

IK'uzenzel

Niyethulelwa wuPhiko likaHulumeni Lwezokuxhumana kanye Nokuhlinzeka Ngolwazi (GCIS)

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isand<u>la</u> kubalimi



Abafundi bathola amakhono ashintsha impilo Ikhasi 14

Asisebenzisane songe amanzi

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bantu baseNingizimu Afrika sebephinde banxuswa futhi ukuba basebenzise amanzi ngokucophelela. Leli khwela lihlatshwe yithimba longqongqoshe bakahulumeni ukuze babhekane nokuntuleka kwamanzi kanye nesomiso, eliholwa nguNgqongqoshe Wokwengamela Ngokubambisana kanye Nezendabuko (i-Cogta), uPravin Gordhan.

Ikomidi longqongqoshe (i-IMC), elakhiwe ngu-Mnyango Wezamanzi Nokuthuthwa Kwendle; Umnyango Wezolimo, Ezamahlathi kanye Nezokudoba; Umnyango Wezokuthuthukiswa Kwezindawo Zasemakhaya Nezinguquko Kwezomhlaba; ne-Cogta, lixwayise ngokuthi iNingizimu Afrika iyizwe elinendlala yamanzi.

NgokukaNgqongqoshe uGordhan, i-Cogta isibhalele zonke izimeya ezweni ukuba zithathe izinyathelo ezinhlobonhlobo ukuze ziphendule kulesi simo.

Impendulo ibandakanya ukulandela isiqondiso soMnyango Wezamanzi Nokuthuthwa Kwendle maqondana nokwethulwa kwemikhawulo yamanzi kanye nezinye izinyathelo ukuze kulawulwe isimo; ukuqapha ukulandelelwa kwemikhawulo yamanzi kanye nokufakwa kwezinhlawulo lapho kunesidingo khona; ukubekwa eqhulwini kokugcikwa kwamanzi avuzayo, kanye nokukhuthazwa kobuchwepheshe bokongiwa kwamanzi obunjengezindlu zangasese ezishawayo ezinegqiki



Uhulumeni usenxuse bonke abantu baseNingizimu Afrika ukuba basebenzisa amanzi ngokucophelela.

ezimfishane, ukuqongelelwa kwamanzi emvula kanye nokusetshenziswa 'kwamanzi ampunga' ukuchelela izitshalo.

"Uhulumeni ukhathazekile ngomthelela wokuntuleka kwamanzi kanye nesomiso emiphakathini yethu, ikakhulukazi emizini yabantu, ezibhedlela kanye nasezikoleni. Kuwumthwalo wethu sonke ezweni ukuthathela lesi simo phezulu," kusho uNgqongqoshe u-

Ukuntuleka kwamanzi kubangelwa wukuqhubeka kokunetha kwemvula okuncane kunalokho okujwayelekile, okuqale ekuqaleni

kowezi-2015 futhi osekubangele izimo zesomiso ezweni lonkana. Ukunetha kancane kwemvula kubangelwa yi-El Niño, iphethini yesimo sezulu emhlabeni wonke jikelele esinqabela ukuba khona komswakama ezindaweni eziseningizimu yogwadule i-Sahara.

NgokweZangoma Zezulu zaseNingizimu Afrika, isimo sezulu esomile kulindeleke ukuba siqhubeke kuze kuphele lo nyaka kuze kuyoshaya inyanga kaNdasa ngowezi-2016, nokuyisikhathi lapho izwe livamise ukuthola izimvula kakhulu.

"Siyizwe lama-30 ngokoma emhlabeni wonke.

Ukuntuleka kwamanzi kuyinkinga enkulu eNingizimu Afrika," kusho uNgqongqoshe uGordhan, owengeze ngokuthi ukubhebhetheka kwesomiso kunomthelela omubi ezweni kwezenhlalo nakwezomnotho.

I-IMC iphinde yamemezela izinhlelo ezenziwa iminyango eqondene ukubhekana nesimo esikhona njengamanje.

Umnyango Wezamanzi Nokuthuthwa Kwendle usuthembise ukufaka imali eyizigidi ezingama-352.6 zamarandi emiklamweni yokuqala yokungenelela esomisweni. Ngaphezu kwalokho, ngaphezudlwana nje kwezigidi ezingama-96 zamarandi sezikhishiwe ukuze kufakwe amathange amanzi esikhashana kanye neminye imingenelelo eyengeziwe KwaZulu-Natali.

Olunye uxhaso lwezimali lusadingeka ngokudalulwa kwesomiso sesibili, okuholwa uPhiko Lokuphathwa Kwezinhlelele lweSifundazwe loMnyango Wokwengamela Ngokubambisana kanye Nezendabuko.

Umnyango Wezokuthuthukiswa Kwezindawo Zasemakhaya Nezinguquko Kwezomhlaba umemezele ukuthi imfuyo eqhamuka ezifundeni ezithinteke kakhulu ezifundazweni ezinhlanu izothuthelwa "emhlabeni ongaphansi kombuso", lapho okusenamadlelo angcono khona. Umnyango usuwabe cishe imali evizigidi eziyi-187 zamarandi ukungenelela ukutakula kulesi somiso.

> Iqhubeka ekhasini lesi-2

Phephani emigwaqweni kula maholidi okuphela konyaka

Amukelani Chauke

Njengoba izwe lilungiselela ukujabulela isikhathi samaholidi okuphela konyana, uNgqongqoshe Wezokuthutha uDipuo Peters usenxuse abashayeli bezimoto kanye nabantu abahamba ngezinyawo ukuba baqaphele kakhulu futhi bashintshe indlela abaziphatha ngayo emigwaqweni yezwe ngalesi sikhathi.

Isikhathi samaholidi okuphela konyaka sivisikhathi lapho izwe lilahlekelwa izinkulungwane zabantu ngenxa yezingozi zomgwaqo.

"Iphuzu elidabukisayo lokuthi izingozi zomgwaqo zidla izwe ngaphezu kwezigidigidi ezingama-300 zamarandi alihambisani neze nombono wethu wokuqeda izingqinamba ezintathu zobuphofu, ukungalingani kanye nokusweleka kwamathuba omsebenzi. Ingcabha ikuthina yokuthi sijike umonakalo odalwe ukufa kwabantu emgwaqweni ngokubeka ukuphepha emgwaqweni ezimpondweni zohlelo lwezokuthutha," kusho uNgqongqoshe

Ubekhuluma nabahlali baseKhayelitsha emcimbini womphakathi wokugubha Usuku Lesikhumbuzo Emhlabeni Wonke kamuva nje.

"Ingozi yenzeka uma umuntu oyedwa esephutheni. Ngokubheka izibalo, sesitholile ukuthi amaphesenti angama-95 okungqubuzana kwezimoto enzeka ngenxa yobudedengu futhi kukhona umuntu ophula imithetho yomgwaqo.

"Abantu abashona emigwaqweni yethu ngabantu esibaziyo ... abantu bashonela emabhasini, abanye ezitimeleni, abanye abantu bashona behamba ngezinyawo emigwaqweni. Laba bantu bangamalungu emindeni. Sikhuluma ngabantu abondlayo emakhaya. Sikhuluma ngabaholi bamabandla. Sikhuluma ngabafowethu, odadewethu, abangani, ozakwethu kanye nabantu ababalulekile ezimpilweni zawo wonke umuntu," kusho yena.

INingizimu Afrika ilahlekelwa ngabantu abayizi-14 000 njalo ngonyaka ngenxa yokufa kwabantu emgwaqweni. Kulaba bantu, amaphesenti angama-80 bekungabantu abasha abaphakathi kweminyaka eyi-19 nama-34 ubudala.

UNgqongqoshe uthe isimo sidinga ukwenziwa ngcono futhi abashayeli bezimoto kudingeka bashintshe indlela yokuziphatha kwabo lapho beshayela.

"Ngizothanda ukucela ukuthi sishintshe indlela esiziphatha ngayo nemimoya yethu ibe ngcono lapho sisebenzisa imigwaqo, ikakhulukazi njengoba sesisondele esikhathini

samaholidi okuphela konyaka. Bonha ibhandel Ungashayeli uma uphuzile noma ukhathele, ungasebenzisi umakhalekhukhwini wakho ngenkathi ushayela, yehlisa ijubane, qinisekisa ukuthi imoto yakho ikulungele ukuba semgwaqweni futhi ugcine izimisomthetho zomgwaqo njalo nje. Izindleko zabantu kanye nezomnotho ziphezulu kakhulu ukuthi singecabange kabusha indlela esikuthatha $ngayo\,ukuphepha\,emgwaqweni$ njengomuntu ngayedwa."

UNgqongqoshe u-Peters ucele abaholi bamabandla anhlobonhlobo ukuba, bangakhulekeli kuphela abashayeli bezimoto ukuba baphephe emgwaqweni, kodwa baphinde bashumayele ngokuphepha emgwaqweni ezindaweni zabo zokukhonza.

"Asibatsheleni abantu ukuthi uma singagijimi, uma singashayeli budedengu futhi sihlonipha imithetho yomgwaqo, uma singakhulumi

Iqhubeka ekhasini lesi-2



UNgqongqoshe Wezokuthutha uDipuo Peters usenxuse bonke abantu abasebenzisa umgwaqo ukuba bashintshe indlela abaziphatha ngayo emigwaqweni.

Working on Fire programme supports farmers, creates jobs

he Department of Environmental Affairs' Working on Fire (WoF) programme has plans in place to support farmers who are affected by climate change.

"During El Nino farmers continuously experience veld fires on an ongoing basis. Just this year for instance, we anticipate that we will have to fight fires that are close to 3 000," said Environmental Affairs Minister Ednah Molewa

Minister Molewa indicated that there is a budget allocated to support small and commercial farmers.

"We've allocated R528 million just in this financial year alone. Working on Fire has got almost R1,3 billion allocated to assist farmers," said Minister Molewa.

The Working on Fire programme has also created a total of 13 660 jobs in the past three years.

The programme was launched in 2003 as part of government's drive to create jobs and alleviate poverty.

"This programme has the capacity to provide many more jobs, necessitating the need for a higher budget," said Environmental Affairs Minister Edna Molewa.

The total expenditure for the Working on Fire programme for the 2012/13 financial year was R404 205 524, in the 2013/14 financial year it was R405 540 125 and in the 2014/15 financial year it amounted to R508 222 000.

"There is a major need for fire management capacity from WoF for both using fire for ecosystem management and combatting wild fires," Minister Molewa said.

The programme ensures that South Africa's Biodiversity and Ecosystems are protected and contribute to socio-economic growth as well job creation.



The Working on Fire programme has not only created jobs but it also offers relief to farmers.

The programme is one of several departmental programmes under implementation through government's Expanded Public Works Programme (FPWP)

The EPWP has been the primary vehicle through which the Department of Environmental Affairs has delivered on its job creation mandate.

"Today more than 5 000 young men and women are employed through the programme. They are recruited from marginalised communities and trained in fire awareness and education, prevention and fire suppression skills," said the department said.

They are trained as veld and forest fire fighters and are stationed in more than 200 teams throughout South Africa.

"Furthermore a total of 592 Black Economic Empowerment compliant suppliers have benefited from the programme between 2013 and 2015, to the value of R395 144 169.00," said the department.

[Asisebenzisane songe amanzi] > Ighubeka isuka ekhasini loku-1

"Enyakatho Ntshonalanga sisanda kunikezela ngomhlaba angamahektare ayizi-200 000. Ngilindele ukuthi uhulumeni wesifundazwe ahlukanise umhlaba ngendlela efanayo naleyo okwenziwa ngayo KwaZulu-Natali," kusho uNgqongqoshe Wezokuthuthukiswa Kwezindawo Zasemakhaya Nezinguquko Kwezomhlaba uGugile Nkwinti.

Isomiso njengamanje sithikameza izikimu zokuphakelwa kwamanzi eziyi-173 kwezi-yi-1 628 kuzwelonke, ezisiza cishe imizi eyizigidi ezi-2.7 noma amaphesenti ayi-18 esamba sabantu kuzwelonke.

Izifundazwe ezine - iKwaZulu-Natali, iFreyistata, iNyakatho Ntshonalanga ne-Limpopo sezimemezele isomiso njengenhlekelele – nalapho iMpumalanga isisesigabeni esiphezulu samalungiselelo okumemezela isomiso njengenhlekelele, esizophothulwa ngokushesha

ISIGEMEGEME SE-EL NIÑO

UNgqongqoshe Wezemvelo futhi oyilungu le-IMC, u-Edna Molewa, uthe uhulumeni ubelokhu esebenza ukuqinisekisa ukuthi izwe liyakwazi ukuhlelela izimo ezinjengalezi.

Uthe ukuqagulwa kwesimo sezulu kwenziwa ngokuqhubekayo. Kwenzelwa isikhathi esifushane bese kwenzelwa isikhathi eside sezinyanga eziyisithupha. Lesi sigemegeme silindeleke ukuhlala kuze kube isikhathi sasehlobo, okuwunyaka ozayo.

UNgqongqoshe umemezele ukuthi Abesimo Sezulu baseNingizimu Afrika balokhu besiqaphe ngeso lokhozi isimo sale sigemegeme se-El Nino, futhi balindele ukuthi sehle ezinyangeni zasebusika zowezi-2016.

UNgqongqoshe uMolewa ukuqaphele ukuthi uhulumeni useyakuqonda ukuthi lesimo sezulu sibuya emva kweminyaka emithathu kuya kwemihlanu futhi siwumthelela woku-

guquguquka kwesimo sezulu.

Ugcizelele ukuthi iNingizimu Afrika, njengawo wonke amazwe kufanele isijwayele isimo sezulu esiguquguqukayo.

UMTHELELA KUBALIMI

UNgqongqoshe Wezolimo, Ezamahlathi Nezokudoba, uSenzeni Zokwana, uthe izwelinamazinga ehlayo kodwa agculisayo esitokwe sommbila omhlophe kuze kube sekupheleni kukaMbasa wezi-2016, ngenkathi izitokwe zombila ophuzi zizoba ncane kakhulu.

"Isomiso sowezi-2014/2015 sithikameze ukutholakala kommbila omhlophe, okuwukudla okuvamileyo okunikeza amandla amaningi kanjalo nommbila ophuzi, osemqoka kakhulu ukondla izilwane. NgokweKomidi Lokulinganiswa Kwezitshalo, isilinganiso somkhiqizo wommbila sehlile sisuka kumathani ayizigidi eziyi-14.2 ngowezi-2013 saya kumathani ayizigidi eziyi-9.8 ngowezi-2014, okungaphansi ngamaphesenti angama-31."

Uthe umnyango usuwabe imali eyizigidi ezingama-66 zamarandi ukuqalisa ukusebenza kohlelo lokunakekela umhlaba ukuze kuncishiswe ukuguguleka kwamadlelo kanye nenhlabathi kanye nokulahleka kwamanzi bese kukhuthazwa izindlela zezolimo ezinakekela imvelo.

Umnyango uphinde wachitha imali eyizigidi eziyi-9 zamarandi ukugubha imithombo yamanzi ukuze kutholakale amanzi



emfuyo, ukusabalalisa ulwazi lokuxwayisa okokuqala kanye nokuhlinzeka ngeseluleko esifanelekile kubalimi.

Wengeze ngokuthi umnyango uzoqhubeka nokuhlinzeka abalimi ngezeluleko zesimo sezulu kanye nezixwayiso ukuqondisa ukutshalwa kwezitshalo zakusasa kanye nokunciphisa isitokwe.

UNgqongqoshe uGordhan unxuse bonke abantu baseNingizimu Afrika ukuba basebenzisane ukuze bonge amanzi.

"Ngalokho-ke sicela ukuthi sisebenzisane ukuvikela futhi senze okuthile ukonga amanzi manje ezweni lakithi futhi sihlelele ukusebenzisa amanzi ngobuhlakani esikhathini esiphakathi nendawo kuya kweside njengoba sijwayela umthelela wokuguquguquka kwesimo sezulu," kusho uNgqongqoshe uGordhan.

Ngolwazi oluthe xaxa mayelana nokuthi yini uhulumeni ayenzayo maqondana nokuntuleka kwamanzi funda ikhasi le-8 nele-9

[Phephani emigwaqweni kula maholidi okuphela konyaka]

> Iqhubeka isuka ekhasini loku-1

nomakhalekhukhwini ngenkathi sishayela, [singakunciphisa ukufa kwabantu ngobuningi emigwaqweni yakithi]."

Uphinde wacela ukuthi bagqugquzele abantu ukuthi bashayele izimoto ezisesimweni esifanele ukuba semgwaqweni.

Ephelezelwa yiPhini likaNgqongqoshe uSindisiwe Chikunga, oNgqongqoshe Bezifundazwe kanye Nezikhulu Eziphezulu zezikhungo zezokuthutha kanjalo nabanye ababambiqhaza bezokuthutha, uNgqongqoshe ubeke izimbali ukukhumbula labo ababhubhela emigwaqweni.

Ubale inqwaba yabantu baseNingizimu Afrika abaziwayo abasanda kushonela emigwaqweni yezwe lethu, kubandakanya obengumdlali wasemuva weqembu le-Ajax Cape Town uCecil Sonwabile Lolo, oshone ngemva kokushayisa kwemoto yakhe ngomhla zingama-25 kuMfumfu e-Spine Road eKhayelitsha kanye nomculi uLebo Mathosa, owashona ngowezi-2006 ekushayiseni kwemoto yakhe eduze naseGermiston, empumalanga neGoli.

INingizimu Afrika yaphinda yalahlekelwa nguNgqongqoshe Wezemisebenzi Kahulumeni kanye Nokuphathwa Kwayo u-Collins Chabane, owashona kanye nabavikeli bakhe ababili ngenkathi imoto yakhe itholana mahlanze neloli ngaphandle kwasePolokwane ngoNdasa kulo nyaka.

UNgqongqoshe u-Peters uthe ngokubhuqayo, uNgqongqoshe uChabane ngesikhathi sokushona kwakhe, wayeyibamba likaNgqongqoshe Wezokuthutha futhi wayesanda kukhuluma ngokuphepha emgwaqweni emngcwabeni ayewuhambele.

IHHOVISI ELISHA ELINGUMAHAMBANE-NDLWANA LEZICELO ZEZINKOKHELO ZEZINGOZI

UNgqongqoshe u-Peters uphinde wambula ihhovisi elingumahambanendlwana leSikhwama Sezingozi Zomgwaqo, elizozinza eKhayelitsha, elizokwandisa ukufinyeleleka kwabafakizicelo abasezindaweni eziqhele kakhulu.

"[Leli hhovisi] liyingqayizivele. Lena indlela yokufinyelela, ikakhulukazi, kulabo bantu esikhathazeke ngabo. Labo bantu basemapulazini, emadolobheni amancane, ezindaweni ezisemakhaya ebesingakwazi ukufinyelela kubona ukuze sibasize, le hhovisi izofinyelela kubona," kusho yena.

Ukwethulwa kweHhovisi Elingumahambanendlwana le-RAF kulandela empumelelweni yohlelo lokukhangisa olukhulu olunqobe indondo olwaziwa ngokuthi 'i-RAF on the Road', okuwumkhankaso wokusiza umphakathi owaqala ngoNdasa wezi-2012.

UPhumelela Dhlomo, oyisikhulu esiyinhloko sokukhangiswa kwe-RAF, uthe ihhovisi elingumahambanendlwana lethulwe ngesikhathi esihle samaholidi okuphela konyaka lapho abantu besengcupheni enkulu yezingozi zomgwaqo.

Uthe ihhovisi elingumahambanendlwana lizokuba isengezo somkhankaso wokusiza umphakathi wamanje we-RAF, owaziwa ngokuthi 'i-RAF on the Road'.

'I-RAF on the Road' iwuhlelo olumisa ihhovisi lesikhashana emphakathini ukunikezela ngezinsizakalo ezigcwele emalungwini omphakathi maqondana nezicelo zezinkokhelo zezingozi zomgwaqo.

Ngesikhathi sokuyosiza umphakathi waseKhayelitsha kwakamuva nje uDhlomo uthe, abantu abayi-1 600 abafinyeleliwe.

Ngemva kwaseKhayelitsha, abantu abangama-900 abafinyelelwe eKokstad.

"Kulo nyaka nje uwodwa, sesifinyelele abantu abayizi-30 000 ngokusebenzisa lolu hlelo."

Imikhankaso yokwexwayisa enhlobonhlobo iyenziwa njalo emabandleni, ezinxanxatheleni zezitolo, emarenkini amatekisi, emagalaji kanye nasezivimba mgwaqweni ezenziwa ngokuhlanganyela neminyango yezomgwaqo ukuqwashisa abantu mayelana nalesi sikhwama.

Ngolwazi oluthe xaxa mayelana ne-RAF shayela lsikhungo Sezingcingo ku: 0860 23 556 23. Ukubika ukukhwabanisa shayela ku: 0800 00 5919

Government one step ahead in drought relief

Noluthando Mkhize

overnment is working hard to ensure that South Africans continue to have access to water even during the current drought that the coun-

The Department of Water and Sanitation is rolling out comprehensive interventions to minimise the impact of drought.

So far, the department has deployed water tankers to provide water to areas that are hardest hit by the drought.

These areas include KwaZulu-Natal, Free State, and Limpopo, which have been declared disaster areas.

Water and Sanitation Minister Nomvula Mokonyane said her department has committed R352.6 million to the initial drought intervention projects and a further R96.620 million to the provisional tankering and additional interventions.

She added that to address and mitigate the potential impact of the drought immediate, short, medium and long-term measures were being put in place.

The Minister said the measures included strict implementation of drought operating rules at all dams, including restrictions.

"The department will implement water conservation and demand management programmes which includes the War on Leaks and drop the block interventions.'

This also includes emergency interventions by tankering and climate research as well as hydrological and geo-hydrological monitor-

BUYING OF WATER TANKERS

Minister Mokonyane said the Department of Water and Sanitation, through its National Water Resource Infrastructure Unit, is managing the procurement of 45, 18 000 litre water tankers.

A total of 682 water tanks with stands will be distributed to municipalities in KwaZulu-Natal such as the Ugu District Municipality (DM), Umkhanyakude (DM), Illembe DM and Harry Gwala DM.

"Ilembe DM in KwaZulu-Natal has completed their tank stand installation. Umgeni Water has completed the 30 tanks in Harry Gwala DM in KwaZulu-Natal, along with 81 tanks that have been installed in Umkhanyakude DM. The budget limitation of R2 million allowed for 81 tanks not the 500 they had requested," said Minister Mokonyane.

"Additional sites are being identified in order to utilise the savings on the budget. Umgeni Water has completed 20 of the 144 Ugu DM tanks. Uthukela DM is beginning the procurement process for the installation

BOREHOLE INTERVENTIONS

She added that approval was granted to appoint a key service provider to buy siting, drilling and hydrogeological services to implement borehole interventions where the DM did not already have contracts in place.

Work started at the Umkhanyakude and Ilembe DM in September 2015.

"Interim tankering and second phase intervention in five district municipalities, namely Umkhanyakude, Umzinyathi, Ugu, Amajuba, and Uthungulu, have been approved for the total amount of R96 620

The department's Deputy Director-General for Planning and Transformation, Deborah Mochotlhi, said that the re-use and desalination, eradication of illegal water use, drilling of boreholes in suitable areas and rainwater harvesting were short term interventions.

She added that there are transfers of schemes from the Lesotho Highlands Water Project Phase 2, emergency transfer Tugela to Goedetrouw, Othongathi River transfer to Hazelmere and infrastructure upgrade developments in Hazelmere, Clanwilliam and Tzaneen.

Mochotlhi said was appealing to every individual to use water sparingly and adhere to water restrictions as well as efficient water use practices including not filling swimming pools, or watering their gardens during the day.

PROVINCIAL DAM LEVELS

Minister Mokonyane said in selected drought areas, such as KwaZulu

Natal, the average dam storage of the large schemes is 69 per cent with three of 18 schemes below 50 per cent of full supply capacity.

"An estimated 6 500 stand-alone rural communities are currently experiencing water shortages. These are mostly situated in KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, and North West provinces. This number could increase to over 11 000 rural communities as the dry period extends and local water resources get depleted."

She said in drought stricken areas such as the



Water and Sanitation Minister Nomvula Mokonyane says the department has a number of interventions in place to minimise the impact of drought.

northern parts of KwaZulu-Natal, southern parts of Mpumalanga, and selected areas in Limpopo, North West and Northern Cape, about 50 per cent of local water storage was facing challenges and needed to be managed properly.

The drought currently affects 173 of the 1628 water supply schemes nationally, serving approximately 2.7 million households or 18 per cent of the national population.

In Gauteng the municipalities are experiencing strains on the supply systems due to high demand and current high temperatures.

Government provides support to farmers



Rural Development and Land Reform Minister Gugile Nkwinti.

Albert Pule

overnment has allocated more than R260 million to farmers across the country to deal with the impact of drought.

The total set aside for drought relief efforts country-wide amounts to R524 million.

Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Senzeni Zokwana said the funds would be distributed to farmers in consultation with the provincial departments of agriculture.

The department also spent R9 million on drilling boreholes for livestock water, disseminating early warning information and providing appropriate advice to farmers.

"There will be a provision of R36.5 million by provincial Departments of Agriculture to relieve small scale and subsistence farmers in affected provinces," said Minister Zokwana.

His department will also provide R226 million to smallholder farmers to both maintain production animals and "encourage the herd reduction through the market".

Other measures by department will include:

Drilling and equipping affected areas for additional boreholes for livestock.

- Facilitating and supporting the revolution of credit facilities die to crop failure.
- Monitoring food prices through the Food Price Monitoring committee to inform appropriate measures are taken to ensure food
- Coordinating interdepartmental food nutrition security interventions to mitigate the effects of drought on farmworkers and rural

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries is considering reprioritising conditional grants to make funds available to help farmers in get animal feed and additional water supply for

The Minister added that the department would continue providing farmers with weather advisories and warnings to guide future crop plantation and reduction of stock.

Meanwhile the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform will relocate livestock from the worst affected regions in the five regions to stateowned land where there is still better grazing land. The department is allocating almost R187 million for this drought relief intervention.

These include the provision of water for livestock in areas where boreholes can be drilled and construction of water troughs through RADP funding support and the Animal and Veld Management programme.

According Minister Gugile Nkwinti, the department has engaged some of the commodity organisations such as the sugar industry, Grain SA who will be in partnership with the Department, and the provincial Departments of Agriculture to implement the identified short term, medium and long term draught relief interventions.

"In the North West we have recently allocated 200 000 hectares of land. I am expecting the provincial government to disaggregate the land in the same way that KwaZulu-Natal did," said Minister

IZELULEKO ZOKONGA AMANZI

