



social development Department: Social Development PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

MEDIA RELEASE

11 October, 2018

CRITICAL ROLE AND CONTRIBUTION BY RURAL WOMEN RECOGNISED AS KWAZULU-NATAL COMMEMORATES THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF RURAL WOMEN AND WORLD FOOD DAY

The MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development in KwaZulu-Natal Mr Themba Mthembu, in partnership with his Social Development counterpart Mrs Weziwe Thusi invite you to join in on the celebration of International Day for Rural Women and World Food Day which will be held at Phumza Hall, KwaMachi, Ugu District.

The two Departments will use these two international events to engage with the destitute community of Ward 10 in KwaMachi to address issues of rural agricultural development, food security, poverty, hunger and malnutrition.

At least 13 million people in South Africa still suffer from hunger and malnutrition and those affected are mainly women and children. In a bid to alleviate hunger, the two Departments will be building a Food Mountain made out of freshly produced food which will be handed out to identified families in the area.

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development will also be handing over an Orchard of about one hectare consisting of Citrus and Peach trees to a youth run Non-Profit Organisation which will assist in the battle to end food insecurity. By handing over this orchard, the Department hopes to empower the youth and ensure they can sustain themselves.

The Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development and Social Development are working together to alleviate poverty and reach **#zerohunger** by 2030.

Members of the media are invited to cover the event scheduled as follows:

Date: 16 October, 2018

Venue: Phumza Hall KwaMachi, Ugu District

Time: 9am

For more information, please contact Phathisa Mfuyo on 073 129 3378, e-mail <u>phathisa.mfuyo@kzndard.gov.za</u> or

Ncumisa Ndelu on 083 447 0958, e-mail ncumisa.ndelu@kznsocdev.gov.za