

SPEECH OF THE MEC FOR SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION, MR DAN KGOHULE, ON THE TABLING OF THE BUDGET VOTE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION, 20 March 2013, Tikwana/Hoopstad

Honourable Acting Speaker

Honourable Premier

Colleagues in the Executive Council

Honourable Members of the Legislature

Executive Mayors, Mayors and Councilors

House of Traditional Leaders

President of SASCO, Mr Gideon Sam

Representatives of Sport Federations as well as Arts and Culture Councils

Soccer Legends

Management of the Department

Ladies and Gentlemen

Comrades

Our nation is at the moment besieged by special challenges that require of us to respond with special measures. Though global in nature, and not exclusive to our nation, these challenges have their own local dynamism. We wake up more often to news reports about violent crimes committed in our land: rapes, murders, robbery, gangsterism and so on. Many other social ills that beset our beloved land have at various times become juicy news to local and foreign media.

Although we should not exaggerate the level and extend of these challenges we also need not bury our heads in the sand, ostrich-like. These are global challenges that beset almost every part of the globe. It is required of us to grapple with these challenges as challenges that arise from the existing material conditions of our turbulent times.

In our own Province these challenges are not foreign. They are a reality. Here in Tikwana/Hoopstad, a very small town, we learn of an escalating number of gangsters and taverns, a trend similar to other towns such as Botshabelo, Kutlwanong and so on.

Acting Speaker, it is our firm view, as we have always said it in the past, that Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreational activities have a pivotal role to play in addressing these challenges. As I pointed out above, these are special challenges that require special measures. While law enforcement is a critical feature of our society I have no doubt that we all agree that prevention is better than cure. It is our view that engaging the youth and communities in general in meaningful activities on a continuous basis will serve as a preventative measure against all these social ills. As the saying goes, “an idle mind is a devil’s workshop”. More often than not, our youth and communities in general participate in these social ills or criminal activities because of their existing conditions of idleness, lack of purpose and direction.

As the Department we want to continue to build on the efforts of this government to address these challenges that we are facing in line with the five (5) priorities which are: Education; Health; Crime Prevention; Job Creation and Economic Development. The concerns raised by the honourable Minister of Health on teenage pregnancies and HIV/AIDS prevalence amongst learners in school is a clarion call for us to respond to these priorities, including health, in

an integrated way. In this budget vote we outline the progress we have made in this regard in the 2012/2013 financial year and what further steps we are to take in the next financial year to address these priorities.

Programme 1: Administration

Acting Speaker, the role played by the Administration Programme in supporting the service delivery programmes of the Department will always remain relevant and central to our work as government. The turbulent economic times that we are going through might hamstrung our operations to a point that we have to rethink the size of our organizations and structures and that we must strive to do more with less. Doing more with less will also mean the reduction in our human resource capacity. The reality also remains on the other hand that the challenges of service delivery we are facing require resources, not only financial, but also human and capital. A balancing act is thus required.

One of the critical functions in government is the function of Internal Audit. With the challenge of Operation Clean Audit that has been presented to us, which itself should save state resources in view of the role of the Internal Audit function, we have strengthened the Internal Audit unit with a creation of the post of Director. This post will be filled by 01 April 2013.

It is our immediate goal to achieve a clean audit in 2014. Internal controls are very much effective; however irregular and fruitless expenditure is still a challenge to eliminate completely. Management is also committed to reducing the number of audit finding. We are taking a step at a time but will get there. All matters raised in the previous audit are receiving attention. One of the actions to be taken is the filling of the position of Supply Chain Management Specialist:

To date, above 70% of the Departmental budget on goods and services and infrastructure has been spent on BBBEE compliant service providers within the Free State Province, with a major improvement on Building and Construction industry and travelling as compared to the 2010/11 financial year. The Department ensured that more than 90% of service providers are being paid within 30 days from receipt of the invoice.

The expansion in the structure of the Department and the volume of work being performed has resulted in the increasing demand on Information Technology servers and data lines. To counter the situation the Department needed to procure servers and upgrade the current lines to handle the workload. I.T Support Services received an additional R500 000 during the last quarter of the financial year to procure the hardware needed and will need a further R 700 000 per annum to provide for the recurring costs of the data lines.

Acting Speaker, the youth of today suffer much due to challenges they are being exposed to which lead to vulnerability to diseases, substance abuse and exposure to conflicts and violence. Young people need mentorship, support and guidance to face these challenges. It is through government's skills development programmes that mentorship, support and guidance can be provided for young people.

I am pleased to announce that out of the 23 young people who were involved in an internship programme in my Department in 2012, 22 have been absorbed and appointed permanently and one has gone back to school to further her studies. In line with the job creation thrust of government 20 cleaners were also absorbed into the funded vacant posts as permanent employees in the Department.

Acting Speaker, the marriage that I spoke about during my Budget Vote Speech of 2012 between my Department and CATHSSETA, has finally taken place after the signing of the MoU. As a start CATHSSETA has given the Department 15 level four (4) Sport Administration and 15 Arts and Culture learnerships. We have partnered with Exercise Teachers Academy (ETA) and Maluti FET College to involve 15 young people of the province into this learnership programme for a period of twelve months after which they will be having a certificate in Sports Administration as a qualification. We are working towards getting an Institution of Higher Learning for Arts and Culture learnerships. The other pivotal programmes which CATHSSETA is going to help the Department with are internships and awarding of bursaries to students to follow Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreational study fields. We have partnered with CATHSSETA to innovatively develop the province's young human potential and we will do exactly that.

There is a MoU that was entered into between Public Service SETA, Free State Provincial Government and the Central University of Technology (CUT). Through this partnership, the Department has taken 13 young students into a 12 months Sport and Recreation Work Integrated Learning (WIL). These students need Experiential Training for them to get B. Tech in Sports Management qualification. We therefore have to provide these young people with opportunities for such. The youth are our country and province's future, we must invest in them.

The Cultural Evening programme is intended to nurture Free State Provincial Government Bursary holders studying at Higher Education Institutions all over the country and will continue in the next financial year. Let me remind the

house that the intention of this programme is to create an enabling environment for students and young people of the Province to dialogue and engage on pertinent issues which affect young people and society in general, and to do so beyond the confines of academic studies.

Programme 2: Cultural Affairs

Arts and Culture

Acting Speaker, the arts ecosystem in the Province continues to change for the better, albeit not at a pace we will like it to. The following are Arts and Culture achievements and highlights for 2012/13 financial year:

In 2012 we launched the Mine Dance Festival whose primary objective is to celebrate the rich traditional dance culture in the mines. The festival focuses on traditional dance competitions amongst the mines at national level. We are growing this festival and it will this year take place over a period of a week and be structured in a festival format which will include identifying talent within the Lejweleputswa district. Local cultural groups will also be given a platform to learn from the experienced cultural groups based in the mines through structured workshops. The Mines Dance Competition will be the climax of the festival. This initiative aims to preserve and promote intercultural exchange through community development as well as providing platform to showcase talent and create space for skill transfer and development. The festival will comprise of different art forms in Theatre, Dance and Music.

In an effort to continue to engender the spirit of national reconciliation, nation building and social cohesion the celebration of days of National Significance continue to grow. The 2012 Freedom Day celebration was successfully celebrated in Bethlehem.

Our contribution towards the realization of priority number 1, Education, is also channeled through the arts in a programme called Arts in Schools. As a pilot phase in 2012 the programme focused on Grade 8 learners of schools in the Lejweleputswa and Fezile Dabi districts as well as Mangaung Metro. The programme offered training in drama and visual art to 170 schools. We have entered into a partnership with the Drama Department of the University of the Free State to further improve our Arts in Schools Programme. The Drama Department will assist in selecting suitable instructors, train them and assist them in rolling out the programme. We will be adding a schools festival as an exit project for the programme. We implemented the puppetry shows programme to Early Childhood Development centres and lower primary schools. The purpose is to ensure that learners develop motor control, spatial acuity and social skills at an early stage. This programme is earmarked for an exchange programme to France in 2013 as part of the South Africa/French seasons.

We also presented the Matric Set-Work production entitled “Nothing But The Truth” to schools in the province. The production was directed by Aubrey Sekhabi and featured seasoned national and Free state artists like Seputla Sebogodi (Kenneth Mashaba in the soapie Generations), Harriet Manamela (who features on The Wild playing on Mnet) and Tshireletso Nkoane (who features on Moferefere Lenyalong on SABC). This production toured schools in

Sasolburg, Kroonstad, Welkom and Bethlehem after a successful season in Bloemfontein.

We always strive to expose our local artists to festivals at national and even international level. Two (2) drama productions (“The Handkerchief” and “Choice of the Bleeding Heart”) and one (1) musical (Livewire – The Explosion) represented the province in Grahamstown Arts Festival employing at least a total 60 local artists in the process. Ten (10) crafters were assisted to exhibit at the Village Green market during the National Arts Festival.

All these artists and crafters were funded by the Department and presented in partnership with PACOFS. This financial year more productions and crafters will be sent to Grahamstown in a quest to open spaces and markets for actors and crafters.

The Department further supported five (5) crafters to take part and exhibit at the DECOREX, a creative industries expo held at the Gallagher Estates in Midrand, Johannesburg. This participation will be continued given its significance in the development of our crafters.

Through our Lejweleputswa Arts and Culture Centre we staged the District Arts Festival for artists in Lejweleputswa. Over five hundred (500) artists took part in the different genres and craft exhibitions and workshops over the weekend.

Our annual Arts and Culture pilgrimage, Mangaung African Cultural Festival (MACUFE), has grown to be one of the biggest recognized brands in Africa and abroad. Macufe continues to be one of the events that we pride ourselves with as Free Staters. The developmental impact of the forms part of the vision of the Department which aims to assist, support and strengthen organizations, communities and individuals through Arts and Culture. Macufe aims to promote Free State cultural tourism. Once you have many people gathering in the province you bring business in all the industries namely, hotels, fuel stations, small business, retail stores and restaurants.

The Department hosted a successful MACUFE 2012, featuring top local, continental and international artists. MACUFE keeps growing from strength to strength after sold out signs went up before the festival kicked off. A total of 65 783 people attended the festival's ticketed activities. Considering other activities that are non-ticketed the festival would have exceeded well over 100 000 benchmark. The Department is already hard at work looking for the best local, national and international artists to make part of this year's programme of activities. Negotiations with stakeholders and partners including potential sponsors are already in progress.

The MACUFE aftercare programme was successfully implemented in partnership with PACOFS. Training was provided to aspiring script writers as part of this programme.

Acting Speaker, we have established an Arts and Culture structure called Free State Arts and Culture Association after a successful Arts Indaba in 2012. In an effort to give information to all Free State Artists and all performers in the

fraternity of Arts and Culture the Association hosted arts and culture district Service Delivery Roadshow for interested parties in the arts sector from February to March 2013. We are looking at a funding model for the Association that will ensure that it implements its programmes in an effective manner.

The Department has entered into an MoU with the Mangaung Metro, taking over the Bloemfontein Civic Theatre for the benefit of developing local artists. The main purpose is to create spaces for community arts and create opportunities for producers and directors in line with Mzansi's golden economy and ensure that it is used as a springboard for the creation of touring ventures. In this way the theatre positions itself as a catalyst for creation of decent and sustainable jobs in the arts. Plans are underway to negotiate with other theatres such as Kimberley, Mmabana Taung and Mafikeng as well as other relevant theaters to ensure that we create a touring venture phenomenon. The venue is being upgraded and provided with full management team to organize and run the venue's artistic programme. The Department is currently negotiating with potential funders of the venue's artistic programme and staffing costs.

In the 2013/2014 financial year we will realize the following in the arts and culture sector:

- 1) The Brass Programme at Thaba-Nchu will start in April 2013. An MoU with the Fieldband Foundation was signed and funds have already been earmarked for the implementation of the programme.
- 2) The Disability Dance Competition will continue to be staged through Lejweleputswa Arts and Culture Centre this year.

- 3) The establishment of the Film Commission has been shelved until further notice due to budgetary constraints. The budgetary challenges have forced the Department to rethink the immediate establishment of the commission. The draft bill has however been finalised and the public inputs process was completed.
- 4) The Mangaung Strings Programme is this year looking to grow into the Lejweleputswa bringing the number of districts to four. These are Xhariep, Mangaung Metro, Fezile Dabi and Lejweleputswa. The target is to have all the districts hosting a chapter of the programme's training activities. The Mangaung Strings programme is also identified for participation in festivals and exchange programmes to be held in France as part of the South Africa-French Seasons.
- 5) In a quest to break the cyclical nature of crime the Department has embarked on extensive consultations with prisons in the Province in order to take arts and culture programmes and workshops behind prison bars as part of Arts in Prisons programme. The Department conducted workshops for inmates at Grootvlei prison to prepare them for their participation in the national offenders' jazz festival held in October 2012. This is one of our contribution to priority of eradication of crime. The Department will solicit further assistance from the Department of Social Development.
- 6) The Department will in consultation and working together with the Departments of Health, Social Development and Education develop the industrial theatre interventions to address the challenges of teenage pregnancies as HIV/AIDS in schools that was sharply raised by Minister of Health.

Acting Speaker, as a manifestation of the impact of our programmes Macufe, Puppetry shows and Strings Programmes have been identified for the participation in festivals and exchange programmes to be held in France as part of the national Department of Arts and Culture's South Africa-French Seasons programme.

Heritage and Museum Services:

Provincial Museums:

Acting Speaker, the Department has been involved in the process of scaling down our Provincial Museum Services. The objective is to transfer the community based museums to the interested and affected community organizations. Therefore the Provincial Museums Services has consulted with Heritage Foundations and the Municipalities in Bethulie for Pellisier House Museum, Boshof for Chris Van Niekerk Museum and for Reimland Museum in Heilbron. To date 12 consultative meetings were held and the target is to transfer three (3) museums by 31 March 2013. All the Heritage Foundations we have been consulting with are not registered as NPOs or section 21 company and that is likely to delay the process because Department should transfer Museums to legal and registered entities.

The Department has in November 2012 signed an MoU with the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) whose objective is to introduce the South African Heritage Resources Information Systems (SAHRIS) in our Museums.

The Provincial Museums services unit has conducted 33 Museums awareness and outreach programmes in a quest to entrench the understanding of the importance of preserved knowledge and historical past. Such awareness is particularly important amongst our youth and learners. We should, in partnership with youth organizations and the Department of Education, strengthen this resolve to promote museums amongst our young people and learners because of the empowering and educational value of these museums.

More people are beginning to visit our museums because of the outreach programmes we have embarked upon. Although the target for the current financial year was 12 000 people visiting our museums we have far exceed this target as 35 939 people visited to date. We also expected a number of 130 schools to visit our museums but to date 226 schools were received.

Days of National Significance and other events that celebrate our heritage were also observed. On 18 May 2012 we hosted the International Museum Day which was attended by more than 2000 people. Heritage Day Celebration was hosted on 24 September 2012 in Ficksburg and was attended by approximately 12 000 people. The Basotho Cultural Village hosted the Africa New Year Celebration on 29 July 2012 and about 1800 people attended the event. Basotho Cultural Village (BCV) continues to host successful events such as Sesotho Hip Hop competition, Drama competitions, Museum Week, Traditional Dance competitions and comedy shows. The number of people who attended our programmes and events at BCV in this current financial year is more than 20 000. We need to continue to expand on this mass participation programme in order for us to touch every citizen of our Province. Our citizens must be proud of their cultural heritage.

Heritage Resources Services

Acting Speaker, the transformation of our heritage landscape continues to be the primary task that we are confronted with. Through its Provincial Geographical Names Committee (PGNC) the Department was successful to facilitate renaming and gazetting of the town of Petrus Steyn to Mamafubedu towards the end of 2012. The Mangaung Metro Municipality was also assisted with the renaming of the Main Street in Bloemfontein, Maitland Street, which was renamed Charlotte Maxeke Street. The Department facilitated the renaming of Bloemfontein International Airport to Bram Fischer International Airport.

The Department also assisted the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) with the facilitation of the Public Hearing process for the declaration of Mapikela Grave, Wesleyan Church and Dr. Moroka's grave as national heritage sites. The public hearings were held in Bloemfontein on 13 February 2013 and in Thaba Nchu on 14 February 2013 respectively.

The Free State Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (FSPHRA) has conducted Heritage Advocacy Workshops in High Schools in the Free State, especially the Mangaung Metro. These workshops are aimed at making the public and especially young people or learners aware and proud of their own heritage. Since heritage is part of the Grade 10 syllabus this is yet another aspect where we enhance national priority number 1, Education. It was discovered that many people do not appreciate their rich history and through

these workshops we continue to succeed to instill the pride of being an African and enhancing the rich history and heritage of the Free State in the process.

The Permit Committee of the Heritage Resources Authority has also been working tirelessly to ensure that people in the Free State follow the Heritage regulations when it comes to preserving our heritage, especially declared buildings and those over 60 years old.

In a quest to promote nation-building, social cohesion and non-racialism the Department will continue to expand Museums and Heritage Services. The following projects and programmes will also unfold in the next financial year:

- 1) The renovation of the Transgariiep Museum in Philippolis will be finalized at the end of the current financial year. Consultants have already been appointed for both Pioneer museum in Winburg and Chris van Niekerk museum in Boshof.
- 2) The process of digitalization of our museum artifacts is on-going and also requires funding to be realized. The Department is in the process of investigating the possibility of purchasing a mobile museum for the next financial year.
- 3) The second phase of construction work at Wesleyan Church and the renovation of Mapikela house will be finalised by the end of this current financial year (2013/2014).
- 4) Two (2) museums will be established in the new financial year, namely: Kaizer Sebothelo and Lister Skosana museum. The Department is in a process of identifying the land for the building of these museums.

- 5) We have finalized the research and declaration dossiers for declaration of the following heritage sites: Cdes Martha Moipone Mohlakwana's grave and house (Bloemfontein); Itumeleng "Billyboy" Caswell Mokobo's grave; Albert Ndoyisile Xhamfu and Vuyo Edward Charles' graves (Welkom) and Siphon Philip Mutsi's grave (Kutlwanong). These places will be declared as provincial heritage sites in the 2013/2014 financial year and this will epitomize the transformation of our heritage landscape as well as a noble gesture to honour our fallen liberation struggle icons.
- 6) The newly constructed hospital in Trompsburg, !Xhariep, will be named Alfred Nzula and the family have been consulted and have acceded to the request to use the name of Cde Nzula.

Language Services

In its effort to creating job opportunities for young graduates, the Department has through Language services absorbed and appointed three (3) interns to its staff establishment on a permanent basis to service the entire province in language management and services. This process has strengthened this service in the Department. We have, also, purchased a Braille machine to make documents accessible to persons with visual impairment disability as part of the process of expanding the service.

Through the Language Services unit we continue to support the Free State Writers Forum and Language and Culture Forum in their quest to promote multilingualism in the province. This is an important mandate that is endowed upon us by the law of the land.

The Literature Development programme, which contains the elements of talent identification and nurturing through workshops as well as talent showcasing, continues unabated. In 2012 we assisted five (5) writers to publish their books, four (4) of whom were published for the first time. These were showcased at a successful Macufe-Wordfest which attracted more than 150 writers from all over the province as well as at the Grahamstown National Arts Festival Wordfest. In July 2013 we will take a further 20 Literary practitioners to Grahamstown National Arts Festival to attend and participate at Wordfest. The workshops which are aimed at development of writers will also be conducted and Macufe Wordfest will be celebrated in the new financial year.

In celebration of our provincial born authors, on 6 March 2013 the Department Book Club organised a book review and discussions on the literary work of the Bloemfontein born, John Ronald Reuel Tolkiens who wrote a hugely popular book called: The Lord of the Rings. A few years ago a movie based on this book became one of the greatest box-office successes of all times and won all 11 Academy Awards it was nominated for. This caliber of authors who originate from our Province must be used as role models in our quest to develop and promote literary giants in the Province.

Programme 3: Library and Archive services

Acting Speaker, whilst we are receiving reports from across the world of public libraries in many countries becoming the victims of the global economic crisis as they are closed down or services scaled down, I am proud to state that the expansion and upgrading of library infrastructure and services still remains a key priority of my Department. In a time when many consider libraries to be

outdated and becoming irrelevant in the digital era, we are repositioning libraries to serve as the bridge to the world of digital media and to ensure that everybody, regardless of economic status, will have access to resources in a variety of formats and on a variety of platforms. Since 2007 we have been rolling out a programme to provide every public library with computer equipment and connectivity and today we can say that every town in the Free State is digitally connected via the local library.

My Department is committed to the continuous development and upgrading of community library services in the Province to ensure that our libraries are serving the community as centres of reading, literacy and learning also as part of our contribution towards the realization of national priority number 1 which is Education.

During the 2012/2013 financial year enormous strides were made in expanding library services and infrastructure. As I undertook in my budget speech of 2012, the Department embarked on a programme to expand library infrastructure. The Jacobsdal-Ratanang Library will be completed and open for use by June 2013. Construction of the Wepener-Qibing Library will start in April 2013. Planning of the following buildings was done during 2012 and construction will start during 2013/14: Clarens-Khubetswana, Arlington-Leratswana, Memel-Zamane and Hobhouse-Dipelaneng (Thabo Mofutsanyana District); in Xhariep District Smithfield-Mofulatshepe and Luckhoff-Relebohile; Soutpan-Ikgomotseng in Lejweleputswa District and Oranjeville-Metsimaholo in Fezile Dabi District.

Amongst other milestones of the outgoing financial year are the following:

- Phase I of the Bloemfontein Library upgrade was completed whilst an activity hall at the Oppermansgronde Library is under construction. Major repairs at the Harrismith Library were completed.
- Six toy libraries were established at Thaba Patchoa, Heidedal, Tweeling, Ezenzeleni, Thembalihle and Kutlwanong libraries. A toy library service will be implemented at Jacobsdal Library as soon as the building is completed.
- Approximately 40 000 new items of library material were added to library collections. Access to reading resources was expanded with a virtual library service giving access to e-books which can be borrowed from the library. Twenty five libraries were also provided with e-readers.
- The Free State Online project was expanded and the number of libraries with public access computers and Internet connectivity was increased to 167. Only a few libraries at correctional services institutions have not been connected yet.
- A library service was established at Makholokweng and will open to the public during April 2013. This service was made possible through the generous donation of a pre-fabricated library building by CSX-Metro-File, a specialist library service provider. The value of the donation amounts to approximately R1million. It is partnerships like these which enable us to do more in improving service delivery to our communities.
- Two provincial projects to promote a culture of reading amongst learners and support the promotion of literacy were presented, namely a provincial spelling bee and a debating competition. More than 1000 learners and 50 libraries participated.

- The Department successfully co-hosted the National Oral History Conference with the National Archives and Oral History Association of South Africa from 8 to 10 October 2012.

Acting Speaker, we have set out to realize the following in the next coming financial year as regards library services:

- The construction of new buildings already mentioned above will continue. New buildings are designed to improve the study areas and computer rooms while children's sections are provided with educational toy libraries. The Department made available R50.8 million for new library infrastructure for 2013/14. An amount of R6.1 million will be available for upgrading and maintaining existing library infrastructure.
- The ICT infrastructure developed since 2007 will be maintained and upgraded with additional equipment and faster line connectivity and broadband access. An additional 25 libraries will be provided with e-readers to access electronic books and newspapers. It is with pride that we must state that the Free State Province is taking the lead in the country with the provision of Internet connectivity at public libraries.
- We will continue upgrading and maintaining collections of library material. 40 000 new materials will be bought and libraries will be subscribed to more than 3 000 newspapers and periodicals. The collection of electronic publications available on loan will be increased while basic reference works such as Encyclopedia Britannica will also be available in electronic format.
- Six more toy libraries will be established at the following libraries: Borwa, Trompsburg, Meqheleng, Tikwana, Phiritona and Nyakollong.

- To promote a culture of reading and the use of libraries, the Department will embark on a variety of promotional activities which will culminate in the Provincial Spelling Bee which will take place during Literacy Month in September 2013. World Book Day and Library Week will also be celebrated.

The Department will continue to improve staff capacity at libraries. Appointing staff at public libraries in rural areas makes a significant contribution to job creation and an amount of R28.2 million was allocated to maintain existing posts and make new appointments. Various capacity building programmes will also be presented to library workers.

Speaker, the challenges that continue to confront library services include taking full financial responsibility for the administration of public library services, as intended by Schedule 5 of the Constitution. Safeguarding libraries against vandalism, burglaries and theft as well as community unrest which also targets libraries also remains a major challenge.

Programme 4: Sport and Recreation

In the last and preceding financial years we rolled up our sleeves to totally transform Sport and Recreation in our Province in terms of sport facilities and programmes. In line with the State of the Nation injunction as well as the Provincial Budget Speech statement the eradication of health challenges such as obesity and combatting the ever increasing prevalence of diabetes, hypertension

and other chronic diseases interventions through mass sport participation programmes have and will continue to unfold.

Through the Sport and Recreation programme we have rolled out infrastructure development programmes and staged various sporting events to ensure mass participation which then leads to competitive events. These programmes and projects are outlined as follows:

Infrastructure Projects:

One of the massive infrastructure projects that we have undertaken relates to stadium upgrades and construction. Seisa Ramabodu stadium is undergoing an extensive upgrade at a projected cost of R284 million. The upgrading of Siphon Mutsi stadium is projected to cost of R29, 6 million. Construction of this stadium is underway.

We have in the past pointed out that where it is not feasible to build stadiums we have rolled out a programme of building Multi-Purpose Sport Courts and community gyms. We have also been building Local Talent Development Centres as well as District High Performance Centres in a quest to make sport science services accessible to local communities.

In this regard, we remain to build one Local Talent Development Centre and District High Performance Centre in Botshabelo for Mangaung Metro and another one for Xhariep district. Each of these centres is at the cost of R7 million.

In addition to the Multi-Purpose Sport Courts that we have been building across the Province additional Court was built in Marquard at a cost of R1, 3 million.

Another two (2) in Dealesville and Hertzogville are still under construction to make up a total of 14 to date.

The precincts at the Free State Sport Science Institute (FSSSI) are undergoing enormous transformation with the construction of High Performance Training Centre for Netball, Table Tennis and Badminton. These facilities will provide opportunities for residential programmes for Netball, Table Tennis and Badminton, including Boxing which facility has been completed. The Elite Athlete and Coaching programme for Boxing, Judo, Karate, Table Tennis and Badminton was implemented. The Netball programme is currently being finalized.

In the next financial year the following infrastructure projects will be rolled out:

- 1) Construction of proper football grounds for Dr Cingo High School which has been identified as part of the Sport Focus Schools Programme;
- 2) Develop a business plan for upgrading of Verkeerdevlei stadium to include a soccer pitch, ablution facilities, caretaker house, seating, fencing, multi-purpose court for volleyball, netball, basketball and tennis;
- 3) Construction of Tumahole Indoor Sport Centre;
- 4) Construction of Siphon Mutsi Indoor Sport Centre;
- 5) Upgrading of Laubscher Park stadium;
- 6) Upgrading of Ficksburg stadium;
- 7) In conjunction with the Department of Rural Development, we will build two other Children's Parks in Cornelia and Warden to add to the one we built in Petrus Steyn.

Acting Speaker, over and above these projects and programmes, my Department is assisting municipalities with the upgrading of a number of sport facilities

through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG), as outlined in this budget vote statement:

Name of Municipality	Project Name	Locality	Budgeted amount		
Metsimaholo	Municipality will not implement the 15% MIG allocated for Sport this Financial year as their whole MIG allocation is committed.	N/A	N/a		
Mafube	Up –grading Tweeling Stadium	Mafahlaneng	R 1 600 000,00		
Ngwathe	Refurbishment of Koppies Tennis courts	Kwakwatsi	R 1 000 000.00		
	Up- grading Phiritona Sport Centre	Phiritona	R 3 000 000 ,00		
	Refurbishment of Schonkenville Sport complex.	Parys	R 3 000 000,00		
	Mokwallo Fencing of Sports facilities. Muman court fenced already by the Department. Municipality will concentrate on the fencing of the stadium.	Mokwallo	R 825 930,00		
Moghaka	Up-grading Change room and fencing Matlwangtlwang Stadium.	Matlwangtlwang	R 957 326,00		
	Up – grading of Phomolong 2010 FIFA Legacy project.	In this particular project the Municipality has included access road, it is anticipated that it is not our role to fund road project no matter the distance thus it should be excluded from the sport project. R 4 488 329, 00 Roads and Storm water and fencing R 1 243 852, 00. (The area is fenced already)			
Matjhabeng	Up-grading of the following sports centres				
	Zuka Baloyi ,Out Door & Thabong Stadium	Thabong	R 42 834 548,00		
	Bronville Sports Centre	Bronville	R 8 679 874, 50		
	Phomolong Stadium Phase 3	Phomolong	R 7 427 128,50		

Masilonyana	Up grading of Makeleketla sport facilities.	Makeleketla	R 7 401 208,32		
Tswelopele	Up- grading Phahameng sport Stadium	Phahameng	R 4 561 313,00		
Nala		Monyakeng	R 4 129 650,00		
		Kgotsoeng	R 4 129 650,00		
	Upgrading of Tennis Courts	Kgotsoeng	R 2 622 000,00		
Tokologo	Up- grading of Seretse Stadium (Boshof)	Seretse	R 10 051 811,00		
Letsemeng	Up – grading of Relebohile Sport facilities	Relebohile in Luckhoff	R 6 808 800,00		
Mohokare	Up- grading of Mofulatshepe Stadium	Mofulatshepe	R 3 302 322,47		
	Up- grading of Matlakeng Sport Complex	Matlakeng	R 2 788 450,00		
Naledi	Up- grading Van Stadensrus Sport Stadium	Thapelong	R 13 125 842,75		
Kopanong	Still awaiting projects from this Municipality				
Dihlabeng	Up –grading of Kgubetsana Sport facility	Kgubetsana	R 11 799 000,00		
Maluti A Phofung	Building of Sport Indoor centre Phuthaditjhaba The Money spent on this project is less than the 15%. Municipality to look for more sport projects	Phuthaditjhaba	R 29 070 000,00		
Mantsopa	Up grading of Arthur Pitso Stadium	Manyatseng	R 9 408 050,00		
		The project will be unfolded in three phases, the total funding for the project is R32 205 000,00			
Phumelela	Replenishment of Thembalinhle sport facilities	Thembalinhle	R 13 680 000,00		
Setsoto	Up-grading of Meqheleng Sports	Meqheleng	R 63 042 000,00		

	Complex		0		
		Municipality requested to down scale on the project as the amount for the project is bigger than their total allocation of MIG.			
Nketoana	A sport project was presented in one of our Quarterly MIG meetings we are still awaiting for the execution of such a project from Municipality.				

As indicated by the honourable Premier in his State of the Province Address, my Department together with SASCOC is establishing a National Training Centre in Bloemfontein where all the national teams will be prepared before they participate continentally and internationally.

Programmes:

The sport facilities that we are building are not going to be white elephants. We continue to plan and implement a diverse programme of sport activities and projects. During the next financial year we will stage a Provincial Sport Policy Conference with the objective of giving more direction to the strategic orientation and consolidation of our sport and recreation programmes.

Through our partnerships with Sport and Recreation South Africa and the municipalities, we will provide gym equipment for Community Gyms in Senekal and Rouxville to the value of R250 000 each. Gym equipment was provided to the Community Gym in Kutlwanong.

In the last financial year we have continued to implement the following programmes:

- Dr Irvin Khoza Free State School League
- Motlalepule Ntsala Soccer Tournament
- Sanlam Kay Motsepe Schools Cup
- Indigeneous Games
- Senior Citizens Games
- People with Disabilities Games
- Mass Mobilisation Magnificent Friday Project

In 2012/13 a pilot project, the Free State Boxing Development League was started. First, Boxing stables around the province were given equipment and kit. Then a league where all the stables participated was rolled out and from this league talent identification took place until eventually the Free State team was selected. This team participated at the national championships in Cape Town. Free State obtained position 3 and two of our boxers were selected to be part of the Zone IV Games in Lusaka Zambia. Lerato Dlamini who trains at the Thabong LTDC brought home the only gold for Team South Africa

Acting Speaker, Sport and Recreation not only enhances the national priority number 2, which is health, through promotion of healthy living. We also inculcate a sense of fairness in life which discourages an anti-crime behavior. The role that Sport and Recreation also plays in the educational development of a learner has been well researched and documented. It is for this reason that we have implemented a School Sport programme through which we have:

- 1) Distributed equipment and attire to selected Quintile 1 and 2 schools to the value of R2,5 million in the last financial year, including schools in the remotest areas such as Kgalala and Thaba Patchoa;

- 2) Rolled out school league programme to 78% of public schools that managed to register in the programme;
- 3) Staged the following school sport tournaments: Farm school games; Siphon Mutsi Games and Girls Sport Development Games;
- 4) In partnership with the Sports Trust, we have installed Multi-Purpose Sport Courts in three (3) schools in the province. The third one we officially handed it over to Tshireletso school in Allanridge yesterday; lastly,
- 5) We distributed 1000 chess boards to the Department of Education due to the cognitive impact of playing chess on the learning abilities of learners.

Acting Speaker, in view of the social challenges that we noted earlier as confronting our society, we hosted the National Youth Camp in Qwa Qwa from 29 September to 6 October 2012. The primary objective of this camp was to instill, amongst other things, a sense of national identity and promote social cohesion amongst young people.

This drive towards eliminating the social ills that beset our land is spearheaded from all fronts of Sport and Recreation. In our communities we have made conscious interventions through the Community Sport Programme through which we, amongst other things, established Sport and Recreation Leagues such as Anti-Gangsterism League Games that we stage in partnership with the Department of Social Development, Department of Health, South African Police Services, Non-Governmental Organisations and other partners. The towns of Kutlwanong, Bultfontein, Theunissen, and Brandfort were targeted for the establishment of Ward Leagues due to the proliferation of gangsterism in these areas. We also hosted Club Development Leagues that entail rural and ladies football, rugby and netball. Rural games were held in Slabbert Farm for Dihlabeng Municipality on 15 September 2012. Our Provincial ladies team

participated in the National Games held in Kimberley on 9 August 2012. To further advance rural games programme an outreach programme to the following rural areas and farms was staged: Tierpoort, Faurismith, Allenridge, Slabbert Farms, Arlington, Kgalala and Qwa Qwa.

We have distributed sport equipment to the value of R4, 8 million to the 82 towns of the Free State to ensure that sport participation is a reality.

Acting Speaker, an amount of R4, 4 million was spent in developing capacity to sport administrators in the Province. It has become evident that capacitating community structures to run and manage sport and recreation enhances the implementation of sport programmes much better. Various capacity building projects were implemented and these include: softball workshop; capacity building seminar for Cricket; Football clinics; Rugby BokSmart course for coaches. A further R2 million was spent on Outreach programmes focused on athletes' development and coaching support.

We will continue to implement these and other programmes across the length and breadth of our Province.

Free State Sport Confederation:

Acting Speaker, the past twelve months have been another incredible busy and challenging period for all at the Free State Sport Confederation as we were preparing to contribute athletes and coaches as part of the Team SA to the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics Games in London. It is proper that I thank everyone, including the Mangaung Metro Municipality, for accompanying us to these games in London.

The Department in this financial year under review supported sport federations and sport councils through the confederation to the tune of R15 million to create an enabling environment to develop and promote sport as structures of civil society.

The above funds were utilized in assisting sport federations to honour their national duties of representing our province in their different sport specific events. Just to mention but a few of the federations that benefited as part of this allocation: Badminton, Barefoot Waterski, Basketball, Blackball Pool, Chess, Football, Jukskei, University Sport, Netball, Rugby, Table Tennis, Amateur Boxing, Karate, Pistol Shooting and others. Part of the allocation was also utilized for Free State Rugby Stadium naming rights of R5 million.

At a high performance level we also assisted our priority codes to the value of R844 683. This included codes such as table tennis, judo, badminton, netball and karate. Individual support included athletes like Tebogo Mokgalagadi, Thepang Tlale from chess and our Soweto marathon winner Michael Mazibuko to mention but a few.

The establishment of the Coaching Commission in the Free State will go a long way in capacitating and supporting our coaches. A national roadshow was staged and our Province had a huge turn-out of coaches as compared to other Provinces. The Province sent 70 coaches to the national coaching conference that took place in Gauteng.

Sport Science Services:

Acting Speaker, the scope of the FSSSI is expanding and its strategic orientation is changing. Following the adoption of a new approach to delivering Sport Science service to all Free State communities through the FSSSI, under the theme “Taking Sport Science to the Community”, we purchased eight (8) Mobile Sport Science Units. These are vehicles equipped with state of the art sport science equipment.

Already, through these Mobile Sport Science Units we have been able to roll out a Sport Science Outreach Programme to over 6,195 athletes at club and school sport levels in the districts. At provincial level the FSSSI assisted over 2, 241 athletes with sport testing, conditioning and injury rehabilitation services. The FSSSI also trained 722 coaches at different levels of the Sport Development Continuum. This included an International Basketball and S.A Athletics Coaching courses.

Through the FSSSI we have also implemented a unique “Elite Sport Science Programme for Athletes and Coaches” and in a very short space of time produced the following results:

- 16 Elite Badminton players won 7 national titles and 3 players were graded number 1 in their age groups at the S.A National Championships.
- 44 Elite Karate athletes attended S.A Super League Championships and S.A Senior Championships and won 41 Gold, 28 Silver and 11 Bronze medals.
- One (1) elite boxer, Lerato Dlamini (60 kg), won a gold medal at the Zone VI games held in Lusaka, Zambia from 05 to 17 December 2012

- The FSSSI also assisted Boxing, Judo, Badminton, Table Tennis, Karate and Cricket that are part of the Elite Athlete and Coaching Programme to apply for Lotto funding to the amount of R9 million. Acting Speaker, I can proudly declare that some of these Sport Federations already received their Lotto reference number for financial assistance.

To expand the services of FSSSI specialized Sport Science Services, we have built an Ultimate Mobile Sport Science Lab that is equipped with the latest high performance sport science testing and evaluation equipment such as VO2 Max, Treadmill, Foot Scan and so on. The purpose of this Lab is to assist the identified elite athletes across the province.

Acting Speaker I am also glad to announce that we established collaboration agreements between the Department and the following stakeholders through the FSSSI:

- University of the Free State whereby all Honours students in Sport Science receive practical training at the FSSSI High Performance Sport Conditioning Facility through which we are assisting all provincial athletes with sport conditioning;
- South African National Defence Force (SANDF) Sport Wing: FSSSI will be responsible for conditioning and preparation of all the SANDF national teams. The SANDF seconded one official to assist the FSSSI to coordinate and administer this process. This official will also manage the FSSSI High Performance Disability Programme; and
- Central University of Technology (CUT): The Department will assist their teams with conditioning and in exchange the FSSSI can utilize CUT's sport facilities if the need arises.

In a recent survey that was done by Mr Gary Gabriels, a researcher at the University of Cape Town pharmacology division he reported that out of the 138 nutritional supplements on the market, that 18 had ephedrine, 126 had caffeine, 62 synephrine, 10 methylamphetamine and 3 fenfluramine. Taking this into consideration the FSSSI has development its own nutritional supplements for Free State Athletes. The range of supplements includes Performance Porridge, Pre and post exercise Carbo-Load and Recovery Shakes, and so on.

In the new financial year the FSSSI will focus on:

- The implementation of the final phases of the Free State Sport Science turnaround strategy “Taking Sport Science to the Community”
- Two research projects will be undertaken being the utilization of amino acids to improve sport performance as well as the development of new sport equipment using elastic bands;
- The development of High Performance sport conditioning facility for elite athletes with Disabilities
- Upgrade of the FSSSI Rehabilitation facility to include a hydro therapy bath, and
- The rendering of High Performance support services to SASCO’s National Sport Academy

The total budget allocated to the FSSSI for the 2013/2014 financial year is R18, 5 million.

Conclusion

Acting Speaker, the road ahead is still steep. We are mindful of the fact that we still have to climb mountains and cross rivers before we finally reach the Promised Land. We however draw inspiration from the fact that we are not alone on this journey. We acknowledge the support and encouragement of our partners, colleagues, communities and stakeholders as we continue to roll out these programmes and projects. We want to take this opportunity to thank all those who continue stand by us through difficult and trying times.

I thank you.