as Abafana bakamgqumeni from Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme after their song "I Crush Yami" won Best Maskandi Album at the SATMA Awards. They also scooped the prestigious Best Male Artists award.
- In pursuit of cultural exchange programmes and international exposure for our artists, the Province took Mpumalanga Maskandi band, Iqhugalipholile from Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme, to Russia where they delivered a sterling performance during the Annual Ural Music Festival. This programme was under the auspices of the Bilateral Agreement that was entered between the Mpumalanga Province and Sverdlovsk region in Russia.
- Lil De Kid from Thembisile Hani Municipality made us proud by winning Best Vernacular Hip Hop Song.

20. This is an affirmation that indeed Mpumalanga has immense talent in the creative industry and we are looking forward to our artists dispelling the myth that talent lies in other provinces rather than Mpumalanga. Just to quote a few, we have soccer stars like Happy Jele (Orlando Pirates captain), Themba Masango (Kaizer Chiefs player), Ms Lucia Ochan (Mrs Africa Globe), Khensani Mnisi (Miss Teen South Africa Universal), Musa Sukwini (Idols Winner), Brendan (Idols runner-up), Karabo Mogane (Idols Winner) and there are many other talented people who are auditioning for idols in 2019. We want to call upon M-Net (DSTV) to consider bringing the auditions to Mpumalanga Province.

21. As we continue to promote human rights, reconciliation, cultural diversity and nation building, we will ensure that our citizens have improved knowledge and access to the Cultural and Heritage arena and to uphold the values enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.

22. The Creative industry has been fragmented in the Province. In an effort to optimize the economic spin offs in this area, there is a need to facilitate greater structural alignment of this sector. This will allow practitioners to produce more local content and increase investment in local infrastructure, especially in township and rural areas. This strategy will also include capacity building with a focus in raising of capital, issues of marketing production and distribution of our products and services.

23. The Mpumalanga Cultural Xperience is in its 4th year of existence and the popularity has grown immensely. This signature event of the province is expected to grow significantly over the next five years to rival other similar events in the country. This initiative will provide a platform for diverse cultural groups, local artists and crafters to showcase their talents.

24. Madam Speaker, the department has supported various arts and craft cooperatives to promote heritage, cultural and creative industries. We will continue to support this programme as it has yielded positive socio-economic upliftment.

25. As part of promoting active citizenry we will continue to support community arts and culture structures that assist the Department to deliver on its mandate. The support to these structures assist the Department to reach out to all corners of the Province and also create a platform for cultural tolerance and integration.

26. The Innibos National Arts Festival was hosted in the Province for a week. The official opening coincided with the National Craft Awards where local crafters were awarded for their excellent work. The walk tall exhibition was hosted at the foyer of the legislature which focused primarily on the talent of our local artists.

27. The City of Mbombela came to stand still with a host of festivities for the whole week. The festival attracted in excess of 100 000 patrons having a positive economic benefit for the Province.

28. The department will continue to support the promotion of four (4) cultural events through preservation programmes of Culture and Heritage. (Miss Culture Indoni, Umkhosi woMhlanga, Komjejeje and Erholweni cultural events). We will work closely with stakeholders to reconfigure the selection and hosting of the Miss Culture Indoni event.

29. The Province will continue to fight against racial discrimination and xenophobia through community social cohesion dialogues, targeted workshops and national commemorative days. In addition we will continue to create awareness of our national symbols and orders in schools and communities.

30. In our quest to build a cohesive society, it is imperative for us to acknowledge our history and heritage. The transformation of the heritage landscape of the country will contribute to the development of a nation with a proud common identity. We will continue to support the Mpumalanga Geographic Names Committee and the Mpumalanga Provincial Heritage Council to executive their mandate.

31. The department will be launching terminology books in the following areas, Agriculture, Economics, Atmospheric science and conservation in promoting multi-linguism and usage of indigenous languages in teaching and learning at schools. This programme is planned to be launched within this current financial year 2019/20

32. Madam Speaker, we will promote and call on the private sector to invest more resources in museums, archives, heritage and cultural projects. We will continue to work closely with the National Department of Sport, Arts and Culture on the Resistance and Liberation Heritage Route project with particular focus on the Lowveld Massacre history and the Saul Mkhize heritage. We will also collaborate with the DSAC on the establishment of a trans-boarder cultural institution for the Samora Machel/Matola sites.

33. Our museums are a significant tourism attraction in the Province. We will continue with the revitalisation of Pilgrims Rest, Barberton and Kghodwana museums. Tour guides and caretakers are currently supported with stipends to keep the museums open during weekends and public holidays. The Department will support the local museums at Mashishing and Nomoya Masilela museum in Bethal.

34. South Africa hosted the 2005 and 2012 World Gold Panning Championships at Pilgrims Rest very successfully with 20 member countries in attendance. This year we intend to submit a bid to host the World Gold Panning Championships again in South Africa in 2023-2024. These Heritage and Cultural initiatives will contribute positively towards the Provincial GDP.

### **LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES SERVICES**

35. Madam Speaker as his Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa outlined the seven priorities in the SONA for the 6th Administration, he emphasised the point that 'our schools will have better educational outcomes and every ten year old will be able to read for meaning'. The Department will support this priority through collaboration with the Department of Education and build library infrastructure where all learners will have access to books, internet and free Wi-Fi.

36. We also congratulate Kamaqhekeza Library in Nkomazi Local Municipality for being recognized nationally for winning the Special Ministerial Award in the Category, Mini Library for the Blind, during the Centre for Public Service Innovation Awards. This project also represented South Africa at the Public Service Day (APSD) Conference in Nairobi, Kenya where as a Province we were represented by Bongani Sibambo from Nkomazi on sharing best practices with the continent.

37. In order to redress the imbalances of the past and bring equal opportunities to the people of Mpumalanga in the field of education, the province has commenced with the construction of three (3) state of the art libraries at Thulamahashe, Sakhile and Thubelihle. While these projects are progressing well, we were faced with challenges of community unrest and capacity of contractors to deliver within the agreed scope of work and timelines.

38. In addition to this we will continue to maintain and upgrade of nine (9) existing libraries. We also intend to initiate three (3) new libraries in Maviljan, KwaMhlanga and Ethandukukhanya.

39. We are convinced that the newly built libraries have propelled a new culture of reading and acquiring of information by members of the community both young and old. This government is committed to improve literacy levels of our people and libraries play a crucial role in this regard, as we want to create a reading nation that will enable all our people to acquire knowledge to improve their lives.

40. We invested in this state of the art infrastructure to ensure that our people do not walk long distances to access libraries which are a fountain of knowledge and these libraries have been equipped and resourced with latest titles and technology including internet and WI-FI and this respond to the needs and aspirations of our people more in particular learners. The Province has a total of 117 public libraries. People must jealously guard against infrastructure vandalism and destruction.

41. The Province will continue to promote and preserve valuable information through the Provincial Archive. In the current financial year, the Province will host the National Oral History conference in October 2019.

#### SPORTS AND RECREATION

42. Let me take this moment and congratulate Bafana Bafana on their progress in the 2019 AFCON tournament. In the same breath let us appreciate Banyana Banyana for their effort in qualifying for the Women's World Cup. We thank the Ministry of Sport, Arts and Culture for addressing the salary disparities that existed where the Bafana Bafana were paid more than Banyana Banyana.

43. Honourable Speaker, we also want to congratulate Mpumalanga's pride, TS Galaxy Football Club, which made history by becoming the 1st National First Division team since the inception of the Premier Soccer League, to win the Nedbank Cup and thus qualifying to represent South Africa in the CAF Confederations Cup. The overwhelming support they received from the people of Mpumalanga, provincial and local government must be applauded.



44. We are saddened by the untimely death of one of the players: Thembinkosi Mbamba and Katlego Malesela son of the head Coach Dan Malesela. May their souls Rest in Peace. Our sincere condolences to both families, team mates and supporters.

45. We have observed that our past divisions were deeply entrenched by the apartheid regime, and can be eroded through sport as it brings different ethnic groups together as we share our common goal of sportsmanship and patriotism towards our country.

46. We urge the corporate sector to come on board and contribute towards nurturing the talent of our athletes in Mpumalanga as they have a responsibility towards contributing to social upliftment.

47. Madam Speaker, Nolwazi Mashaba, a student on our athletes support programme at the Lowveld High Sport Focus School, participated in the African Youth and Junior Championships in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. She made Mpumalanga proud by winning two gold medals in the under 18 Triple Jump and under 18 long jump. This is the excellence that we want to see rubbing off all our athletes who participate in national and international events.

48. On Community Sport mass participation programme we will continue to roll out rural sport in partnership with traditional councils in the three districts, supporting 70 teams. In addition we are going to provide equipment and attire to 60 Sports Clubs and 17 Municipal Hubs.

49. The Department will work closely with all relevant stakeholders such as federations, sporting structures and municipalities in the promotion and coordination of sport infrastructure and programmes.

50. Madam Speaker we are proud to announce that we will be hosting the inaugural Provincial Sport Awards. Tomorrow on the 12th July 2019, the Province will be launching the Awards. These awards seek to acknowledge sport achievers in the Province where Mpumalanga's cream of the crop in sport will be awarded for their excellence. These Awards will become an annual feature in our programme and will feed into the National Sport Awards.

51. Honourable Speaker We will continue to bring high profile games to enhance sport tourism in the province.

- We will be announcing teams that will featured in the Mpumalanga Cultural Xperience Soccer tournament. The tournament will also assist to popularize support for the upcoming Mpumalanga Cultural Xperience festival in December 2019 while we promote sport tourism and maximizing economic spin-offs.

- As part of our programme for developing cyclists, we will continue to support the Panorama Cycling Tour which accommodates both amateurs and professionals. This will give greater opportunity to local cyclists and clubs to learn from the elite counterparts.
- The Annual Cycling Tour from Swadini to Loskop Dam will take place during Heritage Month in September 2019. International cyclists are expected to participate in this elite race. This initiative promotes and profiles Mpumalanga as capable of hosting international events boosting sport tourism in the Province.
- We will work with the Department of Public Works Roads and Transport to ensure that we priorities maintenance of road infrastructure so that Mpumalanga can remain an attractive investment destination of choice for hosting major events.
- In April 2019, Loskop Marathon was successfully supported, that managed to attract in excess of 5000 athletes from across the country. This also gave access to up and coming athletes from far flung rural areas of the province.

52. We want to see all our people living an active lifestyle where they will regularly take part in sport so that we can reduce the impact of lifestyle diseases on our people and in this regard, we are going to ensure that 70 312 people in the province actively participate in organized sport and active recreation events for an example indigenous games, Big Walk and others this financial year. The Department in collaboration with the Department of Social Development support the elderly through the golden games programme.

53. Our people are encouraged to make walking, exercising and eating healthy part of their daily routine. As we celebrate Mandela month we wish to appreciate the initiative of the Lowveld Walkers and their support team who started walking on the 1st of July 2019 from Pretoria to Mbombela, they arrived yesterday. This initiative was inspired by the spirit and values of uTata Nelson Mandela. The funds raised will be utilized to assist with the registration of underprivileged students into tertiary institutions.

54. Honourable Speaker, we will continue to implement schedule 5 of the Constitution of 1996, White Paper on Sport and Recreation of 2011. The National Department of Sport, Arts and Culture and the Department of Basic Education has entered into an MoU to advance school sport in all provinces.

55. Ten thousand eight hundred and sixty (10 860) Learners will also be kept active and competitive through School Sport Programme. In this regard, we have sent a strong delegation of over 300 learners who represented Mpumalanga in Durban during the National Winter Games in July 2019. We are pleased to announce that participants represented the province well and were awarded twenty medals.

56. The Sport Focus Schools will continue to be a bedrock to identify and nurture talent in the Province. Let us take inspiration from Coco Gauff, a 15 year old tennis player who beat the legendary tennis player Venus Williams at Wimbledon 2019.

57. Madam Speaker, we commit ourselves before this August House that as a Department we will continue investing and promoting Culture, Sport and Recreation so that we can produce best athletes, preserve culture and promote social cohesion.

We vividly remember what the first president of the Republic, Tata Nelson Mandela, Isithwalandwe, said on sport and I quote:

"Sports have the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire, the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sports can create hope where there was once only despair. It is more powerful than governments in breaking down racial barriers. It laughs in the face of all types of discrimination. Sports is the game of lovers".

## **CONCLUSION**

58. In conclusion, we should move away from talk-shop and be more practical in our actions of resolving the challenges of our people. Our work can only be measured through decisions put in practice and not empty words and speeches.

59. Madam Speaker we have hit the ground running to ensure that our people have access to services. The positive mood that prevails in the country creates high expectations from our communities. Our response must be speedy, transparent and appropriate.

60. I want to take this opportunity and thank the African National Congress for entrusting me with the responsibility to be amongst the Honourable members of this August House. We commit ourselves to be servants of the people and we will ensure that policies are implemented to improve the lives of communities.

61. Let me also take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to the Honourable Premier of the Province for her leadership.

62. We equally thank the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Education, Culture, Sport and Recreation, Ms Nompulelo Hlophe and all Honourable Members of the Portfolio and Select Committees for their oversight role and accountability.

63. I appreciate the warm reception and the support I received from the Head of Department, Mr Godfrey Ntombela, the Management and the entire staff compliment

64. Madam Speaker, allow me to table the Budget for Vote 11 for the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation allocated according to the following programmes for consideration by the House:

PROGRAMME	AMOUNT R'000
Administration	R112, 389
Cultural Affairs	R133, 631
Library and Archives Services	R193, 688
Sports and Recreation	R104, 731
TOTAL	R544, 439

Ngiyathokoza!

Ngiyabonga

Dankie

Thank you

Kea leboha

Ndiyabulela

Hi khensile

Ndolivhuua

Enkosi

Namaste