



## agriculture & rural development

Department:  
Agriculture and Rural Development  
North West Provincial Government  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



AgriCentre Building Cnr.  
Dr. James Moroka and  
Stadium Rd  
Private Bag X2039,  
Mmabatho  
2735

**CHIEF DIRECTORATE: CORPORATE SERVICES**

**DIRECTORATE: COMMUNICATION SERVICES**

Tel: +27 (18) 389 5719/5684  
Fax: +27(18) 384 4571  
E-mail: Esetlhako@nwpg.gov.za

### **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**ATT : ALL EDITORS  
: MEDIA HOUSES**

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### **PREMIER MOKGOSI'S BOOST FOR BLOEMHOF FISHERMEN SPARKS ECONOMIC HOPE**

**Bloemhof** - In a powerful show of the government's commitment to grassroots development, North West Premier Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi, on Friday, 23 May 2025, handed over vital fishing equipment to the Makweteng Fishery Cooperative in Boitumelong, Bloemhof. The handover was part of the final instalment of Phase 4 of the Thuntsha Lerole Service Delivery Programme aims to bolster sustainable livelihoods and stimulate local economic activity along the Vaal River.

Premier Mokgosi emphasised the importance of not only addressing service delivery issues but also laying the foundation for economic self-reliance and dignity. "This is more than just the provision of equipment, it is a step toward empowering our communities to thrive economically while ensuring they operate safely and sustainably. The accelerated service delivery programme is aimed at bridging service delivery gaps and promoting inclusive economic opportunities across the province".

The fishing equipment, which includes nets, rods, protective gear, and cold storage containers, is expected to significantly enhance the productivity and safety of local fishermen operating along the Vaal River. This further helps to ensure a stable supply of fish, which is an important source of protein and nutrition.

The North West Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Head of Department, Thupi Mokhatla, urged the fishermen to use the resources responsibly.

This handover marks a significant milestone in our efforts to support fishing communities in the province, as these tools are not just equipment but symbols of opportunity meant to be used responsibly to boost productivity, strengthen food security, restore dignity, and recognise the vital role small-scale fisheries play in driving local economies and improving livelihoods," Mokhatla said.

Coordinator of Makweteng Fishery/Aquaculture Cooperative Ltd, Mr Monnapule Sentshedi, thanked the Department for its support. "The fishing equipment will help us increase our fish catch and improve our income as local fishermen in Bloemhof," he said.

This handover not only strengthens the work of the Makweteng Cooperative but also reinforces the value of small-scale fisheries in driving local economic growth, supporting food security, and creating sustainable livelihoods in communities along the Vaal River.

**CAPTIONS**

**IMG\_6172** : North West Premier Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi showcases the fishing equipment donated by the North West Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

**IMG\_3166** : North West Premier Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi with Mr Monnapule Sentshedi, Coordinator of Makweteng Fishery/Aquaculture Cooperative Ltd.

**Issued by**

The Directorate Communication Services

The North West Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Director : Ms Emelda Setlhako

Cell : 060 745 4020

Email : [ESetlhako@nwpg.gov.za](mailto:ESetlhako@nwpg.gov.za)

Website: [www.dard.nwpg.gov.za](http://www.dard.nwpg.gov.za)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/nwpread](http://www.facebook.com/nwpread)

**For enquiries, contact:**

Khutala Tshangela

MEC's Media Liaison Officer

Cell: 066 458 6915

[ktshangela06@gmail.com](mailto:ktshangela06@gmail.com)

[KTshangela@nwpg.gov.za](mailto:KTshangela@nwpg.gov.za)