



## agriculture & rural development

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



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## MEDIA STATEMENT

Att : All Editors  
All Journalists  
Media Houses

**Date: Tuesday, 20 February 2024**

## MEC DESBO MOHONO ADOPTS TWO SCHOOLS IN MADIBA A GA KUBU IN A BID TO REVIVE AGRICULTURE

**Mahikeng**-In a quest to revive agriculture in some rural communities of the Province, MEC Desbo Mohono on Thursday, 15 February 2024, visited Madiba A Ga Kubu village in Mahikeng and adopted Maseloanyane Secondary and Thelesho Primary schools. During her visit to these two schools, MEC Mohono and officials revived and expanded the schools' food gardens and committed that there would be dedicated extension officers to coach the learners on how to plant and care for these gardens.

MEC Mohono is upbeat about the need to have every school in the province involved in food security as part of the zero-hunger campaign, which aims to ensure every arable land, be it in school or church land, is cultivated.

The ultimate objective of this exercise is to encourage learners to take agriculture science as one of the careers of choice. The Department has made great strides as several schools across the province have been receiving seedlings and tools to work gardens.

"To sustain food security in the Province, education and training in food production should start at the school level. Learners must be equipped with the practical and latest developments in the sector. We want all schools to start having food gardens so that the learners can start seeing the value of agriculture from a young age," MEC Mohono expressed.

In all the schools, the gesture of starting food gardens and the donation of seedlings was warmly welcomed. Thelesho Primary School Principal Mr Dingake Mokotedi said the school appreciated the assistance from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. "The food from these gardens will go a long way in helping our learners as a quintile one school. We are grateful for what the Department has done for us today," Mr Mokotedi said.

His colleague and Principal of Maseloanyane Secondary School from the same village of Madibe A Ga Kubu Mr Seepamore Samuel Dithupe thanked the Department and MEC for visiting and adopting his school. "We are happy for MEC's visit to Maseloanyane Secondary. We have introduced agriculture in our school so learners can see its value and choose it as a career," said Mr Dithupe.

The Department plans to rebuild an agricultural skill base that will ultimately respond to the Province's needs such as food security, employment and economy.

MEC Mohono concluded her visit to the area with a protocol visit to the Madibe A Ga Kubu Tribal Tribal Authority where she urged Dikgosi from all the seven villages nearby to continue working with the government to address their areas of focus and challenges. MEC Mohono also urged Dikgosi to donate uninhabited land to locals for food projects.

One of the objectives of this food security programme is to help North West communities to become self-reliant.

To reduce the high rate of unemployment, MEC Mohono also announced the appointment of two hundred and ten (210) locals for green jobs through the Departmental LandCare Programme.

These newly appointed individuals are from the villages of Madibe A Ga Kubu, Mantja, Lekung, Tshunyane, Lekhubu la Seipone, Morwatshetlha, Tsokwane and Makhubung a ga Mokopi near Mahikeng. These are temporary jobs and are funded through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP).

The Land Care Programme is a government-supported community-based and community-led initiative which is active throughout the Province. The programme seeks to amongst others conserve natural resources, create a conservation ethic through education and awareness as well as to create jobs and address poverty by launching various natural resources, rehabilitation, improvement and conservation projects.

#### **PHOTO CAPTIONS:**

**676A9242 JPEG:** MEC Desbo Mohono, DARD officials and learners from Maseloanyane Secondary School reviving and expanding the schools' food gardens. In both schools there would be a dedicated extension officer to coach the learners on how to plant and care for these gardens.

**676A9332 JPEG:** MEC Desbo Mohono speaking in Madiba A Ga Kubu on Thursday last week. The aim of her visit to this area was to encourage residents in this community to get involved in a food security programme which aims to ensure every arable land is cultivated.

**## ends ##**

**Issued by the Communication Services Directorate**

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