



SECOND ADJUSTMENTS BUDGET **SPEECH 2025/26**

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MEC for Finance
11 March 2026

Mpumalanga, a Province that works for all



provincial treasury
MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



- Chief Whip of the Majority Party, Honourable Eva Makhabane and the leader of the official opposition
- Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Finance, Honourable Cathy Dlamini
- Colleagues in the Executive Council and Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature
- Former MEC for Finance in the first administration, Mr Bushang Modipan
- Director-General, Head Official, and all Heads of Department
- Chairperson of the House of the Traditional and Khoi San Leadership, Kgoshi Lameck Mokoena
- Leadership of the Governing Party, African National Congress and Alliance Partners, SACP, COSATU and SANCO.
- The leadership of Business, Organised Labour, Youth and Women formations and Civil Society
- Citizens of Mpumalanga

Honourable Speaker,

We table this budget in the aftermath of the natural disaster that swept through our province earlier this year.

These events reminded us, once again, of the vulnerability of our province and the profound impact such disasters have on the lives of our people and business community.

I would like to extend our sincere sympathies to all who were affected. Our thoughts and prayers remain with you.

Indeed, in times of adversity, unity and solidarity must be our guiding principles as citizens of this great Province.

I would also like to express our deepest appreciation to neighbours, provincial disaster management teams, the South African Police Service, civil society, and humanitarian organisations and business who joined hands to support communities during those difficult days.

As former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan once said: “A disaster response is not just about saving lives in the immediate aftermath; it is about building resilience and ensuring that the state stands ready to protect its people in times of need.”

This sentiment captures the spirit in which we present this second adjustments budget for the provincial administration.

Role of the Budget

Honourable Speaker,

The authors of the Public Finance Management Act understood that a budget is more than a financial instrument. It is a planning tool that enables orderly spending and targeted intervention when a need arises.

The legislation permits adjustments to the budget, provided specific conditions are met. The classification of a National Disaster, following the severe weather and flooding in January 2026, is one such condition.

Changes to the Provincial Fiscal Framework

The Honourable Premier Mandla Ndlovu, in his State of the Province Address, reminded us of the immense work being undertaken to respond to the recent natural disaster.

We acknowledge, with deep humility, that the scale of the damage is vast and demands substantial resources. The budget shortfall runs into billion.

To respond to some of these unfortunate occurrences, the Provincial Adjustments Budget is increased by R49 million—from R68 billion 231 million 091 thousand to R68 billion 280 million 091 thousand - for the year ending 31 March 2026.

The total budget for all departments, except Education, Health, and Public Works, Roads and Transport, remains as tabled before this House in November last year.

Education Sector

The Second Adjustments Appropriations Bill allocates R12 million for disaster-damaged schools, increasing the budget of the Department of Education from R29 billion 184 million 153 thousand to R29 billion 196 million 153 thousand.

These funds will be directed to schools affected by the recent heavy rains, that is, Somcuba Primary, Thabakgolo Primary, and Molele High School.

Public Works, Roads and Transport

The Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport receives R29 million towards repairing flood-damaged road infrastructure. This increases the departmental budget from R6 billion 353 million 748 thousand to R6 billion 382 million 748 thousand.

Health Sector

An additional R8 million is allocated to the Department of Health to begin renovations at Themba Hospital. Accordingly, the budget increases from R20 billion 435 million 986 thousand to R20 billion 443 million 985 thousand in the current financial year.

Building Resilience

Honourable Speaker and Members,

In the face of adversity, we are called not only to rebuild infrastructure, but to restore hope.

We are encouraged by the fact that departments reached out to their constituents, stakeholders, and sectors with targeted interventions and support within the current baselines.

We extend a call to the private sector to join us in rekindling the spirit of humanity and selflessness that has always defined South Africans in times of such as the ones we experienced recently.

We remain committed to a comprehensive climate change adaptation strategy that aims to mitigate future risks, safeguard vulnerable populations, and enhance our overall preparedness.

The Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs has initiated a responsive strategy for disaster which we fully support. We must continue investing in sustainable solutions that not only address immediate needs but also build resilience of public infrastructure for the future

The Provincial Treasury will continue to review the redistribution of provincial receipts, within our fiscal capacity, to support disaster recovery and rebuilding efforts in our communities. This however will require tough but necessary decisions that prioritise human life and the economic prosperity of all above everything else.

Conclusion

In times of disasters, we must ensure that every rand is utilised effectively to maximise its impact on society.

We call on the administration to continue exercising prudent financial management and ensure that every expenditure provides lasting value for citizens.

Honourable Speaker,

I hereby table the Second Adjustments Appropriations Bill, together with the Updated Adjusted Estimates of Provincial Revenue and Expenditure for 2025/26 for consideration. I thank you.