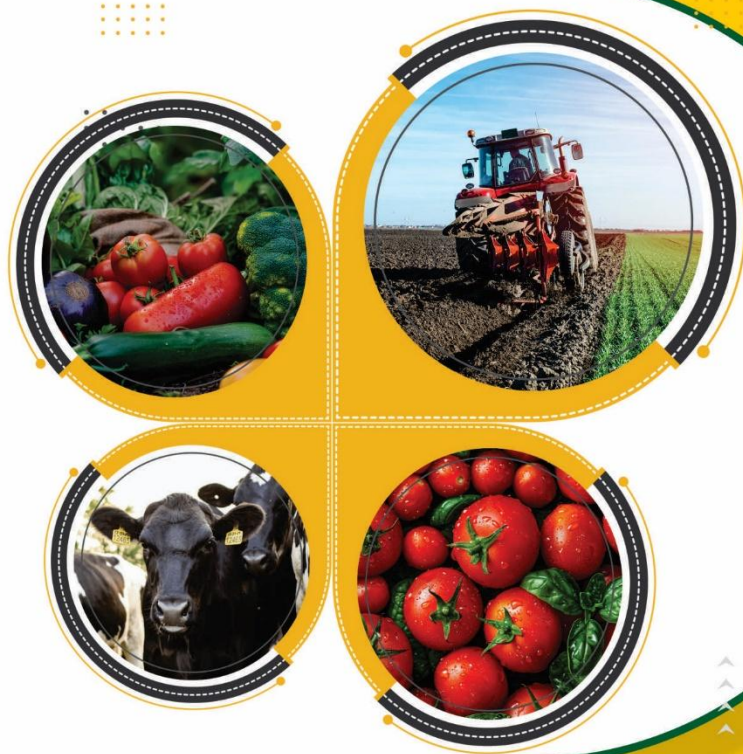




**LIMPOPO**

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT



# Strategic PLAN

2025-2029



**LIMPOPO**  
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**STRATEGIC PLAN  
2025/26 – 2029/30**

**PR302/2024  
ISBN: 978-1-77997-363-4**

## EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Our mandate in this Seventh Administration is derived from the ideals adopted in the Government of National Unity (GNU) Priorities, which in turn informed and were translated into the key priorities of Government for the Medium-Term Development Plan (MTDP). The department contributes to transformation of the economy and ensures food security by supporting all sector role players from the backyard farmer to an established farmer across the province.

Our portfolio of agriculture and rural development is therefore expected to play its role and contribute towards growing an economy that is inclusive and able to create the much growth needed by the majority of South Africans and Limpopo province.

It is worth mentioning though that the growth prospects of the agricultural sector are threatened by challenges, which some had contributed to a decline in production over the years, resulting in the sector's performance taking a dive. Some of the challenges include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Rising input costs such as electricity, fuel and fertilisers;
- Aging infrastructure such as bulk water irrigation infrastructure;
- Competition with cheap imports and the impact thereof on the local poultry industry;
- Rising global competitiveness for agricultural produce;
- Competing land use between agriculture and other sectors;
- Climate change, which increases the sector's vulnerability to natural disasters;
- Persistence outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD); and
- Poor management of resources in communal areas such as overgrazing, vandalism of infrastructure (fences, livestock handling facilities) and the increasing rate of resources degradation.

Therefore this 2025/26 – 2029/30 Strategic Plan of the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (LDARD), outlines and set a direction for the Department for the 7<sup>th</sup> term of administration. It explicitly outlines how solutions to the above mentioned constraints would be integrated into the plans in addressing the priorities in the MTDP to ensure: inclusive economic growth; reduce unemployment, poverty, and the rising cost of living as well as to ensure a capable, developmental, and ethical state. The Department will have to find new and innovative ways of overcoming these challenges. It is our firm believe that we shall weather the storm through our strong partnerships with stakeholders in the sector.

What is also clear is that with the limited resources at our disposal, there is a need to continuously employ strategies that would ensure that we do more with less. We should be able to manage our limited financial and non-financial resources economically and efficiently in the delivery of outputs required in order to achieve our departmental priorities (effectiveness) and that will serve the needs of the farmers (appropriateness).

In this term, the strategic intent is focused on a *“United, prosperous and productive agricultural sector for sustainable rural communities”*. The intention is to promote food security and economic growth through sustainable agricultural development.

The changes to take shape over the next few years are that through our consistent and diligent service delivery a contribution must be made to the economic growth of the Limpopo Province and the country. The interventions should contribute towards the reduction of hunger, poverty and unemployment and improvement of rural livelihoods.

It is of critical importance therefore that we intensify our research and development to find new solutions and strategies that will enable us to effectively deal with the effects of climate, with the understanding that we cannot prevent climate change, but we can

manage it so as to minimise its negative impact. The emphasis must be on the development and implementation of climate smart technologies in order to build resilience. High value catalytic projects must be elevated as to capitalise on their value adding potential. This must be done through leveraging on partnership development with the private sector and the agri industry towards enhancing the sustainability of agricultural development.

We are conscious of the fact that the space we are functioning as the LDARD is within the local sphere of government, the Districts, as well under the jurisdiction of our Traditional Authorities. Therefore, a need for a seamless alignment of our plans and that of local government cannot be overemphasized. The introduction and adoption of District Delivery Model (DDM) could not have come at a better time.

Critical to the implementation of the 2025/26 to 2029/30 Strategic Plan is the strengthening partnership with all sector partners in order to leverage and maximize resources that are necessary to ensure that our plans are actualized into tangible outputs.

The implementation of the Strategic Plan will be closely monitored so that warning signs are picked up earlier and necessary interventions employed for the achievement of our service delivery priorities.



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**Ms N. G. Kekana, MPL**

**Member of Executive Council**

**Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development**

## ACCOUNTING OFFICER STATEMENT

The NDP postulates certain agricultural commodities and their subsectors as key growth stimulants for the sector, and with higher labour absorption rate, where expansion in production and further value addition is sustainable over the long term. Expansion and sustainability are not only driven by high levels of production, it must also be supported by high market demand, especially to boost foreign exchange income earnings. Limpopo Province (LP) has a strong dominance of such identified commodities.

The mandate of the LDARD for the current term of administration is derived from policy priorities as pronounced at both national and provincial levels. In the previous MTSF 2014-2019 priorities included increased smallholder agricultural production (crops and livestock); development of agro-processing and value addition enterprises; employment creation through upstream and downstream activities; support for agribusinesses on finance and market access; veterinary regulatory services to reduce the impact of FMD; extending and improving skills development and training in the agricultural sector, as well as the coordination of a rural development programme for the integration of the rural areas, in order to achieve successful infrastructure development, job creation and poverty alleviation.

Despite the challenges prevalent within the agricultural sector, such as the severe drought, crop diseases, pests and animal diseases outbreak, the Department managed to achieve the following key milestones in line with the priorities as mentioned above:

- Cumulatively smallholder producers received support in the form of irrigation infrastructure, livestock infrastructure and production inputs to improve their production capacity. On average 10 000 smallholder producers received support annually.
- Along the same line, 30 000 smallholder producers were supported annually with agricultural advice on various aspects of production. A further well over 5 000 smallholder farmers were trained annually to broaden and deepen their knowledge and skills on advanced production practices.
- In a quest to promote household food security as part of the National Integrated Food and Nutrition Security Policy for producing affordable essential foodstuff directly to poor communities, support was provided to communities and households for the purpose of cultivating land for food production.
- Investment in agricultural infrastructure to support primary production and agro-processing was made at various projects that sought to contribute to Strategic Infrastructure Projects (SIP) 11 objectives:
- Through agricultural marketing service support, farmers/agribusiness were supported to access markets. To ensure food safety and access to formal markets, the Department has introduced a market standards certification programme in collaboration with the) and Perishable Product Export Control Board (PPECB).
- The Tompi Seleka and Madzivhandila Colleges of Agriculture revitalisation programme continue. The two Colleges, whose academic programmes were closed for a number of years, resumed in 2015. The re-opening of these Colleges was to address the skills required by the agricultural sector in line with the Agriculture Skills Development Strategy. These students, produced from the two Colleges, are able to participate in the whole agricultural value chain: primary production, value adding, marketing, inputs supply and academic and research institutions.

Our strategic direction therefore flows from the policy priorities as outlined in the 2025/26 – 2029/30 MTDP and the Theory of Change conducted on the programs. The key focus priorities for the next five years, 2025/26 – 2029/30 have been adopted as follows:

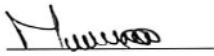
- Revitalisation of primary agriculture and agro-processing;
- Market access to improve domestic and export market access by all farmers;
- Reducing vulnerability and risks associated with climate change;
- Agricultural training and skills development to improve the skills base of the sector;
- Sector transformation to promote and support meaningful participation by farmers, including women, youth and people with disabilities; and
- Research and development on alternative crop cultivars and livestock breeds, as well as efficient production technologies.

The potential of agriculture to grow and increase its contribution to the growth of the economy and jobs has been widely acknowledged.

The Department's five-year plans would therefore be directed towards providing the required support to enable the realisation of this strategic intent, as also outlined by the MTDP Priorities that seek to put into effect the objectives of the NDP.

Support would aim at enabling farmers to improve their production capacity and most important their participation in these clusters' value chain and improve market access. This development is also aimed at revitalising production on land reform farms. The above planned performance will achieve agrarian transformation, inclusive growth and labour absorption. The pinnacle of our course remains on acceleration and successful land reform.

As we crafted this Strategic Plan, we reminded ourselves that it is the key GNU Priorities that must guide all our efforts to ensure that there is inclusive growth and jobs are created, eradication of poverty and reduction of cost of living, whilst we also build a capable, ethical and developmental state. Sustainability of this sector is critical for the development trajectory of the province and South Africa, mainly due to interrelations in food production and consumption. The department commits to supporting relevant role players to achieve this strategic direction.



**Me Mashamba MA**  
**Acting Head of Department**  
**Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development**

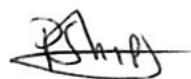
## OFFICIAL SIGN-OFF

It is hereby certified that this Strategic Plan:

- Was developed by the management of the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development under the guidance of MEC N. G. Kekana.
- Takes into account all the relevant policies, legislation and other mandates for which the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development is responsible.
- Accurately reflects the Impact and Outcomes which the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development will endeavour to achieve over the period 2025/26-2029/30.

**Ms. P.N. Shipalana**  
**Acting Chief Director**  
**Corporate Services**

Signature:



**Dr M.K. Mabunda**  
**Acting Chief Director**  
**Agricultural Regulatory Technology Development**

Signature:



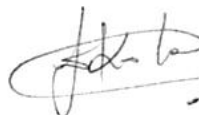
**Mr M.S.J Nowata**  
**Chief Director**  
**Agriculture Development and Farmer Support**

Signature:



**Mr. L.M. Kola**  
**Chief Director**  
**Sustainable Resource Management**

Signature:



**Dr. M. Labuschagne**  
**Chief Director**  
**Agrarian Transformation and Sector Development**

Signature:



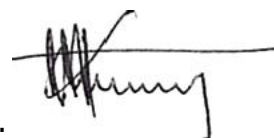
**Mr R.L Mashiane**  
**Strategic Management, Monitoring and Evaluation**

Signature:



**Ms. M. Nkatingi**  
**Chief Financial Officer**

Signature:



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Accurately reflects the Impact and Outcomes which the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development will endeavour to achieve over the period 2025/26-2029/30.

**Ms. E.N Mashamaite**  
Chief Director  
Strategy and Systems

Signature: 

**Ms M.A Mashamba**  
Acting Head of Department

Signature: 

Approved by:

**Ms. N. G. Kekana, MPL**  
Member of Executive Council

Signature: 



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## ACRONYMS

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| ADZ     | Agricultural Development Zone                                |
| APAP    | Agriculture Policy Action Plan                               |
| CEC     | Crop Estimate Committee                                      |
| COE     | Compensation of Employees                                    |
| DDM     | District Delivery Model                                      |
| DoADPSA | Department of Public Service and Administration              |
| EPWP    | Public Works Programme                                       |
| FAW     | Fall Army Worm   |
| FPSU    | Farmer Production Support Unit                               |
| GDP     | Gross Domestic Product                                       |
| GHS     | General Household Survey                                     |
| FMD     | Foot and Mouth Disease                                       |
| HOD     | Head of Department   |
| IDP     | Integrated Development Plan                                  |
| LDARD   | Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development      |
| LDP     | Limpopo Development Plan                                     |
| LP      | Limpopo Province   |
| MEC     | Member of Executive Council                                  |
| MTDP    | Medium-Term Development Plan                                 |
| MTSF    | Medium Term Strategic Framework                              |
| NDP     | National Development Plan                                    |
| OS      | Organisational Structure                                     |
| OTP     | Office of the Premier  |
| PDARD   | Persons with Disability in Agriculture and Rural Development |
| PICC    | Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Council             |
| PCC     | President Coordinating Council                               |
| PPMC    | Provincial Personnel Management Committee                    |
| PWD     | People with Disability                                       |

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| PPECB    | Perishable Product Export Control Board                       |
| RAAVC    | Revitalisation of Agriculture and Agro-processing Value Chain |
| RESIS    | Revitalisation of Small Holder Irrigation Systems             |
| SAGAP    | South African Good Agricultural Practice                      |
| SIP      | Strategic Infrastructure Projects                             |
| Stats SA | Statistics South Africa                                       |
| SONA     | State of the Nation Address                                   |
| SOPA     | State of the Nation Address                                   |
| TID      | Technical Indicator Description                               |
| TVET     | Technical and Vocational Education and Training               |

## **Part A: Our mandate**

## Part A: Our mandate

Part A of the Strategic Plan reflects on Constitutional mandate, Legislative and policy mandates, Institutional Policies and Strategies for 2025/26 to 2029/30, and court rulings relevant to the Department.

### 1. Constitutional mandate

The LDARD is an integral part of the South African Public Service established in terms of section 197 of the Constitution and read with section 7(1) and 7 (2) of the Public Service Act of 1994.

The Department derives its core mandate from the provisions of schedules 4 and 5 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and in accordance with section 104 (1) b of the Constitution.

As a concurrent national and provincial legislative competency listed in schedule 4 of the Constitution, the LDARD, as part of the system of concurrent governance, derives its administrative mandate from both National Parliament and Provincial Legislature.

### 2. Legislative and policy mandates

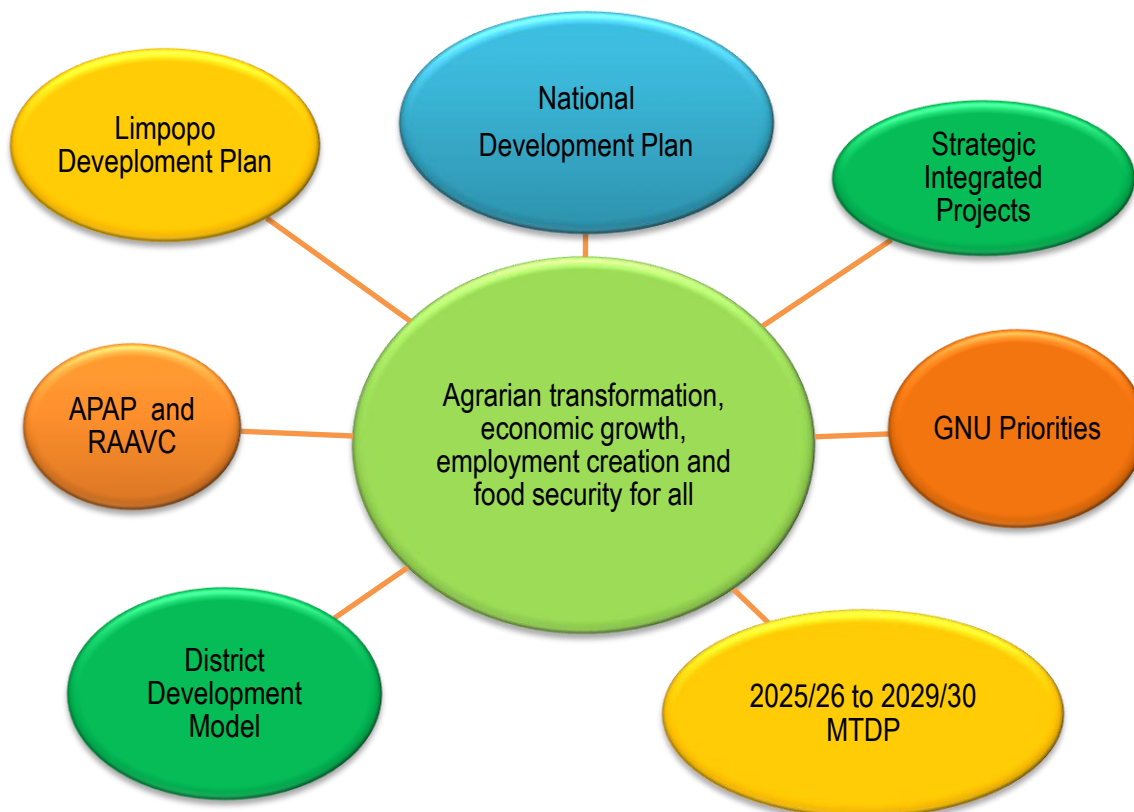
The Department is governed by the following legislation in line with the mandates and functions of the organisation.

| MANDATE / FUNCTION  | LEGISLATION  |
|---|--|
| GENERAL CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS  | National Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996)  |
| STAFF MEMBERS<br><br>(Ensuring provision of efficient human resources management in order to create an efficient, effective and development oriented public service)                | Labour Relations Act (Act 66 of 1995)<br>Basic Conditions of Employment Act (Act 75 of 1997)<br>Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998)<br>Sills Development Levies Act (Act 9 of 1999)<br>Occupational Health and Safety Act (Act 85 of 1993)<br>Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act (Act 130 of 1993)<br>Government Employees Pension Law of 1996<br>Employee Equity Act (Act 55 of 1998)<br>Public Service Act (Act 103 of 1994)<br>Natural Scientific Professions Act (Act 20 of 2003) |
| FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT<br><br>(To guide the Department in insuring proper management of limited financial and non-financial resources in an economic, effective and efficient manner) | Public Finance Management Act (Act 1 of 1999 as amended by Act 29 of 1999)<br>Division of Revenue Act<br>Preferential Procurement Policy Act (Act 5 of 2000)<br>Companies Act (Act 61 of 1973)<br>Income Tax Act - 1962 – fourth standard  |
| ADMINISTRATIVE<br><br>(To ensure provision of efficient administrative support to programmes and clients)   | Extension of Security of Tenure Act (Act 62 of 1997)<br>National Archives Act (Act 43 of 1996)<br>Promotion of Access to Information Act (Act 2 of 2000)<br>Administrative Justice Act (Act 3 of 2000)   |

| MANDATE / FUNCTION   | LEGISLATION   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>AGRICULTURE</b></p> <p>(To ensure that the Department delivers on its mandate within the parameters of laws governing the agricultural sector)</p>   | <p>Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act 43 of 1983)</p> <p>Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act (Act 70 of 1970)</p> <p>Meat Safety Act (Act 40 of 2000)</p> <p>Animal Diseases Act (Act 35 of 1984)</p> <p>Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development Policy</p> <p>Land Use Planning Ordinance (Ordinance 15 of 1985)</p> <p>Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (Act 16 of 2013)</p> <p>National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998)</p> <p>Water Services Act, 1997 (Act 108 of 1997)</p> <p>Act on Marketing of Agricultural Products, 1996 (Act 47 of 1996)</p> <p>Land Reform Act, 1997 (Act 3 of 1997)</p> <p>Act on Agricultural Products Standards</p> <p>Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, 1982 (Act 19 of 1982)</p> <p>Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act 36 of 1947)</p> <p>The International Code for the Control of Animal Diseases of the World Organization for Animal Health</p> <p>The International Code for Laboratory Diagnostic Procedure for Animal Diseases of the World Organization for Animal Health</p> <p>The International Sanitary and Phyto Sanitary Code of the World Trading Organization</p> <p>Codex Alimentarius of the World Trade Organization (International Code of Food Security)</p> |
| <p><b>OTHER MATTERS</b></p> <p>(Ensuring that all pieces of legislation affecting all the programmes within the Department guide service delivery within the parameters of the law, rules and regulations)</p> | <p>Adult Basic Education and Training Act (Act 52 of 2000)</p> <p>South African Qualifications Act (Act 58 of 1995)</p> <p>National Education Policy Act (Act 27 of 1996)</p> <p>Further Education and Training Act (Act 98 of 1998)</p> <p>General and Further Education and Training Quality Assurance Act (Act 58 of 2001)</p> <p>Employment Education and Training Act (Act 76 of 1998)</p> <p>Higher Education Act (Act 101 of 1997)</p> <p>Cooperatives Act (Act 14 of 2005)</p> <p>Merchandise Marks Act, 1941 (Act 17 of 1941)</p> <p>Trade Mark Act, 1993 (Act 194 of 1993)</p> <p>Trade Practices Act, 1976 (Act 76 of 1976)</p>  |

### 3. Institutional Policies and Strategies over the five-year planning period

The Figure below presents a schematic of the Policies and Strategies that drives the planning and implementation of service delivery in the Department. Flowing from the Figure the Policies and Strategies are discussed in more detail.



#### National Development Plan 2030

- Agricultural development should be based on positive land reorganisation, creation of employment opportunities and environmental protection;
- Increased availability of irrigated farming as well as dry-land production to smallholder farmers; and
- Established agricultural business should become supporting partners of smallholder farmers.

#### Medium Term Development Plan 2024-2029 Strategic Priorities

**Priority 1: Drive inclusive growth and job creation**

**Priority 2: Reduce Poverty and tackle high cost of living**

**Priority 3: Build a capable, ethical and developmental state**

#### District Development Model

During 2019 the President Coordinating Council (PCC) endorsed a DDM. The government's initiative on DDM is to improve service delivery by coordinating planning across government levels. It encourages active involvement from citizen and civil society in the development of South Africa's Districts and Metros. The implementation of the DDM aims to strengthen inter-sphere planning and budgeting for impactful service delivery in cooperating private sector and civil society contribution.

The main deliverables of DDM is to produce District Socio-Economic profiles as precursor to the crafting of area based One Plan – District – Wide Integrated Development Plans (IDPs). Through agricultural activities LDARD will play a role contributing to food security, job creation and poverty reduction within targeted districts focusing on agricultural value chain, supporting smallholder farmers and improving infrastructure to facilitate market access and agro-processing opportunities.

The envisioned One Plan – District – Wide Integrated Development Plan – IDP is a plan that will outline the desired socio-economic development future of each District and clearly illustrate how this future can become a reality. It encapsulates components such as:

- Demographic and Socio-Economic Profile;
- Governance, leadership and Financial Management;
- Integrated Service Provisioning;
- Infrastructure Delivery; and
- Spatial Restructuring and Economic Position.

### **Sector Perspective**

The Limpopo Revitalisation of Agriculture and Agro-processing Value Chain (RAAVC) plan was developed in response to a need for the maximisation of primary agricultural production which should support agro-processing expansion and contribute to the provincial industrialisation. The plan will be measured in terms of food security, job creation and contribution towards the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The Department is working with the private sector and other key stakeholders to ensure the implementation of the Agriculture Policy Action Plan (APAP). The RAAVC Plan supports the implementation of Agriculture and Agro-processing Master Plan (AAMP).

### **Limpopo Development Plan**

- Expanding employment in agriculture;
- Involvement in the competitive clusters of horticulture and meat production;
- Greater contribution to food security; and
- Achieving the vision of rural economy.

## **4. Relevant Court Rulings**

There are no court rulings relevant to the Department.



## **Part B: Our Strategic Focus**

## Part B: Our strategic focus

The 2025/26 – 2029/30 Strategic Plan reflects institutional programmes and projects which contribute to the achievement of the Three priorities of Government of National Unity and the realisation of the mandate of the Department. The Plan identifies the impact and outcomes against which the Department can be measured and evaluated by oversight bodies and the public.

### 5. Vision

United, prosperous and productive agricultural sector for sustainable rural communities.

### 6. Mission

To promote food security and economic growth through sustainable agricultural development.

### 7. Values

As the Department we value:

- **Professionalism:** We deliver excellent work with a positive attitude using best practice in a professional approach;
- **Integrity:** We act in an ethical manner with trust, honesty, reliability and credibility;
- **Innovation:** We continuously introduce new ways of doing our work;
- **Caring:** We want the best for our clients and staff, treat them with respect and empathy whilst embracing diversity and
- **Teamwork:** We believe in the “together we can do more” philosophy through shared visionary leadership.

## 8. SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

The Situational Analysis presents on an analysis of both the external and internal environment in which the Department functions.

### 8.1 EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

#### Environmental scanning (SWOT analysis)

The Department has considered several planning tools during the development of the Strategic Plan and Annual Performance Plan for 2025/26 – 2029/30 and 2025/26 respectively. The tools that stood out in terms of scanning the environment for the Department were SWOT analysis and PESTEL.

It became evident that SWOT analysis could be quite a superficial exercise if it is given only a short period as part of a strategic planning process. A SWOT analysis was conducted during the planning process in order to determine appropriate use of other tools such as TOWS strategy matrix and Scenario planning, which are to be based on the current trends. The current trends are derived out of SWOT and PESTEL analysis. The Department decided to undertake the process using a three-pronged approach as follows:

- (a) Engaging Executive Management of the department at a special meeting to deal directly with scanning the environment using SWOT analysis tool.
- (b) Engaging Broader Senior Management Team (BSMT) to investigate SWOT analysis and PESTEL analysis tools.
- (c) The final step was to engage with critical stakeholders to determine their view of the Department regarding its external and internal environmental scan. The stakeholders included farmers/ producers, farmers unions, financial institutions, academic institutions, and all other relevant stakeholders including commodity groups.

After thorough deliberations in all sessions, the Department developed the SWOT analysis template as follows:

| STRENGTHS   | WEAKNESSES  |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highly skilled staff</li> <li>Political will and direction supported by clear GNU priorities</li> <li>Favourable conditions</li> <li>Strong willing farmers/ right time producers</li> <li>Strong relationship between the Department and critical stakeholders</li> <li>Good policies and programmes</li> <li>A good generational mix of farmers to be supported</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inability to deal with ad hoc projects</li> <li>Perpetual understanding of the budget</li> <li>Poor projects execution</li> <li>Disaster is unable to assist at the right time</li> <li>Challenged Supply Chain Management unit</li> <li>Unresolved OSD issue</li> <li>General low employee morale</li> <li>Sporadic and uncoordinated support to farmers</li> <li>Ineffective communication across all levels of authority</li> <li>Poor contract management</li> </ul> |
| OPPORTUNITIES   | THREATS   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secondment of personnel to LEDA to assist with implementation of agricultural projects</li> <li>Identify catalytic projects to be implemented through RAAVC</li> <li>Exploration of procurement models suitable for agriculture</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack provision of security at offices that were left after merging according to the new Service Delivery Model (SDM)</li> <li>Sporadic disease outbreak</li> <li>Climate change</li> <li>Invasion of the arable land for residential purposes</li> </ul>   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College account to be operational to allow for transacting element</li> <li>• Available resources at Colleges and Research Stations to be exposed for agribusiness purposes</li> <li>• The use of electronic signatures</li> <li>• Support to farmers through a well-crafted commercialisation framework</li> <li>• Strengthening support across the entire integrated agricultural value chain</li> <li>• Collaboration with critical stakeholder for social compact</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of critical and rare skills</li> <li>• Effect of capable employees due to toxic work environment</li> <li>• Dilapidated facilities and vacancy rate at the redlines</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

### PESTEL Analysis

The second step was to engage with Broader Senior Management Team to scan the environment, both internal and external using SWOT and PESTEL analysis tools.

| Component             | Description  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Political             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current political landscape is posing challenges of uncertainty due to Government of National Unity which will preside over the 7<sup>th</sup> administration</li> <li>• Different political parties with their own manifestos may cause confusion if not well managed</li> <li>• Unstable international political environment</li> </ul> |
| Economic              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International economic instability affects trade</li> <li>• Input cost rises due to wars and fluctuating exchange rates</li> <li>• Possible loss of foreign exchange</li> <li>• Unstable Balance of Trade</li> <li>• The economy is not growing as targeted</li> </ul>  |
| Social                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social compact can stabilise local friction</li> <li>• High level of Unemployment, especially amongst youth is a serious social concern</li> <li>• Social conflicts at land reform projects is a serious concern as it renders most of the projects to be lazy assets</li> </ul>  |
| Environmental factors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change poses a serious threat to the agricultural sector</li> </ul>   |
| Technology            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4IR creates big opportunities for the agricultural sector to increase operational efficiencies</li> <li>• The use of drones to manage projects will reduce costs</li> <li>• Costs of electricity affects the farmers and this creates an opportunity for consideration of other sources of energy</li> </ul>                                  |
| Legal                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Africa is a constitutional democracy with very clear rule of law</li> <li>• Policy uncertainty tends to affect decision making with negative impact on investor confidence</li> </ul>   |

## Stakeholder Engagement

The LDARD understands the significance of planning together with critical stakeholders. The final step in scanning the environment involved an engagement with all critical stakeholders on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2024. The Member of Executive Council, Me Kekana N.G, MPL, invited critical stakeholders to interact with her office and senior management of the department.

The stakeholders engaged with the department and made critical inputs for consideration as the department moves towards the finalisation of the plans for the 7<sup>th</sup> administration. The strategic plan of the department will incorporate inputs from stakeholders. The stakeholders included, inter alia, the 50 farmers/ producers earmarked for commercialisation programme of the department, farmers unions, commodity groups, academic institutions, colleges and universities, agricultural development agencies, financial institutions, etc.

Some of the key inputs made by stakeholders, as they assessed the department's SWOT and provision of service to its main clients, farmers/ producers are as follows:

- Consider value chain and comprehensive support.
  - Development of a Comprehensive Commercialization Framework.
  - Plan to develop a procurement model which will help in case in fast-tracking the procurement of production inputs.
  - Synergistic Approach to Value Chain Commercialization Approach.
  - Synergy when moving farmers from one category along the farmer continuum.
  - A need to consider other sources of energy to reduce high costs of electricity.
  - Introduce farmers to all different funding models including Blended Funding.
  - Commercialization must also consider "*Market Access*".
1. Incorporate Skills development in your plans.
  2. RAAVC plan must be clearly understood as it helps development. (Potato SA)
  3. Be radical and revolutionize support to farmers.

During the current fading Strategic Planning cycle, LDARD was however not immune from receiving service delivery complaints through different platforms such as Presidential and Premier hotlines, Walk-in complaints, and suggestion boxes. The most trending complaints that were received by the Department through various platforms, were the request for assistance by the citizens who had interest on starting agricultural businesses which were referred to Agro-ecological zones for assistance

## Context and priorities relating to youth, women, people with disabilities and military veterans

The NDP highlights the importance of equality and the eradication of poverty to bring a better life for all citizens by 2030. By the same token the GNU priorities highlight eradication of poverty and reduction of cost of living as one of the Three GNU priorities to bring about a better life for all citizens by 2030.

Agriculture in Limpopo is expected to make a meaningful and major contribution in this regard, as it is viewed as a sector most likely to ensure food security and drive inclusive growth as well as creating jobs. The Department is quite intentional about the prioritisation

of youth, women, people with disabilities and military veterans and this was evidenced by their representation at the stakeholder engagement session.

The Department continues to support the designated group as follows:

| Designated group                               | Support provided  |
|--|---|
| Placement of unemployed agricultural graduates | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 145 graduates will be placed at commercial farming enterprises over a period of 2 years to gain practical experience</li> <li>• A ring-fenced support is provided to the graduates as part of their exit strategy to allow them to start their own agricultural enterprises</li> <li>• Mentorship programs are arranged for them with commodity groups and AgriSETA</li> </ul> |
| Women  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women are capacitated through capacity building programmes</li> <li>• They are encouraged to participate in the agricultural value chain through Female Farmer Award programme with cash prizes</li> </ul>   |
| People with Disabilities                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are encouraged to participate in PEDAD</li> <li>• They enter competitions for PwD and are awarded cash prizes</li> <li>• They get ring-fenced support</li> </ul>  |
| Military Veterans                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Military Veterans are encouraged to participate in the sector, and they are given preference when allocating state land</li> <li>• The Department is training and mentoring them on running successful farming enterprises</li> </ul>  |
| Internship programme                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates are opportunities for Internship programme within the department</li> </ul>  |

### Emerging priorities and opportunities over the planning period

During the planning phases, the Member of Executive Council, as she was addressing the officials in her Executive Address identified a 6 Point Plan to drive the Three GNU Priorities as follows:

1. Development of a comprehensive commercialisation programme for 50 farmers/ producers within the identified Agro-Ecological Zones in the province during the 7<sup>th</sup> Administration,
2. Identification and Implementation of projects and programmes to ensure revitalisation of primary agriculture and agro-processing through full implementation of RAAVC plan as a blue-print plan.
3. Develop strategies to accelerate sector transformation to promote meaningful participation of black farmers/ producers, including women, youth, people with disabilities and military veterans, in the integrated agricultural value chain.
4. Reducing vulnerability and risks associated with climate change.
5. Craft an overarching strategy to deal with Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in the province.
6. Turning Colleges of Agriculture and Research Stations into Centres of Excellence to ensure improved skills base of the sector and Research and Development on alternative crop cultivars and livestock breeds, as well as efficient production technologies.

The session should then work on the Five Years Strategic Plan 2025/26 – 2029/30 and 2025/26 Annual Performance Plan for Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (LDARD), with these 6 Point Plan as a radar that will ensure that the sheep does not sink nor heads for the rocks.

Very clear Programme Specific instructions were given to ensure that the 6 Point Plan gets implemented. A major emerging priority and opportunity was cited as an example of projects whereby the communities identify lazy assets and combine their heads to make full and efficient use of such assets before, they can illegally be invaded for residential settlements. and it needs to be incorporated into the strategic plans of the department.

Whilst engaging with stakeholders, the communities highlighted the pride of a prime land for agriculture and warned the MEC about possible invasion of the land for other issues than agricultural production and job creation. The MEC brought the matter to the attention of officials and critical stakeholders for consideration and inclusion into the planning process as follows:

**“It is such, that the Sekutupu Farm in Zebediela should find expression in its development over the next five years. The community has grouped itself to revitalize their forefathers’ farms, and we need to support them. They want to use the land at their disposal, and in the process, contribute to commercialization of it- and in the process alleviate food scarcity and create sustainable jobs.**

**It is here that I expect you to plan accordingly in supporting the farm and develop meaningful ways in which we will be able to see it operational before the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> administration”.**

The commercialization of farmers/producers remains at the forefront of our agenda. Engaging with farmers, financial institutions, and all key stakeholders will help us develop a watertight commercialization framework. Through the RAAVC plan, we need to increase agricultural production, create jobs, alleviate poverty, and reduce the cost of living.

#### **Alignment of LDARD plans to DoA proposed priorities**

The National Department of Agriculture proposes seven strategic priorities for the agricultural sector for the 7<sup>th</sup> Administration, namely:

1. Partnerships for Growth
2. A Modern and Progressive Legislative and Regulatory Environment.
3. Improving Market Access for South African Agriculture.
4. Providing Effective Support for Farmers to ensure inclusive, viable, sustainable and profitable farming operations.
5. Biosecurity is everybody’s responsibility.
6. Advocacy for a growing sector
7. Improving Food Security.

The LDARD will incorporate the proposed strategic priorities in the strategic plan of the department for the 7<sup>th</sup> Administration by aligning the key strategic focus areas and outcomes for the department to the National Department of Agriculture as follows:

| DAGRIC Strategic Focus Area | LDARD contribution and alignment  |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Partnerships for Growth     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LDARD is accelerating the implementation of Limpopo Revitalisation of Agriculture and Agro Processing Value Chain Plan (RAAVC Plan) as a tool towards achieving the common objectives set out in the Agriculture and Agro-processing Master Plan (AAMP)</li> </ul> |

| DAGRIC Strategic Focus Area  | LDARD contribution and alignment   |
|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LDARD is planning together with the key stakeholders in the sector, the department engaged stakeholders in the planning session on the 17 – 19 October 2024.</li> </ul>   |
| Improving Market Access for South African Agriculture  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Market access to improve domestic and export markets by all farmers</b></li> <li>This departmental key strategic focus area aligns with the DAGRI strategic focus area</li> </ul>  |
| Providing effective support for farmers to ensure inclusive, viable, sustainable and profitable farming operations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Revitalisation of primary agriculture and agro-processing;</b></li> <li><b>Sector transformation to promote and support meaningful participation by black farmers, including women, youth and people with disabilities</b></li> <li>Commercialisation of farmers: The Department will be developing a Commercialisation Framework to guide implementation of the programme during the 7<sup>th</sup> Administration</li> </ul> |
| Biosecurity is everyone's responsibility   | <p>The Veterinary Services and Research and Technology Development Programmes will continue to develop a comprehensive strategy to deal with Biosecurity.</p> <p>The strategy will include all other relevant strategic partners in dealing holistically with all biosecurity issues</p>   |
| Advocacy for a growing sector  | <p>LDARD will incorporate the assistance of farmers for application for water rights as part of the support program to farmers.</p> <p>Closer collaboration with Department of Water and Sanitation is established</p> <p>Regular update of the farmer register database.</p>  |
| Improving Food Security  | <p>The Department's outcome of "Increased household agricultural production support initiatives" addresses the strategic focus area.</p>   |

## Economic Outlook

South Africa has a diverse agricultural sector, encompassing both intensive and extensive farming systems for crops like vegetables, fruits, nuts, and grains. The country's commercial farming sector is vital to its economy, significantly contributing to its agricultural output and heavily relying on exports. In 2024, South Africa ranked 60<sup>th</sup> out of the 127 countries on the Global Hunger Index (GHI) from a ranking of 58<sup>th</sup> out of 125 countries with a score of 13.0 in the 2023 GHI, now, with a score of 12.5 in the 2024 GHI, South Africa has a moderate level of hunger this was the lowest GHI score in Southern Africa in 2024 in GHI 2024 (source: HI 2024).

In contrast, about 93.1% of households in Limpopo province have access to food and this makes it the most food secure province in the country (Source: GHS May 2024). This is despite the water challenges the province is faced with, and it continues to contribute significantly to the food security levels in South Africa, producing large amounts of fruits and gradually increasing its livestock and grain output (including maize, soya bean, sunflower and sorghum).



The province has now seen the emergence of the new grain crop in the name of “Canola” grown in the Southeastern part of the province. This will boost competitiveness and the economy of the province.

Limpopo province remains the largest citrus producer in the country, accounting for the largest production area of about 39 634 ha or 40% of the country’s total planted hectareage, with oranges-Valencia, Navels and grapefruit accounting for 57%, 26% and 55% respectively. In terms of Lemons, the province is second to the Eastern Cape province with the production areas of about 6 071 hectares or 33% (CGA: 2024). South Africa remains the world’s second largest exporter of fresh citrus after Spain and it is faced with EU market regulations especially on phytosanitary issues, due to the prevalence of Citrus Black Spot (CBS) and false codling moth (FCM).

The has instituted controlled measures to curb FMD which seems to be effective as per the FMD report release by DALRRD on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024. These measures could give greenlight to the beef producers in the province to claim export market share, particularly from the beef exports to Saudi Arabia as per the newly signed agreement.

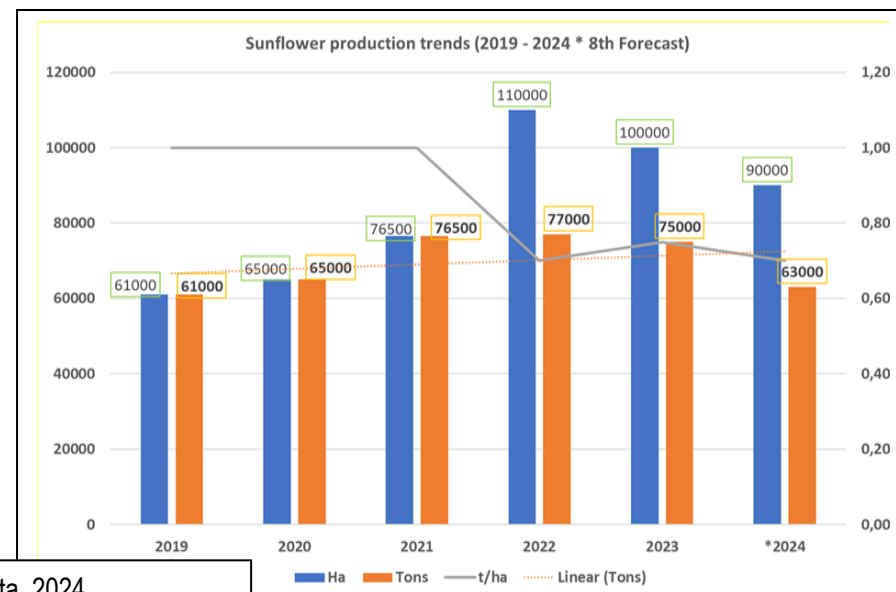
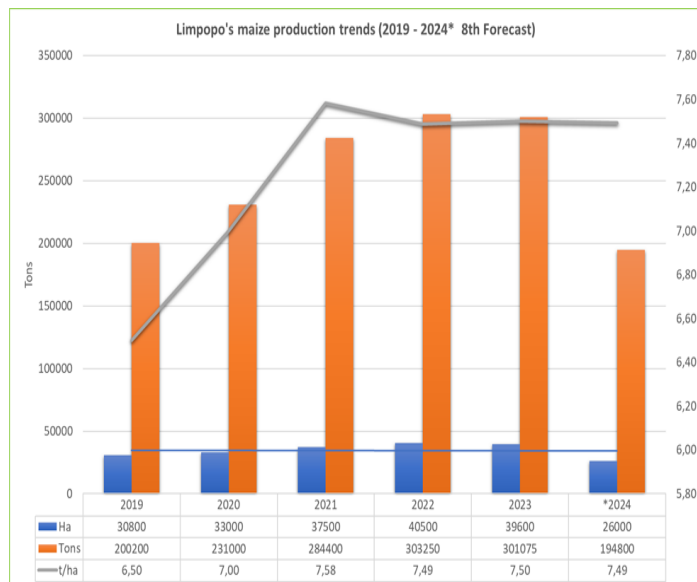
The agricultural sector is set to outperform other sectors as the red meat industry received a boost from the groundbreaking agreement South Africa signed with Saudi Arabia to export between 500t and 1 000t of red meat annually. The agreement encompasses both livestock and livestock products. As a result, beef exports from South Africa were 23 295 tons 2024 from 15 330 tons in the same period last year.

The rise in beef exports was attributed to the recently established new trade agreements between the Middle East and South Africa (Source: Beefmaster 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024).

According to the South African Avocado Growers' Association's 2023 census results, the country has an estimated 19 500ha. Limpopo province account for 54% of the total area the country planted, which translate to 10 168ha. Letaba, which is situated in Limpopo, Mopani District, is the largest production region in South Africa with 45% (8 601 ha) of total plantings and the remaining percentage coming from Levhubu and Hoedspruit.

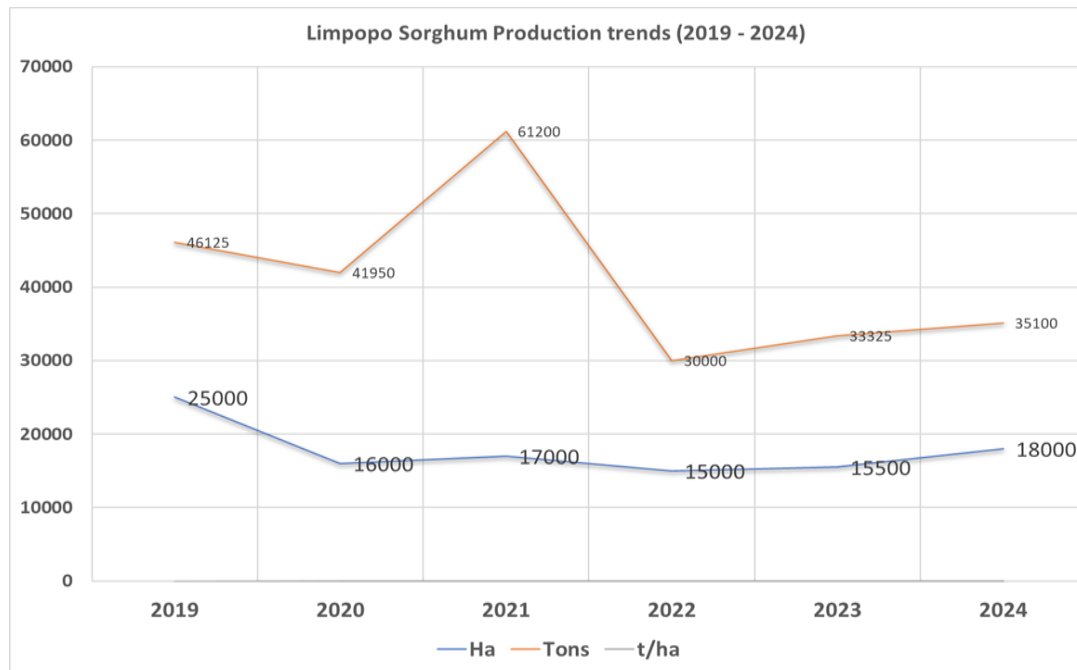
The Limpopo province receives the largest share in terms of export sales of avocados compared to the rest in the country. The local industry produces an estimated three-year average of 139 400 tons, and about 45% of local production is exported fresh. Additionally, the remaining crop is consumed domestically, and approximately 10% is processed into oil and purée. The industry estimates that despite being export-oriented, the local market has also shown significant growth over the past years (SAAGA: 2023). In August 2023, South Africa and China signed an agreement to allow avocado export and a total of 21 210kg of avocados were exported to China and this development could give rise to employment in the sector.

## Grain Production trends



Source: DALRRD, CEC 8<sup>th</sup> Forecast data, 2024

On the grain front, the country's final maize production forecast was set at 12 850 million tons which is 8.26% more when compared with the current crop of 2025. The area estimate for maize remains fixed at 2, 636 million hectares. Limpopo province account for 1.2% (194 800 tons) share to the country's total maize size and it is still ranked 7th in terms of maize production nationally. The first forecast for 2025 is set 28 500ha with a yield of 21 850 tons. In the case of Sunflower seed, the country's final production forecast set at 632 000 tons which translate into -2 620% (17 000 tons) less than the previous final crop of 2023. The final area estimate for sunflower seed stood at 529 000ha with the expected yield of 1 195 t/ha. In 2024 the province remains the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest producer of sunflower seed and it accounts for 9.97% of the total sunflower production in the country.



The final production forecast of sorghum nationally is currently at 98000tons, which translate to +32.27% when comparing the 2024 crop with the 1<sup>st</sup> estimates of the of 2025. The area estimate for sorghum was fixed at 42100 hectares with the expected yield of 2,28 t/ha.

Limpopo province remain the second largest producer of sorghum, accounting for 35,82% of the total crop the country produces and currently sitting at 35 100tons with the expected yield of 1.95t/ha. This is 1 775tons or 5.33% more from the final crop of 2023.

## Households' involvement in Agriculture

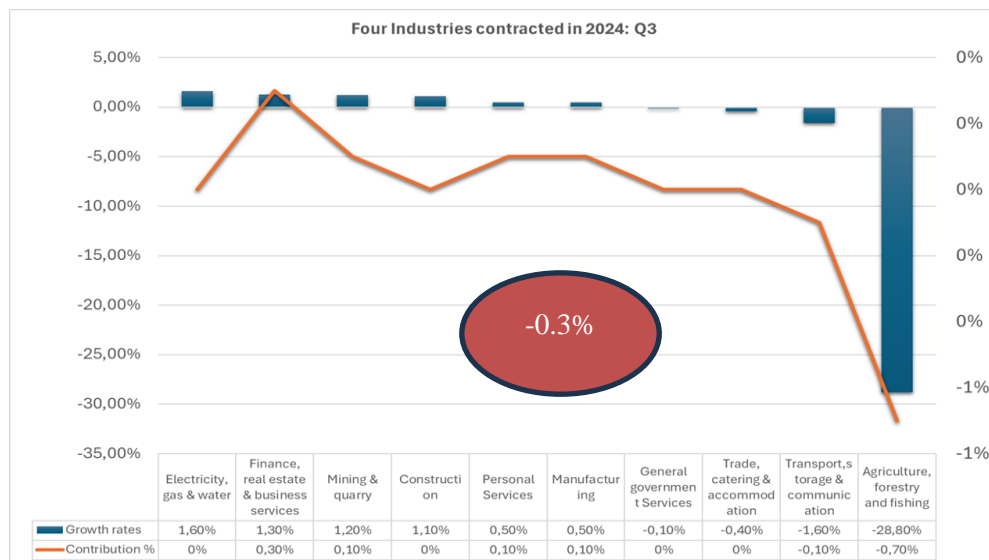
| Involvement in non-market activities  |              |              |            |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
|                                       | Jul-Sep 2024 | Oct-Dec 2024 | QQ         |
| Limpopo                               | '000'        | '000'        | '000'      |
| <b>Subsistence farming</b>            | 243          | 242          | -0.5% (-1) |
| Produce other goods for household use | 1            | 3            | 124% (2)   |
| Hunting or fishing for household use  | 1            | 2            | 183.6% (2) |

Source: STATSSA, QLFS 4<sup>th</sup> 2024

The number of households involved in subsistence farming regressed by 1 000, which translates to -0.5% quarter-on-quarter and those involved in producing other goods for household use increased by 2 000 or 124% when compared with the previous quarter.

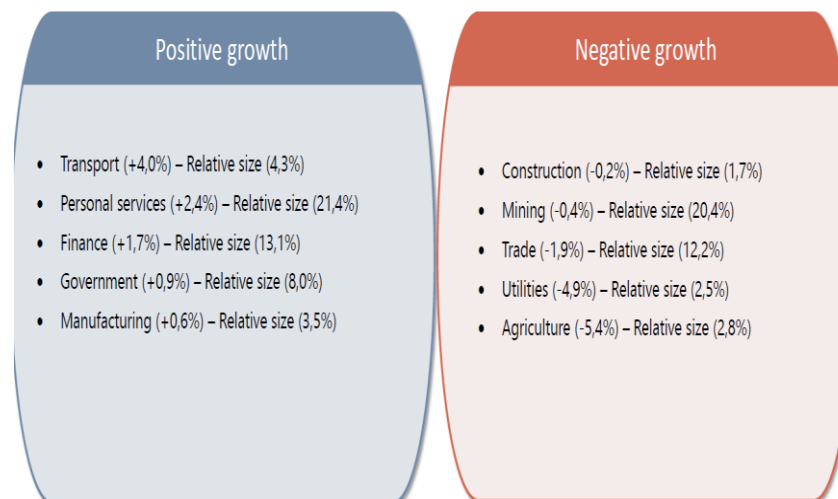
## The role of agriculture to the economy

The agricultural sector is crucial to the economy as it supplies essential goods such as food, feed, and fibre. It also offers employment and income opportunities for millions of people globally. It promotes economic growth by providing raw materials to industries, generating export revenue, and facilitating foreign exchange. The latest GDP figures shows that the economy regressed by 0.3% in 3rd of 2024 from a growth of 0.4% in the 2nd quarter of 2024, with the financial and trade sectors been the biggest movers of in the economy in the 3rd quarter of 2024, the agricultural and construction sectors plummeting to the lowest levels contributing negatively to the economy.



Source: STATSSA, GDP 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. 2024

## Lever of economic performance in Limpopo province in 2023



Source: STATSSA, GDPR 2024

The agriculture, forestry and fishing industry's growth tanked by for two consecutive quarters by 28.8% from 2.1% in the 2nd quarter of 2024 from the biggest growth of 13.5% in the 1st quarter of 2024. The primary agricultural sector experienced a negative growth rate of 10%. This decline was primarily due to low economic activities reported under field crops, where wheat, soya beans and sunflower seeds experienced drought conditions. The Limpopo provincial spread shows positive contribution of 0.4% to the GDP in 2020, and with further growth rates of 3.3%, 2.3% and 2.8% (contribution: -5.4%) in 2021, 2022 and 2023 respectively. The latest figures from STATSSA show an upward movement in terms of contribution to the GDP.

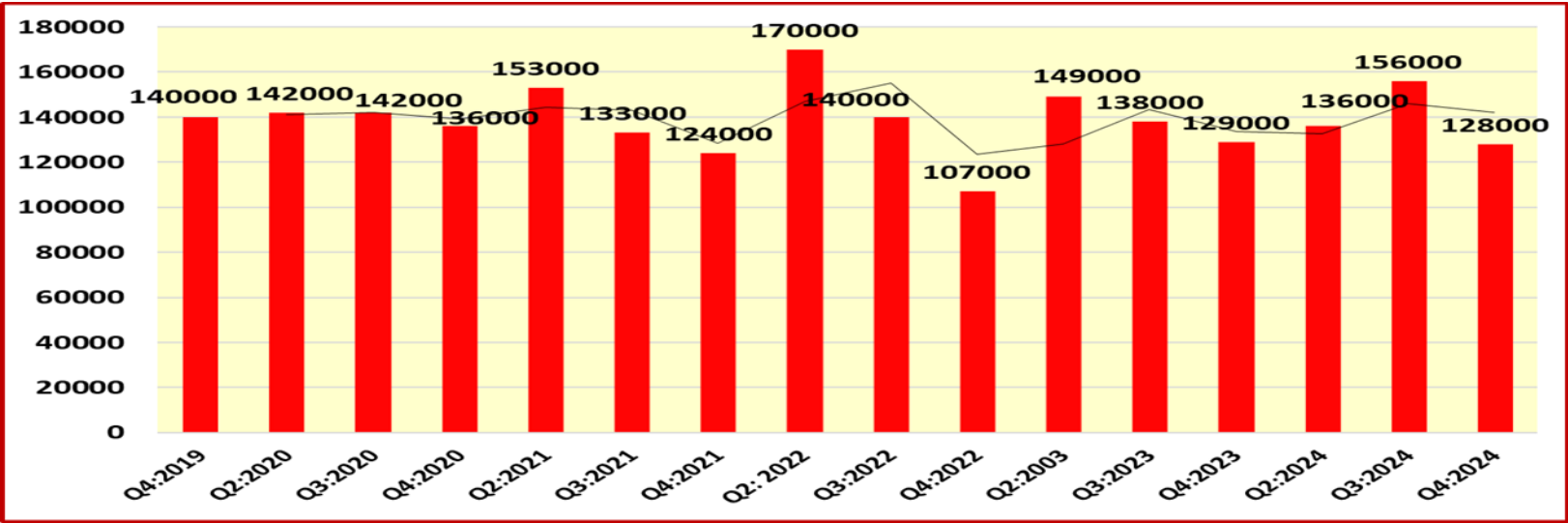
The agricultural sector is a capital-intensive industry, and it has higher prospect of growth with the current developments around changes taken by the MPC of the SARB. The cost of borrowing has been eased which paved way for new investments into the sector.

Limpopo: Agricultural employment and unemployment rate

Source: STATSSA, QLFS 4<sup>th</sup> of 2024

The number of employed persons nationally increased in four out of ten industries. These increases were recorded in finance (232000), followed by manufacturing (41000), private households (18 000) and Transport (17 000) industries.

These developments brought unemployment rate down by 0.2% point to 31.9% in the 4th quarter of 2024. The agricultural sector, nationally, shed 11 000 jobs while Limpopo saw 29 000 job cuts in the same sector and this has brought the province's unemployment rate down to 31.9%, a figure equivalent to that of the country (Source: STATSSA, QLFS Q4 of 2024).



The youth unemployment rate in South Africa was 44.6% in the fourth quarter of 2024, down from 45.5% in the third quarter. This was due to a decrease of 133,000 unemployed youth, while 37,000 more youth were employed.

The youth remain vulnerable in the labour market. The decrease in the youth unemployment rate is a result of the government's efforts to tackle unemployment through policy reforms, strategic investments, and increased private sector participation. The number of not economically active persons in the province increased by 2.7% or 31 000 taking the tally to 1 176million persons with the entire economy shedding 16 000jobs. These developments downed number of employed persons from 1 559million to 1 543million, which translate to a low of 1% quarter to quarter and 3% year on year.

## Challenges ahead

The livestock industry remains in solid condition, but farmers remain cautious of biosecurity cases like FMD and other diseases. On the flip side of the coin, the higher grain and oilseeds prices add further cost weights to the livestock and poultry industry. EU continue to be the major market for South African Fruit. The country's fruit and nut exports amounted to US\$922.2 million in the first quarter of 2023, equivalent to a 9.6% decrease from the US\$1.0 billion reported in the same period in 2022. The decline in the value of the exports could be due to the export restrictions imposed by the EU to the citrus industry (NAMC Trade report: 2023). cold treatment still impacts South African exports and high freight costs and escalation of higher cost of electricity, fuel and fertilizer.

The ongoing operational challenges at the country's ports, and the impact of the Geo-political war (Russia-Ukraine conflict). South African citrus stays in ports longer, pushing up costs. The phytosanitary challenges in the EU market, due to the prevalence of citrus black spot (CBS) and false codling moth (FCM)/Introduction of new cold treatment for False Coding Moth (FMC) hindered citrus export markets and this led the industry to revise down on its exports this year. The lack of markets and or marketing infrastructure and access to finance by smallholder farmers has a negative effect on the growth of the industry.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Administration of Government, ushered in the EPWP Phase V which is set to create 5 million work opportunities by 2029 across the four sectors country-wide in response to the realization of the priority of Driving inclusive growth and job creation. LandCare is a vehicle to contribute to the five-year targets of the Environment and Culture Sector of EPWP given its responsibility for providing leadership in the sector.

In the National Development Plan (NDP) 2030, the EPWP is positioned to contribute to Government's goals of alleviating poverty, developing local communities, providing work opportunities, and enhancing social protection whilst delivering goods and services. Chapter 11 of the NDP states that the majority of the unemployed have limited access to social protection.

As part of the launch of EPWP Phase 5 and the celebration of 20 Years of the programme's legacy by the Premier of Limpopo on the 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024, there was a commitment on the signing of the service delivery protocols for the targets as mentioned below to be achieved in the 5 years by the political heads of the departments.

| <b>Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development</b> |                |                |                |                |                |               |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
|  | <b>2024/25</b> | <b>2025/26</b> | <b>2026/27</b> | <b>2027/28</b> | <b>2028/29</b> | <b>Total</b>  |
| <b>WO</b>  | <b>2 752</b>   | <b>2 775</b>   | <b>2 783</b>   | <b>2 789</b>   | <b>2 801</b>   | <b>13 900</b> |
| <b>FTE</b>   | <b>1 469</b>   | <b>1 452</b>   | <b>1 486</b>   | <b>1 486</b>   | <b>1 487</b>   | <b>7 379</b>  |

The LandCare Programme continues to be a flagship programme to address Sustainable Development Goal 15.3 on reaching land degradation neutrality by 2030 through community based natural resource management where LandCare Committees are at the forefront of their current use and future consideration. Landcare has an inspiring goal that aims to address productivity while enhancing natural resources base. It is canvassed by six principles and anchored by focus areas such as SoilCare, VeldCare, WaterCare, JuniorCare and Conservation Agriculture. The result of this programme is guided by the founding principles of sustainable land management practices which are increased land productivity, improved livelihoods and improved ecosystems.

The LandCare Programme is strengthened by growing adoption and the institutionalization of LandCare Committees in the province. The combination of bottom-up approaches, community-led forums and supportive government through policy direction, financial systems, streamlined education and training and decentralised functions of LandCare have been drivers for rehabilitation and for judicious use of resources. The uptake of these sustainable use approaches reinforces the country's commitment to climate smart agriculture which is our dedicated path to transitioning to low carbon economy. South Africa reaffirmed its commitment to tackling climate change and its adversities by promulgating Climate Change Act 22 of 2024. The Act enables the development of an effective climate change response and a long-term, just transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy and society for South Africa in the context of sustainable development.

The LDARD leverage resources from Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) through the Global Environment Facility for United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to (UNCCD) to complement the funding for the LandCare in tackling the scourge of land degradation.

As a province, the department has in place sector response measures that include programmes to support and capacitate farmers through government pre and post disaster recovery and rehabilitation programmes through implementation of climate smart agriculture principles and technologies such as Conservation Agriculture, resource efficient soil conservation measures, Landcare Programme, disaster risk reduction, vulnerability assessment, water infrastructure development, awareness creation, capacity building and training to the multitudes of farmers and extension officers.

The World Food Programme (WFP) of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) defines people as being food secure when 'they have availability and adequate access at all times to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life' Limpopo



Province has witnessed different trends in households food security over the past decade, reaching its pinnacle in 2021 with an impressive 92.6% of households reporting to be food secured, marking it as the leading province in South Africa in this regard due to the vast agricultural activities, however there are still some households that experience food insecurity

Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) conducted a survey in 2020-2022, the study revealed that there is a pressing need to support farmers in Limpopo province, particularly in Mopani, Waterberg and Vhembe districts. The survey revealed that many vulnerable households rely on agriculture for their livelihoods but lack access to essential farming inputs. By providing these inputs, we can enhance agricultural productivity, increase food security, and create sustainable employment opportunities for local communities. Farming activities played a significant role in food security, suggesting that dealing with food insecurity in rural province of Limpopo is dependent not only on the expansion of social protection measures (such as social grants) and creating employment opportunities, but promotion of household food production with the needed incentives.

The food security program derives its legal mandate from amongst others the constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act No. 108 of 1996): section 27(1b) – 1996 and the National Development Plan (NDP) 2030. The main objective of the Food Security Program is to ensure food security to the poor and vulnerable households and alleviate poverty by encouraging household food production and income generation through agricultural initiatives

Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development implement the integrated Food and Nutrition Security Programme by supporting households with production inputs for establishment of home gardens, identifying indigent households in collaboration with Department of Social development, local municipalities and the tribal authorities to support them with food parcels and production inputs during the World Food Production Month yearly. The program intensifies its support to through the Drop-In centres, and Early childhood development centres (ECD's) and Disability centres/projects to ensure there is food production and access to health meals

Producer Support Services is contributing to several outcomes. The stated outputs will ensure that the outcomes will be achieved. Capacity building is a critical building block in ensuring that farmers acquire the necessary skills, knowledge, and competitive edge in order to achieve increased production and productivity. Economic transformation and job creation can only be achieved if the skills base of the agricultural sector is increased.

The choice of the outputs is guided by the importance of a need to build strong skill base in the sector. This is done through training and mentoring of producers within the sector. The training and mentoring of farmers will lead to increased skills base and this will ensure achievement of the specified outcome, thereby leading to the realisation of the priorities of government. Capacity building for farmers/ producers is a critical component of ensuring that producers participate. meaningfully in the sector and are active in the integrated agricultural value chain.

The development of a skills base in the sector is equally significant to ensure inclusive participation The placement of unemployed graduates in agricultural enterprises is aimed at equipping the graduates with practical experience and entrepreneurial skills that will encourage them to enter the integrated value chain. Their entrance is anticipated to be more as employers than employees, which will assist to address the challenge of ageing farmers and lack of full participation of young people in the agricultural sector

Revitalization of Agriculture and Agro-processing Value Chain (RAAVC) implementation of massive development of key strategic commodities like citrus, vegetable, subtrops and cotton, strengthening partnership with industry and establishing/linking farmers to Agro-processing facilities in support of AAMP. Bias to youth, women, people with disability and military veterans through reviewed farmer support policy, establishment of a dedicated funding program and creation of dialogue with Traditional leaders and DALRRD on land allocation. The Department is supporting focused Agricultural high schools with technical advice and infrastructure, Upskilling of Agricultural Extension Practitioners through conducting skills audit in line with industry expectation and revisiting deployment policy. Improving Farmer Support efficiency and effectiveness by pursuing development of Voucher system for the support to producers and development of electronic application system that links to the voucher system.

The Presidential Stimulus Initiatives (PES) by the National Department of Agriculture and Land Reform (DALRRD) brings massive contribution that meet the needs of the poor, vulnerable and food insecure households. The Extension Preparatory Programme

through employment of Assistant Agricultural Practitioners is contributing to reduction of Extension to farmer ratio (1:1 321). The unemployed agricultural graduates programme where we place them in different commercial farms for two years to experience practical knowledge is also contributing to the succession plan in the sector and increase of production.

Veterinary services has the responsibility of *“Implementing a comprehensive strategy to combat Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and ensure the sustainability of the livestock industry.* FMD remains a significant concern in Limpopo, affecting both livestock health and the provincial economy. Limpopo province has the longest border with the Kruger National Park which is the home of Foot and Mouth Disease carrying buffalo in South Africa. Strengthened biosecurity policies and strategies together with improved animal herd health will make it financially viable for producers to participate in the integrated value chain in the red meat industry.

Strengthened biosecurity policies and strategies will be achieved by conducting surveillance for targeted animal diseases and primary animal health care. Improved animal herd health will be achieved by vaccination of animals against controlled diseases as well as proper external parasite control. The auditing and registering export facilities will enable current and aspiring exporters to increase their primary animal production. Annual inspection of export facilities and renewal of registration certificates will enable exporters to continue exporting. Reduce level of risks associated with food will be achieved by conducting inspections on facilities producing meat and will lead to increased consumer trust. This will result in an increased demand for meat and meat products.

Monthly abattoir inspections will encourage compliance to the Meat Safety Act by abattoir owners. Limpopo province has rabies. Rabies is a zoonotic disease. Vhembe and Mopani districts are the most affected by rabies. Rabies samples are tested at Onderstepoort Veterinary Research (OVR) in Pretoria and Allerton Veterinary Laboratory in Pietermaritzburg in KZN in the whole country. Veterinary Diagnostic Services will be working on establishing a rabies testing laboratory in Makhado in the MTEF. As a result of above interventions, the department plans tapping into different sources for additional technologist, training, infrastructure, testing equipment.

Veterinary Services has a potential to collect revenue. Currently revenue is collected for animal and animal products export certification, export facilities registration, abattoir registrations, Performing Animals Protection Act licences and abattoir plans evaluation. The department will also expand in the existing buffalo movement and clinical services.

The agriculture sector continues to be affected by challenges related to climate change and associated disasters and global socio-economic and political challenges that constrain the trade and prices of production inputs. Frequent adverse effects associated with climate change are extreme weather conditions that manifest in the form of droughts, floods, cold and heat waves, as well as pest and disease outbreaks adversely affecting both livestock and crop farming in the province. Recently, the occurrence of black frost and outbreak of African armyworm had serious negative effects on the sector.

Effective research is necessary to mitigate the effects of these challenges. Accordingly, the LDARD will strengthen its focus on research that is relevant to the sector, also ensuring that the research output is accessible to all stakeholders, both internal (within LDARD) and external stakeholders (including farmers) in the agriculture sector.

The Department will continue to work towards its long term vision of transforming the two research stations (Mara and Towoomba) into the centres of excellence for impactful research and development. This will be achieved through continued investment in research infrastructure, equipment, and Information Communication Technology (ICT). Work towards improving the capacity of the personnel to deliver impactful research will receive priority.

Development of the Cannabis industry (both hemp and dagga) has been identified as important for sound development of the provincial economy. The focus of the LDARD has been on the development of institutional arrangement and on research on cannabis prior to cannabis project development (both production and processing projects). Progress was recorded on institutional development where the Limpopo Cannabis Forum and Limpopo Hemp & Cannabis Farmers Association were established and the Limpopo Cannabis Development Strategy developed. Research on cannabis is in progress, championed by the ARC and University of Limpopo.

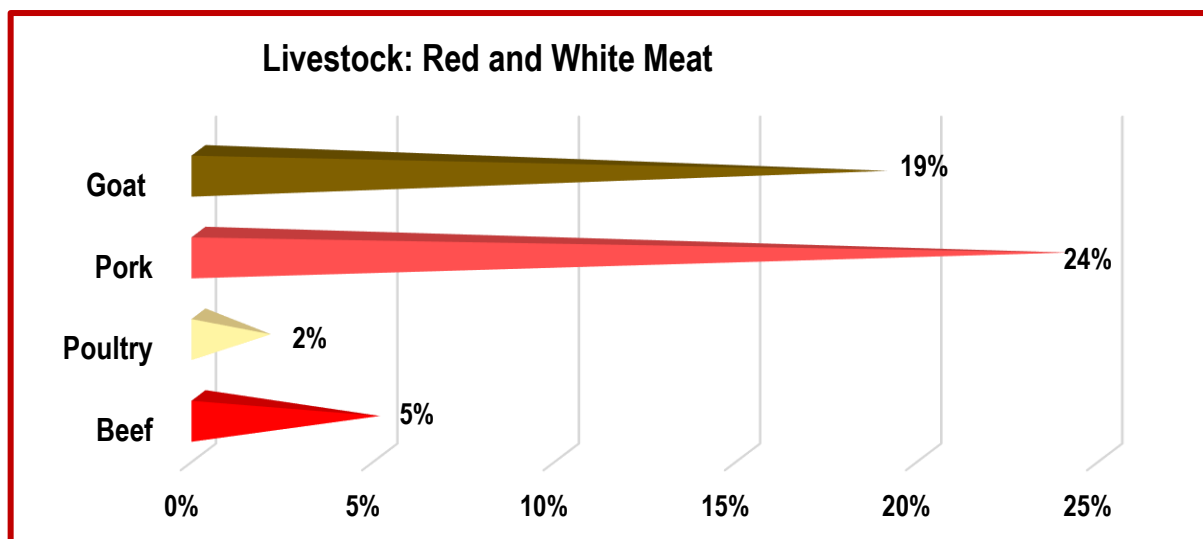
Nationally, the regulatory framework for commercialization is not yet in place. The Commercialisation Policy is still to be finalised to enable the dealings and trade on cannabis. With the Cannabis Development Strategy already adopted, the focus of the LDARD will be on development of the SMART Implementation Plan. This will position the province correctly for resourcing and practical implementation of cannabis projects once the regulatory / policy framework is finalised.

The current climate event in Limpopo Province is dominated by severe drought, that has resulted in reduced grazing, water for livestock and crops significantly impacting on agricultural livelihoods resulting in food scarcity. Over and above that, there is a significant reduction on grazing land due to land utilisation competition, viz human settlement, mining, etc.

However, Limpopo is a predominantly savanna (bushveld) area with lot of woody species suitable for browsers like goats, game, etc. Bush thickening is a natural phenomenon due to global warming and the greenhouse effect, resulting in more browsing material available to animals in future.

Eastern Cape and Limpopo Provinces are the largest goat producers, accounting for approximately 58% of the total production in South Africa. The Eastern Cape has the highest distribution of live goats contributing 37% followed by Limpopo Province which accounts for 21% of SA live goats production.

From the figure below, it is clear that Limpopo is an insignificant producer of beef and poultry with 5% and 2% share respectively. The province shows some competitiveness by leading in production of pork at 24% and fair show on goat production at 19% which make Limpopo the 2<sup>nd</sup> most competitive province in the country.



It is therefore opportune for Limpopo to invest in the development of Goat Production to be more industry competitive and increased contribution into the GDP.

## AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC SERVICES

Amongst others the priority of the Department is to grow primary agricultural production towards being able to supply products for agro processing, thus contributing to job creation and economic growth. In 2025/26 six (6) RAAVC projects will be implemented within the earmarked funding budget allocation of R32, 792 million. Six projects with the total budget of R31 million will be implemented: Revitalisation of Zebediela Citrus Estate, Majeje Citrus, Makgoba Dieplaagte, Kgarose Kgaros and Tafelkop Farmers Association. The balance of R1, 792 million will be used for planning and monitoring of RAAVC projects.

Since 2022 the Department has been funding the development of Majeje Citrus, in partnership with the private sector. The Department is partnering with Majeje Citrus (Pty) Ltd, funded by Komati Group, Absa Bank and Motsepe Foundation in the implementation of the citrus project. The establishment of irrigation infrastructure and 450 hectares citrus orchard development is on track to be achieved over the project period 2021/22 to 2025/26. The project has garnered positive exposure, as it shines light on what can be done when government partner with the private sector and experts in a particular agricultural commodity. The implementation of RAAVC projects does encounter obstacles. A case in point is the Revitalisation of Zebediela Citrus. There is blurred separation between ownership

and business at this land restitution project. The separation of ownership of the land from the business entity which conducts the farming business on the land is not only a good practice, but it also makes provision for focused intervention to deal with community differences and factors affecting farm business efficiencies.

In order to increase the skills base required by the agricultural sector in Limpopo Province, the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development reopened the two colleges of agriculture, namely, Madzivandila and Tompi Seleka Colleges of Agriculture. The colleges are being revitalized to become centers of excellence with a specific mandate of preparing graduates to become farmers/ producers who should start sustainable entrepreneurial activities.

The programme of Recognition of prior learning (RPL) as applied by the 2 colleges is a strength for the department. The farmers exposed to the process are enabled to demonstrate being fully trained and or knowledgeable at a defined level about agriculture. This increases the chances of them securing the funding and other support that may require them to have skills.

Many farmers who have not had an opportunity for formal education but have acquired their skills through everyday work and application are given an opportunity to be assessed against a formal qualification which can be acquired if the candidate is found competent.

The relationship with AgriSETA allows for the colleges to implement RPL free of charge to farmers annually, it allows students to access bursaries to off-set the lack of NSFAS in agricultural colleges. The institution also funds academic staff for advanced studies helping the college to improve on standard and quality. AgriSETA also further fund students on Work Integrated Learning with stipends for self-sustaining. This is important because majority of the students in the colleges are from a poor background and struggle during this posting with food, sanitary products and accommodation.

The AgriSETA also serves as an accrediting body for our skills qualifications and programmes. The relationship will serve the college by ensuring that it is Quality Council for Trade Occupations (QCTO) compliant. QCTO is the future of all skills programmes including in agriculture.

To achieve major government goals, it is necessary for rural development interventions to be multidimensional in nature. Rural development calls for a multisectoral development intervention and requires a multisectoral response, taking place across spheres of government and is a transversal function. Thus, the development requires the inclusion and action of a variety of government departments through a multisectoral range of programmes. DALRRD developed guidelines on the *Implementation of the Provincial Rural Development Function aligned to the Integrated Rural Development Sector Strategy and Comprehensive Rural Development Programme*. LDARD is guided by this forward-looking policy document and will be coordinating multiple interventions required to shift rural areas to more sustainable development paths over the five years.

Rural development falls within *Outcome 3: Integrated and inclusive rural economy* within the *MTDP Priority 1: Economic Transformation and Job Creation*. The Department will report on the implementation of the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme, involving sector Departments developing the rural space. Further to this activity, Farm Assessments will be conducted where farms are being assessed for their production and economic potential upon which their suitability for lease, acquisition and re-allocation by the Department of Agriculture Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) are determined. The Department will also be engaged in facilitating lease agreements between commercial entities or strategic partners and farmers. The aim is to grow primary agricultural production towards being able to supply products for agro processing, thus contributing to job creation and economic growth. The facilitation of stakeholder engagements for post settlement support will receive attention to bring together land reform beneficiaries and other interested parties aimed towards growth in agricultural production on restored land.

## 8.2 INTERNAL ENVIRONMENT ANALYSIS

The Department has realigned the organisational structure for Animal Health Services (AHS) in the Districts for operational efficiency and service delivery improvement. The realignment of AHS organisational structure was focusing on the rearrangement, reallocation of resources and conversion of posts based on the operational needs per area for effective and efficient delivery of animal health services.

The realignment of AHS Org. structure was approved with the eleven (11) newly created posts of Red Line Supervisor to strengthen supervision at the redline gates for effective control of animal health diseases such as Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) at the high-risk red line areas in Mopani and Vhembe Districts. The two Districts are situated at high risk FMD zones in the province and geographic location that are near places with wild animals such as game reserves i.e. Kruger National Park. FMD is currently kept in check with the use of different redline gates, between which restrictions are placed on animal movements for control purposes. The proper realignment was done within the current allocated budget to avoid incurring additional expenditure to organisational structure. The realignment of AHS Organisational Structure was approved by Member of the Executive Council on the 7th of October 2024 for implementation.

To strengthen management capacity for improvement of quality service delivery and sustainability of agricultural services through provision of balanced and appropriate leadership, management and agricultural professionals, the Department has determined the need to establish the Directorate: Extension and Advisory Services and Sub-directorate: Agricultural Programmes Coordination under the Chief Directorate: Agriculture Development and Farmer Support Services. The establishment of the two respective components is proposed with two (2) newly created post of Director: Extension and Advisory Services to manage and coordinate agricultural extension support services, food security and agricultural programmes which are crucial to achieve the objectives of food security and the post of Deputy Director: Agricultural Programmes Coordination to manage and monitor implementation of key agricultural projects and capacity building programmes funded through CASP. The proposed realignment of organisational structure for Chief Directorate: Agriculture Development and Farmer Support in line with the above-mentioned proposal is approved by the MEC in the Department and currently submitted to Office of the Premier for analysis, recommendations and further consultation with the Minister of Public Service and Administration (MPSA) for concurrence.

In line with the outlined information on the updates regarding organisational structure it should be noted that an effective organizational structure is important in ensuring the successful implementation and delivery of departmental strategic priorities. The notion of the Organisational structure aligning to the strategy enable smoother coordination of efforts across Chief Directorates. For instance, a well-defined function within each Programmes will be able to streamline decision-making processes, ensuring that strategic initiatives and decisions are executed promptly and effectively. Ultimately, this fosters synergy between an organizational structure and strategic vision which drive sustained service delivery improvements and the Department's competitive advantage within the Sector. However, LDARD is still experiencing challenges in filling of critical and scarce skills posts at the lower-level management, production, and operational levels. The impact of the high vacancy rate has become apparent on the inadequate delivery of essential services. It also impacts negatively on giving the required strategic support to the service delivery units of the Department. Several engagements have been made with the Office of the Premier (OTP) regarding challenges made by e-recruitment which affect the turn-around on recruitment.

The top structure of the Department depicts the Offices of the MEC, HOD, 07 Chief Directorates and 29 Directorates. The Department has at present a staff complement of 2 391 posts, of which 1 842 are placed.

The Department has a total staff establishment 2 391 posts, currently with a headcount of 1 858 including employees who are not yet placed (or who are in the process of being placed), with a vacancy rate of 23% which is above the threshold of 10%. LDARD is still experiencing challenges in filling of critical and scarce skills posts at the middle management, production and operational levels. The department has also advertised 31 funded vacant posts to salvage Food and Mouth Disease outbreak. The impact of the high vacancy rate has become apparent on the inadequate delivery of essential services. It also impacts negatively on giving the required strategic support to the service delivery units of the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, several requests to seek approval for advertisement are made through submission to Provincial Personnel Management committee to obtain approval for filling of those critical posts.

The department experienced a high turnover rate at 141 posts due to retirement, and other natural attrition of most of employees who are between the age of 55- 64. The department has appointed forty-six employees of which two posts are at the SMS level.

The risk of losing critical and scarce skills categories remains a challenge. The categories include Veterinary Services, Animal Health Technicians, and Engineering Services. The department advertised fifteen (15) external bursary opportunities for the 2025 academic year through Departmental Circular No 45 of 2024 with the closing of the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2025 as per the table below:

| FIELD OF STUDY   | NO OF OPPORTUNITIES |
|--|---------------------|
| BSc: Agricultural Engineering                            | 3                   |
| National Diploma: Civil Engineering                      | 3                   |
| Btech/Post Graduate Dip/ Advanced Dip: Civil Engineering | 3                   |
| Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine                          | 4                   |
| BTech: Veterinary Technology                             | 2                   |
| <b>TOTAL OPPORTUNITIES</b>                               | <b>15</b>           |

There is a dire need to develop a comprehensive strategy to retain the critical and scarce skills, which will include intensifying departmental bursary interventions for external graduates. There is a challenge of budgetary constraint to accommodate bursars, however the Department is envisaging to bid for additional budget during the budget adjustment to cater for the 2025 academic year. Furthermore, the department awarded bursaries to 8 employees performing Agriculture related functions through the AgriSETA Discretionary fund in the 2024 academic year to the value of R 708 00,00. The department further received a grant of R991 200,00 to cater for continuing students from the 2024 academic year **R 2 336 400.00** for new ones to be awarded a bursary in the 2025 academic year

The Department will continue to ensure that there are effective and efficient systems of internal controls to adhere to applicable laws and regulations through the development/ review of policies, procedure manuals, standard operating procedures and any other tools and instruments that promote proper governance within the Department

The department is responding to the National Development Plan, Limpopo Development Plan, Agriculture and Agro-processing Master Plan and Limpopo Revitalisation of Agriculture and Agro-processing Value Chain Plan.

## STRATEGIC FOCUS OVER THE FIVE-YEAR PLANNING PERIOD

The LDARD's programmes would be anchored within the following departmental focus areas:

1. **Improved governance and service excellence** - focuses on the department's concerted effort and willingness to create a well governed state, with capable governance structures built on the principles of high ethical standards.
2. **Increased participation of producers in the integrated value chain** - deals with the support to ensure commercialisation of farmers across the entire integrated agricultural value chain. Farmers will be comprehensively supported through the commercialisation framework. The support will concentrate on the downward and upward streams of the integrated agricultural value chain. Comprehensive support will be directed at farmers and producers to increase agriculture primary production to allow for agro processing.

3. **Increased skills base of the agricultural sector**- will give special attention to the training and mentoring of farmers and producers. There shall be strong collaboration between the department and all critical stakeholders in the sector, namely, Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs), private training institutions, commodity groups, tertiary academic institutions, TVET Colleges, National Skills Fund and Agricultural Colleges of Agriculture in Limpopo.
4. **Climate smart agricultural technologies** - takes a special focus towards adopting a climate smart agriculture as guided by the Climate Smart Framework which outlines CSA procedures in combating problems facing the agricultural sector that are related to climate change. The LDARD will be guided by that are related to climate change. The LDARD will be guided by the CSA Framework in combating climate change by incorporating mitigations and adaptive strategies into production process as well as the requirement of resource investment in indigenous knowledge systems.
5. **Enhanced research and development** - will be driven by the quest to turn the Research Stations (Mara and Towoomba) into centres of excellence in providing answers for challenges faced the sector with the development of modern methods, technologies and cultivars responsive to climate change issues.
6. **Increased primary production** - deals with the desire by the province to increase primary agricultural production with a view to increase contribution to GDP, increase exports, create jobs, drive inclusive growth, increase raw materials for agro-processing, amongst others.

The above would be actualised through the implementation of the following catalytic projects based on the strategic agricultural commodities, linked to and supporting the Limpopo Industrialization Strategy.

- Subtropical fruit cluster development, including citrus and macadamia nuts
- Vegetable cluster development
- Grain cluster development
- Red meat cluster development
- Poultry development; and
- Intensification of FMD prevention measures

## **Part C: Measuring Our Performance**



## Part C: Measuring Our Performance

### 9. Institutional Performance Information

The following Outcomes were identified:

- Good governance and service excellence
- Increased participation of producers in the integrated value chain
- Increased primary production
- Adopted climate smart agriculture technologies
- Increased skills base of the agricultural sector
- Enhanced research and development

#### 9.1 Impact Statement

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Impact Statement</b> | Food Security, Economic Growth and Job Creation through Sustainable Agricultural Development |
|-------------------------|--|

#### 9.2. Measuring our outcomes

|  |  |                 |                         |
|--|--|-----------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Strategic Priority</b>              | <b>Build a capable ethical and developmental state</b>                       |                 |                         |
| <b>MTDP Outcome</b>                    | <b>Trust in the public sector</b>  |                 |                         |
| <b>LDP Priorities</b>                  | <b>Economic Transformation and job creation through regional integration</b> |                 |                         |
| <b>Outcomes</b>                        | <b>Outcome Indicators</b>  | <b>Baseline</b> | <b>Five-year target</b> |
| Good governance and service excellence | Percentage of key performance areas achieved in programmes                   | 100%            | 100%                    |

|  |  |                 |                         |
|--|--|-----------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Strategic priority</b>  | <b>Drive inclusive growth and job creation</b>                               |                 |                         |
| <b>MTDP Priorities</b>   | <b>Increased employment and work opportunities</b>                           |                 |                         |
| <b>LDP Priorities</b>  | <b>Economic Transformation and job creation through regional integration</b> |                 |                         |
| <b>Outcomes</b>  | <b>Outcome Indicators</b>  | <b>Baseline</b> | <b>Five-year target</b> |
| Increased participation of producers in the integrated value chain | Number of integrated interventions within the value chain                    | 11 182          | 15 269                  |
|  | Number of producers empowered through agricultural development programmes    | 93 301          | 171 401                 |
|  | Number of agricultural economic services interventions                       | 20 155          | 23 617                  |
|  | Number of integrated rural development programs facilitated                  | 62              | 357                     |

|  |  |                 |                         |
|--|--|-----------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Strategic priority</b>  | <b>Drive inclusive growth and job creation</b>                               |                 |                         |
| <b>MTDP Priorities</b>   | <b>Increased employment and work opportunities</b>                           |                 |                         |
| <b>LDP Priorities</b>  | <b>Economic Transformation and job creation through regional integration</b> |                 |                         |
| <b>Outcomes</b>  | <b>Outcome Indicators</b>  | <b>Baseline</b> | <b>Five-year target</b> |
| Increased participation of producers in the integrated value chain | Number of research and technology development initiatives                    | 61 343          | 51 019                  |
| Enhanced research and development                                  |  | 404             | 332                     |
| Increased primary production                                       | Number of agricultural initiatives provided to producers                     | 45 470          | 17 532                  |
| Climate smart agriculture technologies                             | Number of smart farming initiatives  | 24 059          | 8 131                   |
| Increased skills base of the agricultural sector                   | Number of skills development programmes implemented                          | 5 012           | 26 149                  |

|  |  |                 |                         |
|--|--|-----------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Strategic Priority</b>  | <b>Reduced poverty and tackle high cost of living</b>  |                 |                         |
| <b>MTDP Outcome</b>  | <b>Reduce poverty and improved livelihoods</b>   |                 |                         |
| <b>LDP Priorities</b>  | <b>Accelerate social change and improve quality of life of Limpopo's citizens.<br/>Economic Transformation and job creation through regional integration</b> |                 |                         |
| <b>Outcomes</b>  | <b>Outcome Indicators</b>  | <b>Baseline</b> | <b>Five-year target</b> |
| Increased participation of producers in the integrated value chain | Number of veterinary interventions to enhance biosecurity services   | 74 262          | 80 270                  |
| Increased primary production                                       |  | 172 240         | 177 300                 |

### 9.3. Explanation of Planned Performance over the Five-Year Planning Period

The potential of agriculture to grow and increase its contribution to the growth of the economy and jobs has been widely acknowledged. The GNU priorities are emphatic also on “inclusive growth and job creation as well as eradication of poverty and reduction of cost of living, whilst at the time governance is a major issue”

The Department’s five-year plans would therefore be directed towards providing the required support to enable the realisation of this strategic intent, as also outlined by the MTDP Priorities that seek to put into effect the objectives of the NDP.

The LDARD’s programmes would be anchored within the following priorities:

- Revitalisation of primary agriculture and agro-processing;
- Market access to improve domestic and export market access by all farmers;
- Reducing vulnerability and risks associated with climate change;
- Agricultural training and skills development to improve the skills base of the sector;
- Sector transformation to promote and support meaningful participation by black farmers, including women, youth and people with disabilities; and
- Research and development on alternative crop cultivars and livestock breeds, as well as efficient production technologies.

The above would be actualised through the implementation of following catalytic projects based on the strategic agricultural commodities, linked to and supporting the Limpopo Industrialization Strategy.

- Subtropical fruit cluster development, including citrus and macadamia nuts
- Vegetable cluster development
- Grain cluster development
- Red meat cluster development
- Poultry development; and
- Intensification of FMD prevention measures

Implementation would follow the Agriparks model approach and be in line with the DDM based on the agro ecological strength of the five districts and provincial growth points. The support would aim at enabling farmers to improve their production capacity and most important their participation in these clusters’ value chain and improve market access. This development is also aimed at revitalising production on land reform farms. The above planned performance will achieve agrarian transformation, inclusive growth and labour absorption. The pinnacle of our course remains on acceleration and successful land reform.

## 10. Key Risks and Mitigation

During the planning process key risks were identified that may prevent achievement of the outcomes.

| Risk No. | Outcome   | Key Risks   | Risk Mitigation   |
|----------|---|---|---|
| 1.       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate smart agriculture technologies</li> <li>Enhanced research and development</li> <li>Increased skills base of the agricultural sector</li> </ul> | Climate change disruptions in agricultural productivity                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide advisory and technical support to affected farmers through disaster relief schemes</li> <li>Capacitate farmers on disaster risk reduction and smart technologies</li> <li>Develop smart coping strategies and cultivars responsive to climate change exposures</li> </ul>  |
|          |   | Deteriorating agricultural land through degradation and competing demands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cultivated land under Conservation Agriculture practises</li> <li>Desilting of water and soil conservation structures. (i.e. dams)</li> <li>Rehabilitation hectares of agricultural land</li> </ul>  |
|          |   | Declining agricultural production due water scarcity and limitations      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish Agricultural Infrastructure for water solutions and supply</li> <li>Provide advisory support to farmers for acquisition of water allocation via Department of Water and Sanitation (Water rights)</li> <li>Assisting farmers with water harvesting techniques</li> </ul> |
| 2        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased participation of producers in the integrated value chain</li> </ul>  | Insufficient economic activities  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support to improve compliance with market requirements (infrastructure and continuous capacity building)</li> <li>Linkage of farmers to the formal markets</li> <li>Support high impact RAAVC projects for job creation, economic growth</li> </ul>                        |

## 11. Public Entities

The Department does not have a Public Entity.

## **Part D: Technical Indicator Description**

The Technical Indicator Description (TID) is the description of outcome indicators and targets to outline data collection processes, gathering of portfolio of evidence and the acceptable level of performance at the beginning of the planning cycle.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Indicator title</b>                                    | Percentage of key performance areas achieved in programmes   |
| <b>Definition</b>   | Percentage of the key performance areas achieved refers to achievement of key performance indicators/ predetermined objectives as set out in the strategic plan. The areas of performance are the deliverables set out as outcome indicators |
| <b>Source of data</b>                                     | The information is sourced out from sector participants, programmes within the department, producers and stakeholders  |
| <b>Method of calculation / assessment</b>                 | Quantitative   |
| <b>Assumptions</b>  | Programmes will have adequate budget to implement strategic imperatives, implementation of programmes will not be affected by issues beyond the control of the department  |
| <b>Disaggregation of beneficiaries (where applicable)</b> | N/A  |
| <b>Spatial transformation</b>                             | N/A  |
| <b>Desired performance</b>                                | As per planned target  |
| <b>Indicator responsibility</b>                           | Programme Manager  |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Indicator title</b>                                    | Number of integrated interventions within the value chain  |
| <b>Definition</b>   | The integrated intervention within the value chain refers to the interventions provided by the department to farmers/ producers across all commodities within the agricultural sector aimed at increasing participation along the entire integrated agricultural value chain |
| <b>Source of data</b>                                     | Sourced from sector participants, sector departments, private sector, farmers/ producers and all critical stakeholders   |
| <b>Method of calculation / assessment</b>                 | Qualitative and Quantitative   |
| <b>Assumption</b>   | Resources are available to execute function. Policy certainty  |
| <b>Disaggregation of beneficiaries (where applicable)</b> | N/A  |
| <b>Spatial transformation</b>                             | N/A  |
| <b>Desired performance</b>                                | Actual performance Higher than targeted performance  |
| <b>Indicator responsibility</b>                           | Programme Manager  |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Indicator title</b>                                    | Number of agricultural initiatives provided to producers   |
| <b>Definition</b>   | Producers are supported with agricultural initiatives aimed at increasing primary production. Increased Primary production is desired to ensure growth and job creation. |
| <b>Source of data</b>                                     | The agricultural sector and economy. Critical stakeholders in the economy  |
| <b>Method of calculation / assessment</b>                 | Quantitative   |
| <b>Assumption</b>   | Adequate resources are available for the execution of functions. There is policy certainty and all stakeholders are working towards growth and inclusivity               |
| <b>Disaggregation of beneficiaries (where applicable)</b> | target for women: 50%<br>target for youth: 60%<br>Target for PwD: 5%   |
| <b>Spatial transformation</b>                             | Across all the districts and municipalities  |
| <b>Desired performance</b>                                | Actual performance higher than targeted  |
| <b>Indicator responsibility</b>                           | Programme Manager  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Indicator title</b>                                    | Number of smart farming initiatives   |
| <b>Definition</b>   | The smart farming initiatives refers using climate smart technologies and resource efficient technologies to mitigate and adapt to changes in climate. This is the use of greenhouses, irrigation technologies, that saves water, energy efficient technologies such as solar, use of drought resistant crops, tower gardens and conservation agriculture tools such as zero tillage. that are undertaking suite of climate smart technologies are part of ecosystem-based adaption |
| <b>Source of data</b>                                     | Farming communities, agricultural technology manufacturers, Farmers/ Producers  |
| <b>Method of calculation / assessment</b>                 | Counting  |
| <b>Assumption</b>   | There is sufficient budget allocation. Technological innovation in the agricultural sector is initiated   |
| <b>Disaggregation of beneficiaries (where applicable)</b> | Target for women: 30%<br>Target for youth: 50%<br>Target for people with disabilities:5%  |
| <b>Spatial transformation</b>                             | N/A   |
| <b>Desired performance</b>                                | Actual performance as per target  |
| <b>Indicator responsibility</b>                           | Programme Manager   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Indicator title</b>                                    | Number of producers empowered through agricultural development programmes   |
| <b>Definition</b>   | Producers are capacitated through different forms of agricultural programmes to increase their participation in the sector from pre-production component of the sector up to post-production component. The full participation in the integrated value chain will ensure high level of production and empowerment of all producers at all levels within the value chain |
| <b>Source of data</b>                                     | Sourced from the economy, all sectors and producers   |
| <b>Method of calculation / assessment</b>                 | Quantitative  |
| <b>Assumption</b>   | The economy is performing well. Resources are adequate  |
| <b>Disaggregation of beneficiaries (where applicable)</b> | Target for women: 30%<br>Target for youth: 50%<br>Target for people with disabilities:5%  |
| <b>Spatial transformation</b>                             | N/A   |
| <b>Desired performance</b>                                | Actual performance higher than target   |
| <b>Indicator responsibility</b>                           | Programme Manager   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Indicator title</b>                                    | Number of agricultural economic services interventions   |
| <b>Definition</b>   | The economic services involve the commercialisation initiatives and provision of economic information to producers for proper decision making. It includes support on business skills and entrepreneurship for market access |
| <b>Source of data</b>                                     | Sourced from the economy, all sectors and producers  |
| <b>Method of calculation / assessment</b>                 | Quantitative   |
| <b>Assumption</b>   | The economy is performing well. Resources are adequate   |
| <b>Disaggregation of beneficiaries (where applicable)</b> | Target for women: 30%<br>Target for youth: 50%<br>Target for people with disabilities:5%   |
| <b>Spatial transformation</b>                             | N/A  |
| <b>Desired performance</b>                                | Actual performance higher than target  |
| <b>Indicator responsibility</b>                           | Programme Manager  |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Indicator title</b>                    | Number of skills development programmes implemented  |
| <b>Definition</b>                         | This refers to skills development programmes aimed capacitating the producers and students with the necessary skills requisites within the agricultural sector aimed at increasing skills base |
| <b>Source of data</b>                     | Sourced from the colleges and higher institutions of learning as well SETAS, all sectors and producers   |
| <b>Method of calculation / assessment</b> | Quantitative   |
| <b>Assumption</b>                         | The economy is performing well. Resources are adequate   |



|   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Disaggregation of beneficiaries (where applicable)</b> | N/A                                   |
| <b>Spatial transformation</b>                             | N/A                                   |
| <b>Desired performance</b>                                | Actual performance higher than target |
| <b>Indicator responsibility</b>                           | Programme Manager                     |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Indicator title</b>                                    | Number of integrated rural development programs facilitated   |
| <b>Definition</b>   | Implementation of plans and strategies developed through multi-sectoral and multi-faceted interventions and engagements designed to ensure sustainable improvements in the lives of rural dwellers and rural economies. |
| <b>Source of data</b>                                     | Stakeholders, farmers and communities   |
| <b>Method of calculation / assessment</b>                 | Counting  |
| <b>Assumption</b>   | Participation of all stakeholders   |
| <b>Disaggregation of beneficiaries (where applicable)</b> | Target for women 50%<br>Target for youth 50%<br>Target for people with disabilities 2%  |
| <b>Spatial transformation</b>                             | N / A   |
| <b>Desired performance</b>                                | Actual performance as per target  |
| <b>Indicator responsibility</b>                           | Chief Director  |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Indicator title</b>                                    | Number of research and technology development initiatives  |
| <b>Definition</b>   | Research and technology development initiatives involve undertaking research and developing technologies to address challenges within the sector |
| <b>Source of data</b>                                     | Research stations  |
| <b>Method of calculation / assessment</b>                 | Simple counting  |
| <b>Assumption</b>   | Adequate resources to undertake research programmes  |
| <b>Disaggregation of beneficiaries (where applicable)</b> | N/A  |
| <b>Spatial transformation</b>                             | N/A  |
| <b>Desired performance</b>                                | Actual performance as planned  |
| <b>Indicator responsibility</b>                           | Programme Manager  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Indicator title</b>                                    | Number of veterinary intervention for enhanced biosecurity services                                 |
| <b>Definition</b>   | Biosecurity services are all veterinary activities aimed at controlling and curbing animal diseases |
| <b>Source of data</b>                                     | Veterinary facilities   |
| <b>Method of calculation / assessment</b>                 | Quantitative  |
| <b>Assumption</b>   | Adequate resources  |
| <b>Disaggregation of beneficiaries (where applicable)</b> | N/A   |
| <b>Spatial transformation</b>                             | Across the province   |
| <b>Desired performance</b>                                | Actual performance as targeted  |
| <b>Indicator responsibility</b>                           | Programme Manager   |

## **Annexure A: District Delivery Model**

## DISTRICT DELIVERY MODEL

| Areas of intervention in NSDF and DDM | Five Year Planning Period    |   |                           |                       |                   |                     |   |                             |                            |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
|                                       | Project Name                 | Project description   | Budget allocation (R'000) | District Municipality | Specific Location | Project leader      | Social partners   | Longitude (East/ West/ + X) | Latitude (North/South/ -Y) |
| Sub-tropical fruits                   | Senzi Avomacs Farming        | Expansion of macadamia nuts and avocados on 100 hectares per enterprise             | 80 000                    | Vhembe District       | Levubu Valley     | Madzivhandila Adolf | Westfalia Tshakuma Community Trust                                    | -23°08'571,                 | 30°302'27                  |
|                                       | Makgoba Dieplaagre (Pty) Ltd | Establishment of avocados on 100 hectares   | 61 000                    | Mopani District       | Tzaneen           | Malan van Zyl       | Makgoba CPA ZZ2   | 23°49'11.3"S,               | 30°04'12.4"E               |
| Citrus cluster                        | Zebediela Citrus             | Revitalization of Zebediela Citrus  | 320 000                   | Capricorn District    | Zebediela         | Fredericah Legodi   | IDC Impact Catalyst   | 29°17'51.25" W,             | 24°19'30.5" E              |
|                                       | Majeje Citrus                | Establishment of 450 hectares of citrus, irrigation infrastructure and solar energy | 117 000                   | Mopani District       | Waterbok          | Boela Bruwer        | Komati Group, Majeje Tribal Council, Absa Bank and Motsepe Foundation | -23°70'45.817,              | 30°79'47.636               |
|                                       | Manini Holdings              | Construction of packhouse for citrus production                                     | 60 000                    | Sekhukhune District   | Marble Hall       | Thabo Maripane      | Citrus Growers Association  | -24°54.02,                  | -29°18.52                  |
| Vegetable cluster                     | Kgarose Kgarose              | Installation of sweet potatoes processing plant and procurement of delivery truck   | 18 000                    | Capricorn District    | Polokwane         | Edward Kgarose      | N/A   | -23°50'16.8"S -             | 29°23'51.5E                |

| Areas of intervention in NSDF and DDM | Five Year Planning Period |  |                           |                       |                   |                  |  |                             |                            |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
|                                       | Project Name              | Project description                    | Budget allocation (R'000) | District Municipality | Specific Location | Project leader   | Social partners                          | Longitude (East/ West/ + X) | Latitude (North/South/ -Y) |
|                                       | Limpopo Processing Plant  | Potato processing plant (French fries) | 1 800 000                 | Capricorn District    | Dendron           | Willie Jacobs    | Potato South Africa,                     | 23°22'05.33S;               | 29°18'47.54"E              |
| Meat cluster                          | Monyetla Hatchery         | Establishment of hatchery              | 120 000                   | Waterberg District    | Modimolle         | Dr Moleki Moleki | Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) | 24°44'45.39"S,              | 28°22'05.95"E              |
| Meat cluster                          | Grootvalley               | Establishment of beef Abattoir         | 100 000                   | Waterberg District    | Mookgophong       | Cedrick Mojapelo | Mr Mogaladi Johnny                       | 24°29'48.18"S;              | 28°44'8.82"E.              |
| Mixed farming                         | Sekutupu Farm             | Feasibility Study                      | 200                       | Capricorn District    | Lepelle - Nkumpi  | Me Kekana EM     | None                                     | 29°17'51.25" W,             | 24°19'30.5" E              |

