FACT SHEET
Rural Sport Improvement Programme

WHAT IS RURAL SPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME:
Programme is the brain child of the Minister of Sport and Recreation launched back in May 2016 in Mthatha with the objective of reviving sport and unearthing talent in rural areas with special focus on areas that are under the Traditional Authorities and farms.

WHAT IS THE PROGRAMME AREA OF FOCUS?
Develop sport and unearth talent in all Provinces and Traditional Councils with primary focus placed on Farming communities under the guidance of the National House of Traditional Leaders. Rural Sport Development Programme focuses on four sporting codes which are: Football, Netball, Rugby and Athletics.

DESIRED OUTCOME
To ensure that rural farms/communities are equally exposed to sport development and are granted the same resources as urban or semi urban communities.
To further ensure that resources are made available to all rural communities where they can be able to nature and develop sport.
To further widen the pool of sport development and broaden the search for sport talent.
The Aim of the programme is to revive sport and unearth talent in the rural areas. Provinces and Traditional Councils/ Farming communities are therefore to be utilised as vehicle in achieving the desired outcome.

WHO ARE THE TARGET AUDIENCE / PARTICIPANTS?
All learners from rural schools throughout nine provinces, with special focus on learners and schools that are under Traditional Authorities and farms.

WHAT ARE STAKEHOLDERS TO THE EVENT?
Department of Sport and Recreation South Africa (Custodian of the event)
Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs,
The National House of Traditional Leaders,
Provincial Departments responsible for sport and recreation National and Provincial Federations District and Local Municipalities Provincial Academics of Sport.

WHERE IS EVENT LOCATION?
The mini events take place throughout the season at various rural schools, clubs and farms that falls under traditional authorities’. This process then serves as build up to the major event that place in July in Mthatha serving as national championship.

WHAT ARE EVENT LOGISTICS?
Approximately 350 athletes and coaches from various provinces rural farms and communities take part in the finals of this event. Teams are selected from various preliminary games that happen throughout the year in all provinces farming communities.

Two traditional / farming communities are selected to compete amongst each other with the focus on 4 sporting codes (Rugby, soccer, athletics, netball).
The overall winners during preliminary games are then selected to take part in the Rural Development Games National Championships

The finals take’s part in Mthatha where all winners from various provinces converge to compete for the ultimate price.

Ultimate Winners of the games stand a chance to walk away with a multipurpose sport complex which will be utilised ultimately as the hub for sport development.

TO DATE WHO ARE TRADITIONAL COUNCILS THAT HAVE TAKEN PART IN THE GAMES?
To date the programme had touched over 7000 members which includes members of the community attending various events.
Sokhulumi & AmaNdebele-ba-Lebelo Councils, Central Karoo and West Coast farms, Mbuyane and Msoqwaba Councils, Moleli and Bakone Ba Seopela Councils, Mnqobokazi and Mdumezulu Councils, Bahlaping a Thaganyane & Bahlaping a Jantjie, Batlokwa ba Mokotlieng and Bakoena ba Mopeli Councils, Siphaqeni Traditional Council and Nqadu Traditional Council