



## agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:  
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## agriculture, land reform & rural development

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agriculture, land reform & rural development  
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**09 DECEMBER 2016**

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CONTINUES IN HARTSWATER**

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) General Bheki Cele and the MEC for Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development in the Northern Cape Mr Norman Shushu will, together with the Phokwane Local Municipality, continue engagements with the farming communities of Hartswater as part of government's Imbizo Focus Week under the theme: ***“Speaking to the people about issues that concern them.”***

This is a follow-up to the Imbizo held in April this year and projects will be visited with the aim of checking on the progress made since the last visit in terms of implementation and to follow up on commitments made by the department. It will also be an opportunity for the department to mobilise strategic partners and communities to work together to grow the economy of the agricultural sector. During the engagement, the communities will provide the department with first-hand accounts of their experiences as a step towards building confidence in government programmes.

The impact of the recent drought which has affected most parts of the country and the interventions by government in trying to assist those affected will form part of the day's agenda. The delegation will visit VH1; a cattle farm which lies on 14.5 hectares of land acquired through the Pro Active Land Acquisition Strategy of the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, and funded through DAFF's Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP).

The Iphemeleng Community Property Association which is a crop farming project under the revitalisation programme of the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform will also be visited. The project planted 15 ha of white maize through the *Fetsa Tlala* initiative and also practises sheep farming.

#### **Members of the media are invited as follows:**

**Date:** Tuesday, 13 December 2016

**Time:** 09:00

**Venue:** Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Vaalharts Research Station

**RSVPs:** Rony Moremi on 073 347 0391/[RincertM@daff.gov.za](mailto:RincertM@daff.gov.za).or Ali Diteme on 0834529841/[aliditeme@ncpg.gov.za](mailto:aliditeme@ncpg.gov.za).

**For further information and enquires please contact:**

Nonkululeko Mbatha

Spokesperson for the Deputy Minister

Mobile: 083 645 6252

Email: [NonkululekoM@daff.gov.za](mailto:NonkululekoM@daff.gov.za)