

## Moqekela heads off to Iceland



The LHDA SDE and CS Divisions hosted a mission of two delegates from the GRÓ – International Centre for Capacity Development, Sustainability and Societal Change based in Iceland, in January 2023.

During their visit, the GRÓ mission extended an invitation to establish a partnership with the LHDA. The invitation included that as a partner, eligible LHDA officials will be afforded an opportunity to participate in six-months' GRÓ training programmes held in Iceland. GRÓ LRT offers an intensive six-month postgraduate training programme on ecological restoration and sustainable management of ecosystems, custom-built for professionals in partner countries faced with severe land degradation. As a result of the partnership, MasetsabeloMoqekela (Biologist Terrestrial - Mohale Brach), will be representing the LHDA in a six-month training programme on ecological restoration and sustainable management of ecosystems.

The aim of the course is to provide participants with comprehensive knowledge, understanding and skills in the field of ecosystem restoration and sustainable land management. The course covers ecological theories and biophysical processes, principles and approaches in planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating projects and interventions, as well as the socio-economic context of ecological restoration and sustainable land management.

The LHDA recognized the substantial advantages that this program will bring, particularly considering the ongoing involvement in the implementation of the Integrated Catchment Management (ICM) Plan, which encompasses matters pertaining to ecological restoration, among others as directed by the LHDA 10 years Strategic Plan. The latest research and up-to-date information on land degradation recovery methods and related technologies will be valuable and add immensely to LHDA's quest to reverse land degradation in Lesotho, particularly in LHDA catchments.

Collaborating with other esteemed professionals during the programme will further contribute to LHDA's success and increase the network of all involved in this field.

