No.104 - 2022: Fourth Session, Sixth Legislature

**GAUTENG PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS,**

**TABLINGS AND**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**========================**

Tuesday, 22 March 2022

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

none

# TABLINGS

none

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. The Acting-Chairperson of the Economic Development, Environment, Agriculture and Rural Development Portfolio Committee, Hon. M J Kanyane, tabled the Focused Intervention Study (FIS) Report on “the “Contribution of homestead food gardens towards food security in the Province”, as attached:

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**Adopted Focused Intervention Study (FIS) on** **“*the “Contribution of homestead food gardens towards food security in the Province”.*” by the Oversight Committee on Economic Development, Environment, Agriculture and Rural Development.**

| **Committee Details** | | **Department Details** | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Committee** | **Economic Development, Environment, Agriculture and Rural Development** | **Name of Department** | **Department of Agriculture and Rural Development** | |
| **Which Financial Year** | **2021/22** | **Dept. Budget Vote Nr.** | **11** | |
| **Which Imperative** | **Budget Annual Process** | **Hon. MEC** | **Parks Tau** | |
| **Committee Approvals** | | | | |
|  | **Name** | **Signed** | | **Date** |
| **Acting Hon. Chairperson** | **Mpapa Kanyane** |  | |  |
| **Adoption and Tabling** | | | | |
| **Date of Final Adoption by Committee** | | **Scheduled date of House Tabling** | | |
| Thursday, 17th March 2022 | | Thursday, 24th March 2022 | | |

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# ABBREVIATIONS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Abbreviation** | **Full Wording** |
| ARC | Agricultural Research Council |
| CASP | Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme |
| EXCO | Executive Council |
| GIFSS | Gauteng Integrated Food Security Strategy |
| GDARD | Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development |
| GDSD | Gauteng Department of Social Development |
| GPG | Gauteng Provincial Department |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| FIS | Focus Intervention Study |
| FY | Financial Year |
| PSOM | Public Service Oversight Model |
| NDP | National Development Plan |
| SOM | Sector Oversight Model |
| SOPA | State of the Province Address |
| TMR | Transformation, Modernisation and Re-industrialisation |

The Acting Hon. Chairperson of the Economic Development, Environment, Agriculture and Rural Development Portfolio Committee, Mr Mpapa Kanyane, tables the Portfolio Committee Focus Intervention Study Report emanating from the 21/22 Financial Year (FY) Annual process.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Committee embarked on a Focused Intervention Study focusing on ***“******Contribution of homestead food gardens towards food security in the Province”.***

The Bill of Rights claims that everyone has the right to sufficient food and water, it further emphasizes that the state must formulate reasonable legislative efforts and take other measures within its available resources to achieve the progressive realization of these rights (Financial Mail, 2020). The right to sufficient food in South Africa is enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South African, 1996.

In 2011, the Gauteng Food Summit identified the need for a provincial plan to coordinate and guide food security interventions beyond the Gauteng Integrated Food Security Strategy (GIFSS) and Food for All Roll-Out Plan.

In responding to that, the Department embarked on various programmes to address the broad food security problem in the province which include the Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP), Illima/Letsema and the Gauteng Mechanization Programme which is aimed at protecting the resource base and increasing productivity (GPG, 2010; GDSD, 2019). The Department is furthermore involved in specific food security projects that include Community Food Production Units, Homestead Food Garden Projects as well as School Food Garden Projects. The Homestead Food Gardens project was initiated in 2004 and aims at assisting communities to establish food gardens in the backyards in their homes in order to produce food, mainly for home consumption. The homesteads are supported with technical advice, training and production inputs such as garden tools, seeds, compost, watering cans and fertilizers.

It is the view of the Committee that some of the proposed food security strategies acknowledge the importance of interdepartmental collaboration and alignment but does not provide clarity on how this can be achieved. This lack of alignment contributes to food security initiatives that overemphasise increasing agricultural production. It is also the view of the Committee that there’s a need for greater understanding of the difficulties of food security at the national and provincial levels so that appropriate on‐the‐ground projects can be developed. Moreover, significant social, health, and economic effects of food insecurity and more financial resources are needed.

# INTRODUCTION

The Portfolio Committee embarked on a Focused Intervention Study and concentrated on ***“Contribution of homestead food gardens towards food security in the Province”.***

The purpose of the Focused Intervention Study (FIS) is to assist the Committee to be aware of concerns that are not satisfactorily addressed by the Department during the budget process for 2020/21 FY. The Portfolio Committee’s oversight role over the Executive is stipulated in the Constitution of the Republic of SA, 1996 (Act No. 108 of 1996) under Chapter 6: Provinces – Section 114, Section 115, Section 133(3) (b) and The Public Finance Management Act, 1999 Chapter 7, 65(1) (a) (Constitution of RSA. 1996). The Committee utilizes oversight visits as one of the tools over their respective votes on areas that seek in-depth consideration during the in-year monitoring system. The Executive Council (Exco) of the economic cluster committee identified the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD) as paramount in the execution of functions to contribute to the socio-economic development of the province through making contributions to 6 of the 10 Provincial Pillars deemed important by the Gauteng Provincial Government (GPG) for economic growth. These include amongst others the modernization of the economy and the reindustrialization of the City Region of Gauteng.

**The objectives of the FIS were as follows:**

The FIS aims at:

* Helping the Portfolio Committee in determining the extent of the Department’s interventions in addressing food security in the province,
* determining the needs and nature of support sought by beneficiaries to such programme to help them further in in realizing their livelihood,
* Engage the Department on interventions needed to help in addressing food insecurity,
* To evaluate effectiveness of policies aimed at aiding in addressing food insecurity in the province.

**Background on the Focused Intervention Study.**

The Executive Council (Exco) of the economic cluster committee identified the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD) as paramount in the execution of functions to contribute to the socio-economic development of the province through making contributions to 6 of the 10 Provincial Pillars deemed important by the Gauteng Provincial Government (GPG) for economic growth. These include amongst others safety, social cohesion and food security.

South Africa is a member state of the United Nations which made a universal call and committed to the Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015 to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030 (Food and Agriculture Organization - FAO, 2020). The member states set out to establish a collaborative partnership that sought to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what these could not achieve. They developed seventeen goals which would be achieved through collaborative partnership over a 15-year period and would culminate in 2030. Amongst these was Goal 2 which was premised on the need to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition as well as promote sustainable agriculture (FAO, 2020).

The right to sufficient food in South Africa is enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South African, 1996. The Bill of Rights postulates that everyone has the right to sufficient food and water and further emphasises that the state must formulate reasonable legislative efforts and take other measures within its available resources to achieve the progressive realisation of these rights (Financial Mail, 2020). The National Development Plan (NDP) serves as a blueprint for South Africa and has as its core focus, the development of agriculture to help in addressing food security in the country (NPC, 2011).

The NDP intends to realise a food surplus of which one third should be produced by small-scale farmers or households to ensure household food and nutrition security (Treasury, 2021). In pursuance of the realisation of this policy, cabinet mandated the Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries as one of two departments that would lead the implementation of the policy and support programmes that would ensure that South African Citizens are afforded agricultural opportunities that would help them towards realising their basic food needs (DAFF, 2011; DAFF, 2014). The Fetsa Tlala integrated food production initiative was launched by the government in 2013 to promote food security and address the structural causes of food insecurity in order to eradicate hunger (Treasury, 2021).

In 2011, the Gauteng Food Summit identified the need for a provincial plan to coordinate and guide food security interventions beyond the Gauteng Integrated Food Security Strategy (GIFSS) and Food for All Roll-Out Plan. The Gauteng Provincial Government (GPG) set up the Gauteng 20-year F­­ood Security Plan following the revision of the (GIFSS) to ensure that the constitutional rights of Gauteng citizens to access food is realised (GPG, 2010).This programme is meant to run for 20 years and aims at addressing food insecurity in the province by helping in providing food for those who cannot provide for themselves as well as halving the 2011 food insecurity levels by 2030 (GPG, 2010; GDARD, 2021). A survey carried out by Statistics South Africa (StatsSA) in 2017, revealed that the food insecurity levels in Gauteng households are the highest in the country and stand at 25,2% (StatsSA, 2019).

The Department embarked on various programmes to address the broad food security problem in the province which include the Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP), Illima/Letsema and the Gauteng Mechanization Programme which all aimed at protecting the resource base and increasing the productivity (GPG, 2010; GDSD, 2019). The Department is involved in specific food security projects that include Community Food Production Units, Homestead Food Garden Projects as well as School Food Garden Projects.

The Homestead Food Gardens project was initiated in 2004 and aims at assisting communities to establish food gardens in their backyards in order to produce food, mainly for home consumption. The homesteads are supported with technical advice, training and production inputs such as garden tools, seeds, compost, watering cans and fertilizers. The target set for the number of homesteads for support is 1 830 and the number of homesteads that have benefitted thus far is 3 502.

# PROCESS FOLLOWED

In considering the FIS, the Committee undertook the following process:

* On the 15th of February 2022, the Portfolio Committee deliberated on the FIS topic, ***“Contribution of homestead food gardens towards food security in the Province”.***
* On the 3rd March 2022, the Department presented on the successes and failures, including remedial actions which address ***“Contribution of homestead food gardens towards food security in the Province”.***

* On the 17th March 2022, the Committee deliberated and adopted the Focused Intervention Study Report emanating from the Budget Report process of 21/22 FY. The report was submitted to the Proceedings Unit for tabling and consideration by the House.

# COMPLIANCE AND QUALITY

In relation to compliance, the Department was requested to submit and make presentations to the Committee. In addition, the Committee embarked on the Focused Intervention Study process in accordance with the Sector Oversight Model and the Gauteng Provincial Legislature Standing Rules of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature.

# OVERSIGHT ON STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The Committee noted that the Department's focus is on harnessing and maximising the economic potential of the province's agricultural sector and ensuring food security for all. Moreover, Agriculture has been identified as one of the province's eleven key economic sectors. Nationally, the sector is set to create one million jobs by 2030. The department will ensure that the sector is involved with all interventions to radically transform, modernise and reindustrialise Gauteng. The sixth administration has further adopted a ten-pillar programme of radical transformation, modernization, and reindustrialization of Gauteng.

The Department of Agriculture and Rural development would respond to five of the programme’s nine pillars;

* Pillar 1: Radical Economic Transformation;
* Pillar 2: Decisive Spatial Transformation;
* Pillar 3: Accelerated Social Transformation;
* Pillar 6: Modernization of the Economy; and
* Pillar 7: Modernization of Human Settlements and Urban Development.

The Gauteng Provincial Legislature’s oversight methodology stipulates that when analysing the budget, the variables of the Sector Oversight Model (SOM) must be considered. Given that SOM variables are interrelated, this means that priorities, inputs (capital and current), outputs and outcomes should be considered. The Committee notes that some of the core areas of responsibility and functions of the Department remain unchanged, such as the **agricultural development and food security**. However, the strategic approach to these functions changes with more emphasis being placed on supporting and consolidating the socio-economic growth and development potential within these functional areas of responsibility.

The strategic plan will further communicate the Department’s commitment to develop and implement focused and strategic interventions that directly contribute to radical transformation, modernisation and reindustrialisation of the Gauteng’s economy; guide strategic and project related decision-making, activities and performance required of the Departments staff; ensure transparency, accountability and efficient management of resources in line with the Department’s priorities; facilitate stakeholder collaboration; and actively subscribe to the principle of continuous improvement.

# OVERSIGHT ON COMMITTEE FOCUS AREA

The intention of the FIS was to measure the inputs against the outcomes that the Department had reported. The Committee engaged with the Department on the following issues.

***“******Contribution of homestead food gardens towards food security in the Province”.***

The Committee convened a meeting with the Department wherein a presentation was considered. The purpose of the presentation was to explain the project/s from conceptualization to rollout as well as the main findings drawn from the project. The Committee noted the following outcomes from the presentation.

* The Department indicated that the origination of Food Security Programmes are primarily aimed at alleviating hunger and poverty in the Province through agricultural initiatives. The Programmes targets the most vulnerable women, children, unemployed youth, military veterans and people living with disabilities. The Food Security Plan, therefore, sets out a portfolio of targeted strategic programmes to address food insecurity in the province in a comprehensive way, reducing the levels of hunger and inadequate access to food by 2030.
* The plan presents a portfolio of programmes required to provide food for those who cannot provide for themselves, protect those who are food insecure or experiencing a deeper level of deprivation and present sustainable livelihood options to stimulate economic growth and increase individual purchasing power. The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development maintains and encourages that communities should produce safe and sufficient food at all times for themselves and their own families.
* Based on the survey conducted with the Agricultural Research Council (ARC), the findings concluded that the homestead food garden programme is an important intervention with great potential to further benefit Gauteng Province’s households. The survey found that the programme has some challenges but is benefitting households in a number of ways: households were receiving seed starter packs and tools and using these resources to grow food which is augmenting households’ nutritional intake and in some cases, their income.

The following are the food security programmes implemented in the Department for food security and poverty alleviation:

* Community Food Production Units
* Household Food Garden Projects
* School Food Garden Projects
* Clinics and some churches

**Homestead Food Garden Projects**

The Homestead Food Garden Projects are one of the programs supported by government which attempts to alleviate poverty in food insecure households. The basic aim of the initiative is to teach people to grow vegetables and fruit trees on their homestead land in order to supplement daily food requirements, secure extra income and where possible offer one or two people employment opportunities. Beneficiaries receive some training in the practice of vegetable production as well as starter packs. Training lasts 3 working days. After successful participation in the training programme, starter packages are given to the participants. Packages include a spade, fork, rake, hand hoe, two 30 cm3 bags of compost, a 10-l watering can and six types of seeds (spinach 10 g, beetroot 10 g, onion 7 g, carrot 8 g, beans 15 g, and tomato 2.5 g). Only one starter pack per household is given, even if more than one person from a household participates in the training programme. Beneficiaries of the programme attend meetings with the local leadership (ward councilors, ward committees, etc.) and the programme implementers in order to discuss the sustainability of the programme. Public meetings are also held to explain the benefits of the programme to community members and to motivate people to participate in the programme.

**The Community projects**

The community projects are intended to contribute to the mitigation of household level food insecurity through the production of food, through agricultural means and primarily for own consumption. The community food production units is an initiative targeted at groups of beneficiaries. The project address poverty in the communities amongst the most vulnerable, namely the elderly, women, youth, People Living with Disabilities, unemployed, and Military Veterans in Gauteng’s urban and peri-urban areas.

**i.e Orange Farm and Sicelo Shiceka food security project**

* The Department reported that they supported the project with Marine containers to be used as storeroom for implements, garden tools, production inputs in Orange Farm. Due to unavailability of electricity, the project with borehole drilling could not materialize. The Department further provided production inputs such as spade, forks rakes, handles, watering cans, composts, fertilizers and seeds to 300 household of Sicelo Shiceka settlement since 2009 to date.

**School Food Garden Project**

The Department’s School Food Garden Project is primarily established in order to address hunger and food insecurity in identified vulnerable schools within Gauteng’s urban and peri-urban areas through production of vegetables to supplement the School Nutrition Program, making available essential nutrients in school meals. If there are more produce, some of them can be given to the vulnerable learners and /or sold to generate income for the sustainability of the project. The project targets vulnerable non-fee paying schools that have school feeding programme although fee paying schools can also be considered if resources allow.

**Successful food Gardens**

The primary objective of establishing and operating community food gardens in townships is to supplement food supplies and to reduce the cost of household food supplies. However, the studies revealed that the gardeners sometimes produce surplus produce that is sold to generate income that is used, in turn, to buy other basic foodstuffs. Projects such as Perseverance in Orange farm and Poortjie Yyouth sells their produce to Boxer and Pick n pay Supermarkets. The Hammanskraal case demonstrates that food gardens are potentially an effective tool for coming against the food shortages and income problems that confront many South African households. Food gardens are very useful in subsidizing the food basket of many households in the townships and this is a very important contribution, especially against the backdrop of skyrocketing food prices.

**Challenges reported by the Department:**

* **Finance:** The most urgent support concerns the financing and sourcing of equipment required for use in community food gardens.
* **Availability of Land for production purposes**
* **Infrastructure Support:** Delays in terms of infrastructure support such as boreholes, irrigation systems, fencing, hydroponic tunnels etc.
* **Turnaround times on Mechanisation Support –** the Departmentonly has few tractors to support the food security program and this results in gardeners complaining about tractor services. More tractors are being procured to service the farmers
* **Lack of capacity to maintain this garden:** Efforts should focus on creation of awareness on the importance of learners involvement in garden activities, and to change the perceptions of parents on gardening.
* **Water:** The use of Municipal water for irrigation purpose is not sustainable, boreholes that are solar powered must be drilled and equipped for food gardens. New boreholes must also be registered with the Department of Water and Sanitation.
* **Monitoring and evaluation** remains a key challenge and an investment in continued training and follow-up with households could significantly increase the sustainability of gardens, and thus the food security, health, and economic benefits of households.
* The survey established that some households are still gardening but the sustainability of the gardens can be improved by: A regular water supply, environmentally friendly soil improvement techniques and pest control;
* Involvement and participation of the community in homestead programme design, implementation and evaluation (two-way channels for information exchange is instrumental for achieving sustainable, improved gardening practices)
* Nutrition education within the gardening activity and monitoring is critical as it serves as a tool for ensuring that activities are carried out as planned and to improve performance as required.

**Remedial Actions on the challenges**

* The Department has appointed DBSA to assist with the drilling and equipping of boreholes and construction of irrigation infrastructure.
* The Department needs to partner with other stakeholders to leverage resources for the requisite production inputs and infrastructure.
* More investments can be directed towards acquiring land for food gardening and liaising with local schools’ governing bodies, clinics, churches and government offices to allow participants to initiate gardens on their premises
* The Department procured 9 more tractors to support the food gardens program.
* The Department introduced EPWP programme to school food gardens to assist with maintenance of school food gardens.
* The Department and partners need to assist schools; community; church gardens with Rainwater harvesting systems and boreholes to address the water challenge
* A systematic approach is needed for institutionalizing and sustaining food gardens. For the food gardens to thrive and sustain a high level of productivity, it is critical that training, gardening equipment and technical advice and support be provided
* Strengthening of gardening activities and integration thereof into the curriculum and other school activities is needed to encourage planting of vegetables and/or fruit for home consumption.
* To ensure that schools have the capacity to do this, education material needs to be developed and teachers need to be trained in gardening.
* Efforts should focus on creation of awareness on the importance of learners involvement in garden activities.

**Committee Observations**

**Roof top food gardens**

* The Department should consider utilizing rooftop buildings (private and governments buildings) for food gardens. The use of roof tops offers countless benefits, including money-saving opportunities, reduced roof maintenance, and added energy efficiency. **Apart from the decorative benefit, roof garden serves the purpose of providing architectural enhancement, temperature control, recreational opportunities, habitats for wildlife and food.** This type of urban agriculture also assists in addressing the diverse goals of urban sustainability, including food security, food equity, efficient food supply chains, stormwater management, mitigation of urban heat island effects, and waste management using compostable waste.

**Bees - partnering with NGO's more jobs create green economy**

* The concept of Bees project is vital for the preservation of ecological balance and biodiversity in nature. As bees provide one of the most recognisable ecosystem services, i.e. pollination, which is what makes food production possible. By doing so, they protect and maintain ecosystems as well as animal and plant species and contribute to genetic and biotic diversity. By observing the development and health of bees, it is possible to ascertain changes in the environment and implement the necessary precautionary measures in time.

**School food gardens**

* The Committee noted that a total of 89 school gardens were supported, which is minimal as compared to the number of schools that the Province has. The Committee believes that school food gardens play an important role in teaching learners about gardening concepts and skills with the aim of increasing home production for household food and nutrition security. Special schools should also be considered as agriculture is part of their educational subject. The Committee further proposes that the Department collaborate with the Department of Education to consider including Agricultural education in the curriculum at and to teach students both the theory and practical aspect of agriculture.
* It is the view of the Committee that learners should be involved in the management of school gardens, as part of their agricultural trainings.

**Converting illegal dumping site to food hubs**

* The Department should consider the initiative to encourage communities to turn illegal dumpsites into food gardens. Turning illegal dumping sites into community gardens can have positive spin offs to the members of the community. Food scarcity is a major challenge globally. The transformation of illegal dumping sides will further assist the community to maintain critical first line food hubs by providing fresh, organically, and locally grown vegetables, herbs and fruit to their communities.
* Moreover, the initiative to campaign against illegal dumping sites goes hand in hand with the recycling of waste as communities are encouraged to recycle more. Which will also have huge socio-economic benefits for Communities. In addition, waste management will create cleaner communities.

**Coloured communities must also be supported with food gardens.**

* The Department is encouraged to consider and support more coloured communities with food security programmes as they are a marginalized group that suffers from social or economic inequities.

**All military veterans across must be included in food security programmes**

# FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND IMPLICATIONS ON LAW MAKING

**Committee Findings**

The Committee undertook the oversight engagement noting reports and all other engagements with the Department during the in-year monitoring process. The intention of the Committee was to measure the inputs against the outcomes that the Department had reported on. The projects initiated by the Department were in respect of sustainable environmental management.

**Committee Concerns**

1. Unavailability of Land to be used for production purposes
2. Lack of capacity to sustain and maintain food security programmes that have already been implemented in the Department for food security and poverty alleviation
3. Lack of proposing more solutions on the contribution of homestead food gardens towards food security
4. Less effort on creation of awareness on the importance of learners’ involvement in garden activities.

**Committee Recommendations**

**The reports should be submitted to the Committee by the 6th of May 2022.**

**The Portfolio Committee recommends the following;**

Provide the Committee with a comprehensive report that will address the Committee’s concerns. The detailed report should include;

1. Status report on the measures in place to avail land to be used for production purposes
2. Plans taken to ensure that existing food security programmes are maintained and sustainable
3. Innovations and techniques that will assist and support the poorest households, support farmers’ livelihoods and most importantly, increase food security.
4. Awareness campaigns that will educate communities and leaners on the importance the involvement in garden activities.

**General Recommendation**

1. The Department to provide a report on collaborations in place with the Department of Education to support more schools in the Province with food gardens. The report should also give plans/proposals in place on how schools should consider including Agricultural education as a subject at school to teach students about agriculture, food and natural resources.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Portfolio Committee on Economic Development, Environment, Agriculture and Rural Development wishes to thank the MEC for Economic Development and Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr Parks Tau, the Head of Department, Ms M Gasela and her team of officials. The Acting Chairperson, Mr Kanyane Mpapa further wishes to acknowledge and express his gratitude to the Honourable Members of the Portfolio Committee on Economic Development, Environment, Agriculture and Rural Development Members Ms F Hassan, Mr L Makhubela, Ms B Mncube, Mr M Gana, Ms A Cilliers, Mr A Tshitangano, Mr J Hoffman, Mr D Adams. Further appreciation goes to the alternate Members of the Committee namely Members: Mr A Alberts, Ms Du Plessis and Ms B Badenhorst. It is an honour to lead such a hard-working team.Furthermore, the Portfolio Committee would like to express appreciation for the contribution of the following support staff members: Acting Group Committee Coordinator Mr T Skosana; the Committee Researchers Mr B Mabuza, Ms M Makhubele and Dr A Malapane, Senior Committee Coordinator Mr T Skosana, Committee Coordinator Ms L Mampe, Administrative Assistants; Ms N. Mngadi and Ms V Mokubetsi, Hansard Recorder Mr S Baloyi, Senior Information officer, Ms Azwinndini Netshivhuyu, Communications Officer; Mr Takalani Ndou, Service Officer Ms Busisiwe Nhlapo, and Public Participation Officer: Mr B Dhlomo for their dedication and commitment. Furthermore, the Portfolio Committee would like to express appreciation for the contribution of the following support staff members: Group Committee Coordinator Mr T Bodibe; the Committee Researchers Mr B Mabuza, Ms M Makhubele and Dr A Malapane, Senior Committee Coordinator Mr T Skosana, Committee Coordinator Ms L Mampe, Administrative Assistants; Ms N. Mngadi and Ms V Mokubetsi, Hansard Recorder Mr S Baloyi, Senior Information officer, Ms Azwinndini Netshivhuyu, Communications Officer; Mr Takalani Ndou, Service Officer Ms Busisiwe Nhlapo, and Public Participation Officer: Mr B Dhlomo for their dedication and commitment.

# ADOPTION

After due consideration the Economic Development, Environment, Agriculture and Rural Development Portfolio Committee unanimously adopted the FIS Report which report themed **“*Contribution of homestead food gardens towards food security in the Province”.***

In terms of Rule 117(2)(c) read together with Rule 165 the Committee presents to this House and recommends the adoption of the Committee’s Oversight FIS Report on ***“Contribution of homestead food gardens towards food security in the Province”.***