



CHIEF DIRECTORATE: STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

Private Bag X250, PRETORIA, 0001 • Tel.: +27 12 319 7319 • Fax 012 319 6681 Private Bag X9087, CAPE TOWN, 8000 • Tel.: +27 21 467 4502 • Fax 021 465 6550 • Web: www.dalrrd.gov.za

MEDIA STATEMENT

**THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
SUSPENDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRESIDENTIAL EMPLOYMENT STIMULUS (PES)
VOUCHERS WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT**

13 JANUARY 2022

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) wishes to inform subsistence farmers who are beneficiaries of the Presidential Employment Stimulus (PES) vouchers of the decision to suspend all PES implementation with immediate effect until further notice. The department is reviewing, reengineering and redesigning PES implementation, to address all challenges experienced.

It is unfortunate that the department has received endless complaints from the PES beneficiaries and the South African community at large, regarding various challenges on the PES implementation. These implementation challenges cannot be left unattended, hence the decision by the department to temporarily halt the current implementation.

Beneficiaries are further urged to check their cell phones' messages as sent by the department from time to time.

The department had issued production input vouchers in support of subsistence producers, as part of the Presidential Employment Stimulus (PES) in South Africa.

For technical enquiries contact:

Mr Molatelo Mamadi on 060 972 9920 or email MolateloMAM@dalrrd.gov.za

Mr Qeda Nyoka on 072 197 9486 or email QedaN@dalrrd.gov.za

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Issued by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:

- Media Liaison Officer and Spokesperson: Mr Reggie Ngcobo, 066 2980980, MLO.Minister@dalrrd.gov.za
- Eviction Toll-free Number 0800 007 095

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