

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**ANNUAL REPORT TO CITIZENS: 2019/2020 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**1. Who We Are...**

We are the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in the Province of KwaZulu- Natal with the following Vision and Mission:

**Vision:** "An inclusive, sustainable and radically transformed agricultural sector that builds thriving rural communities in balance with nature."

**Mission:** "To advance sound agricultural practices that stimulates comprehensive economic growth, food security and advancement of rural communities."

**2. Strategic Objective:**

To provide agricultural support services to farmers in order to ensure sustainable development and management of agricultural resources

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Strategic Goals:

- \* Corporate governance and an integrated service delivery.
- \* Unleashing the agricultural potential in the province
- \* Sustainable natural environmental management
- \* Promotion of sustainable rural livelihoods
- \* To provide veterinary services to clients in order to ensure healthy animals, safe animal product and welfare of people of South Africa

**3. What we do...**

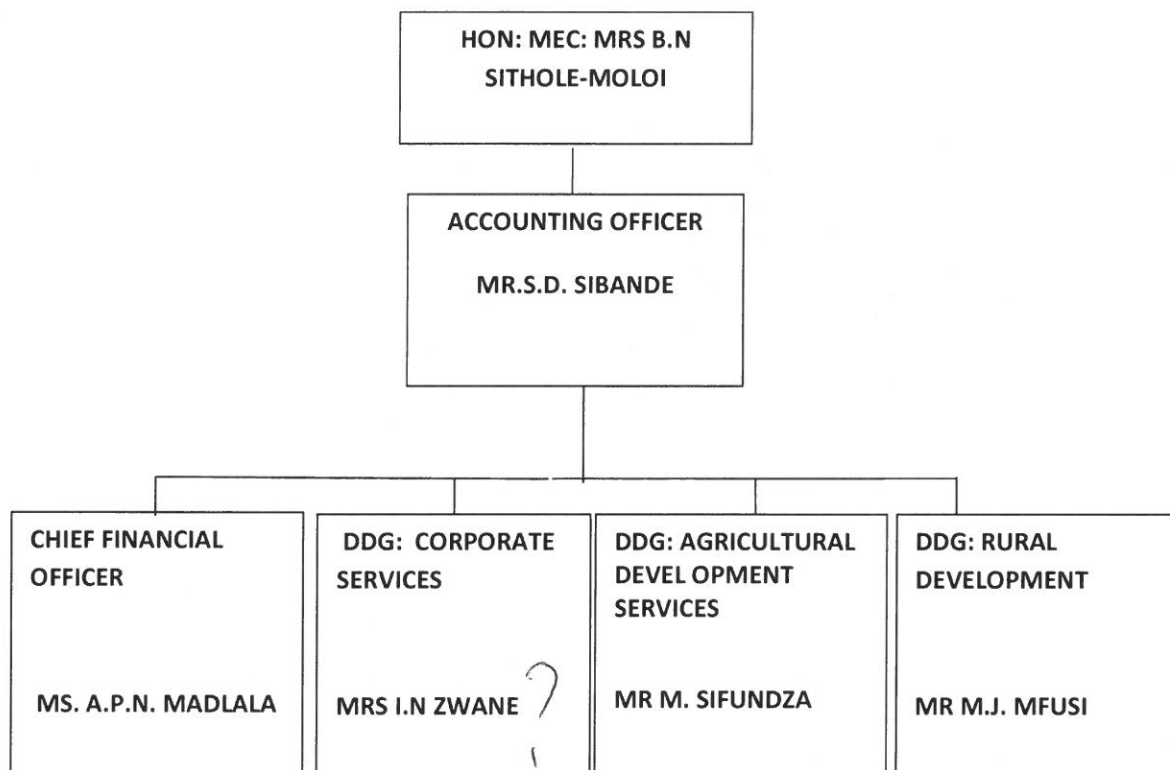
The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has the following main services

- \* Advisory services i.e. Crop production, livestock ( inclusive of veterinary services)
- \* Registration, de-registration of abattoirs and regulation of slaughtering
- \* Certification of meat imports / exports, Primary Animal Healthcare Services e.g. vaccinations, Laboratory diagnostics services
- \* Agricultural Development Services i.e. research, accredited and non-accredited agricultural training, scientific support, engineering design and development services, natural resource management, mechanization support.
- \* Rural Development Monitoring and Co-ordination i.e. Rural Development Spatial Planning and development services, Social facilitation, Economics, Marketing and value adding, Business entity and social facilitation, Funding, investment and partnership.

#### 4. Who is in charge ...

The MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development is Honorable Mrs. Bongiwe Sithole-Moloi (MPL). She is accountable for directing the KwaZulu Natal Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in line with the National and KwaZulu Natal Provincial Government's priorities.

The Head of Department is Mr S. Sibande, who is the Accounting Officer charged with the responsibility to implement Departmental policies and strategy and ensuring proper systems and controls in order for the Department to be effective, efficient and economic.



### **Our Standards - and How We Met Them**

- \* Every client entering the department office will be attended within 60 minutes.
- \* Request for services to be acknowledged within five working days.
- \* Complaints about service delivery will be dealt with and progress report provided to the complainant within 10 working days from the date of complaint.

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Rural Development been guided by the following core values:

- \* Batho Pele Principles and service orientation
- \* Co-Operative Governance and strategic partnership
- \* Self-sufficiency and independence
- \* Transformation
- \* Financial prudence and resource limitation
- \* Accountability and transparency
- \* Development and recognition

The KwaZulu Natal Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has three Programs, through which it provides services to its clients.

Programme 1: Administration

Programme 2: Agricultural Development Services

Programme 3: Rural Development

### **RESULTS ACHIEVED ON PROGRAMMES**

The Department in line with the 2019/2020 budget speech delivered by the former MEC achieved the following;

#### **Programme 2: Agricultural Development Services**

- \* 1276 Green Jobs Created for projects
- \* 23880 Households supported with agricultural food production initiatives
- \* 9118 hectares of agricultural land rehabilitated for coping and crazing
- \* 285 Km of agricultural and Livestock fencing erected
- \* 101563 mushroom packs were produced by the department

- \* A multi-planting season programme was implemented during 2019/20, a total of 15 157ha (8 073ha of maize and 7 084ha of beans) of maize and beans were planted.
- \* 12 projects completed wherein activities includes amongst other things: construction of 2x1000 layer houses, 1x1500 broiler unit, equipment, feed, vaccine and medication.
- \* 10 projects completed wherein activities includes amongst other things: construction of 50 sow pig structures- furrowing, mating and finishing houses with steel structures, demolishing of existing old structures and replace them with new ones,

#### **Veterinary Services: rabies injections and anthrax**

- \* R30 million spend on Vaccines and dipping chemicals.
- \* 710928 herd of cattle vaccinated against Anthrax
- \* 282385 rabies vaccinations for dogs and cats.

#### **Research and Development:**

- \* Seed multiplication and seedbanks established at Dundee Research Station.

#### **Programme 3: Rural Development**

- \* 51 projects supported with mentorship in various aspects of farm/business enterprise management.

#### **Programme 1: Administration**

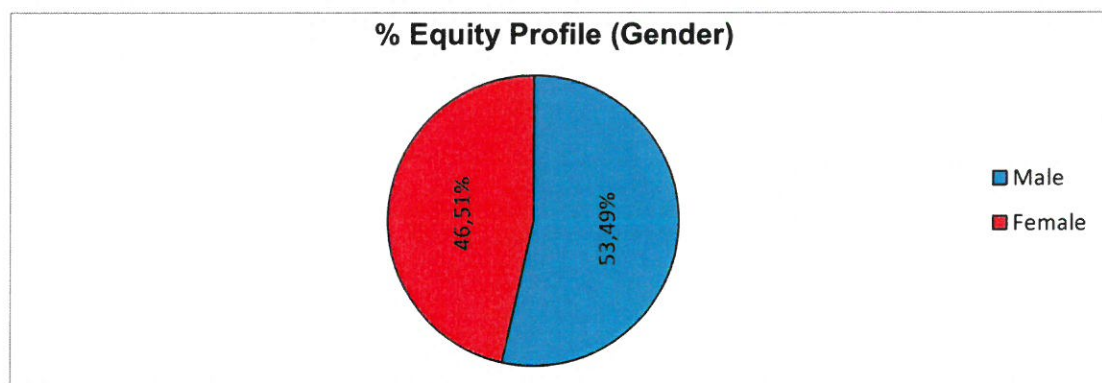
- \* The department filled 0.75% of vacant posts (228), which resulted in a reduction of the Departmental vacancy rate to 5.35%. The department advertised all approved posts. Due to the delay in the recruitment process, a lesser number of vacant posts were filled. It should be noted that the Head of Department post was advertised and filled.
- \* Department placed a further 20 graduate interns in the 2019/2020 financial year.
- \* To contribute to the scarce skills, the Department appointed 6 Candidate Engineers and subjected the them to the developmental programme for 2020/2021 in order to ensure that they meet the registration requirements to qualify as Engineers.
- \* The Department will rolled out its Artisan Development Programme, where six (6) tractor maintenance artisans are in the development programme. This augments the department's internal capacity to repair tractors, which are rendered by the mechanisation Programme.

## 5. How we intend to improve services

During the current financial year, the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Rural Development will continue:

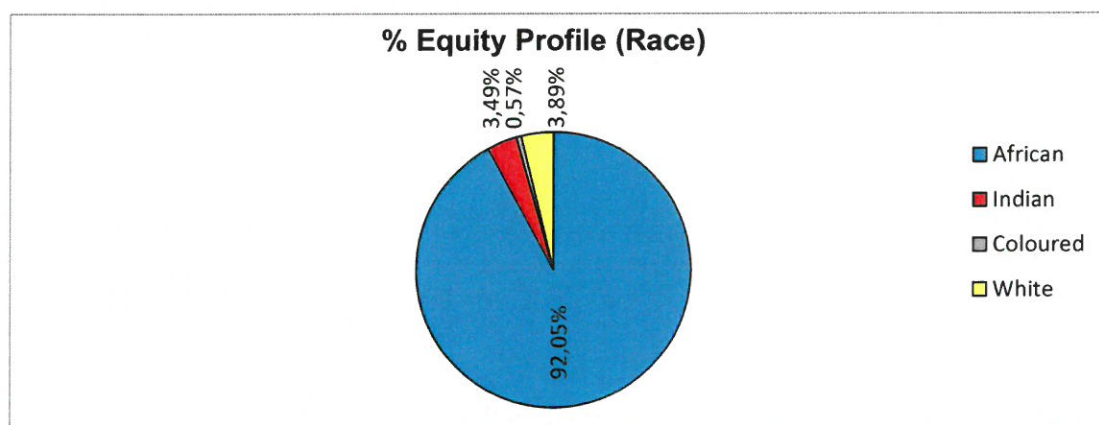
- \* To ensure improved household food security that rural areas become economically active, create jobs, eradicate poverty and ensure food security.
- \* To promote small holder farming through increased effort in supporting livestock farming and food production
- \* The utilisation of grant funding to promote job creation and support of agricultural infrastructure and practices
- \* Strengthen research support
- \* Propel the amalgamation of DARD entities, filling of vacancies in line with equity targets and implementation of skills development programme e.g mentorship.
- \* To facilitate the creation of sustainable rural enterprises, supported by increased investments in agro-processing, access to market and financial services

## 6. Our Organization and Staffing as at 31 March 2020





Overall gender representation illustrates that the Department is more male dominated at (53.49%) while females are at (46.51%). The Department will strive to achieve a 50% equilibrium in gender representation at all levels, through implementation of its Departmental Employment Equity Plan and the KZN Provincial Demographics.



The Departmental EE Plan currently utilizes the KZN Provincial Demographics as a guide for race representation and guides the recruitment of employees within the Department based on its approved policy on Recruitment and Selection. The status of the Departmental race demographics in relation to the provincial race demographics and the respective variances are reflected in the table below.

Race	Departmental Demographics	Provincial Demographics	Variance
African	92.05% (2270)	80.60%	11.45%
Coloured	0.57% (14)	2.1%	-1.53%
Indian	3.49% (86)	11.7%	-8.21%
White	3.89% (96)	5.6%	-1.71%

It is evident from the table above that the Department must implement strategies robustly in order to comply with the race equity targets as prescribed by the KZN Provincial Demographics and its Departmental EE Plan.

## 7. Our budget

The budget allocation to the department's vote was R2,391,096,000.

Expenditure for 2018/2019 financial year R 2,126,696,000

Under Expenditure for 2018/19 R 264,400,000

At the end of the 2019-20 financial year, the department had spent R2,126,696,000 of its budget. The under-expenditure of R264,400,000 is constituted as follows:

Programme 1: Administration – under-expenditure of R46,396,000 mainly in respect of:-

- delayed progress in the appointment of service providers in implementing the planned rehabilitation/upgrading and maintenance of departmental offices,
- outstanding commitment for the amalgamation of public entities that will be finalised in 2019/20,
- outstanding orders for office furniture and equipment as well as SITA payments, and
- non finalization of external bursaries for 2019 by 31 March 2019.

Programme 2: Agriculture – under-expenditure of R205.302 million due to:

- agricultural inputs (fertilizer, seeds, chemicals, animal feed), fencing and irrigation material that has been ordered but not delivered and paid for by 31 March 2019. This includes fertilizer and animal feed to assist the land reform/ small scale sugar cane farmers and piggery farmers affected by listeriosis. These inputs formed part of a reprioritisation process during the final quarter of financial year and some unexpected delays in the logistical arrangement for the high volume of inputs was experienced.
- Delayed procurement process for agricultural infrastructure projects such as fencing, irrigation, animal handling facilities.
- Delayed progress in the rehabilitation of official accommodation facilities at research farms

Programme 3: Rural Development – Under expenditure of R12.702 million due to unexpected delays in the placement of graduates in the unemployed agriculture graduates programme. The department had planned to provide funding to various sector partners to place graduates and provide grant funding in the form of a transfer payment. The National

Treasury guideline on classification of expenditure for transfer payment presented challenges. It also resulted in the existing contract with Future Farmers being cancelled.

This is how the overall budget was spent by the Department in 2018/19 Financial Year:

Staff salaries.....	R1,023,233,000
Other running costs [equipment, training, etc] .....	R 780,950,000
other costs:.....	R 322,513,000

#### **SUMMARY**

Programmes : 1. Administration

Staff salaries.....	R213,402,000
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Running cost.....	R265,815,000
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2. Agricultural Development

Staff salaries.....	R 798,491,000
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Running cost.....	R 510,510,000
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3. Rural Development

Staff salaries.....	R 11,340,000
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Running cost.....	R 4,625,000
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Other items (transfers, subsidies and interest/ rent).....	R 322,513,000
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<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>R 2,126,696,000</b>
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**For more information please contact :**

#### **THE OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**

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[hodpa@kzndard.gov.za](mailto:hodpa@kzndard.gov.za)

**THE OFFICE OF THE MEC**

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