



COGHSTA

Department of Cooperative Governance

Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs

NORTHERN CAPE

MINISTRY

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PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

MEC FOR COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND
TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

HON. MEC BENTLEY VASS

BUDGET VOTE 9 FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/24

21 JUNE 2023

Address by Hon. Bentley Vass (MPL) MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, to the Northern Cape Provincial Legislature, on the occasion of tabling of the Budget Vote for 23/24 Financial Year, 21 June 2023.

Honourable Speaker of the House, Ms. Newrene Klaaste

Honourable Deputy Speaker, Mr. Mangaliso Matika

Honourable Chief Whip Mr. Neo Maneng

Honourable Premier of the Northern Cape Province, Dr Zamani Saul

Honourable Members of the Executive Council

Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee, Ms. Limakatso Koloji

Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature

Leader of the opposition party, Mr. Mc Gluwa

Chairperson of the House of Traditional Leaders, Kgosi Toto

Deputy Chairperson of the House of Traditional Leaders, Kgosi Bareki

Chairperson of SALGA Cllr, Michael Segede

Executive Mayors, Mayors, Speakers and Councillors

Invited Guests and Partners in Local Government and Human Settlements
Distinguished members of the Northern Cape community and those on the virtual and
social media platforms Comrades and Friends

Honourable Speaker, we are in the youth month and tomorrow we celebrate youth day under the theme “accelerating youth economic emancipation for a sustainable future”, as a Department we plan to develop youth, particularly in Human Settlements and help with skills development in areas such as; bricklaying, carpentry and electric. It must be noted that our learnership and internship programmes are focused on young people.

Franklin D Roosevelt once said “We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future”

And this is the posture we are determined to grow in as a department.

Agbare Speaker, ons staar steeds die endemiese van Geslagsgebaseerde Geweld en Vrouemoord in die gesig, sodat ons ons gemeenskappe van hierdie vreemde boorling kan ontslae raak, behoort ons ernstige gesprekke daaroor te hê, sodat ons dit uit sy oorspronklike wortel kan uitroei en ons gemeenskap red.

Honourable Speaker, as part of Governments commitments, the President in his State of the Nation Address committed to address critical challenges that were brought upon by the impact of state capture, Gender Based Violence and Femicide, the coronavirus pandemic and the violent unrest that occurred in parts of the country during 2022. Through a new consensus that will be driven by a shared vision of what we want to achieve as a country, government will respond to the above mentioned commitments.

Honourable Speaker, as government we need to assess whether the Medium Term Strategic Framework and the National Annual Strategic Plan (NASP) gives effect to the task of effective and consistent basic services and infrastructure in the country and communities. We strive towards building a capable developmental state with an effective and ethical public service that drives the implementation of South Africa’s transformative agenda.

The Premier delivered his State of the Province Address under the theme “**Building a Provincial Roadmap for Decisive Action through resilience, hard work and progress**”.

In it, he also highlighted that the state of local government remains a concern, and because of this, the Office of the Premier expanded the scope of Operation Clean Audit (OPCA) to include municipalities.

The Auditor Generals’ report points to the observations made by the Premier on the state of Municipal Finances and in a way supports the inclusion of the municipalities in OPCA. The following observations were made by the Auditor General;

- That the financial statements are prepared by consultants because the municipalities have no capacity to prepare them;
- The prepared financial statements by the consultants are in themselves not quality reports;
- There are four municipalities that are consistently receiving disclaimed opinions over a period of years ranging from 2-7 years
- The AG also points at 16 financially distressed municipalities which disclosed material uncertainty about their financials
- And on leadership and management, the Auditor General points at “the slow response to the findings and recommendations meant to improve the situation on audit outcomes”
- She also raises the issue of vacant positions of senior management in municipalities

The above is the reason we should be intensifying the work of OPCA and build both political and administrative capacity in municipalities.

Honourable Speaker, I must however, commend the 26 municipalities that submitted their financial statements on time as per the legislated date, we have an improvement of 19% for submission, of which I believe can be improved on even better in the next report. And a special mention to the four municipalities that have obtained a clean audit, namely; Hantam Local Municipality, Frances Baard District Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality and ZF Mngcwane District Municipality.

Honourable Speaker, in 2022 July, the Minister of Human Settlements Honourable Mmamoloko Kubayi introduced Frontloading as a means to fast track service delivery. We are happy to report that the business plan was submitted with DBSA and was approved. The approval is for 2 500 units at a cost of six hundred million rand (R600 000 000).

Honourable Speaker, last year we visited Mma Sestsijane Gwakamang who is now hundred and three (103) years in J.T.G., Madibeng. Her wish was to have a decent house before she passes on and with the help of Weird Industries we were able to build Mama her house.

I want to use this opportunity to thank the private sector for offering a helping hand when our people are in dire need, this simply goes to show that as government and the private sector we cannot work in vacuums. The one needs the other to make the lives of our people better.

Honourable Speaker, the Northern Cape is prone to disaster more especially veld fires, floods (mostly caused by the overflow of the Vaal River during heavy rains)

and draught. As a response to the fire out-breaks we have procured and will be handing over twenty six (26) water tank trailers to the twenty six (26) local municipalities in the province.

Since our last budget speech in 2022, we have been working on a number of concerns that were raised during and post the budget speech. One of them being blocked projects that have become crime hotspots in communities. We understand that blocked projects deny our people the opportunity to get their houses.

We have recently appointed a contractor for the Ou Boks Project and work is currently under way. We also have the De Aar 2638 Project where we are now continuously handing over houses on completion. We are constantly looking for ways to complete all projects that have become white elephants in our communities.

Honourable Speaker, this then brings me to the business of the day, our total budget allocation for the department for the financial year 2023/34 is as follows;

- Programme 1 (Administration) is allocated two hundred and five million rand (R205 345 000)
- Programme 2 (Human Settlements) is allocated four hundred and thirty one million rand (R431 618 000)
- Programme 3 (Cooperative Governance) is allocated one hundred and thirty one million rand (R131 028 0000; and
- Programme 4 (Traditional Affairs) is allocated twenty nine million rand (R29 510 0000)

The total for the Financial Year 2023/24 is seven hundred and ninety seven million rand (R797 501 000).

CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

Corporate Management(Administration)with a baseline of two hundred and five million rand (R205 345 000) provides effective leadership, management and administrative support to the other 3 programmes of the department, which are Programme 2 (Human Settlements), Programme 3 (Cooperative Governance) and Programme 4 (Traditional Affairs).

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (HRD)

The HRD unit has over the past period invested in the development of unemployed youth graduates, in order to prepare them for the Labour Market. COGHSTA has the following currently placed in the Department:

1. In partnership with Anavrin Consulting, the Department has placed two Public Management Interns, who are currently in the Department for practical exposure.
2. OTP has placed four Interns in the Department who are financed by Public SETA. These interns specialize in the fields of Financial Management and Human Resource Management.
3. In partnership with ATTI, the Department has placed four learners in the IT unit who are currently on an ICT learnership programme, requiring seven months practical exposure in the field.
4. The Department has recruited ten interns as per the prescripts of the DPSA focussing on young unemployed graduates in the following fields:
 - a. Public Management
 - b. Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management
 - c. Bachelor of Town Planning
 - d. BSc Civil Engineering
 - e. Bachelor of Arts, majoring Anthropology
 - f. Diploma in HRM
 - g. LLB

The Department via the Cooperative Governance Chief Directorate, obtained grant funding from the LG SETA in the following fields:

1. Learnership: Water and Waste Water Process Control (25 CWP nominees benefitted).
2. Learnership: Water and Waste Water Reticulation services (25 CWP nominees benefitted).
3. Further Education and Training Certificate: Leadership Development (50 nominees, mainly from municipalities, benefitted).

4. Certificate in Municipal Finance Management Programme (MFMP) (50 nominees = 10 departmental and 40 municipal officials, benefitted, which will be starting in the month of July).
5. National Certificate: Ward Committee Governance (Skills Programme) (100 ward committee members, with the focus on dysfunctional municipalities, which will also be starting in the month of July).

HUMAN RESOURCE PLAN (HRP)

The MTEF HRP is the basis to allocate resources for the Department to achieve its operational objectives. The departmental Strategic Plan is integrated in the HRP to enable the Department to optimally utilise its human resources to meet its service delivery requirements. By the end of 2022/2023, the Department managed to conclude 95% of the recruitment process for 74 vacant positions. At the end of the financial year, the SMS equity was at 56,5%. It is important to note that our organisational structure was approved.

OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK (OMF)

The Department is currently in the process of implementing the OMF to address the following:

- **Service Delivery Model (SDM)** – to be completed annually before the 31 July.
- **Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)** – the SOPs that focus on the core services of the department.
- **Knowledge Management (KM)** – this initiative will be developed during this financial year.
- **Service Standards (SS) and Service Charter (SC)** – are located within the Strategy and Systems Directorate.

ORGANISATIONAL FUNCTIONALITY ASSESSMENT (OFA)

This OMF building block provides the opportunity to share evidence-based information that would serve as an input for the review and improvement of cost management in the Department.

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Honourable Speaker, from the 1st of April 2023, in real terms, the housing programmes were adjusted as follows:

- BNG services and top structure will move from one hundred and ninety six thousand eight hundred and eighty seven rand (R196 887) to two hundred and fifty five thousand three hundred and sixty four rand (R255 364)
- Houses for persons with disabilities will move from two hundred and nine thousand and seventy one rand (R209 071) to two hundred and seventy one thousand one hundred and sixty six rand (R271 166)
- Military veterans' houses will move from two hundred and forty thousand six hundred and seven rand (R240 607) to three hundred and twelve thousand and sixty nine rand (R312 069)
- First Home Finance will move from one hundred and thirty thousand five hundred and five rand (R130 505) to one hundred and sixty nine thousand two hundred and sixty five rand (R169 265)
- Social housing will move from three hundred and twenty seven thousand and six hundred and sixty seven rand (R327 667) to four hundred and twenty four thousand and nine hundred and eighty four rand (R424 984)

We believe that with these amendments, we will be able to accelerate housing delivery. We continue to call on all service providers to deliver quality work on time and within budget.

The base line allocation for human settlements for 2022/23 was three hundred and fifty-four million rand (R354 813 000) while the allocation for the Human Settlements Development Grant (HSDG) was two hundred and seventy-three million rand (R 273 541 000), and the allocation for the Informal Settlements Upgrading Partnership Grant (ISUPG) was eighty-one million rand (R 81 272 000). Due to exceptional performance by the Department, an additional allocation of hundred and ninety-four million rand (R194 706 000) of which hundred million rand (R100 000 000) is for HSDG and ninety-four million rand (R94 706 000) is for ISUPG.

A combined total of 5 848 services were delivered during 2022/2023 against a target of 2097 (please note that we have exceeded the target by far). A total number of 153 houses were delivered against a target of 274. Through the "Title Deed Friday"-programme, the Department has been able to accelerate title deed delivery to beneficiaries.

Agbare Speaker, ons het net gister 99 titelaktes aan die Militêre Veterane en die bejaarde burgers van Diamantpark afgelewer. Ons moedig munisipaliteite sterk aan om by hierdie program aan te sluit deur titelaktes in hul besit te versprei.

Honourable Speaker, to date, the following has been delivered in mining towns:

- Gamagara Local Municipality – 1118 sites serviced.
- Ga-Segonyana Local Municipality – 24 houses built, of which 10 was for Military Veterans.
- Kgatelopele Local Municipality - The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) recently issued a power of attorney in favour of the Housing Development Agency (HDA) for land in Daniëlskuil targeted for human settlements development.

Going forward, an investment of one hundred and fifteen million rand (R115 014 302) will be spent in the mining towns of Gamagara, Ga-Segonyana, Kgatelopele, Tsantsabane and Khâi Ma. The township establishment process in Kgatelopele Local Municipality will soon commence regardless of delays in the transfer of the land by DPWI to the municipality.

The Department, in partnership with HDA and DHS, has assisted local municipalities with the development of precinct/development plans for the following Priority Human Settlements and Housing Development Areas (PHSHDA):

- Kimberley
- Kathu
- Aggenys/Pofadder
- Uppington, and;
- Postmasburg/Tsantsabane

In the new financial year 2023/24, the human settlements grant allocations are as follows:

1. Human Settlements Development Grant (HSDG) allocation of two hundred and eighty-five million rand (R285 336 000) towards the construction of 568 houses and installation of 1066 basic engineering services.
2. Informal Settlements Upgrading Partnership Grant (ISUPG) of eighty-four million (R84 855 000) towards the installation of 819 basic engineering services. The objective of this grant is not to build houses. Its purpose is to formalise informal settlements with approved upgrading plans by providing security of tenure and access to basic engineering services.
3. The Title Deeds Restoration Grant is defunct and title deeds are now part of the HSDG. The budget allocation for the transfer of title deeds is nine million rand (R9 716 000) with a target of 5000 in the 2023/24 financial year.

COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE

The baseline allocation for Cooperative Governance stands at one hundred and thirty-one million rand (R131 028 000). This programme provides support to Local Governance programmes at an amount of one hundred and fifteen million rand (R115 785 000) and to Development and Planning at an amount of fifteen million rand (R15 243 000). This allocation over the MTEF is providing to targeted municipalities with regard to evaluation rolls, spatial planning and development frameworks

Honourable Speaker, with the support being given to municipalities by the department, it is of grave concern that we have sixteen (16) municipalities in our province that are dysfunctional or in distress. Two years into the current local governance administration, and our municipalities are beset by political instability, lack of public participation, governance challenges, revenue collection and responsiveness to service delivery concerns from communities.

In the current financial year COGHSTA will actively continue to support the dysfunctional municipalities as per the Municipal Support and Intervention Plans (MSIP).

We have observed that specifically in **multi-party coalition** municipalities, instability is rife with a direct impact on service delivery because no regulatory framework exists to govern coalitions currently, notwithstanding the proposed SALGA Coalition framework.

COGTA has announced a regulatory framework to guide multi-party coalition within municipal governance, including defining clearly the political and administrative interphase to eliminate tensions in the delivery of services. In the interim, provincial government will intervene to stabilize those municipalities to facilitate service delivery.

The District Development Model

The Province has completed its District One Plans for the five districts at the end of 2022. All the five One Plans were subjected to Quality Assurance Assessment. These One Plans have now been gazetted and/or published for comments through the public participation process in order that we build consensus around the developmental objectives and priorities in each district's geographic space. The One Plans have been submitted to National COGTA for further processing by National Cabinet.

The DDM Monitoring & Evaluation Plan will be finalised by the end of June 2023. The district DDM Political Committees will support One Plan stakeholders in the fulfilment of their M&E responsibilities as committed to in the One Plan M&E Plan/Protocol.

DDM implementation for the 2023/24 Financial Year will focus on the following:

- The plans that all the departments are implementing in municipalities to contribute to an ideal Local Government;
- Progress on the general implementation of the One Plans; and
- Challenges experienced in Local Economic Development, best practices and other key performance areas, if any.

Municipal Governance and Administration

Honorable Speaker, the Constitutional Court declared the Local Government: Municipal Systems Amendment Act 7 of 2011 invalid on the 09th March 2019 meaning all the provisions of Act 7 of 2011 could not be enforced.

The promulgation of the LG: Municipal Structures Amendment Act introduced a number of significant changes key of which was the removal of all plenary municipal councils from the legislation and the introduction of collective executive councils.

Given the maturity of the local government democratic system a number of communities have formed themselves into community forums and political party formations

On the 1st November 2022, the Local Government Municipal Systems Amendment Act 3 of 2022 was promulgated. There are positions as far back as 2020 and no appointments were made to date, this affects the stability in administration. The vacancy rate for municipal managers and directors directly accountable to the municipal managers is at 52%.

However, this is not impressive as there are subjective challenges wherein legislative processes are not followed to the latter, and the Mayor or Municipal Manager do not obtain timeous approval from the municipal council to fill the positions. In filling these positions municipalities do not always adhere to the 50/50 gender equality. This is a concern because women appointed as senior managers occupy a limited space of 13% in local government.

Despite that, the Department provided support in terms of Section 154 of the Constitution to the following municipalities: Phokwane, Renosterberg, Hantam, Khai-Ma and Ubuntu. The support to these municipalities is to ensure administrative stability to enhance service delivery.

The province had 15 municipalities that operated on the Plenary Executive System before it was abolished. These municipalities' Section 12 Notices had to change to

the Collective Executive System, hence the department embarked on training for all municipal councils within the 31 municipalities to clarify the role and responsibilities of the Mayor and Speaker, Code of Conduct for Councilors and the Municipal Public Accounts. Furthermore, training was conducted as an awareness for municipal officials and Councilors on Anti-Corruption within the five (5) districts.

Public Participation

Honorable Speaker, public participation is enshrined in the Constitution and it deepens participatory democracy. We call on all Councilors to facilitate the participation of communities as an integral part of the governance processes at municipal level and to eliminate **the trust deficit** which is growing at municipalities.

Ward Committees are there to assist the councillor in managing the ward, and to assist communities in bringing the developmental challenges evident in the specific ward to the ward councillor. We have established 231 out of the 232 ward committees. We are calling on all councillors to ensure that their ward committees' function optimally as part of the participation of communities in local governance processes.

Honorable Speaker, CWP continues to provide support to the most vulnerable in our society. At the end of 2022/23, we have 22 182 participants that benefit from this programme. It is crucial that municipalities work together with CWP to address service delivery concerns to ensure that participants are engaged in useful work other than cleaning and greening only. This programme will be rolled out to all municipalities.

Gender-Based Violence and Femicide

Die Nasionale Strategiese Plan oor GBVF is met alle munisipaliteite gedeel. GBVF moet deel vorm van die GOP'e van munisipaliteite, om aan te dui die ondersteuning wat munisipaliteite aan GBVF-slagoffers sal bied. Munisipaliteite moet dus nou saamwerk met die departement van maatskaplike ontwikkeling, departement van justisie, SAPD, die gemeenskapspolisieforums en departement van gesondheid in die bekamping van die plaag van GBVF. Wykskomitees moet 'n deurslaggewende rol speel in GBVF-voorspraak in die munisipaliteite.

Furthermore, the victims of GBVF need to be prioritized in projects and programmes of the municipality. Government has developed guidelines and an assessment tool for municipalities to be implemented in the new municipal financial year.

Municipal Infrastructure Development

MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT

The Municipal Infrastructure Grant is a schedule 5 grant directly disbursed to

municipalities aimed at supplementing municipal capital projects budget. It is intended for development and upgrading infrastructures benefiting mainly indigent households.

A total of R 467 148 000 was allocated for 2021/22 financial year with a total expenditure of: R365 748 770.74. This is an improvement of 8% as compared to 2020/21 financial year. A total of 12 projects (water, sanitation, roads, community halls, sports facilities) were completed as at end June 2022 and 181 490 households benefited at local municipalities. A new 2022/2023 Allocation: R 492 495 000 with about 60 Projects under implementation.

We therefore call on MISA and the municipalities to support and collaborate with projects for spending on the MIG.

Projects under implementation: 2022-23

Honourable Speaker, The Northern Cape is allocated R501, 370,000.00 for the 2023/24 financial year, including ring-fenced funding for Sports Infrastructure of R39m (8% of allocation). Municipalities implement projects according to their IDPs priorities and available DoRA allocations.

Bulk projects are implemented in phases over multi-years due to small allocations / limited funding.

The 2023/24 MIG allocation is committed to the following priorities:

Water projects: 26%

Sanitation projects: 20%

Roads & Stormwater projects: 12%

Other priorities such as sport facilities, cemeteries, solid waste management sites and community lighting: 18%

24% of the allocation is still not committed (projects not registered)at this time due to lack of planning in some municipalities.

Project Management Unit

Honourable Speaker, MISA & the DBSA appointed PMU is continuing to provide additional support to municipalities to improve performance of municipalities on conditional grants focusing on capacity building, projects monitoring and engagements with municipalities. This support will be ongoing for the next 2 years to improve the service delivery at municipal level.

We have completed the following projects;

The development of Revenue Enhancement Plans including installation of 250 smart electricity meters and 25 water meters completed in Sol Plaatjie local municipality.

Asset Care- phase 1 including maturity assessment and development of execution plans.

Currently we have the following projects

Revenue Enhancement Plans

Revenue Enhancement plans including tariff reviews and restructuring, meter audits and indigent's registers are currently under implementation in Renosterberg and Umsobomvu local municipalities.

For Infrastructure Master Plans

The development of different master plans (water and sanitation, electricity, roads and stormwater), are in place for the following municipalities; Thembelihle, Magareng, Hantam, Emthanjeni, Kamiesberg, Phokwane, Dawid Kruiper and Nama Khoi and are at advanced stages of procurement.

Project Preparations

Honorable Speaker, the Feasibility study for the Riverton bulk water line is under implementation and the draft inception report is under review.

Water Conservation/Water Demand Management Bankable feasibility study for Sol Plaatjie local municipality is at a tender awarding stage.

Spatial Restructuring Programme

The Spatial Development Framework for Thembelihle local municipality is under implementation while SDFs for Sol Plaatjie, Kheis and Emthanjeni are under Deal Screen Forum with the DBSA.

Two municipalities (Sol Plaatjie and Nama Khoi) have been identified for the DBSA/Japan International Corporation Agency Non-Revenue Water Reduction pilot programme. The programme seeks to collect data in order to identify the causes and countermeasures of Non-Revenue Water.

Municipal Planning and Disaster Management

Integrated Development Plan

Honourable Speaker, by the end of June 2022, municipalities adopted fifth generation of IDP which serve as five strategic plans of municipalities. The IDPs are one of the strategic documents that formed the basis of the development of district One Plans. During the annual IDP reviews, municipalities should use the District One Plans as one of the strategic documents that guides their planning.

Ons neem ook waar dat tydens die ontwikkeling van die vyfde generasie GOP's, munisipaliteite beperkte deelname van verskillende sektore se departemente ervaar het. Nie alle ontwikkelingsprogramme en -projekte van sektordepartemente reflekteer in munisipale GOP'e nie. Sektordepartemente word aangemoedig om aktief aan die munisipale GOP-hersieningsproses deel te neem en hul programme en projekte dienooreenkomstig te kommunikeer sodat hulle in die GOP'e van munisipaliteite gekonsolideer kan word.

Implementation of SPLUMA

Progress on Spatial Development Frameworks (SDFs)

The department is currently supporting the following municipalities Phokwane, Ubuntu, Umsobomvu, Renosterberg and Siyancuma by availing funding for the review and development of their respective SDFs through the Municipal Support and Intervention Package (MSIP). The review and development process has begun in April 2023. In addition, and as part of the private sector investment in government, Tsantsabane LM is supported by Anglo American in the process of review and development of their SDF.

Progress on Land Use Schemes (LUMs)

The Northern Cape Province is 96% compliant with the June 2022 SPLUMA and LUMs deadline. All municipalities, besides Sol Plaatjie have adopted and gazetted Land Use Management Schemes.

Progress on Municipal Planning Tribunals

Municipal Planning Tribunals (MPT).

Honorable Speaker, Municipal Planning Tribunals are formed by individual municipalities with planning capacity or they establish a district joint forum to support and assist municipalities with less planning capacity.

Whereas the following municipalities have established Joint Municipal Planning Tribunal which are all functional:

- ZF Mgcawu District, which constitutes of; !Kheis, Kai !Garib, Kgatelopele and Tsantsabane is in the process of being re-established due to the end of its term;
- Frances Baard District which is constitutes of; Dikgatlong, Magareng and Phokwane); and
- Namakwa District which constitutes of Kamiesberg, Karoo Hoogland, Khâi-Ma, Nama Khoi and Richtersveld.

Provincial Planning Legislation

The Northern Cape Planning and Development Act repeal Bill is in the final stages of being repealed through the NC SPLUM Bill. The Bill has been published for public comments in the government gazette. The process of incorporation of comments Public participation processes have been concluded and the final gazetting will take place soon.

TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

The baseline allocation for Traditional Affairs for the financial year 2023/24 is twenty-nine million rand (R29 510 000). The budget for this programme covers sitting allowances of Traditional Council Members, dispute resolutions as well as various capacity building programmes.

Honourable Speaker, to give greater recognition to the institution, status and role of traditional leadership as envisaged within Chapter 12 of our Constitution, and to recognize the Khoi-San community, legislation was passed and enacted in 2019 called the Traditional and Khoi - San Leadership Act of 2019. This legislation repealed the Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Act No. 41 of 2003; Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Amendment Act 23 of 2009 and National House of Traditional Leaders Act 22 of 2009.

Ons het egter kennis geneem van die uitspraak van die Konstitusionele Hof oor die TKLA en die bevel aan die Parlement. Die Departement gaan voort om ondersteuning aan die erkende Tradisionele Leierskapgemeenskappe te verskaf. Gesamentlike pogings word deur die regering aangewend om Khoi-San-gemeenskappe en hul leierskap te erken.

Reconstitution of Houses of Traditional Leaders

The term of office of the Provincial and Local Houses of Traditional and Khoi-San Leadership ended on 30 April 2022. The Local house was reconstitution in JTG District only on 12 April 2022 and has a term of five years. All 8 Dikgosi are represented within the Local House which has 11 members. We have ensured that there is meaningful participation within local government through the amendment of section 81 of the Municipal Structures Act. Dikgosi are represented in both the District Municipality and local municipalities within JTG. The Provincial House was reconstituted on 17 and 31

May 2022. This house has 13 members with 8 senior Traditional Leaders and 5 Headmen.

Customary Initiation

Agbare Speaker, die seisoen van Gebruiklike Inisiasie het met die somerseisoen op 30 November 2022 begin en op 13 Januarie 2023 geëindig. As 'n Provinsie is ons trots om aan te kondig dat ons geen sterftes binne hierdie seisoen gehad het nie. Ons wens tradisionele leiers geluk met die versekering van die veiligheid van die deelnemers tydens hierdie reis. CoGHSTA gaan voort om bewusmakingsveldtogte oor die Wet op Gebruiklike Inisiasie te onderneem en die termyn van die Provinsiale Inisiasiekoördineringskomitee (PICC) het tot 'n einde gekom en die nuwe PICC sal betyds gestig word vir die Winterseisoen wat in hierdie maand begin.

With the winter season being upon us, we urge stakeholders to commence with preparation in terms of the law.

Reconstitution of Traditional Councils

Honourable Speaker, The Department has embarked on the reconstitution of traditional councils in November 2022 and the process was completed on 31 March 2023. The same will be done once the Khoi-San recognition process is complete.

Ons is as regering daartoe verbind om te verseker dat tradisionele leiers op plaaslike vlakke verteenwoordig word en 'n definitiewe rol binne die Distriksontwikkelingsmodel speel. Deur die pogings om goeie etiese bestuur binne ons tradisionele leierskap aan te moedig, hoop ons om die visie van 'n moderne, groeiende en suksesvolle provinsie binne ons tradisionele gemeenskappe te bring, insluitend die Khoi-San-gemeenskap.

We encourage our traditional leaders to serve their communities, to strive for their well-being and to work with government to ensure service delivery to all our communities that provides value for money and makes an impact in the lives of our people.

Honorable Speaker, we are happy to announce that the Commission of Inquiry into the Jantjie leadership position was completed and the report with recommendations was handed to the Premier on 31 March 2023.

Once the Premier has applied his mind on the recommendations, the rightful leader will be appointed and the Premier will issue a recognition certificate and we hope that this will restore stability to the Batlhaping Ba-ga Jantjie Traditional community.

CONCLUSION

Honourable Speaker, restoring the dignity of our people lies within local government coupled with Human Settlements, allow me to express my gratitude to all officials who are committed to ensuring that we see this through.

We pride ourselves with housing the people of the Northern Cape and ensuring their sense of belonging.

Honorable Speaker, it would have not been possible if I did not have support of the ANC my organization.

My colleagues in the Executive council under the leadership of the Premier Dr Zamani Saul.

This Honorable collective of the legislature, the Chairperson of the portfolio committee Hon Koloi, CoGHSTA Management.

The COGHSTA Staff lead by the HOD Mr Lenkoe, my Ministry staff, my family and lastly my wife.

Honorable Speaker, I now present this budget vote for consideration by the house.

Thank you.