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Media Statement

25 October 2023

## **THE FREE STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT OBSERVES WORLD FOOD DAY IN THABO MOFUTSANYANA DISTRICT**

The Free State MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development Mr. Saki Mokoena will lead the Provincial World Food Day celebrations, under the theme ***“Water is life, Water is food.....Leave no one behind”***.

World Food Day is an annual event observed on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October globally. During this time international agencies, various local organisations and governments are called to actively participate and contribute to making the program a success. Millions of people around the world cannot afford a healthy diet, putting them at high risk of food insecurity and malnutrition.

According to statistics released by the Census 2022 13.8 percent of all households in the country are involved in agricultural activities at household level, of which 6.2 percent of that are households in the Free State who are producing mainly for consumption.

The main challenge is access and availability nutritious food which is increasingly impeded by multiple challenges including, rising food prices, climate change and inequality amongst others.

Amongst the activities of the day, include a 3 kilometre Alliance Walk from Makeneng Shopping Complex. The walk is to highlight the plight of the



vulnerable groups. Various stakeholders and community members can take part in the walk and pledge their support and what they can contribute towards food security. Equipment and agricultural inputs will be handed over to beneficiaries at the Kgora Namahadi Community Development Centre and the Phutha Seatla Weso Primary Co-op.

More than 150 beneficiaries will be supported with food parcels from a food mountain that will be established as part of marking World Food Day and the plight of the poor.

The event will be held under the following details:

Date: 26 October 202

Venue: Mookodi Secondary School, Makeneng Village, Qwaqwa.

Time: 09:00

For further enquiries kindly contact,

Ms. Zimasa Mbewu

060 976 8683