KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PREMIER NTULI AND KAMADLOPHA-MTHETHWA ENCOURAGE COOPERATIVES TO TRANSFORM THEIR ENTITIES INTO FORMAL AGRIBUSINESSES

KwaZulu-Natal Premier, Honourable Thamsanqa Ntuli, has breathe new life into the Lethinjabulo Community Gardens in Msane Township, Mtubatuba, by pledging to ring in changes that will take the gardens to new heights through formalisation into agribusinesses. Premier Ntuli was accompanied by various government departments, MECs including Agriculture and Rural Development's Mrs. Thembeni kaMadlopha-Mthethwa. This event served as a precursor to the province's Women's Day Commemoration, held on Saturday 09 August 2025 at the Inkosi Mzondeni Civic Centre in Mtubatuba.

The Lethinjabulo Community Gardens, situated along the banks of a small ravine, comprises 11 members, each allocated two plots. Members expressed concern regarding a formal market, citing theft of fresh produce due to a lack of proper fencing around the garden area. They say they are currently relying on the local market.

They receive production inputs such as seedlings and fertilizers from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. They also have an unreliable supply of water.

Speaking at the site visit, Premier Ntuli stated that his government's departments, such as the Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs and Agriculture and Rural Development are a catalyst for community development by providing funding for community projects and cooperatives.

Premier Ntuli emphasised the need to formalize cooperatives and transition them into businesses or agri-business enterprises, "The provincial government will support such initiatives, that will take cooperatives to new heights, enabling them to supply major retailers and to a certain extent, export fresh produce to the international markets," said Premier Ntuli.



















