

SASAE CENTRAL BRANCH

Bulletin

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South African Society
For Agricultural Extension
Central Branch



CENTRAL BRANCH SYMPOSIUM 2025

Theme: "Extension Strategies that respond to the effect
of Climate Change on Food Security"

ALL ROADS LED TO KNOWLEDGE SHARING AT THE CENTRAL BRANCH SYMPOSIUM

North-West (Rosewood Country Lodge, Rustenburg): The SASAE Central Branch Symposium was successfully held in the North-West Province on the 4-5 September 2025 bringing together Extension Professionals, academics, and extension practitioners across the four provinces (North-West, Gauteng, Limpopo, Mpumalanga).



Registration: Outgoing CB Committee Members

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The event kicked off with the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the 4th of September 2025, where members gathered to review branch activities and elected the new executive committee, setting a fresh direction for the Central Branch.

The AGM opened with welcoming remarks by the former Chairperson, Mr. Sydney Nengudza, followed by presentations of Need Analysis, Financial and Branch reports. Discussions focused on reviving the branch, including a call to review the constitution.

There was as a discussion on how to resuscitate the branch and call for the review of the Constitution. The outgoing Chairperson reflected on the journey of the Central Branch, noting both the progress made and challenges faced. He highlighted achievements such as the initiation of webinars and stronger collaboration with institutions of high learning.

He called for continued unity and the strengthening of sub-structures to ensure branch activities reach all members. In closing, he thanked the outgoing committee and partners for their support during his tenure.



Outgoing CB Chairperson: Mr. Sydney Nengudza

The Outgoing Treasurer, Mr. Timothy Mabuza presented the financial report, outlining income generated for the financial year 2024/25 as well as the expenditure on branch activities, symposium logistics, etc.

He emphasized the importance of financial discipline and sustainability, noting that while branch remains financially stable, there is a need to expand revenue streams to support future programs.



Outgoing CB Treasurer: Mr. Timothy Mabuza.

The last item on the agenda of the AGM was election of office bearers. The following members were elected by the SASAE members:

- Chairperson- Mr Mpho Tlape (GP)
- Vice Chairperson- Ms Ruth Chepape (GP)
- Secretary- Ms Petunia Magolela (MP)
- Two additional Members- Mr Sibusiso Mlimo (NW) and Mr Mduduzi Shongwe (MP).



Committee Photo



From left From left to right: Mr Sibusiso Mlimo Ms. Pertunia Magolela, Mr Mpho Tlape, Ms. Ruth Chepape, Mr. Mduduzi Shongwe.

After the election the committee was welcomed, and the new chairperson addressed the delegates and shared his gratitude and his goals for the central branch.



Program director: Ms. Tshegofatso Mosadi.

The symposium provided a platform for knowledge sharing, collaboration, and strengthening the role of agricultural extension in responding to climate changes.

It featured keynote addresses, panel discussions, and interactive session on extension strategies and plans in communities, extension model, capacity building and farmer training, land use management as well as climate smart technologies to combat food security issues on the ground.



Panel Members.

A panel discussion was moderated by Dr MB Matiwane with Prof OD Olorunfemi, Prof RH Khwidzhili, Dr D Mohono, Dr C Tshwene, Ms T Ngotho and Mr J Ngaka as panelists.



Dr. Matiwane: Panel discussion moderator

Dr I Agholor (Senior Lecturer from UMP) gave a keynote address, and his emphasis was on capacity building.



Dr I Agholor.

Highlights of the event included engaging presentations from NEASA Winner, Ms K Mphofu, LDARD; Settlers High School project; Dr N Malahlela, 58th Conference Best Scientific Paper; on evaluating the impact of social capital on household food security in Limpopo province and two Extension Success Stories by Mr O Molaolwa on Master Chick Group (NW DARD) and Mr M Mapogoshe (NW DARD) on Vukani piggery.



NEASA Winner, Ms K Mphofu



Dr N Malahlela: 58th Conference Best Scientific Paper



Prof Zwane receiving the Recognition Excellence Award.

EXTENSION AWARD

The Central Branch proudly introduced the Recognition of Excellence Award, a concept dedicated to celebrating legends who have made outstanding contributions to agricultural extension and to our organization.

This year, we had the privilege of honoring Prof. Zwane, a true pioneer whose impact and dedication continue to inspire both seasoned professionals and the younger generation. The handing-over of the award was a deeply emotional and memorable moment, as Prof Zwane reflected on his invaluable service, leadership, and passion for advancing the extension profession.



Prof Zwane greeting the delegates.

Message of support by the SASAE President:

Mr M. Mdladlamba

The president acknowledged the new committee and introduced the board members sitting on the national SASAE board. Ms. Tshegofatso Mosadi (Secretary) Ms. Lethabo Mashamaite (Treasurer) and Mr. Jabulani Mokoena (Stakeholder Relations).

He highlighted how rich Central Branch is to have four (4) previous presidents and congratulated the branch to keep up the great work. He also informed the delegates about his communications that he had with different stakeholders in the branch to bring them forward in supporting the agricultural extension sector.



National Sasae Board Members. From Left: Mr Mdladlamba, Ms. Tshegofatso Mosadi, Ms. Lethabo Mashamaite.

Newly Elected Chairperson Address

In his inaugural address, the newly elected Chairperson emphasized that “we are not in business to compete, but to complement each other. Therefore, we cannot leave you behind, we cannot leave anyone relevant behind”. He outlined a clear call to action for the Central Branch: Re-engineering, Revamping, and Rebuilding.



SASAE President: Mr Mdladlamba



Mr Mpho Tlape: Newly elected CB Chairperson.

His priorities for the term include:

- Broad consultation with members
- Reviewing the constitution
- Driving membership growth
- Establishing SASAE provincial structures
- Ensuring financial growth
- Strengthening the use of webinars for knowledge sharing

He encouraged everyone to rally behind the new leadership, expressing confidence that the committee will make a meaningful impact. The Chairperson closed the symposium with heartfelt thanks to all participants for their support and commitment to the branch.

The Central Branch expresses its gratitude to North-West Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, all participants, speakers, and supporting institutions who made this event a success. By coming together, the members of SASAE continue to strengthen the agricultural extension profession and inspire the next generation of extension practitioners. As the Central Branch, we remain committed to building strong networks, promoting innovation, and creating opportunities for professional growth in agricultural extension.



CENTRAL BRANCH SYMPOSIUM 2025 PICTURES



The background of the page is a photograph of lush green plants with broad leaves and small white flowers. The image is split vertically: the left half is faded and serves as a backdrop for the text, while the right half is in sharp focus, showing the texture of the leaves and the delicate structure of the flowers.

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