Chief Directorate: Spatial Planning and Land Use Management

224 Church Street, Capitol Towers, 0001; Private Bag X833, Pretoria, 0001 ; Tel (012) 312 9548, Fax (012) 323 6419; email: mfanafuthi.gama@drdlr.gov.za

DISTRICT RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

CARPRICORN DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

LIMPOPO PROVINCE

MARCH 2016

PREPARED BY: DITAU GEO-INFORMATICS SOLUTIONS
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1 SECTION ONE – BACKGROUND

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The District Rural Development Plan (DRDP) for Capricorn district seeks to contribute to the transformation of the rural economy. In many ways, the DRDP forms part of the implementation of the National Development Plan (NDP) as Chapter 6 of the NDP calls for a radical transformation of rural economies. Informing this call for economic transformation is the pressing need to address the persistent triple challenge of poverty, unemployment and socio-economic inequalities in Capricorn as well as other rural districts identified as priority intervention areas.

The DRDP forms part of a range of strategic spatial planning instruments and other sectoral plans aimed at transforming the apartheid space economy. In achieving the goal of economic inclusivity and transformation, agricultural development has been identified as one of the critical sectors that can unlock development. The appreciation of agricultural development in Capricorn and other rural municipalities should be located within an appreciation of the country’s agrarian transformation agenda. In other words, the development of an inclusive and competitive agricultural sector is informed by the appreciation of on-going land reform processes as well as land tenure systems that continue to evolve.

While agricultural development is important, the DRDP also takes into account contributions made by various sectors within the Capricorn region. These include:

- Mining;
- Manufacturing;
- Tourism (including cultural and eco-tourism); and
- Related Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sectors.

Thus, the diversification of the district’s economy is intrinsically dependent on the interplay between ‘sunset’ sectors (i.e., manufacturing and mining) as well as ‘sunrise’ sectors (particularly tourism and ICT related industries).

The objectives of the DRDP are to:

- improve competitiveness in the agriculture sector;
- promote the revitalisation of rural towns and villages;
- promote integrated human settlements;
- improve competitiveness in the tourism sector; and
- conserve the natural environment.
1.2 VISION FOR DISTRICT RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

All the strategic spatial plans as well as sectoral plans for Limpopo point to the fact that agriculture is at the heart of rural economic transformation. The Limpopo Development Plan (LDP) as well as the Agriculture Policy Action Plan (APAP) for instance, attests to the fact that rural areas are faced with the triple challenge of poverty, unemployment and lack of service delivery.

To this end, while acknowledging the uniqueness of Limpopo’s districts with regard to population dynamics and economic development, it should be noted that the aforementioned triple challenge cuts across all municipal boundaries. Moreover, all five of Limpopo’s districts (i.e., Capricorn, Sekhukhune, Mopani, Vhembe, and Waterberg) are characterised by the dominance of at least four economic sectors, namely agriculture, mining, tourism and manufacturing.

The vision for rural development can therefore be shared across these five districts as it is informed by national objectives as espoused in the NDP, CRDP, APAP and other related strategic initiatives and policies. Moreover, it emerged from the multi-stakeholder engagements that all of Limpopo's five district municipalities were predominantly rural. As such, issues of infrastructure provision, service delivery and harnessing of agricultural development, mining and tourism cut across all five district municipalities. While there exist district-specific nuances with regard to development priorities, a shared vision for rural development for all five district municipalities can be couched in one of the following ways:

**OPTION 1:** Limpopo Province should be characterised by sustainable, integrated, competitive and inclusive rural economies that fully benefit local communities. To this end, district municipalities should act as a nexus to ensure that the economic comparative advantage of each district is maximised.

**OPTION 2:** By 2050, all of Limpopo’s district municipalities should act as engines for rural economic, social, spatial and environmental transformation. This holistic rural transformation should be anchored on sound development planning principles underscored by environmental integrity, spatial justice and inclusive socio-economic development.

**OPTION 3:** By 2050, Limpopo District Municipalities should have a thriving economy, driven by agriculture, mining, tourism and service sectors. People residing within all district municipalities should have access to basic services and amenities, including housing, water, education and food security.

In realising the aforementioned vision(s), district municipalities in Limpopo would have to ensure that DRDPs are meaningfully aligned to existing district strategic spatial plans, notably...
the district Integrated Development Plans (IDPs).\(^1\) In the same vein, DRDPs should be viewed as complementing existing district plans, while at the same time anchoring rural development objectives as articulated at provincial and national levels of governance.

1.3 METHODOLOGY

This report was formulated through the distillation and synthesis of the following sources of information:

a) Existing strategic spatial planning instruments and initiatives located at provincial, district and local levels of government. These included the National Development Plan (NDP), Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP), Limpopo Development Plan (LDP), Agriculture Policy Action Plan (APAP), district and local Integrated Development Plans (IDPs), Local Economic Development (LED) strategies, Spatial Development Frameworks (SDFs) and other related sectoral plans.

b) Inputs and discussions from multi-stakeholder engagements. These included comments, concerns and insights from traditional leadership, political leadership, administrative leadership and officials from provincial and local spheres of government.

c) Using various data sets, spatial maps were generated to determine the following:

- Location of water, gas and electricity;
- Location of agricultural land;
- Spatial layout of towns and villages across the province;
- GVA contribution for mining and quarrying;
- GVA contribution from manufacturing;
- Accessibility index;
- Traditional authority land with high land capability; and
- State land with high land capability.

The analysis of strategic planning documents, maps and inputs from the stakeholders for each district were categorised and presented in a table format as strengths, opportunities, threats and weaknesses. Emerging from this synthesis was a synoptic situational analysis. The situational analysis will inform the strategic thrust and the implementation plan of the DRDPs.

\(^1\) The crystallisation of Limpopo’s rural development vision is informed by various vision statements embedded in a range of strategic spatial plans, notably district and local IDPs, SDFs and LED strategies.
1.4 DRDPS AND RURAL ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

From the discussions held with DRDLR and inputs emerging from multi-stakeholder engagements held in June 2015, it became apparent that DRDPs must put emphasis on agriculture as the cornerstone of rural economic transformation. This sentiment was echoed by the President of the country during his 2015 State of the Nation Address. Thus DRDPs must be characterised by the following:

- Emphasis on agriculture as the most critical sector that can transform rural economies: the presence of a vibrant and competitive agricultural sector plays an important role in generating and/or stimulating additional economic activities such as, food processing, agro-tourism and trade.

- Promoting agricultural businesses: these agri-businesses contribute immensely to economic growth and food security.

- Creation of sustainable jobs: agriculture is one of the major employers in all of Limpopo’s five district municipalities. It is imperative therefore for the DRDPs to ensure that all agricultural-based economic activities are optimally exploited.

- Promoting sector-specific, targeted funding and investment: sector specific strategies have a propensity of yielding high returns in investment. Leveraging the potential of agriculture therefore is likely to result in rural economic transformation.

1.5 RURAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

Rural development priorities are driven by the National Development Plan (NDP), the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) and Outcome 7 of the MTSF. Read together, these aforementioned strategic documents aim to revitalise rural economic life primarily through agriculture by:

- fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture and forestry in rural areas;
- enhancing competitiveness of all types of agriculture and enhancing farm viability;
- promoting food security and risk management in agriculture;
- restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems dependent on agriculture and forestry; and
- Promoting the green economy through resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors.

Rural development priorities are underscored by the realisation that in lagging regions, the agricultural sector is complimented by other primary industries such as mining, tourism, manufacturing and other labour intensive economic activities that can create employment for
semi-skilled and unskilled population groups. The unlocking of rural economic potential will be done through:

- fostering knowledge transfer and beneficiation in mining, manufacturing and tourism;
- mapping out the mining and manufacturing value chain;
- harnessing the capacity of the energy sector through diversification of energy resources;
- ensuring meaningful transformation and broad-based participation in the mining industry through empowering emergent black businesses in this sector; and
- ensuring that there is beneficiation within the mining and manufacturing sectors, leading to the improved quality of life for rural communities;

The unlocking and/or harnessing of economic potential of these sectors is envisioned to promote social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas. The DRDPs for Limpopo provide a unique platform and opportunity to support the sustainable management and optimal utilisation of natural resources; growth of rural business and; improvement of the well-being of rural communities. The DRDPs are designed to be innovative, adaptable and integrated with other strategic spatial plans as a means of ensuring maximum value from investments.

The identification of agri-business as a catalyst for revitalising rural economies does not neglect the vulnerability of this sector to climate change, drought as well as adverse global market forces. To this end, DRDLR and other departments responsible for rural development have put emphasis on non-agricultural sectors. DRDPs for Limpopo therefore will employ a targeted approach to key sunrise sectors, notably tourism, creative industries and the service sector. Such an approach will create opportunities for small businesses to collaborate with established ones and thus contribute to the growth of rural economies.

Investment in education as well as entrepreneurship also forms an integral part of the Limpopo DRDPs. The building of physical infrastructure such as road networks, the provision of decent housing, schools, hospitals and places of entertainment and socialisation has been identified by participants in DRDP formulation as pivotal in promoting rural development. Therefore, rural development is predicated not only on developing places, but also on people.

DRDPs will hence act as catalysts for transformational medium to long-term change, creating resilient rural economies based on sustainable development principles, notably, green growth.
1.6 PURPOSE OF DISTRICT RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR LIMPOPO

1.6.1 DRDP as an Instrument for Coordinating Rural Strategic Spatial Planning

DRDPs are envisioned to act as critical levers for coordinating strategic spatial planning, specifically in rural municipalities. From 2009 onwards, South Africa’s development planning praxis has been steered towards harnessing rural development. This deliberate focus on rural development stemmed from the state’s quest for transforming the apartheid space economy.

While Integrated Development Plans (IDPs) still remain the fulcrum of strategic spatial planning within the local government sphere, DRDPs are aimed at reinforcing strategic planning. Put succinctly, DRDPs will act as a platform for harnessing cross-sectoral development (Figure 1). Existing sector-specific planning instruments such as Local Economic Development Plans (LED), Spatial Development Frameworks (SDFs) and Agricultural development plans for instance, will find a more nuanced expression within DRDPs.

1.6.2 DRDPs as Rural Economic Transformation Instruments

As articulated above, DRDPs are viewed as strategic instruments for transforming the apartheid space economy. Informing this transformation is the identification of key levers of economic transformation; notably land reform, restitution and the identification of transformative economic sectors. In light of this, DRDPs have identified the agricultural sector as one of the key sectors with the potential to unlock integrated and inclusive rural economic development. To this end, the Department of Rural Development & Land Reform (DRDLR) has identified strategic sites for Agricultural Parks (Agri-Parks). Moreover, in the interest of promoting economic diversity and complexity, the DRDP’s will attempt to unlock other sectors such as tourism, mining and manufacturing in Limpopo.

FIGURE 1: DRDP IN CONTEXT

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1.6.3 Promoting Land Use Management & Productivity

Linked to the district RDPs’ objective of rural economic transformation is the promotion of optimal utilisation of land in rural areas. This is tied to the application of sound land-use management principles in rural areas. District RDPs therefore are envisioned to assist the State as well as other stakeholders operating within Limpopo’s development planning milieu to optimise land productivity. The optimal utilisation of land in rural areas takes into account a suite of other land uses i.e., economic, social, environmental as well as institutional factors.

1.6.4 Promoting Rural-Urban Functionality

DRDPs take into account existing as well as potential linkages and/or flows of an economic, social, institutional, cultural and environmental nature that promote regional (i.e., urban and rural) development. As the aforementioned factors coalesce and/or intersect, they result in the emergence of specific rural development trajectories. Thus, DRDPs take into account existing and potential development nodes emanating as a result of urban-rural linkages. Limpopo’s geospatial positioning for instance (i.e., its proximity to Gauteng, Mpumalanga and other neighbouring countries), renders it one of the most important sites for regional development.

1.6.5 Alignment of District Rural Development Plans with Existing Planning Instruments

In identifying rural development issues at district level, there is an acknowledgement of a range of strategic spatial plans, strategies and policy initiatives located within all three levels of government. These include: the National Development Plan (NDP), Agricultural Policy Action Plan (APAP), Limpopo Development Plan (2015-19) as well as District IDPs, LED strategies, SDFs and sector-specific plans. The directive from the DRDLR on the formulation of Agri-Parks for all economically distressed rural regions also informs the DRDP formulation process. The aforementioned plans and development initiatives clearly spell out the developmental vision of the state which then finds expression in provincial and subsequent district municipalities.

1.7 AGRI-PARK AS AN ANCHOR FOR AGRARIAN REFORM

The Capricorn DRDP is aimed at targeting specific sectors that will revitalise rural economies. As such, it is defined by sector-specific projects, thus acting as a critical platform for multi-sectoral programmes and projects. Some of the key areas of intervention that the DRDP will focus on include the establishment of Agri-Parks (AP) as a means of stimulating rural economic growth.

An Agri-Park is defined as a networked innovation system of agro-production, processing, logistics, marketing, and training and extension services located at district level. As a network,
it enables a market-driven combination and integration of various agricultural activities and rural transformation services. The AP comprises of three basic units:

- The Farmer Production Support Unit (FPSU) – this a rural outreach unit connected with the Agri-Hub. The FPSU does primary collection, storage, processing for the local market, and extension services including mechanisation;

- Agri-Hub Unit (AH) – this is a production, equipment hire, processing, packaging, logistics and training unit; and

- The Rural Urban Market Centre Unit (RUMC) – the RUMC has three main purposes;
  a) Linking and contracting rural, urban and international markets through contracts;
  b) Acts as a holding-facility, releasing produce to urban markets based on seasonal trends; and
  c) Provides market intelligence and information feedback, to the AH and FPSU, using latest Information and communication technologies.

Agri-Parks, therefore, are catalytic sites for agrarian reform. As a response to the National Development Plan’s (NDP) call for rural economic transformation, and Outcome 7’s emphasis on promoting food security through agrarian reform; Agri-Parks will act as agricultural industrial hubs. These hubs will be linked to existing rural villages and towns, providing key institutional, financial and spatial mechanisms for harnessing agro-related value chain belts and functional regions. Already, the government has set aside over R2 billion for kick-starting the Agri-Park programme across the country. The objectives of Agri-Parks are as follows:

- To promote growth of the smallholder sector by contributing to the 300 000 new small-scale producers, as well as to the 145 000 new jobs in agro-processing by the year 2020 (as set out in the NGP);

- To promote the skills of and support to small-holder farmers through the provision of capacity building, mentorship, farm infrastructure, extension services, production inputs and mechanization inputs;

- To enable producer ownership of the majority of Agri-Parks equity (70%), with the state and commercial interests holding minority shares (30%);

- To bring under-utilized land (especially Communal Land and Land Reform Farms) into full production over the next three years, and expand irrigated agriculture; and

- To contribute to the achievement of the NDP’s objective of fostering an inclusive rural economy and target of 1 million jobs created the agricultural sector by creating higher demand for raw agricultural produce, primary and ancillary inputs and generating increased downstream economic activities in the sector.
MAP 1: CAPRICORN AGRI-HUB AND FPSU
In Capricorn, the location for the Agri-Hub site has been identified in Ga-Poopedi. This hub will be supported by the FPSUs located in various parts of the district municipality. Within this Agri-Park the following activities will take place:

- **Knowledge Transfer & Innovation** – this will include development and training of farmers as well as people involved in agri-business, food and forestry sectors as well as agro-tourism. There will also be vertical and horizontal learning between emerging and established agri-business entrepreneurs. Agri-Parks will act as hubs for harnessing competitiveness, resource efficiency, and environmental consciousness of agricultural research centres and firms.

- **Advisory Services** – Agri-Parks will be centres of excellence where experts disseminate information related to markets, investments, funding and other agriculture-oriented modalities.

- **Cooperation** – there will be incubation of small-scale farmers as well as cooperatives within the district. This will allow for small-scale agri-business operators to forge a critical mass that would enable them to compete in both local and global markets.

- **Investment in Physical Assets** – the introduction of Agri-Parks in Limpopo will be accompanied by massive investments in physical infrastructure i.e., road, pack-houses, and other related supporting amenities. Tied to this is the provision of basic services such as water and electricity.

- **Agri-Business Development** – Agri-Parks will act as critical hubs for the identification and harnessing of agricultural belts as well as agricultural value-chains. The spin-offs from agri-business development will transform rural towns and villages into vibrant economies.
2 SECTION TWO – STUDY AREA

Capricorn District Municipality (CDM) consists of the following local municipalities: Aganang, Blouberg, Molemole, Lepelle-Nkumpi, and Polokwane. The district municipality is located between Gauteng and Northern areas in Limpopo and between the north-western areas and Kruger National Park. It covers an area of approximately 21,705 km² of the province, with Blouberg occupying the majority of the district’s area with 9,248 km², followed by Polokwane covering approximately 3,766 km², then Lepelle-Nkumpi covering about 3,463 km², Molemole 3,347 km² and Aganang being the smallest with approximately 1,881 km².

The district municipality has an airport and is linked to Gauteng via the N1. The district municipality’s strategic position is further bolstered by its proximity to Botswana, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Its locational positioning renders it one of the most functional gateways for regional (i.e., trans-border) development.
3 SECTION THREE – POLICY & LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

There are national, provincial and municipal policy frameworks in place that will influence and guide rural development planning for the Capricorn District Municipality. The national policy framework includes principles that underpin the rural development agenda, whilst the provincial policy framework translates this into an agenda for the Limpopo Province.

Capricorn District Municipality aligns with these policies at the municipal level and requires a District Rural Development Plan to further enable it to contribute to the achievement of targets and objectives outlined for the country and province, and to deal directly with economic development and job creation in the district.

3.1 NATIONAL POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

A review of the relevant national policies is outlined in the following sections, with a focus on those that have implications for rural development at the district level. The following documents are considered:

- National Development Plan ‘Vision 2030’ (NDP);
- The New Growth Path (NGP);
- Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF);
- Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP); and

3.1.1 National Development Plan 2030 (NDP)

The National Planning Commission was appointed in May 2010 by President Jacob Zuma to draft a vision and national development plan. The National Development plan is a framework that aims to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030. The plan outlines the challenges faced by South Africa in achieving this vision and sets out a holistic approach for its fulfilment.

This approach is based on six interlinked priorities, namely:

- Uniting South Africans around a common programme;
- Citizens actively engaged in their own development;
- Faster and more inclusive economic growth;
- Building capabilities;
- A capable and developmental state; and

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2 National Development Plan 2030
Leadership and responsibility throughout society.

The third priority – faster and more inclusive economic growth – is supported by plans to create an inclusive and integrated rural community. It is based on the premise that South Africa’s rural communities should have the opportunity to participate in the economic, social and political life of the country, with successful land reform, job creation and rising agricultural production contributing to the development of an inclusive rural economy.

With the overall objective being to create an additional 643 000 direct jobs and 326 000 indirect jobs in the agriculture, agro processing and related sectors by 2030 thereby placing agriculture as a driving force behind this priority.³

South Africa’s rural areas experience high levels of poverty and joblessness, with limited employment in agriculture. To address this, the NDP proposes a multifaceted approach:

- Creating more jobs through agricultural development, based on effective land reform and the growth of irrigated agriculture and land production;
- Providing basic services that enable people to develop capabilities to take advantage of opportunities around the country, enabling them to contribute to their communities through remittances and skills transfer; and
- Developing industries such as agro-processing, tourism, fisheries and small enterprises where potential exists.

The Capricorn District Rural Development Plan will align the Capricorn District Municipality to the National Development Plan and, by boosting investment in agriculture, play a key role in promoting this approach.

3.1.2 Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA)

The DRDP’s are guided by four principles of spatial planning as articulated in SPLUMA. These include spatial resilience, spatial justice, spatial equity and spatial transformation. SPLUMA also provides succinct guidelines on how spatial planning ought to be approached in all three spheres of government. It also seeks to transform the apartheid space economy towards a more integrated and equitable rural development planning.

3.1.3 New Growth Path (NGP)

The New Growth Path framework, although preceding the NDP, is twinned in its priorities for generating economic growth, alleviating poverty and inequality and promoting job creation. Its overarching objective is to create 5 million new jobs between 2010 and 2020⁴.

³ National Development Plan 2030
⁴ New Growth Path: Framework
According to the framework, achievement of this objective can be reached if there is a consistent focus on areas that have the potential for creating employment on a large scale. These areas are known as job drivers and include:

- Substantial public investment in infrastructure both to create employment directly, in construction, operation and maintenance as well as the production of inputs, and indirectly by improving efficiency across the economy;
- Targeting more labour-absorbing activities across the main economic sectors – the agricultural and mining value chains, manufacturing and services;
- Taking advantage of new opportunities in the knowledge and green economies;
- Leveraging social capital in the social economy and the public services; and
- Fostering rural development and regional integration.

In their application, these drivers must leverage and reinforce each other based on their inter-linkages.

The second job driver, which includes the agricultural value chain, is seen as a key priority for job creation in rural areas with opportunities for employment creation through smallholder schemes and the processing and sale of agricultural products. The Capricorn District Rural Development Plan, by focusing on inclusive agricultural projects that are spatially diverse will align itself closely with the New Growth Path.

3.1.4 Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) – 2014 to 2019

The Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) is the Government's strategic plan for the 2014-2019 electoral term. It reflects the commitments made in the election manifesto of the governing party, including the commitment to implement the NDP. The MTSF sets out the actions the Government will take and targets that need to be achieved. It also provides a framework for the other plans of the national, provincial and local governments.

The MTSF is structured around 14 priority outcomes, which cover the focus areas identified in the NDP. These are made up of the 12 outcomes, which were the focus of the 2009-2014 administration, as well as two new outcomes (covering social protection, nation-building and social cohesion). The outcomes are as follows:

1. Quality basic education;
2. A long and healthy life for all South Africans;
3. All people in South Africa are and feel safe;
4. Decent employment through inclusive growth;

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5 Medium Term Strategic Framework 2014-2019
5. A skilled and capable workforce to support an inclusive growth path;
6. An efficient, competitive and responsive economic infrastructure network;
7. Vibrant, equitable, sustainable rural communities contributing towards food security for all;
8. Sustainable human settlements and improved quality of household life;
9. Responsive, accountable, effective and efficient local government;
10. Protect and enhance our environmental assets and natural resources;
11. Create a better South Africa and contribute to a better Africa and a better world;
12. An efficient, effective and development-oriented public service;
13. A comprehensive, responsive and sustainable social protection system; and

In its focus on these priorities, and their elaboration into fourteen key outcomes and associated activities and targets, the MTSF has two overarching strategic themes – radical economic transformation and improving service delivery.

The outcomes of the MTSF are directly translated into the Limpopo Development Plan.

3.1.5 Comprehensive Rural Development Programme Framework (CRDP) – 2009

The Comprehensive Rural Development Programme Framework (CRDP) forms part of government’s Medium Term Strategic Framework and is aimed at being an effective response against poverty and food insecurity that will maximise the use and management of natural resources to create vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities. This comprises three distinct components namely:

- Coordinated and integrated broad-based agrarian transformation;
- Strategically increasing rural development; and
- An improved land reform programme.

Agrarian transformation is characterised as a rapid fundamental change in the relationship between land, livestock, cropping and the community. It focuses on, amongst others, initiatives that support the establishment of rural business initiatives, agro-industries, cooperatives and the empowerment of rural people and communities.

Rural development is about enabling rural people to take control of their destiny, thereby dealing effectively with rural poverty through the optimal use and management of natural resources. Land reform is a national priority and is further entrenched in Section 25 (4) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act No.108 of 1996).

6 The Comprehensive Rural Development Programme Framework - July 2009
The Capricorn DRDP will provide a detailed program for the implementation of agrarian transformation in the district which will be aimed at stimulating agricultural production and bringing about improvements in all institutions concerned with rural development.

3.1.6 Agricultural Policy Action Plan (APAP)

The APAP is a programmatic response to key policy documents including the NGP, the NDP and the MTSF in respect of the following outcomes:

- Outcome 4 - Decent employment through inclusive growth;
- Outcome 7 - Vibrant, equitable, sustainable rural communities contributing towards food security for all; and
- Outcome 10 – Protect and enhance our environmental assets and natural resources.

This policy provides a long-term vision and focused interventions in a 5-year rolling schedule, to be updated annually. The key outputs from APAP are well documented and have been broadly incorporated into the various provincial and district plans that are in place.

3.2 PROVINCIAL POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

A review of the relevant provincial policies is outlined in the following sections, with a focus on those that have implications for rural development at the district level. The following documents have been considered:

- Limpopo Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS);
- Limpopo Provincial Employment Growth and Development Plan (PEGDP);
- Limpopo Development Plan (LDP); and
- Limpopo Provincial Spatial Development Framework (SDF).

3.2.1 Limpopo Provincial Growth and Development Strategy 2011 (PGDS)

The Limpopo Provincial Growth and Development Strategy is aimed at providing the province and all its stakeholders with a vision and pathway for development that reflects the priorities of the province. It is a strategic framework for accelerating and sharing economic growth through developmental interventions. It lays the foundation for attracting and instilling confidence from potential investors in the province and seeks to provide the guidelines for developing social contracts that address the challenges faced by the Province.

8 Limpopo Provincial Growth and Development Strategy 2004-2014
The Limpopo PGDS is informed by policy at the national, provincial and local levels. Its overarching objectives can be found in the MTSF’s fourteen outcomes, the NGP and the NDP. There are great similarities between the issues identified in these policies at the national level and those identified at the provincial level i.e. increasing unemployment, poverty and inequality.

The Limpopo PGDS sets out five key economic development goals with related strategic objectives for the province\(^9\), namely:

- **Objective one**: The need to improve the quality of life in Limpopo aligned to outcome 2 of the MTSF. This includes the elimination of poverty and unemployment, and improved life expectancy.

- **Objective two**: Growing the economy of the province, sustainable job creation, innovation and competitiveness aligned to outcome 4 of the MTSF. This includes access to technology.

- **Objective three**: Improve the institutional efficiency and effectiveness of government aligned to outcome 9 of the MTSF. This includes service delivery improvement.

- **Objective four**: Address priorities that cut across the three objectives above, such as black economic empowerment, HIV/AIDS, poverty reduction, issues of land and environment, etc.

- **Objective five**: Attain regional integration, by harnessing Limpopo’s strategic location as a gateway to Africa

These objectives are aimed at facilitating economic growth and capital investment in the province and whilst the Provincial Government of Limpopo is leading the process of embedding these objectives, their success depends on smart partnerships with labour, civil society and business. It is critical that all stakeholders be synchronised in the pursuit of shifting Limpopo’s growth path towards shared growth and integrated sustainable development.

Agriculture has been established as a priority sector for the Limpopo province to drive economic development, and in support of the key outcomes of the NDP:

- Outcome 4: Decent employment through inclusive economic growth;

- Outcome 7: Vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities with food security for all; and

- Outcome 10: Environmental assets and natural resources that are well protected and continually enhanced.

\(^9\)Ibid
The ability of agriculture to contribute to job creation makes it a key focus of the New Growth Path, and core to the Limpopo PGDS.

3.2.2 Limpopo Provincial Employment Growth and Development Plan (PEGDP) 2009-2014

The Limpopo PEGDP was set out to enable the province to address the challenges facing it as set out in the PGDS. It includes specific programmes that are designed to achieve structural change in critical areas of the provincial economy, and ultimately provides a framework for the provincial government, municipalities, the private sector and all organs of civil society to make hard choices in pursuit of the priorities encapsulated in the MTSF\(^\text{10}\).

The Limpopo PEGDP contextualised ten priority areas contained in the MTSF into key strategic priorities for the province that will guide service delivery. These include:

- Ensuring more inclusive economic growth, decent work and sustainable livelihoods; and
- Rural development, food security and land reform.

The PEGDP states that the province has excellent agricultural potential, mineral reserves and tourism resources, and these sectors can be used to underpin the actions needed to drive these strategic priorities in the province.

The Limpopo PEGDP put forward key action programmes in support of the five economic development goals outlined in the PGDS, and the strategic priorities from the PEGDP, selected interventions that can be leveraged by the Capricorn District Municipality include:

- **Objective two, growing the economy of the province**: proposed interventions include industrial development programme for priority growth sectors including the promotion of more labour absorbing industrial sectors such as agriculture; Enterprise development programmes including sectoral SMME growth initiatives such as agro-processing; Agricultural and rural development programme including the development of profitable small scale commercial farming in the province.

- **Objective five, attain regional integration**: proposed interventions include the establishment of regional and local economic corridors and export processing zones.

In order to ensure that the CDM achieves the intended growth and development envisaged within the Limpopo Development Plans, the policies and legislatives mentioned above should serve as tools for the coordination of interventions. They will ensure that the synergies that exist between various Government departments and the private sectors are

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\(^{10}\) Limpopo Provincial Employment Growth and Development Plan 2009-2014
exploited to their full potential in order to ensure that the investments of the Government have the maximum impact possible.

3.2.3 Limpopo Development Plan (LDP) 2015-2019

The Limpopo LDP reflects the efforts made by the province to improve standards of living, reduce poverty, unemployment, and inequality. Through this, the quality of life of Limpopo citizens will be improved. It further outlines how these objectives will be achieved by focusing on economic development in mining, agriculture, tourism and manufacturing amongst others\(^\text{11}\).

Given this backdrop, the purpose of the Limpopo Development is therefore to:

- Outline the contribution from Limpopo province to the National Development Plan (NDP) and Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) for this period;
- Provide a framework for the strategic plans of each provincial government department as well as the IDP's and sector plans of each district and local municipalities;
- Create a structure for the constructive participation of private sector business and organised labour towards the achievement of provincial growth and development objectives; and
- Encourage citizens to be active in promoting higher standards of living in their communities.

The strategy outlined in the Limpopo Development Plan builds on the foundation laid out in the PGDP and the PEGDP and is based on the 14 development outcomes contained in the MTSF. The strategies include the following:

- Decent employment through inclusive growth (aligned to outcome 4) – a long term vision for dealing with the challenges of unemployment, inequality and creating a more inclusive society; and
- Comprehensive rural development (aligned to outcome 7) – developing rural areas that are spatially, socially and economically integrated, with the aim of increasing the contribution of agriculture to the GGP of Limpopo.

Included in the implementation plan is the concept of growth points or nodal development based on spatial targeting. These are defined as areas where resources are coordinated and directed to selected areas in response to development opportunities. There are ten growth points selected in the province, one of which is the Polokwane Local Municipality in Capricorn.

\(^\text{11}\) Limpopo Development Plan 2015-2019
3.2.4 Limpopo Provincial Spatial Development Framework (SDF) 2007

Environmental vulnerability, social need and economic development are not evenly distributed in Limpopo, and spatial disparities will always exist due to the spatial distribution of natural resources, historical influences and cultural factors.

Past spatial planning has often aggravated these spatial disparities. This has resulted in a disjuncture between where people live and where social and economic opportunities are concentrated. This spatial marginalization from economic opportunities of the majority of the population needs to be addressed in order to reduce poverty and inequality, and ensure shared growth and the protection of vulnerable bio-resources.

The Limpopo SDF states that the future spatial pattern for the province will be determined by political and economic forces and processes. Further, the availability of resources will have a direct impact on the economic development in the area and will be the most important factor for development in the province in the future.

Some of the key development factors for future development in the province include:\[12:\]
- Land: availability, ownership and use; and
- Physical infrastructure: roads, transportation, water, etc.

The Limpopo Provincial SDF has been developed in order to achieve the spatial development objectives of the province, in a targeted and spatial co-ordinated manner. The Provincial SDF sets out to:
- Formulate a spatial framework which will guide and encourage equitable distribution of investment in terms of a functional settlement hierarchy;
- To achieve spatially balanced development across the Limpopo province and support investment in sustainable settlements;
- Establish an optimal and functional spatial pattern for districts and the Limpopo province over time;
- Rationalise and promote the optimal use of land and protection of natural resources;
- Establish a functional spatial pattern with a hierarchy of settlements which provides a sound basis for long term sustainable economic growth;
- Provide guidelines for the development of transportation and utility networks; and
- The successful integration of planning across national, provincial and local levels.

The Limpopo SDF identifies several areas of agricultural potential within the province. This is seen as key to addressing poverty since most areas of poverty are rural. The focus on

\[12\] Limpopo Provincial Spatial Development Framework 2007
agricultural development initiatives in the Limpopo SDF will be supported by the Capricorn District Rural Development Plan.

3.3 DISTRICT AND LOCAL MUNICIPALITY POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

A review of the relevant district and local municipality policies is outlined in the following sections, with a focus on those that have implications for rural development at the district and local level. The following documents are considered:

- Capricorn District Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDP);
- Capricorn District Municipality (SDF);
- Capricorn District Municipality LED Strategy;
- Capricorn Agricultural Development Plan;
- Aganang Local Municipality IDP;
- Blouberg Local Municipality IDP;
- Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality IDP;
- Molemole Local Municipality IDP; and
- Polokwane Local Municipality IDP.

3.3.1 Capricorn District Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDP) 2014/15

The main objective of the Capricorn District Integrated Development Plan is to improve the coordination and integration of planning, budgeting, and development within the Capricorn District Municipality.

The Capricorn District Municipality IDP seeks to align and integrate with policies at the national and provincial level through the following organisational objectives:¹³

- To provide sustainable basic services and infrastructure development;
- To improve spatial development and environmental management;
- To enhance financial viability and management;
- To enhance conditions for economic growth and job creation; and
- To increase the capacity of the district to deliver its mandate.

The Capricorn Integrated Development Plan further identifies key development priority issues for the district which, with the right levels of investment, will provide opportunities for rural development related to agriculture amongst others. These strategies include:¹⁴:

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¹³Capricorn District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15
¹⁴Capricorn District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15
Health and Dignity: including the provision of basic services such as water and sanitation;

Secure Living Conditions: including safety, security and crime prevention measures;

Education: including early childhood development facilities;

Financial Security: including economic development and job creation; and

Good Governance: including human resource and institutional development.

The Capricorn District IDP acts as a broad business plan for the Capricorn District, and as such, it puts in place projects linked to budgets that will support the opportunities it outlines.

3.3.2 Capricorn District Municipality Spatial Development Framework (SDF), 2011

The Capricorn District Municipality SDF is seen as an integral part of its Integrated Development Plan and reflects the spatial expression of the DM’s development vision. It guides and informs all decisions of the municipality relating to the use, development and planning of land.

It was drafted in accordance with thirteen principles that include principle 7 - to promote extensive commercial farming and subsistence farming activities in the district and principle 10 - to concentrate industrial and agro-processing activities around the Polokwane/ Seshego cluster and at Zebediela, optimising the available industrial infrastructure.15

The Capricorn SDF identified growth points - specific locations where development concentrates and with economic potential - in the district municipality. These are aligned to the Limpopo SDF and are as follows:

- Lebowakgomo (Lepelle-Nkumpi LM);
- Morebeng-Molemole LM;
- Mogwadi-Molemole LM;
- Mankweng (Polokwane LM);
- Rampuru-Ceres (Aganang LM);
- Senwabarwana (Blouberg LM); and
- Alldays (Blouberg LM).

The SDF goes on to state that future settlement and economic development opportunities should be channeled into activity corridors and nodes that are adjacent to or that link the main growth centres in order to address the spatial distortions of the past.

15 Ibid
The SDF identifies agriculture, tourism and mining as key areas for economic growth in the Capricorn District Municipality. It also identifies a number of opportunities for this growth to happen. The opportunities directly linked to agricultural development include:

- Development of value adding industries such as agro-processing;
- Growing the agricultural base and meeting increasing demands for livestock and crop production;
- Upgrading of subsistence agriculture in the North of the district; and
- Utilizing the high agricultural potential along rivers.

### 3.3.3 Capricorn District Municipality LED Strategy 2012

The Capricorn District Municipality was initially developed in 2006. Its objective is to contribute towards economic growth and development in the DM thereby addressing unemployment and poverty. The Strategy consists of five strategic priorities, namely\(^{16}\):

- Growing the first economy;
- Developing the second economy;
- Building a knowledge economy;
- Land and Infrastructure; and
- Governance and Partnerships.

The Capricorn LED further identified a number of constraints to economic development in the district, these include:

- Lack of appropriate infrastructure critical to support investment and business growth
- Quality of available labour force
- Land tenure

There are also a number of opportunities identified for the district, these include:

- Development of value adding industries such as agro-processing
- Growing the agricultural base and meeting the increasing demand for agricultural products

Based on the opportunities identified in the district and the strategic priorities outlined, the Capricorn LED plan highlights agriculture as one of the region’s main opportunities, with the agricultural sector set to play a strong role in the district’s economy.

\(^{16}\)Capricorn District Municipality Local Economic Development Strategy
3.3.4 Capricorn Agricultural Development Plan\textsuperscript{17}

An Agricultural Development Plan was originally prepared for the Capricorn District Municipality in 2003. The objective of the Agricultural Development Plan is to identify specific programmes and projects to address rural poverty and stimulate job creation.

The Capricorn DM Agricultural Development Strategy analysed each local municipality’s agricultural potential as follows\textsuperscript{18}:

- Aganang LM has a low potential for agriculture. There are patches in the LM that have more agricultural potential, which is due to the rivers traversing the LM. Along the Nokayamantala and Matlala Rivers, as well as the Natse River and Hout River, one can find agricultural land with low to moderate capability. The rivers also ensure water for irrigation purposes;

- Approximately two thirds of the land in the Blouberg LM has low to moderate agricultural capability. The rivers and the Glen Alpine Dam in the LM ensure that there is water for irrigation purposes, although the most important factor limiting agricultural production and development in the LM is cited as the unavailability of water;

- Lepelle-Nkumpi LM is home to one of the largest citrus estates in the country, namely, Zebediela Citrus Estate which provides produce to the international market;

- Molemole LM has low to moderate agricultural potential, with a small amount of high potential land in the eastern part of the municipality; and

- The land in the Polokwane LM has low agricultural potential. The Department of Agriculture indicated that the availability of water for irrigation purposes in the LM is a constraint to agriculture.

3.3.5 Aganang Local Municipality IDP

The Aganang Local Municipality is situated approximately 45 kilometers west of Polokwane. The Aganang local municipality is primarily rural and identifies agriculture and tourism as the key economic drivers with potential to grow in both primary and secondary economic activities\textsuperscript{19}.

The IDP indicates the key challenges that the municipality is currently facing. Some of the key challenges are summarized as follows\textsuperscript{20}:

- Basic service backlogs;

\textsuperscript{17} Adapted from the Capricorn District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2012/13
\textsuperscript{18} Capricorn District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2012/13
\textsuperscript{19} Aganang Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15
\textsuperscript{20} Ibid
Retention of skilled personnel;
Development and capacitating of communities in order to effect meaningful participation;
No major economic activities; and
Land ownership mainly in the hands of traditional authorities.

With strategic objectives including:

- Provide and facilitate the provision of basic and infrastructure services to communities;
- Promote and enhance local economic development; and
- Promote sound land use and environmental practices.

### 3.3.6 Blouberg Local Municipality IDP 2013-16

The Blouberg Local Municipality is situated approximately 95 kilometers from Polokwane towards the far northern part of the Capricorn District municipality. It is bordered by Aganang on the south, Molemole on the southwest, Makhado on the northeast, Lephalale on the northwest, Mogalakwena on the southwest and Musina on the north. It is primarily a rural municipality. However the Blouberg LM does have good road linkages that serve as corridors to major economic destinations and as a gateway to neighboring countries. By utilizing this road network, the Blouberg LM has the opportunity to stimulate the economy of the region.\(^{21}\)

The major economic sectors in the Blouberg LM are agriculture, mining and tourism, however, when considering agriculture as a potential for development in the area, the LM is faced with one of its biggest challenges in the availability of prime state land in areas of need. Development nodes in the local municipality are surrounded by privately owned land and as a result it becomes difficult for the state to properly plan and trigger development for such areas.

The Blouberg IDP indicates the key challenges that the municipality is currently facing. Some of the key challenges are summarized as follows:\(^{22}\):

- Unavailability of sustainable water supply to the municipal area;
- High levels of unemployment and illiteracy;
- High levels of poverty; and
- Large infrastructure backlog.

\(^{21}\) Blouberg Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2013-16
\(^{22}\) Ibid
Its strategic objectives are as follows:

- To deliver basic services to communities in a sustainable manner in the quest to create a better life for all;
- To create an environment for local economic growth and job creation, focusing on the competitive advantages of the Municipality;
- To provide responsible and accountable political and administrative leadership to local communities; and
- Mobilizing the broadest section of The Municipality’s communities, behind the Municipality’s endeavours to develop the communities, with other government departments, public institutions, private sector, NGO’s and CBO’s as its critical partners.

3.3.7 Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality IDP 2012-16

The Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality is situated in the southern part of Capricorn District. The LM is pre-dominantly rural, with approximately 95% of its landfalls under the jurisdiction of Traditional Authorities. Lepelle-Nkumpi LM has significant agricultural development potential, both in terms of horticulture and livestock. The major economic sector focuses in the Lepelle-Nkumpi LM are agriculture, mining and tourism.

The Lepelle-Nkumpi IDP indicates the key constraints that the municipality is currently facing. Some of the key challenges are summarized as follows:

- The municipality is situated in mountainous area, which causes obstruction to transport routes, and inhibits development;
- Land ownership is mostly in the hands of traditional authorities;
- Just more than 21% of the population is economically active. Hence high level of unemployment and the high illiteracy rate; and
- The natural resource base and economy does not have the capacity to support the total population, forcing a large percentage of the labour force to seek employment opportunities outside of the district municipality.

The top five municipal priorities as follows:

- Water and Sanitation;
- Roads and Storm Water;
- Employment;
- Land and Housing; and

\[\text{23} \text{Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2012-16}\]
\[\text{24} \text{Ibid}\]
• Community and Sports Facilities.

3.3.8 Molemole Local Municipality IDP 2013-2014

The Molemole Local Municipality is situated approximately 60 kilometers north of Polokwane. The LM is sparsely populated when compared to the district and is bordered by Aganang to the south-west, Polokwane to the south, Blouberg to the northwest, Greater Letaba LM to the southeast, and Makhado the north.\(^{25}\)

The municipality has significant agricultural development potential in terms of vegetable and livestock farming. However, when considering agriculture as a potential for development in the area, the LM is faced with one of its biggest challenges in that there are water shortages in the region.

The Molemole IDP indicates the key challenges that the municipality is currently facing. Some of the key challenges are summarized as follows:  

- Lack of sustainable water sources for future supply – which will impact the expansion of water sources to the agricultural sector;
- Poor road network and road conditions;
- Environmental challenges such as global warming and climate could affect agricultural activities and bio-diversity of the municipality; and
- Scarcity of land.

With priorities for the LM as follows:

- Access to water - the total dependency on ground water (boreholes) poses a very serious challenge to water delivery in our municipality;
- Economic Development – including investment promotion in areas of agriculture, tourism and mining; and
- Spatial & Land Use Planning.

3.3.9 Polokwane Local Municipality IDP 2015/16

The Polokwane LM is located in the central part of the Limpopo Province, within the Capricorn District Municipality and borders the municipalities of Molemole, Greater Tzaneen, Lepelle-Nkumpi, Mogalakwena and Aganang. The LM is home to Polokwane City, the vibrant capital of Limpopo, the largest metropolitan complex in the north and a major economic centre. Its proximity to the neighboring countries of Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Swaziland, as well as its convenient distance from the Kruger National Park.

\(^{25}\)Molemole Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2013-14

\(^{26}\)Ibid
Park and Magoevkloof make it a perfect gateway to Africa and attractive tourist destination in itself.\footnote{Polokwane Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan}

The geographical area of the Polokwane Local Municipality is predominantly rural, including considerable land under traditional authority. There is, however, a vast growth of the urban population due to rural -urban migration. Consequently, more people than ever are living in Polokwane City and therefore balancing of available resources against the array of socio-economic factors and the availability of resources remain a key challenge.

The Polokwane IDP indicates the key challenges that the municipality is currently facing. Some of the key challenges are summarized as follows\footnote{Ibid}:

- Inadequate provision of basic services and infrastructure backlog;
- Inadequate ownership of land;
- Illegal land use and invasion; and
- Inadequate water resources

Its strategic goals are as follows:

- Improved efficiency and effectiveness of Municipal administration;
- Improved provision of basic and environmental services in a sustainable way to our communities;
- Improved social protection and education outcomes;
- Increased economic growth, job creation and Sustainable human settlement;
- Improve community confidence in the system of local government; and
- Enhanced Financial Viability and Improved Financial Management.

### 3.3.10 Summary

The policies mentioned introduce a set of principles that are intended to influence the substantive outcomes of planning decisions in relation to the alleviation of poverty, inequality and underdevelopment in South Africa, Limpopo Province and Capricorn DM.

The overall aim of these principles is to achieve planning outcomes that:

- Promote sustainable development and use of natural resources;
- Channel resources to areas of greatest need and development potential, thereby redressing the inequitable historical treatment of marginalized areas;
• Take into account the fiscal, institutional and administrative capacities of role players, the needs of communities and the environment; and

• Stimulate economic development opportunities in rural areas; and support an equitable protection of rights to and in land.

Rural development has a common thread from the National and Provincial policy level through to the District and Local Municipality policy level and is seen as core to the achievement of stated policy outcomes.

Capricorn, as a largely rural district municipality will therefore benefit from the implementation of a rural development plan that will guide the application of policy in the communities it serves.

The objectives of the Capricorn DRDP are therefore:

• To establish and outline long term vision and direction for rural development in the district;

• To provide an overarching and coordinating framework for planning and rural development initiatives, within each of the local municipalities and across municipal boundaries;

• To provide a spatial context and justification for priority interventions;

• To develop institutional arrangement for an effective implementation of the Capricorn rural development plan;

• To align and integrate departmental strategic plans at a district level; and

• To facilitate commitment of resources (human, financial, etc.) towards the implementation of strategic objectives, catalytic projects and other district priorities.
4 SECTION FOUR – SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

This section is informed by inputs from stakeholder engagements held in the month of June 2015 in Limpopo Province, as well as Inputs from various strategic spatial plans located at the provincial and local level. It provides an analysis that will inform the strategic thrust and the implementation plan of the Capricorn District Rural Development Plan.

4.1 DEMOGRAPHICS

Capricorn has a total estimated population of 1261 463 people with Polokwane having the highest population of ± 628 999 people (49.86%), followed by Lepelle-Nkumpi with ±230 350 people (18.26%), Blouberg with ±162 629 people (12.90%), Aganang with ±131 164 people (10.40%) and lastly Molemole with ±108 321 people (8.59%). When looking at these figures from 2001 to 2011, there is an indication of a decline in the district’s population growth from approximately 1.6% in 2001 to 0.8% in 2011. Census 2011 also shows that the district has more females than males and that the population is still young and majority of it is aged below 35.

Capricorn District Municipality (CDM) is a predominantly rural district and is regarded as the heart of the province as it is located at the core of economic development in Limpopo. Due to its rural nature, the district is highly dependent on the agricultural, tourism and mining sectors. One of the greatest challenges that affect the district is rural to urban migration which is a result of the need to access a better quality and standard of life. This rural to urban migration results in an influx of less formal townships making it almost impossible to enable the upgrading of services and infrastructure.

Unemployment still remains dominant in the CDM even though Census 2011 indicates that the overall level of unemployment has declined from approximately 45.9% in 2001 to 37.1% in 2011. Due to the levels of unemployment, the dependency ratio remains high. The majority of the district residents depend on social grant money as their only form of income, from the public sector and the informal sector. Even though the district can be referred to as the heart and economic hub of the province, job creation, diversification and poverty reduction still need to be addressed and improved.

The Blouberg and Lepelle-Nkumpi Municipalities have more indigent’s household in the district. There are approximately 61 111 indigents households and 36 422 households who receive basic water, 20 221 free basic electricity and 16 133 receive free basic sanitation.
4.2 KEY ECONOMIC DRIVERS

Like most district municipalities in Limpopo, agriculture, mining, tourism and manufacturing are the dominant economic sectors. There is need, however, to harness eco-tourism and the service sector as a means of diversifying the economy.

4.2.1 Mining:

Mining activities are concentrated in Lepelle-Nkumpi LM which is known to form part of the platinum mining cluster on the Dilokong Corridor. Mining contributes minimally to the district economy; however, it contributes significantly to the economy of the Lepelle-Nkumpi LM as it has more mining potential and operations which include:

- LONMIN in Ga-Mphahlele which specializes in platinum, chrome and granite;
- Rooibosch Mining operation in Zebediela;
- Granite mining operation; and
- Diepsloot mining operation.

The mining sector in the CDM gives rise to the potential for SMME’s, especially in support of those businesses linked to the mining industry.

4.2.2 Tourism:

The Capricorn DM identified the tourism sector as one of its economic drivers in its Integrated Development Plan (IDP). The Blouberg LM has been identified to have more potential in this sector when compared to the other local municipalities in the CDM. Travellers are fascinated by the diversity of the region, its grassy plains, bush-veld and misty mountains. CDM comprises of forests, cultural villages, dams, art, game and monuments, all that a region needs to attract tourists. It has beautiful and diverse landscapes which also attract travellers and makes it a favourite destination for leisure and adventure. The following activities form part of tourism development:

- **Air Experience** – Charter flight and micro lighting;
- **Culinary Experience** – African Food, Coffee shops, Family restaurants, pubs, etc.;
- **Accommodation** - CDM offers a large number of accommodation options varying from rustic camps to chalets located closer to nature attractions, to the most luxurious accommodations;
- **Land Activities** – Caving, hiking, canoeing, mountain biking, paintball, etc.;
- **Wildlife Experience** – Birding, game drives, hunting, walking safaris; and
- **Culture and Heritage** - Art galleries, museums, heritage centres.
Even though these three sectors have been listed as the major economic drivers of the CDM, sectors such as community service and finance contribute approximately 30.2% and 30% respectively to the total economy of the district.

4.2.3 Agriculture:

Given that this sector plays an important role in the district’s local economy, it becomes a huge problem when the sector loses its employment opportunities. Looking at the investment and marketing strategy of CDM, it is indicated that employment opportunities within the sector have dropped by approximately 187 jobs. The agricultural sector contributes ± 7.9% to the employment rate of CDM.

In Capricorn DM the main agricultural products produced are potatoes, tomatoes, eggs, broiler, beef, citrus and maize which are then exported to other districts and provinces. High Agricultural potential exists in:

- The Natse River in the Blouberg and Aganang LM;
- The Nokayamantala and Matlala River in Aganang LM;
- The Sand River in Molemole LM;
- The Diepriver in Polokwane LM ; and
- The Olifantsriver in Lepelle-Nkumpi.

4.3 AGRICULTURE

The tertiary sector dominates the district economy, GVA contribution of R36.36 billion in 2013. The key driver of the primary sector over the period 1995 to 2013 has been the growth of the mining and quarrying sector that grew in GVA contribution from R248 million in 1995 (65% of primary sector GVA contribution) to R1.77 billion in 2013 (67% of primary sector GVA contribution). The agricultural sector is in decline with 35% GVA contribution in 1995, to 33% GVA contribution in 2013.

The most agricultural activity recorded among households in respective local municipalities in descending order is Aganang (48%), Blouberg (42%), Lepelle-Nkumpi (34%), Molemole (27%) and Polokwane (24%). The nature of agricultural activity by households shows a diversity of production mainly confined to livestock production, and major cropping in potatoes, tomatoes, citrus production, and onions. These perspectives are noted in the figures overleaf.
FIGURE 2: NATURE OF AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY AND PRODUCTION OF HOUSEHOLDS IN CAPRICORN DISTRICT
Among the agricultural households, those headed by females dominate among the local municipalities, with the exception of Molemole (50.2%) and Polokwane (52.9%) local municipalities where the male gender dominates. Delineating the district demographics further of the agricultural households shows that 39% of these household heads are between the age cohorts of 46-64 years. This does have inferences on the type and intensity of agriculture to be undertaken, especially with regard to mechanisation of agriculture. This is depicted in the figures below.

Source: Statistics South Africa Census 2011

FIGURE 3: AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS BY GENDER OF HOUSEHOLD HEAD AND AGE
There is a low level of formal education in the district, with approximately 82% with no schooling past grade 11. This confines them to the semi-skilled and unskilled as well as informal employment categories. This level of education makes agriculture to be the most viable economic activity due to its low skill requirements and capacity to absorb large segments of the population, albeit in low value occupations or jobs.

This situation invariably limits their revenue generation capabilities; hence 89% of these agricultural households fall in the no income and R1-R38400 income levels. This creates challenges in enabling them to achieve living wages that are sustainable, hence the need for social interventions to mitigate poverty. This perspective is noted in the figure below.

Source: Statistics South Africa Census 2011

FIGURE 4: LEVEL OF EDUCATION AND INCOMES OF AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLD HEADS
The main type of agricultural activity engaged in by agricultural households in the CDM is largely confined to animals only, crops only or mixed farming. Blouberg engages more in animal production. This is illustrated in the figure below.

Source: Statistics South Africa Census 2011

FIGURE 5: AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY
Livestock ownership in the CDM is dominated by poultry ownership, with key municipalities being Polokwane, Molemole and Lepelle-Nkumpi. Cattle production is mainly in Aganang. This is depicted in the figure below.

![Number of agriculture households owning only livestock by local municipality](image)

**FIGURE 6: AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS OWNING LIVESTOCK ONLY**

The scale of livestock production is also a significant inference on the sophistication of livestock value chains in the CDM. In cattle production, subsistence farming (1-10 cattle) is the mainstay in the district, especially in Lepelle-Nkumpi and Polokwane Local Municipalities. Commercial cattle production (+100) is highly minimal, with marginal production in Molemole Local Municipality (2%). Sheep production is mainly done at subsistence level throughout the district. Commercial sheep production is marginally practised in Molemole (3%) and Polokwane (3%). This is illustrated in the figure below.
Goat and pig production in the CDM is highly at subsistence level. Pig production shows greater potential of commercial production in the district, especially in Blouberg and Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipalities.

Source: Statistics South Africa Census 2011

FIGURE 7: AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS OWNING CATTLE AND SHEEP
The agricultural capability of the district is highly dependent on the availability and consistency of the supply of water. Molemole, Aganang and Polokwane Local Municipalities have the best water reticulation in the district. Blouberg, Lepelle-Nkumpi and Molemole Local Municipalities experience the most challenges in water access. This is depicted in the figure below.
Agricultural potential in the district is noted below.

**TABLE 1: AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Agricultural potential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes</td>
<td>Potatoes value chain enhancement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomatoes</td>
<td>Tomatoes value chain enhancement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrus production</td>
<td>Citrus farming value chain enhancement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucerne production</td>
<td>Fodder availability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White meat cluster value chain enhancement</td>
<td>Poultry value chain enhancement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red meat cluster value chain enhancement</td>
<td>Goat value chain enhancement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dairy farming value chain enhancement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key findings from the agriculture sector situational analysis include:

- The CDM is largely rural with activity confined mainly to agriculture, mining and tourism. The sector with the lowest barriers to entry and enhanced food security is the agricultural sector;
- Water access is central to developing and enhancing agricultural value chains in the district especially among emerging subsistence farmers, as it will enable consistent production away from rain fed agriculture;
- Agricultural activity is mainly subsistence, hence challenges in creating living wages for households that could see growth in indigent households;
- Low levels of education among the local population make initiatives in agriculture one of the key means to enable food security and creation of employment opportunities in semi and unskilled employment;
- There is a need to harness commercial production to stimulate the development of value chains that are inclusive to emerging subsistence farmers in the district, thereby enabling access to market and education on good agricultural practices; and
- Land tenure management systems are critical to the growth of subsistence farmers into smallholder farmers as it enables access to finance, markets and education.

4.4 LAND REFORM

The majority of the land in CDM is either owned by government or held in a trust for a specific community, private individual or institution. The types of land tenure in this district are:

- Commercial Land which is owned by banks, churches etc.;
- Government Land;
- Tribal Land; and
- Private Land.

Land owned by private individuals in the Capricorn District Municipality is usually utilized for agricultural purposes and it impacts the municipality positively. It is also difficult to develop land which is privately or tribally owned because there needs to be permission granted by the owners of which it can sometimes be a challenge to obtain. Due to the physical composition of CDM, land development and land use management is also an issue for the district.

The majority of settlements within the CDM are not formalized and this poses a challenge for integrated development planning. Furthermore, there are different legislations applicable in
different areas, towns, settlement or villages. For instance, there are only two town planning schemes, one for Polokwane and the other for Seshego. This challenge will however be addressed through SPLUMA.

Approximately 72.4% of the district’s citizens live in informal rural settlements or villages with majority of the population being rural. Moreover, due to the rural nature of the district, there lies a challenge in public transportation, with a few minibuses operating within the district. People residing in rural areas are the most affected by uneven service delivery.

4.5 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The Capricorn District Municipality boasts a fascinating environmental diversity, incorporating grassy plains, bush-veld and misty mountains, as well as a myriad of plant and animal species. The region has mines, farms, forests, cultural villages, dams, art, game and monuments. Capricorn has become a favorite destination for leisure and adventure travelers worldwide. Visitors can experience the district of infinite scenic beauty with a great diversity of natural and manmade attractions, rich cultural heritage and an abundance of wildlife and nature-based tourism activities.

4.5.1 Sites of Cultural, Heritage, Religious and Historical interests

One of the most scenic heritage routes – the Greater Mapungubwe Heritage Route – runs through the Capricorn District Municipality. This route celebrates the rich history of the northern part of the Limpopo Province of South Africa over the last 1 000 years and links numerous cultural and natural heritage sites through a circular route centred around key sites such as the Mapungubwe World Heritage Site, the Thulamela Archaeological Site and the cluster of heritage sites around the sacred Lake Fundudzi and Royal Dzata Museum.

The Greater Mapungubwe Heritage Route starts at Louis Trichardt (Makhado) and dates back about 1 000 years. From Louis Trichardt it follows a circular route to the west along the Soutpansberg to Vivo. It ends amongst the largest colony of Cape vultures in South Africa at the Blouberg Nature Reserve.

In addition, the Capricorn District Municipality is home to a number of national monuments and areas of cultural significance. These include the Bakone Malapa Open Air Museum in Polokwane, which invites visitors to take a step back in time and explore a traditional Bakone

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29 Capricorn District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15
30 http://www.krugerpark.co.za
tribal village as it existed about 250 years ago, and the Makapans Caves which are famed for their yield of fossils & the siege of General Potgieter\(^{31}\).

### 4.5.2 Nature Reserves and Game Parks

There are a number of private game and hunting farms in the Capricorn District Municipality such as Alldays, as well as Vivo and Dendron villages. Prolific game - including the ‘Big Five’ - and good hunting facilities attract many domestic and international trophy hunters\(^{32}\).

Focusing on two sites in the Capricorn District, the Polokwane Game Reserve has more than 21 species and offers scenic walks, whilst the Blouberg Nature Reserve is a 9.300-ha provincial government nature reserve. There are no hiking trails but self-drive game-drives are possible\(^{33}\).

### 4.5.3 Tourist Attraction Areas

A number of other attractions will bring tourists to the Capricorn District. These include:

- **Eersteling Monuments** - The site of the country’s first gold crushing site and its first gold power plant are marked by monuments;
- **Open-Air Museum** - This museum depicts the traditional and modern-day culture and lifestyle of the Bakone people;
- **The Bakone Malapa Cultural Museum** - Northern Sotho Open-Air Museum, which depicts the traditional and modern-day lifestyle of this people;
- **Makgabeng Rock Art** - with a potential to attract a lot of tourists both domestic and international;
- **Religious pilgrimage** - ZCC Moria and historical churches pilgrimage also has a high number of tourists visiting the district; and
- **Zebediela Citrus Estate** - for Agri-tourism also has potential to increase inflow of tourists.

### 4.5.4 Protected Areas and Environmentally Sensitive Areas

The following environmental problems have been identified in the Capricorn District Municipality\(^{34}\):

*Deforestation*

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\(^{31}\)www.golimpopo.com  
\(^{32}\)Capricorn District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15  
\(^{33}\)www.golimpopo.com  
\(^{34}\)Capricorn District Municipality Local Economic Development Strategy
This is one of the identified major environmental problems affecting most areas of the district. The magnitude of this problem is classified as high. The individual areas mostly affected are Chueniespoort, Moletjie, Puraspan (Bochum), Donkerloop, and Malebogo. The major cause of this problem is unemployment, which results in poverty. Hence, people chop down trees to make firewood and sell them as a means of making a living.

**Overgrazing**

This is another identified environmental problem in the CDM. Its magnitude is at the highest level. The areas mostly affected by this condition are identified as Donkerloop, Chueniespoort, and Maja along Sand River, Mafefe and Endermark. The major influencing factor in this regard is overstocking by those practicing farming and what is termed as the Tragedy of the Commons i.e., the situation whereby no one takes responsibility for the piece of land they all use for grazing.

**Erosion**

This affects the larger part of the district. Its effects and occurrences are very high compared to the rest. The areas affected include Chueniespoort, Donkerkloof to Mafefe, Maja and Molepo, Olifants river catchments, Endermark (Drakriver), Opsersant. The major causes of these conditions are overgrazing and deforestation.

Given the above environmental challenges faced in the Capricorn District, special care must be taken to preserve and protect those areas which may come under threat such as the Wolkburg Wilderness and the Moletjie Nature Reserve situated in the Polokwane Local Municipality which are both large protected areas in the region.

**Grasslands**

In Lepelle-Nkumpi there is the Wolkberg Wilderness which consists of 40 000 hectares of almost Pristine Afromontane Grasslands, indigenous forests and spectacular mountain scenery and clean running streams and rivers.

### 4.5.5 Topography

The Capricorn District Municipality can be divided into several topographic zones including moderately undulating plains, strongly undulating plains, mountains and hills. Examples of these are shown below:

**Aganang LM**

The terrain morphology of the area varies considerably with hills in the southern area; lowlands with mountains to the western side of the Municipal area; strongly undulating plains in the southern area; moderately undulating plains, and slightly undulating plains which
represent the majority of the Municipal area. The terrain types identified are; plains with open high hills or ridges; rolling or irregular plains with high hills or ridges; plains with open low hills or ridges; Level plains with some relief; level plains, and high hills or ridges. Slopes range from 0-9% on the greater part of the area 9-25% on hills and mountains.  

**Molemole LM**

The Molemole LM lies on a fairly flat landscape with minimal mountain-scpaes, hills and rocky outcrops especially towards the east.

**Polokwane LM**

The Municipal area is divided into two rough topographical units, namely ‘Moderately Undulating Plains’ in the eastern half of the municipal area and ‘Strongly Undulating Plains’ in the west. The Polokwane Municipal area is situated on the so-called ‘Pietersburg Plateau’, which is bordered in the south by the Strydpoort Mountains, in the west and north by the Waterberg Mountains and in the east by the Great Escarpment. The highest part of the Plateau lies in the south near the Strydpoort Mountains that forms the watershed between the Olifants and Sand River Systems.

4.5.6 Water Resources (Hydrology, Water Catchment Areas)

The supply of water in the Capricorn District Municipality is a key challenge when considering business needs for water especially for agricultural purposes. Lepelle-Nkumpi is the most affected by water shortages, followed by Blouberg and Polokwane. Although 75% of all households have access to clean piped water, a significant number still obtain their water from rivers, dams and springs. There are however, positive indications that bulk water supply can be secured from Glen Alpine (Blouberg), Flag Boshielo and Nandoni Dams to augment water supply within the District.

**Water Quality**

Capricorn District Municipality stayed on par with the requirements of the Blue Drop Certification Programme. Circumstances that affected the ability of Lepelle Water to deliver drinking water of excellent quality at the point of use in the Olifantspoort supply system was mainly due to the decline in performance measured in the latter system.

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35 Aganang Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan
36 Molemole Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan
37 Polokwane Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan
38 Capricorn District Municipality Local Economic Development Strategy
39 Capricorn District Municipality Integrated Development Plan
4.5.7 Vegetation

The vegetation of the Capricorn District Municipality is extremely diverse, incorporating grassy plains, bushveld and misty mountains, as well as a myriad of plant and animal species. It consists mainly of savanna bushveld, sweet grass, shrubs and thorn trees.\textsuperscript{40} The district varies in vegetation types with each LM having their own characteristics.

\textit{Aganang LM}

There are six veld types represented in the Aganang Municipality. These are the 1) Mixed Bushveld, 2) Springbok Flats Turf Thornveld, 3) Pietersburg Plateau False Grassveld, 4) Sourish Mixed Bushveld, 5) Sour Bushveld, and 6) Arid Sweet Bushveld, veld types. Two thirds of the area is characterized by the Makhado Mixed Bushveld (typically defined by the presence of shallow, coarse-textured, sandy soils overlying granite, quartzite, sandstone or shale), small portions of Arid Sweet veld and Mamabolo Mountain Bushveld around Mogoshi Mountains in Matlala; and one third of the area is Polokwane Plateau Grassland\textsuperscript{41}.

\textit{Lepelle-Nkumpi LM}

The Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality has an overgrazing challenge and this leads to vegetation composition imbalances and soil erosion. Loss of biodiversity can be seen in the area due to heavy degradation in places of cultivation, mining and urbanization and as a result of invasion of alien vegetation and indigenous microphyllous trees.

\textit{Molemole LM}

The northern and western parts of the Molemole LM are covered with the mixed bushveld vegetation type, varying from dense short bushveld to open tree savanna. The eastern parts comprise sourish mixed bushveld. In addition, there are several plant species in the LM that are used for medicinal purposes and cattle fodder.\textsuperscript{42}

\textit{Polokwane LM}

There are 6 vegetation types that occur in the Polokwane Municipal Area. The largest veld-types are as follows: Pietersburg Plateau False Grassveld, Sourish Mixed Bushveld, Sour Bushveld, Mixed Bushveld, North-Eastern Mountain Sourveld and a relatively small area of Lowveld Sour Bushveld. The veld is currently badly degraded and overgrazed and as such, requires intervention from the municipality\textsuperscript{43}.

\textsuperscript{40} Capricorn District Municipality Air Quality Management Plan
\textsuperscript{41} Aganang Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan
\textsuperscript{42} Molemole Integrated Environmental Management Plan
\textsuperscript{43} Polokwane Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan
4.5.8 Geology and Soil Types

The geology of the Capricorn District area, which influences soil types, is closely related to the topography of the area. The district is characterised by level to undulating plains, and is surrounded by the Strydpoort Mountains, the Waterberg Mountains (including the Blouberg), and by the Great Escarpment. Also, quite a number of Nature Conservation Areas and Nature Reserves are located in the District, especially in the northern and southern extents. Areas with high and moderate agricultural potential are distributed throughout the District, while the majority of the CDM landscape is suitable for arable agriculture specifically for cattle, vegetables, grains and pastures.\(^{44}\)

There are key issues that need to be considered when looking at Agricultural development in Capricorn, as this will assist in the successful implementation of agricultural development in the area. These include reviewing the areas where development is promoted. Developing agricultural practices in areas with problematic geological conditions (areas with hazards such as sink-holes) and problematic soil conditions will impact the success of the initiatives. Soil conditions are however conducive for the production of quality potatoes and tomatoes.

4.5.9 Biodiversity

Biodiversity describes the variety of life in an area including the number of different species, the genetic wealth within each species, the interrelationships between them and the natural areas in which they occur. Sensitive vegetation and watercourses should be maintained for both the conservation of biodiversity and for their ecological functioning in water quality improvement and flood control.

The Limpopo Province is rich in biodiversity and the Capricorn District Municipality is no exception. Any agricultural plan must therefore take the biodiversity of the region into consideration.

4.5.10 Climate

The climate of the Capricorn District Municipality is predominantly subtropical as it is situated to the south of the Tropic of Capricorn. The Capricorn DM has mild winters and very hot, often dry summers. The rainfall of the whole Province is highly variable and unreliable. It normally falls between November and March in the form of afternoon thunderstorms\(^{45}\). The LMs each have their own nuances in climate, some of which are outlined below:

*Aganang LM*

\(^{44}\)Capricorn District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2015/16

\(^{45}\)Capricorn District Municipality Air Quality Management Plan
The Aganang area receives summer rainfall with very dry winters. The rainfall falls from September to May with precipitation generally occurring as short, heavy, thundery showers. The Mean Annual Precipitation ranges from 454mm per year in the northwestern area, and 500mm per year in the southeastern area (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006).

The southern portions are more humid and it becomes more arid towards the northeast. The mean annual temperature is 18.50°C in the northwestern area and 16.90°C in the southeastern area. The mean maximum and minimum temperatures are 36.50°C and 0.80°C in the north-western areas for November and June respectively and 33.20°C and 0.60°C in the south-eastern areas for October and June respectively\(^{46}\).

**Blouberg LM**

The Blouberg Local Municipality is situated in a summer rainfall region, with a moderately high summer rainfall, and dry and cold to frosty winter periods, unlike other local municipalities in the Capricorn District Municipality, frost occurs in this area. The Blouberg LM receives an average annual rainfall of 410 mm per year, the bulk of which is received during the summer months. The area receives the least amount of rainfall during July and August (each with an average monthly rainfall of 0.38 mm) and the most in December (with an average monthly rainfall of 93 mm). The monthly average of maximum temperatures for the area ranges from 22°C in July to 31°C in February. The region is coldest during July when temperatures drop to an average of 9°C at night\(^{47}\).

**Molemole LM**

The Molemole Local Municipality area falls in the summer rainfall region, with the western part of the area more prone to droughts. Winter temperatures rarely fall below 0°C and summer maximums often exceed 35°C in certain parts. Winters throughout the municipal area are largely mild and frost free. The Molemole LM generally has a low annual rainfall, which is seasonal with the wet season, running from October to March\(^{48}\).

**Polokwane LM**

Polokwane Municipality lies in the summer rainfall region and has a warm climate - frost is rare in the region. The highest temperatures occur during December and January, with the daily average high temperature being 28.1°C in January and the highest recorded temperature being 36.8°C. The average minimum winter temperature is 4.4°C in July with a record low of -3.5°C in 1964. The mean annual daily variation is 15°C.

\(^{46}\)Aganang Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2012-13  
\(^{47}\)http://www.bloubergreserve.co.za/climate.html  
\(^{48}\)Molemole Integrated Environmental Management Plan
The mean annual precipitation for the region is 478mm. Most precipitation falls between October and March with the peak period being December/January. Rainfall between the months of May and September is generally low with the average precipitation rate for the June to August period being 4.6mm.

4.5.11 Air Quality

The Capricorn District Municipality is the first District Municipality within South Africa to develop an Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). The vision of this plan is “the attainment and maintenance of good air quality to protect all citizens and natural environmental systems within the CDM”. This plan will ensure that the municipality is proactive about their approach to air quality management and planning. Although overall air quality within the CDM is not considered to be poor, the introduction of measures to effectively manage and reduce air pollution will ensure that the air quality situation within the CDM does not deteriorate to unacceptable levels.

4.5.12 Forestry

Forests are defined as a closed-canopy assemblage of woody tree species greater than 5 m in height (Midgley, et al., 1997). This definition purposefully avoids other definitions, developed in the tropics that use multiple strata and are as a result restrictive. Deforestation is one of the identified major environmental problems affecting most areas of Capricorn District Municipality. The magnitude of this problem is classified as high. The individual areas mostly affected are the following:

- Chueniespoort;
- Moletjie;
- Puraspan (Bochum);
- Donkerloop; and
- Malebog;

The major causes of this problem are unemployment, which influences poverty. As a result, people chop down trees to make firewood for sale.

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49 Polokwane Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2015-16
50 Capricorn District Municipality Air Quality Management Plan
51 Adapted from Capricorn Environmental Management Plan 2003
52 Capricorn District Municipality Local Economic Development Strategy
4.6 DEVELOPMENTAL CHALLENGES

4.6.1 Spatial Density

CDM covers an area of approximately 21,705 km² and from that area, only ±4.24% of the land is used for settlement purposes (Villages and Towns). However, the majority of those settlements are concentrated in Polokwane Local Municipality. The district experiences challenges in low population densities. Low population densities result in serious implications in improving service provision to communities due the impact of cost with which it is associated.

An effective and efficient infrastructure development strategy enables the provision of basic services such as water supply, electricity, healthcare, basic education, waste management and sanitation easy because it is through the provision of basic services that an improved quality of life can be achieved. However, it is those basic services that the district has problems providing.

Waste management and provision of water continues to be a challenge as there is lack of water provision and approximately 73.4% of the citizens still use pit latrines, bucket latrines or other waste disposal methods while approximately 26.6% of the households have flushing toilets or use chemical toilets. Census 2011 proved that some municipalities within the district such as Lepelle-Nkumpi and Blouberg still lack proper water and electricity supply, roads, sanitation, health, education and recreational facilities. Overall, the district has encountered challenges of inequality, poverty and ageing infrastructure. Backlogs in service delivery hinder accelerated rural development.
MAP 3: MEAN ANNUAL TEMPERATURE
MAP 5: MEAN ANNUAL RAINFALL
MAP 7: POPULATION GROWTH/DECLINE AND EXISTING PROJECTS
4.7 SWOT ANALYSIS

Overleaf is a synopsis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT analysis) that exist in Capricorn, by local municipality. While this is not an exhaustive SWOT outline, it assists in providing a sound appreciation of the district’s main economic, social, environmental and institutional endowments, and at the same time allowing for the identification of barriers to inclusive rural development.

4.7.1 Aganang Local Municipality

| Strengths | — Aganang has rich fertile soils critical for agricultural development. |
| Weaknesses | — Aganang is predominantly rural in nature. |
|            | — Different land tenure systems and pending land claims can delay development processes in some instances. |
| Opportunities | — There lies great potential in agriculture and tourism for this local municipality. |
|            | — There exists five nodal points in this municipality where development tends to concentrate namely, Rampuru-Ceres, Mashashane, Setumong, Kalkspruit and Tibane. |
| Threats | — Different land tenure systems can hamper development. |
|          | — Water scarcity. |
|            | — Youth unemployment. |

4.7.2 Blouberg Local Municipality

| Strengths | — It has mining, agricultural as well as tourism sectors as its major economic drivers. |
|            | — The municipality houses one of the six kings in the province which could work to the advantage of the tourism sector, as the villages hosting those kings could be a tourist attraction. |
| Weaknesses | — The municipality has high levels of unemployment. According to STATSSA census 2011, the LM’s unemployment rate is estimated to be ± 39.20% with a dependency ratio of ± 86.20. |
|            | — Most areas in this municipality are not suitable for development as there is a huge backlog in infrastructure in terms of water, roads and sanitation, education, health and recreation facilities. |
**Opportunities**
- Blouberg nature reserves and Mapungubwe heritage site could be used as some of the tourist attractions.
- There lies great mining potential in Dalmyn, Windhoek-Papegaai.

**Threats**
- Different land tenure systems can hamper development in some instances.
- Disparities in land-use management results in uneven development.

### 4.7.3 Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality

**Strengths**
- It has Agricultural potential.

**Weaknesses**
- Land is unavailable due to tribal ownership and spatial reconstruction.
- There is a huge backlog in infrastructure in terms of water, roads and sanitation, education, health and recreation facilities and no infrastructure management and maintenance systems.

**Opportunities**
- Has potential in the mining sector due to the newly discovered mining prospects.

**Threats**
- Slow pace of agrarian reform.

### 4.7.4 Molemole Local Municipality

**Strengths**
- Agricultural sector is their major economic sectors.
- The municipality has a rich supply of potatoes and tomatoes.
- Molemole has the second largest economy after Polokwane.

**Weaknesses**
- The municipality has high levels of poverty and inequality.

**Opportunities**
- The Municipality is highly dependent on the agricultural sector, commercial crop farmers are opting for game farming.

**Threats**
- The Municipality consists of four Traditional Authorities, which can impact on the availability of land since land tenure is already a big issue.
### 4.7.5 Polokwane Local Municipality

#### Strengths
- Polokwane is the economic hub of the District and Province at large.
- Urbanisation results in growth of this municipality.
- It is relatively well developed in terms of physical infrastructure.
- The agricultural and mining economic activities are complimented by a growing service industry.
- It is a gateway to the rest of the continent due to its location.
- Great tourism destination.

#### Weaknesses
- The municipality is experiencing rapid population growth due to rural to urban migration. Rapid urbanisation is accompanied by high levels of unemployment and poverty.
- Huge service delivery backlogs as a result of rapid urbanisation.
- Spatial fragmentation remains a challenge for integrated rural development.
- Polokwane Municipality is composed of ±23% urban land and ±71% rural land. Its rural placement can be a drawback as it competes with other cities around the country for investments.

#### Opportunities
- There lies great opportunity for Polokwane to be transformed into a logistics hub and freight interchange due to the proximity it has with neighbouring countries such as Botswana, Zimbabwe and Swaziland.
- A great tourism destination.
- Huge potential for economic diversification, particularly in the services sector.
- Large youth population as a resource that can foster development in the province at large.
- Has a potential of being a technological and cultural development hub.

#### Threats
- Rapid urbanisation accompanied by high levels of unemployment is a threat.
- Infrastructure and service delivery backlog.
- Water scarcity may hamper growth in the future.
4.8 SYNTHESIS

Capricorn District Municipality has one of the greatest and most beautiful environments which can be said to be the district’s greatest asset. There lies great developmental potential within the district and therefore, it needs to be valued and taken care of. The majority of land in the district forms part of the former Lebowa homeland and this is what gives the district its rural character. Areas scattered within the CDM have great agricultural potential especially arable agriculture which incorporates cattle, vegetables, grains and pasture.

Service provision and community facilities within the district are dispersed and not adequate, therefore, more effort must be put in introducing these in nodal points so as to enable a wider access of these services by citizens. However, the main challenge can also be put on ownership because the majority of the land in CDM is held in trusts by tribal or traditional authorities hence it becomes difficult to initiate development if the owners do not grant permission.

Capricorn’s rural economic transformation must be anchored on the harnessing of citrus production and white meat cluster value chain, particularly the enhancement of poultry production. There is also potential for the development of the horticultural value chain, with a special focus on potatoes and tomatoes which is a niche and therefore a high value commodity.
5 SECTION FIVE - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

In proposing development-oriented interventions in Capricorn, an attempt was made to take into account the DRDP objectives as articulated in the preceding sections, as well as the findings from the status quo analysis. This provided an opportunity for the formulation of operational strategies that are critical for the realisation of the DRDP objectives. The DRDP objectives are outlined as follows:

Objective 1: Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector;
Objective 2: Promoting Integrated Human Settlements;
Objective 3: Investment in Rural Revitalisation;
Objective 4: Improving Tourism Competitiveness; and
Objective 5: Conserving the Natural Environment.

5.1 OBJECTIVE 1: IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY & COMPETITIVENESS OF THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR

While Capricorn is known for its grassy plains, bush-veld and misty mountains, there also exists potential for agriculture in the areas. Agricultural development is likely to create jobs for many people residing in the district’s towns and villages. The pressing need for agricultural development should however be underscored by a sound appreciation and conservation of the environment and natural capital.

5.1.1 Development Action 1: Optimising the Potential of Agri-Parks

Agri-Parks provide a unique opportunity for the realisation of transformative agricultural development and rural economic transformation in Capricorn and beyond. The three components of Agri Parks i.e., Farmer Production Support Unit (FPSU), the Agri-Hub (AH), and the Rural Urban Market Centre Unit (RUMC) allow for targeted financial, intellectual and infrastructural investment in agricultural development in Capricorn. To this end, Agri-Parks are presented in this District Rural Development Plan as providing a holistic operational strategy to agrarian reform and agri-business development. It is recommended that:

- The Ga-Poopedi Agri-Hub, as a production, equipment hire, processing, packaging, logistics and training unit be utilised for strengthening agricultural commodity value-chain in the entire Capricorn District Municipality;
- Agri-villages be developed around Ga-Poopedi settlements, Kgatla and Maphakane;
- Agricultural related infrastructure in settlements and villages around Polokwane and Blouberg be provided;
• The Farmer Production Support Units (FPSUs) be located in settlements close to Matsibela and Ramatshowe as well as other areas to be identified, in alignment with the Agri-Parks implementation plan;
• New industries related to agro-processing be developed; and
• Funding for investment into new machinery and equipment, as well as agriculture and conservation-related research and development (R&D) be made accessible.

5.1.2 Development Action 2: Supporting small scale farmers by implementing survival strategies and absorbing small businesses into the main stream economy

• Strengthening/Promoting the participation of small-scale farmers in the Agri-Park concept;
• Investment in irrigation infrastructure to benefit small scale farmers;
• The provision of agricultural implements, seeds, fertilisers as well as irrigation equipment to small-scale farmers;
• Establishing water infrastructure especially in those areas affected by water shortages.
• Conduct feasibility studies for the projects
• Identify community beneficiaries
• Undertake necessary training of community members
• Develop business plans for commercial ventures
• Upgrade subsistence agriculture in the district
• Investigate the potential for agriculture along the rivers in the DM and implement small scale farming activities

5.1.3 Development Action 3: Development of Agro Tourism in the Capricorn DM

• Feasibility study of agro tourism in the Capricorn DM
• Identify projects to develop the agro tourism industry e.g. botanical tours
• Identify beneficiaries
• Training of beneficiaries/local community members

5.1.4 Development Action 4: Increase supply of water for agricultural use

• Feasibility study of large scale irrigation schemes in the CDM
• Investigate alternative sources of water supply including surface water schemes, and the re-use of water
• Develop a plan to reconcile future water requirements
5.1.5 Development Action 5: Addressing the effects of climate change on agriculture

- Feasibility study of the development of farm level mitigation methods e.g. avoiding excess nitrogen/fertilisers, crop choices, etc.
- Evaluate the economic cost of interventions
- Develop a plan to roll out the programme to local farmers
- Introduce and support the use of drought tolerant crops

5.1.6 Development Action 6: Agri-Hub and Farmer Production Support Unit establishment & developments.

- Development of Agri-villages around Ga-Poopedi settlements, Kgalatla and Maphakane
- Review existing FPSU plans and objectives
- Incorporate into a development plan for Matsibela and Ramotshoewe
- Access funding and implement projects
- Monitor success of projects

5.1.7 Development Action 7: Implement identified agricultural anchor projects

- Conduct feasibility studies for those interventions identified up to pre-feasibility
- Identify community beneficiaries
- Undertake necessary training of community members
- Develop business plans for the projects

5.1.8 Development Action 8: Development of (red and white meat cluster as well as citrus clusters)

- Conduct feasibility studies for the projects, and confirm what has been put in place
- Identify community beneficiaries
- Undertake necessary training of community members
- Develop business plans for the cluster

5.1.9 Development Action 9: Fast track the process of addressing land use management schemes (LUMS) and land development in the DM

- Identify land for development
- Review outstanding land claims and fast track processing
- Put in place land use management plans
5.2 OBJECTIVE 2: PROMOTING INTEGRATED HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Following the recommendations set out in Chapter 8 of the NDP, there is a need for Capricorn to fast-track the provision of adequate public amenities such as schools, clinics, community centres and recreational facilities. Moreover, the provision of water and other basic services, including sanitation, has been identified as a priority for the district municipality.

5.2.1 Development Action 1: Reduction of Service Delivery Backlogs

11% of the population in the district have no access to piped (tap) water. About 2.4% of households still source water from unidentified sources, whilst 70% receive water from regional or local water schemes. There is over-reliance on boreholes. About 65% of households use pit latrines, 26.6% have access to flush toilets while 4.2 % have no sanitation facility in their yards and the remaining households either use bucket latrines, or other modes of waste disposal. Pit latrines are mostly used in rural areas where there is no proper piped water system. According to STATSSA, Census 2011, households that have access to electricity are at 87.4%, meaning 12.6% have no access to electricity and use other sources of energy such as gas, paraffin, candles, solar etc. There are 16 042 households with no access to houses in the district. The majority of households in CDM use candles for lighting. Monitoring of water service backlogs and the development of a water infrastructure plan is required.

The fact that most households within the district do not have RDP level sanitation constitutes a major risk in terms of ground water pollution, environmental and health problems. The main types of sanitary systems used in the district are water-borne sewerage (flush toilets), septic tanks, Ventilated Improved Pit latrines (VIP), French drains and ordinary pit latrines to no basic services at all. Water-borne sewerage is mainly found in towns and townships, septic tanks are mainly on privately owned properties like farms, hotels, etc with the rest primarily found in rural areas.

Some of the raised issues can be addressed by implementation the following developmental actions:

- Sanitation project with the aim of eradicating pit latrines;
- Social institutions such as community halls;
- Improving the Public Transport Network;
- Electrification projects; and
- Housing projects;
5.2.2 Development Action 2: Promoting Integrated Rural Spatial Planning

- Strengthening, and monitoring of IDP, SDF and LED implementation processes;
- Fast-track the implementation of SPLUMA in the district municipality, to ensure a standardisation of land use schemes for all areas, including those that were located in former homelands.

5.3 OBJECTIVE 3: INVESTMENT IN RURAL REVITALISATION

Rural revitalisation is critical for the provision of physical and social infrastructure that can allow for the creation of socio-spatial and economic linkages between urban nodes and the rural hinterlands. Integrated rural development is dependent on the strength of economic, social and technological relations between areas such as Polokwane, Blouberg and Aganang as well as the townships and villages surrounding them. To this end, the economic functionality of the Capricorn District must take into account the flow of goods and capital and the movement of people within and between urban and rural spaces. The following operational strategies are therefore proposed:

5.3.1 Development Action 1: Promoting the Renewal of Rural Towns and Villages (Nodal and Growth Points)

- **Rural town revitalisation** - projects must be implemented in all major towns. The renewal of these towns is important as it provides them with an opportunity to attract local and global investments of a financial, business and human capital nature.
- **Township revitalisation** – projects for the entire district must be implemented to allow for infrastructural investments as well as the provision of basic services such as water, electricity, and decent housing. As rural townships continue to grow, their revitalisation will attract more skilled people as well as other forms of investments;
- **Village revitalisation** – projects must be implemented in all densely populated villages. The focus of these projects must be on provision of water, electricity and other social services critical for the improvement of quality of life, in accordance with the NDP;
- **Develop village place-making and/or branding strategy** – this is important as it promotes rural spaces as liveable and marketable places that can attract investment, skills and tourism.
- **Renewal of strategic towns** – projects must be implemented to renew strategic towns, some of which are in the Intervention Areas with the potential of becoming functional regions in future. These towns are Mankweng, Morebeng, Botlokwa, Dendron, Senwabarwana, Ga-Rampuru and Zebediela.
5.3.2 Development Action 2: Completion of Current Rural Development-Oriented Projects

With numerous rural development projects underway in Capricorn, it is imperative to ensure that:

- Sustainable, long-term funding mechanisms are put in place for all rural development-oriented projects;
- There is fostering of inter-governmental and inter-departmental coordination of rural development projects for strategic harmonisation and alignment of efforts; and
- The monitoring and evaluation instruments in the district municipality are strengthened to ensure successful completion of existing projects.

5.3.3 Development Action 3: Investment in Physical Infrastructure

- Provision of roads, rail, freight and ICT infrastructure that can foster intra- and inter-district connectivity and mobility within and beyond Capricorn District. Improving access to communication technology, and harnessing the use of new media for promoting urban-rural business interactions and innovation.
- Develop a road master plan for the Capricorn district areas around Tzaneen Mothomeng and Bolobedu villages in particular have bad roads which need to be upgraded. D737 road around Tubatse areas is in a dilapidated state hence this road needs to be upgraded.

**Capricorn roads improvement**

The highest backlog is observed in Polokwane LM at 800km followed by Aganang 565km, Blouberg 452km, Lepelle-Nkumpi 349km and Molemole at 344km.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Total length of road</th>
<th>Access (km)</th>
<th>Backlog (km)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aganang</td>
<td>675,1</td>
<td>110, 1</td>
<td>565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blouberg</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lepelle-Nkumpi</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molemole</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polokwane</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capricorn District</strong></td>
<td><strong>3866</strong></td>
<td><strong>329</strong></td>
<td><strong>3537</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.3.4 Development Action 4: Develop and invest in the mining sector

- Put in place support for small scale mining operations
- Skills training for small scale mining ventures
- Develop a mineral processing and beneficiation hub
- Investigate the potential for the development of mining related industries such as catering

5.3.5 Development Action 5: Development of a renewable energy research park
- Develop a feasibility study for Capricorn DM to establish the viability of a renewable energy park to increase the visibility of renewable energy technologies
- Consideration of various forms of renewable energy including solar projects, hydro power and micro wind
- Engage local community
- Identify pilot areas
- Market and promote the venture
- Identify funding opportunities and potential partnerships

5.4 OBJECTIVE 4: IMPROVING TOURISM COMPETITIVENESS

5.4.1 Development Action 1: Harnessing the Cultural Heritage Development Corridors
- Further and accelerated promotion of the Greater Mapungubwe Heritage Route corridor, as a means of growing the tourism sector in the district;
- Develop village place-making and/or branding strategy – this is important as it promotes rural spaces as liveable and marketable places that can attract tourism;
- The inclusion of women and youth in tourism-related opportunities, ranging from tour guides to selling of arts & crafts through craft markets that are strategically located to tourist attraction destinations;
- Maximise on game farming opportunities; and
- Capitalising on the strategic location of Capricorn to neighbouring countries, to Gauteng and the Kruger National Park.

5.4.2 Development Action 2: Enhance the tourism sector to create employment and local economic development
- Training of tourist guides in the region to broaden their knowledge of the entire district
- Registration of tour guides
- Coordination of tourism routes

5.4.3 Development Action 3: Upgrading local tourist accommodation
- Develop project proposal
5.5 OBJECTIVE 5: CONSERVING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Capricorn is endowed with a wealth of natural capital. There is a need to ensure that the natural environment is protected, while rural industrialisation and economic development continue to take place. It is imperative to reiterate that the need for the improvement of people’s quality of life in rural areas must not be separated from the need to conserve the natural environment.

5.5.1 Development Action 1: Formulation of the Capricorn Biodiversity Conservation Plan

- This proposed plan should take into account the conservation of the district’s natural capital, promote sustainable use of natural resources, specifically water and land as well as land use management; and
- Encourage the use of alternative green energy sources (including solar energy).
6 SECTION SIX – SPATIAL RATIONALE

The District Rural Development Plan for Capricorn is informed by a functional regional approach. The salience of this approach to rural development rests in its emphasis on the nodal-hinterland economic and socio-spatial linkages. In other words, the economic development of Capricorn’s villages and rural townships is intrinsically dependent on these places’ linkages with established nodes. A functional region therefore would typically have established nodes as well as areas in need of various forms of intervention from a development perspective.

Functional regions are defined as ‘a spatial economic system, which consists of a number of economically interdependent nodes (centres) of varying sizes and with varying geographical extensions’. From a regional economic development perspective, rural districts can be identified as salient platforms for the harnessing of inclusive and sustainable economic development. What renders districts their functionality is the existence and interplay of a range of economic, demographic, infrastructural, cultural and technological flows and linkages. While administrative boundaries are important, the flow of goods, services, capital and people is not confined within these boundaries.

The market potential of a functional region is defined by its economic complexity i.e., the internal and external concentration of a range of economic activities within a functional space. The harnessing of the competitiveness of functional regions is dependent on the optimal utilisation of both internal and external market potential. In instances where niche commodities, and/ skills exist within a functional region, value-chain potential ought to be fully nurtured.

It must be noted that different areas within functional regions have different specialisations. In any given functional region, there exist areas with knowledge-intensive business services, land-intensive as well as transport-accessibility-dependent economic activities. Thus, while the centre/surrounding areas relations are important within functional regions, there has been a growing observation in regional economics and rural development discourse that functional regions are dependent on the existence of a range of centres or regions with varying specialisations. Thus, there exist a range of regions namely:

- Diverse/composite service regions;
- Specialised service regions;

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54 Ibid.
Agricultural regions;
Manufacturing regions; and
Consumption regions.

Labour market characteristics and behaviour within a given functional region are also worth noting. This is intrinsically tied to the population size, density and levels of literacy. Moreover, the commuting patterns of labour from home to work have a direct effect on the economic productivity as well as the quality of life of the labour-force. Thus, functional regions are interconnected as they defy administrative boundaries. These regions act as critical units for spatial economics analyses. As District Rural Development Plans attempt to transform rural economies, a functional regional approach is likely to provide a more nuanced understanding of rural development.

In identifying and mapping functional regions for Capricorn, various variables and datasets were used. These included:

- Strategically Located Land Index (SLLI). The SLLI takes into account the following variables notably: proximity to physical infrastructure; proximity to major towns/gateways and markets; average rainfall; slope elevation and temperature and; soil types. The SLLI allows for the identification of strategically located land for various economic activities and land uses;
- The Gross Value Add (GVA) – this data depicts average GVA contribution to district economy per sector (inter alia agriculture, mining, manufacturing, wholesale & retail, transport, community and government services, finance and insurance services);
- Accessibility Index – this depicts the availability of transport networks and total travel time between points. The existence of a developed and integrated transport network makes it possible for both intra-regional and inter-regional flow of goods, services and people to occur; and
- Population count in the Capricorn District Municipality (decline and growth) – This value is indicative of urbanisation and depopulation trends in Capricorn. Rural development is about improving people’s lives; the analysis of population trends allows for a more people-centric approach to municipal planning.

The maps below show the spatial distribution of various transport networks, agricultural infrastructure and various commodities which were considered in locating diverse functional regions and subsequently Intervention areas.
7  SECTION SEVEN - CAPRICORN FUNCTIONAL REGIONS AND INTERVENTION AREAS

The four Diverse Functional Regions in the District identified in the process above are listed below:

- Functional region 1 – Lebowakgomo Functional Region;
- Functional region 2 – Polokwane Functional Region;
- Functional region 3 – Morebeng Functional Region; and
- Functional region 4 – Senwabarwana Functional Region.

Blouberg has been identified as a district gateway as well as Polokwane. Gateways allow for the movement of people and flow of goods and services from functional regions to intervention areas. This is supported by transport infrastructure. Ga-Poopedi settlement located in the region has been identified as an Agri-Hub location and FPSU’s locations have been proposed in settlements close to Matsibela and Ramatshowe.

The FPSUs will go a long way in supporting developments in the surrounding settlements and allows the interaction with the Agri-Hub, through the secondary and major routes acting as transport infrastructure. Some of the agricultural commodities and infrastructure in the functional regions include smallholder irrigation schemes, grain silo and a red meat abattoir. There are CRDP sites found in the diverse functional regions.

The main economic hub of the district is Polokwane, which is the capital city of the province and has also been identified as a district gateway. In addition to that, Seshego has been identified as a regional gateway. There are a few CASP projects around Polokwane town, and in the northern and southern parts of the district are number of CRDP site. According to the SLL Agriculture index the regions are suitable for agriculture. Moreover, the region has large pieces of land with high potential for farming, and there are several restitution claims in the regions.
MAP 14: DIVERSE FUNCTIONAL REGIONS AND INTERVENTION AREAS
7.1 DFR1 - LEBOWAKGOMO FUNCTIONAL REGION

Lebowakgomo is the regional centre for Functional region 1. It has a lot of services such as shopping centres, government services and others. The area has one intervention area, which needs intervention in terms of rural development.
7.1.1 IA1: Makweng, Magatle, Mkotokwane, Mathabatha, Ngwanamme, Moletsane, Magatle and areas around

This intervention area includes Makweng, Magatle, Mkotokwane, Mathabatha, Ngwanamme, Moletsane, Magatle and areas in the vicinity. There is a tertiary node in the area. The significantly high population count contributed to the selection of this cluster of settlements. The area is serviced by a number of secondary roads. Zebediela is one of the strongest anchors in terms of services in the intervention area. The shopping center has created a lot of economic spin offs in the area and it has attracted a lot of developments.

There are also some services in the Magatle areas such as hospitals and police stations. These facilities serve people in the rural areas. There are a lot of agricultural schemes, tourism attraction points and mining operations in the intervention area that need further marketing and research.

The intervention area is highly populated with clustered settlements and it is administered under the traditional leadership.

7.1.1.1 Commodities

a) Agriculture

Lepelle-Nkumpi River, Olifants River, Arabie Dam and Mokotswane Dam created a lot of opportunities in terms of crop farming in the intervention area; there are several irrigation schemes along the river, which needs support from the government. The intervention area connects to intervention area 2 under functional region 5 within the Sekhukhune District. There is a need for interconnection between the districts in terms of services.

Zebediela area is well known for producing citrus fruits that are sold to national markets. The municipality has plans to launch the route as Orange tourism route, supporting the tourism route will be the orange festival and the orange marathon to list a few.

The Grootfontein Farm is a strategically located farm (next to water sources, and the road) but it lays fallow due to conflict between the managers.

There is an existing Agriculture/tourism route that should be developed to enhance production and exchange of goods between the Mafefe area and Maruleng municipality through the mountains.

Moringa tree also exists in the intervention area and its production and marketing need to be further developed. In addition, a proposed seed hub/bank in Mathabatha area will enhance
agriculture. It should be noted that a multi-purpose centre and shopping centre in Mafefe area is also proposed.
MAP 16: INTERVENTION AREA 1 MORINGA TREE NICHE PRODUCT
b) Tourism

The area has significant tourism advantage at Mafefe Village and the surrounding areas, which only need development and further marketing. There is an Ivory tourism center at Ga-Mampa village. The road from Mafefe to Ga-Mampa requires upgrading, however, it has environmental challenges (special butterflies are found in on route to Ga-Mampa).

c) Mining

The intervention area has a gold belt that stretches over Gamathabatha-Lekgwareng areas which need to be researched and developed further in order to create jobs.

7.1.1.2 Proximity to the FPSU, Agri-park and markets

Tooseng FPSU

The FPSU is proposed in Tooseng area and it will provide all the villages in the proximity including Apel cross and Lebowakgomo with services. The FPSU will be serviced by the Agri-Hub in Ga-Poopedi.

7.1.1.3 Challenges

- Illegal sand mining;
- Hidden tourism potential;
- Abandoned irrigation schemes; and
- Poor road conditions connecting the commodities.

![Makgatho Museum Mafefe villages](image1)

![Lepelle River: illegal sand mining](image2)
7.2 DFR2 – POLOKWANE FUNCTIONAL REGION

Polokwane is the regional node for the functional region and the province at large.

The functional region has two intervention areas in the west and in the east. The entire province relies on Polokwane for services.
7.2.1 IA2: Rakopi, Phomolong, Mothiba, Mothapo, Solomonsdale, Makotopong and Madiga and other villages in the vicinity

Rakopi, Phomolong, Mothiba, Mothapo, Solomonsdale, Makotopong and Madiga and other villages in the vicinity are some of the settlements located in this area. There is a tertiary node in the area. The intervention area has a lot of villages which are clustered. There is a need for immediate intervention since most of them are poverty stricken. The villages are under the traditional leadership.

7.2.1.1 Commodities

a) Tourism
There is a greater potential in terms of tourism in the area, which is yet to be fully realised. There is Turfloop Game Reserve, which has a great potential and is owned by the tribal authority. The games reserve only needs marketing and infrastructure development. The development of the game reserve will impact the lives of the people positively and uplift the local economy. Moria ZCC is also a major tourism attraction/point of interest in the intervention area. Molepo Dam also displays great tourism and agricultural potential.

b) Agriculture
The agricultural schemes in the intervention area need to be revitalized and marketed further. The agricultural maize belt at Dikgale area needs to be further developed and preserved as it assists the community. Irrigation schemes in Ga-Makgoba Village are well known for vegetable plantation and they supply the community at large.

c) Aquaculture
Molepo Dam also has the potential for Aquaculture, however, the market for the aqua products is not yet established and there is need for further investigation on the relevant market and offer proposals on how the Ga-Molepo Community can exploit and get economic return. The research shall also investigate the prospect for aqua tourism in the dam (Rowing and jet skiing).

d) Mining
There are prospected mineral rights in the intervention area especially for gold, and there are also mines that have closed down in the Molepo Mountains that need to be investigated and researched on.
e) Medicinal material

There is a hidden potential for the medicinal mixture in the Chuene area which is currently being sold to the passers-by and it boosts the immune system and also acts as an aphrodisiac. There is therefore a need for research on the ability of the medicine and also its value chain. Moringa plant also is well known in the district and in the province at large for boosting the immune system. There is a need for research in terms of marketing for this commodity as well.

7.2.1.2 Proximity to the FPSU

The interventions area is far from FPSU but close to the markets in Polokwane area.

7.2.1.3 Challenges

- Poor access roads;
- Hidden agricultural and tourism potential;
- Insufficient research in commodities;
- Illegal land occupation and unplanned settlement extension; and
- Poor land use compatibility.
7.3 DFR3 - MOREBENG FUNCTIONAL REGION

The center of services for this FR is Morebeng, formerly known as Soekmekaar, under the Molemole Local Municipality. The functional region comprises of one intervention area where there is a cluster of rural settlements which need services. The functional region is accessed through the R36 and N1 to Vhembe District.
MAP 21: FUNCTIONAL REGION 3
7.3.1 IA3: Includes Makgato, Botlokwa, Kgatla and Mphakane and Surrounding Settlements

This area is a proposed site for a FPSU in Mphakane Village. The area has a secondary node and REID Departmental Projects are within 20km distance of the area. Kgatla and Mphakane are some of the settlements located in this area.

N1 road to Vhembe District proceeding to Zimbabwe has added the development advantage on the intervention area. At this moment, the intervention area is developing in terms of infrastructure especially along the N1.

7.3.1.1 Commodities

a) Agriculture
There are agricultural schemes in the area that are abandoned and need to be revitalized. This is around the Mokomeni area towards Morebeng where the land was restored back to the community but is lying fallow at the moment due to administrative conflicts amongst the owners.

b) Prickly pears (Matoro)
This fruit is harvested by the local communities in the intervention area and sold along the N1 to the passersby. The fruits are seasonal and there is an existing potential in terms of their market. The fruit is now sold in supermarkets and is in high demand. The value chain for the fruit needs to be researched-on further, in terms for harvesting and preparation up until the market.

c) Mining
There is also a potential for mining in this area. Granite is one of the commodities found in the area and it is used for making kitchen slabs, tombstones and other utilities. There is therefore need for a manufacturing industry in the area which will assist the local community in terms of job opportunities which help in curbing poverty

7.3.1.2 Proximity to the FPSU, Agri-Park and the market

Botlokwa FPSU
Botlokwa is one of the fastest growing rural towns and is positioned to assist local farmers in the vicinity with services. The FPSU will link with the Agri-hub at Ga-Poopedi. The intervention area is well known for potatoes and other crops. Prickly pears are also sold informally in the area and there is a need for formalization.
MAP 22: INTERVENTION AREA 3
7.4 DFR4 - SENWABARWANA FUNCTIONAL REGION

Senwabarwana town is located in the former Bochum area within the Blouberg Local Municipality. The town is the Centre for the entire Blouberg Municipality. It is surrounded by villages in the North and South under the traditional leadership. This functional region hosts the proposed Agri-Hub at Ga-Poopedi village. The Agri-Hub will assist the entire district in terms of marketing and services.

The functional region has one intervention area on the northern part and it is connected to the entire district by road networks which are mainly tarred although the connection roads are graveled and need attention as they connect commodities to the mainstream economy. The northern part of the functional region is close to the Botswana border and as such, the cross-border interaction in terms of trade between RSA and Botswana should be harnessed.
7.4.1 IA4: Kobe, Grootpan, My Darling, Eldorado, the Glen and other Villages in the Vicinity

The area is close to Blouberg District gateway. There are two catalytic projects, a secondary node, REID and REID Departmental Projects, which are within 20km distance of the intervention area. The area has high agriculture potential in terms of crop farming and animal farming. The north western part of the intervention area links with the Waterberg District.

7.4.1.1 Projects Visited

a) Makgabeng Heritage site
This is a heritage site which has rock paintings in the Makgabeng Mountain. The site has history which is translated through the paintings. It also has a potential for boosting the local area economy if well developed. The municipality and other agencies are in the process of developing the project although it is taking time.

There is a need for an art interpretation centre in the vicinity which will record the history of the place and the people will visit the area for information seeking.

The facility is expected to create jobs in the local area and in turn curb poverty. There are a lot of developments that are expected to be attracted by the uplifting of the heritage site.

One of the challenges is that the area is hard to access since the road is narrow and sandy. The road needs to be opened up and gravelled so that there could be a flow for goods and services.

b) Sina Moriri stone crusher
This is one thriving project in My Darling Villages, which has employed 26 people who produce bricks, gravel and pebbles. They had a wide market but accessibility to the market is a challenge. Firstly, they still use manual labour when it comes to loading sand to trucks and they only have one truck which is roadworthy. They also need TLB to load sand and other materials on the truck. They were assisted by NYDA and the DRDLR as part of the incentives.

c) Moloko Fresh produce
This is a private entity operating in the bought farms in Ga-Maphoto Village. The farm has employed a lot of people but on a seasonal basis. The land is 80 Ha in extent but only 20 Ha are used for crop farming. There rest will be used for other related services in future. The only challenge at this point is the running capital. The vision of the farmers is to see themselves curbing employment for the local people in the village
d) **Blouberg Livestock Farmers Association Support Program. (BILEK Livestock Abattoir)**

This is a government initiative to construct an abattoir in the Eldorado area in order to assist the local farmers in terms of livestock marketing. Eldorado has a lot of livestock i.e., cattle and sheep. This was therefore aimed at assisting the farmers in terms of marketing and treatment of the livestock.

The infrastructure has been set up in place but unfortunately it is vandalized and it is not operational as it was planned. There seemed to be some civil disputes regarding the operation of the facility and the parties involved abruptly decided to demolish the infrastructure.

In the same region, there are proposed projects, which are on the pipeline, i.e., potato farms and Nguni Cattle-breeding Project.

**7.4.1.2 Commodities**

a) **Agriculture**

Agriculture is the main economic activity in this intervention area, with both crop and animal farming being practiced. Livestock farming is thriving in the function and it needs further development. The development of the abattoir is one step toward making the commodity sustainable and self-sufficient. The department has also deployed agricultural extension officers to assist in supporting the farmers with skills and knowledge.

As for crop farming, the area has fertile soils and it allows for the farming of a variety of crops. Majority of the plants that are cultivated in the region are maize, potatoes, tomatoes, pepper and vegetables. The products are sold to local markets and also sent to outside markets. Access roads that are not in good conditions are the stumbling blocks in terms of linking the commodities to the markets.

b) **Tourism**

The intervention area has potential for tourism which needs to be unveiled; marketing is still a challenge to most of the tourism attraction points. Areas such are the Blouberg Mountain and Makgabeng Heritage Site need to be developed and marketed so as to attract tourists. Availability of tourists in the area will lead to the uplifting of the local area in terms of services and economy.
c) Mining

There are prospected mineral rights (Coal) in the intervention area that need to be researched on further so that it can bring development in the area. There is an existing mine in Garawesi and Schoongezigt.

7.4.1.3 Linkage with the Market, Agri-Park and the FPSU

Blouberg (Eldorado FPSU)

The FPSU is located in the Eldorado village which is under the Mmalebogo tribal authority. The area is already classified as a municipal growth point in terms of the municipality SDF. There are many development projects taking place in the area such as proposed shopping complex, government offices, stadium and a multi-purpose centre. Due to its agricultural potential, the Department of Agriculture has also set up an office and deployed agricultural extension officers to assist local farmers.

The FPSU will assist local farmers with skills and other inputs needed to enhance production. The area is famous for livestock farming, potato plantation and other crops. There are ongoing projects in the vicinity such as Nguni bulls exchange program, potato belt and an abattoir. Development of a FPSU in this area will assist a number of villages such as Taiboshgroet, Ramotsho, Tlhona and Slaaphoek. The FPSU with be supported by the Ga-Poopedi Agri-hub.

7.4.1.4 Challenges

- Vandalism of agricultural infrastructure;
- Poor access road linking commodities; and
- Poor infrastructure maintenance;
7.4.2 IA5: Makgove, Semenya, Phofu, Hwibi, and Kanana

The area is close to Seshego and Polokwane. It includes settlements such as Makgove, Semenya, Phofu, Hwibi, and Kanana just to mention a few. There are millers and small scale irrigation schemes in the identified areas.

This intervention area is located on the west of Polokwane city. It comprises rural villages that need intervention in terms of rural development.

7.4.2.1 Commodities

Agriculture is the main economic activity in the area with crop farming and poultry practised along the Percy Five Road to Juno. There are agricultural irrigation schemes in the area that need intervention.

7.4.2.2 Proximity to the FPSU, Agri-Park and the market

Moletjie (Ramongwana FPSU)

Ramongwana village is located in the Moletjie area under the Moletjie tribal authority and Polokwane municipality. The FPSU will serve the villages in the vicinity and it is close to the Ga-Poopedi Agri-hub. The secondary roads need maintenance to enhance the flow of goods and services between the Agri-hub and the FPSU.

Matlala (Ga-Rampuru) FPSU

The proposed FPSU is located at Ga-Rampuru area which is under the Matlala tribal area under Aganang local municipality. Ga-Rampuru village is a municipal growth point as per SDF and it has many facilities that serve the villages in the vicinity such as a hospital, shops, municipality offices and other. The FPSU will be fairly accessible from all the directions within the intervention area.

The intervention area is close to the market in Polokwane area but closer to the Agri-Hub in Ga-Poopedi area.

7.4.2.3 Challenges

A large part of the land is privately owned.
MAP 25: INTERVENTION AREA 5
MAP 26: INTERVENTION AREA 1 AGRICULTURE/TOURISM CONNECTOR ROUTE
MAP 28: BLOMBERG/ELDORADO FPSU
MAP 30: MATLALA FPSU
### 8.1 RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS CATEGORISATION

#### TABLE 2: RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS CATEGORISATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of Programmes &amp; Projects</th>
<th>Characterisation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District-wide programme &amp; projects</td>
<td>• <em>District economic game changers</em> - these are projects that profoundly redefine and/or alter the structure of a given district economy. Examples include Agri-Parks and related physical Infrastructure.</td>
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<td>• <em>District social needs projects and Programmes</em> – these support immediate social needs at a district level.</td>
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<td>• <em>District development enablers</em> – projects that provide enabling infrastructure at a district level. These include building of roads, large-scale housing, and dams for instance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Village &amp; Household Survival Strategies</td>
<td>• <em>Household microenterprises</em> – these are projects that are located at the village level, with households and/or specific communities participating in small-scale survivalist economic activities such as medicinal herbs gathering, processing and selling, operating Spaza shops, gathering firewood and grass for selling</td>
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<td>• <em>Village microenterprises</em> – these are projects that a community usually participates in seasonally. They include communal growing of vegetables (small-scale agricultural cooperatives)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
While the district-wide projects and programmes require more financial investment from the Government and the private sector; village and household survival strategies are more often than not driven by the community through various grass-root structures. These include community-based organisations, traditional leaders and other recognised community development champions. There is a need however for the government, the public sector, academia and other stakeholders in development to invest in the promotion, and in some instances, commercialisation of village survival projects and programmes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>SECTOR</th>
<th>DEVELOPMENTAL ACTION</th>
<th>PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS/PROJECTS</th>
<th>PROJECT TYPE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION / ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>TIME FRAMES</th>
<th>LEAD ROLE</th>
<th>STAKEHOLDERS</th>
<th>KPI's</th>
<th>LOCALITY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Development of Agro Tourism in the Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Identify the feasibility of an agro-processing industry in the DM</td>
<td>Catalytic - Game Changer</td>
<td>1. Feasibility study of agro tourism in the Capricorn DM 2. Identify projects to develop the agro tourism industry e.g. botanical tours 3. Identify beneficiaries 4. Training of beneficiaries/local community members</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Department of tourism/DRDLR/DAFF/communities/community based organisations/commercial farmers/private sector</td>
<td>1. Feasibility study completed and reviewed 2. Percentage increase in income derived from tourism 3. Training programs completed</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Increase supply of water for agricultural use</td>
<td>Develop projects that address Water shortages that impede the development of agriculture in the district</td>
<td>Catalytic - Game Changer</td>
<td>1. Feasibility study of large scale irrigation schemes in the CDM 2. Investigate alternative sources of water supply including surface water schemes, and the re-use of water 3. Develop a plan to reconcile future water requirements</td>
<td>Medium to Long term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Department of water affairs/DRDLR/commercial farmers/private sector/ various government departments</td>
<td>1. Number of projects identified 2. Number of projects implemented</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<tr>
<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
<td>SECTOR</td>
<td>DEVELOPMENTAL ACTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Addressing the effects of climate change on agriculture</td>
<td>Put in place plans to address counteacting the effects of climate change in the DM</td>
<td>Catalytic - Major Enabler</td>
<td>1. Feasibility study of the development of farm level mitigation methods e.g. avoiding excess nitrogen/fertilisers, crop choices, etc. 2. Evaluate the economic cost of interventions 3. Develop a plan to roll out the programme to local farmers</td>
<td>Medium to Long term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Department of water/DRDLR/commercial farmers/emerging farmers/community/SETA's</td>
<td>1. Feasibility study completed and reviewed. 2. Projects identified and approved. 3. Project plans in place. 4. Farmer education programmes rolled out.</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Agri-Hub establishment &amp; development in Ga-Poopedi</td>
<td>Development of Agri-Hub to foster small and medium-scale agricultural development</td>
<td>Catalytic - Game Changer</td>
<td>1. Development of Agri-villages around Ga-Poopedi settlements, Kgatla and Maphakane</td>
<td>Immediat</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>DRDLR/traditional authorities/community</td>
<td>1. Number of small scale farmers supported. 2. Relevant R&amp;D in the agricultural sector. 3. Number of markets identified and expanded. 4. Number of niche commoditi es identified</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<tr>
<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
<td>SECTOR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Farmer Production Support Unit development in Tooseng and Ramongwane</td>
<td>Developments of the FPSU for primary collection, storage, processing for the local market, and extension services including mechanisation</td>
<td>Catalytic - Game Changer</td>
<td>1. Review existing FPSU plans and objectives 2. Incorporate into a development plan for Matsibela and Ramotshoew 3. Access funding 4. Implement projects 5. Monitor success of projects</td>
<td>Immediat e</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>DRDLR/ DAFF/ Dept of small business/ traditional authorities/ community/ commercial farmers/ private sector/ emerging farmers</td>
<td>1. FPSUs identified and developed</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Supporting small scale farmers by implementing survival strategies and absorbing small businesses into the main stream economy</td>
<td>Reinvigorate the agricultural sector in Molemole, through small scale farming of potatoes and tomatoes</td>
<td>Key Enabler</td>
<td>1. Conduct feasibility studies for the projects 2. Identify community beneficiaries 3. Undertake necessary training of community members 4. Develop business plans for commercial ventures 5. Upgrade subsistence agriculture in the district 6. Investigate the potential for agriculture along the rivers in the DM and</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>DRDLR/ Dept. of Small Business/ DAFF/ Private sector</td>
<td>1. Number of Small Scale farmers supported 2. Number of markets identified and expanded 3. Number of new SMME’s identified and supported 4. Number of Jobs created</td>
<td>Functional Region 3 (Molemole)</td>
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<tr>
<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
<td>SECTOR</td>
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<td>implement small scale farming activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Fast track the process of addressing land use management schemes (LUMS) and land development in the DM</td>
<td>Engage traditional authorities to address the issue of releasing land for development</td>
<td>Catalytic - Major Enabler</td>
<td>1. Identify land for development 2. Review outstanding land claims and fast track processing 3. put in place land use management plans</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>DRDLR/Traditional leaders/Local municipalities/government departments</td>
<td>1. Number of land claims resolved 2. Increase in land available for development 3. Number of land claim beneficiaries identified and supported 4. Number of Jobs created</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<tr>
<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
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</table>
| Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector | Agriculture | Develop a red and white meat cluster | Lepelle-Nkumpi LM has a thriving livestock farming industry, and the LEGDP indicates the potential to develop this cluster | Catalytic - Major Enabler | 1. Conduct feasibility studies for the projects, and confirm what has been put in place so far.  
2. Identify community beneficiaries.  
3. Undertake necessary training of community members.  
4. Develop business plans for the cluster. | Medium term | Capricorn DM | DAFF/ DRDLR/ farmers’ cooperatives/ commercial farmers/ community | 1. Number of small scale farmers supported  
2. Spending on R&D in the agricultural sector  
3. Markets identification and expansion | Lepelle-Nkumpi LM |
| Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector | Agriculture | Develop a citrus cluster | Leverage the fact that the Lepelle-Nkumpi LM is home to one of the largest Citrus farms in the Southern Hemisphere | Catalytic - Major Enabler | 1. Conduct feasibility studies for the project, and confirm what has been put in place so far.  
2. Identify community beneficiaries.  
3. Undertake necessary training of community members.  
4. Develop business plans for the cluster. | Medium term | Capricorn DM | DAFF/ DRDLR/ farmers’ cooperatives/ commercial farmers/ community | 1. Number of small scale farmers supported  
2. Spending on R&D in the agricultural sector  
3. Markets identification and expansion | Lepelle-Nkumpi LM |
<p>| Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector | Agriculture | Implement identified agricultural anchor projects | Revisit the CDM agricultural development strategy | Key Enabler | 1. Conduct feasibility studies for those interventions identified up to | Short term | Capricorn DM | DAFF/ DRDLR/ Farmers cooperatives/ commercial farmers/ community | 1. Number of small scale farmers supported 2. Spending on R&amp;D in the agricultural sector 3. Markets identification and expansion | Capricorn DM |</p>
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<td>4. Develop business plans</td>
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<td>Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Farmer Production Support Unit development in Matlala, Botlokwa and Eldorado</td>
<td>To take advantage of the agricultural raw materials in the district and thereby reduce the need to export these commodities for processing</td>
<td>Catalytic - Major Enabler</td>
<td>1. Conduct a feasibility study on the establishment and sustainability of agro-processing hubs in the CDM 2. Establish where each value chain of agro-processing of fruit and vegetables, meat and dairy etc. should be housed 3. investigate spin off industries</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>DRDLR/ DAFF/ communities/ community based organisations/ commercial farmers/ private sector</td>
<td>1. Number of small scale farmers supported 2. Spending on R&amp;D in the agricultural sector 3. Markets identification and expansion 4. Identification of niche commodities</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
<td>SECTOR</td>
<td>DEVELOPMENTAL ACTION</td>
<td>PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS/PROJECTS</td>
<td>PROJECT TYPE</td>
<td>DESCRIPTION / ACTIVITIES</td>
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<td>Promoting integrated human settlement</td>
<td>All sectors</td>
<td>Address the spatial disparities in the Capricorn DM/Reduction in service delivery backlogs</td>
<td>Address the spatial planning challenges facing the Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Key Enabler</td>
<td>1. Review the CDM SDF to determine the extent of the spatial development challenges in the DM 2. Identify projects that can be fast tracked 3. Engage the local community in the planning of interventions</td>
<td>Medium to Long term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Department of Human Settlements/traditional authorities/communities/private sector/financial institutions</td>
<td>1. number of projects implemented</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment in rural revitalisation</td>
<td>All sectors</td>
<td>Develop nodal growth points in Aganang</td>
<td>The Aganang SDF identifies 5 nodal points in the rural LM, which can be developed further</td>
<td>Catalytic - Major Enabler</td>
<td>1. review the LM’s growth point plans 2. Identify areas for improvement 3. Identify projects to fast track</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>DTI/DRDLR/Department of Tourism/DAFF/Department of Human Settlements/other government agencies/community based organisations/traditional authorities/community members</td>
<td>1. Number of projects identified 2. Number of projects implemented 3. Number of jobs created 4. Number of communities served</td>
<td>Functional Region 2 (Aganang)</td>
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<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
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<td>DEVELOPMENTAL ACTION</td>
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| Investment in rural revitalisation          | All sectors | Develop nodal growth points in the Capricorn DM | Ensure the further development of identified growth points in Capricorn | Catalytic - Major Enabler | 1. Review the Lebowakgomo growth point plans (Lepelle-Nkumpi LM)  
2. Review the Morebeng growth point plans (Molemole LM)  
3. Review the Mogwadi growth point plans (Molemole LM)  
4. Review the Mankweng growth point plans (Polokwane LM)  
5. Review the Rampuru-Ceres growth point plans (Aganang LM)  
6. Review the Senwabarwana growth point plans (Blouberg LM) | Short to medium term | Capricorn DM | DTI/ DRDLR/ Department of Tourism/ DAFF/ Department of human settlements/ other government agencies/ community based organisations/ Traditional authorities/ community members | 1. Number of projects identified  
2. Number of projects implemented  
3. Number of jobs created  
4. Number of communities served | Capricorn DM  
MogwadiMankwengRampuruCeres  
Intervention area 1 (Lebowakgomo)  
Intervention area 4 (Morebeng)  
Functional Region 4 (Senwabarwana) |
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<tr>
<td>Investment in rural revitalisation</td>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>Build up the small scale platinum mining industry in Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Leverage the platinum mining cluster on the Dilokong corridor</td>
<td>Catalytic - Game Changer</td>
<td>1. Put in place support for small scale mining operations 2. Skills training for small scale mining ventures</td>
<td>Medium to long term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Department of Minerals and Energy/ DAFF/ DRDCLR/ DTI/ communities/ private sector/ Dept. of Small Business/ emerging miners</td>
<td>1. Number of small scale miners supported 2. Markets identification and expansion 3. Number of jobs created 4. Number of training interventions</td>
<td>Lepelle-Nkumpi LM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment in rural revitalisation</td>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>Investigate forward and backward linkages in the mining sector in the DM</td>
<td>Investigate the mining value chain and identify opportunities for SMME’s in mineral beneficiation</td>
<td>Catalytic - Game Changer</td>
<td>1. Develop a mineral processing and beneficiation hub 2. Investigate the potential for the development of mining related industries such as catering</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
<td>Capricorn Department of Minerals and Energy</td>
<td>Department of Minerals and Energy/ DAFF/ DRDCLR/ DTI/ communities/ private sector/</td>
<td>1. Number of small scale miners supported 2. Spending on R&amp;D in the mining sector 3. Markets identification and expansion 4. Identification of niche commodities</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment in rural revitalisation</td>
<td>Transportation and infrastructure</td>
<td>Build on the established road network in the region/ Investing in physical infrastructure</td>
<td>Improve access to urban and rural areas in the ADM</td>
<td>Key Enabler</td>
<td>1. Study of the condition of the local and district roads in the DM 2. Put in place a roster of</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Department of roads and transport/ Dept of public works/ communities/ traditional authorities</td>
<td>1. Number of roads maintained 2. Number of jobs created 3. Number</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
<td>SECTOR</td>
<td>DEVELOPMENTAL ACTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>revitalisation</td>
<td>transportation network</td>
<td>network in the region/ Investing in physical infrastructure</td>
<td>Develop Polokwane into a logistics and freight hub for the region</td>
<td>Enabler</td>
<td>activities that will ensure all roads are maintained timeously and don't interfere with economic activities 3. Recruit and train local community members 4. Develop a road master plan for the Capricorn district</td>
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<td>of training interventions taking place</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment in rural revitalisation</td>
<td>Transportation and infrastructure</td>
<td>Build on the established rail network in the region/Investing in physical infrastructure</td>
<td>Implement projects outlined in the Capricorn Integrated Transport Plan</td>
<td>Key Enabler</td>
<td>1. Review the integrated transport management plan. 2. Identify projects that can be implemented quickly with maximum benefit to the Capricorn community 3. Obtain funding 4. Identify service provider 5. Implement projects</td>
<td>medium term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>PRASA/Department of Roads and Transport/SETA's/Dept of Education/Dept of Public Works/communities/traditional authorities</td>
<td>1. Number of roads maintained 2. Number of jobs created 3. Number of training interventions taking place</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment in rural revitalisation</td>
<td>All sectors</td>
<td>Promoting the renewal of rural towns and villages</td>
<td>Strengthen local economies and capacitate sustainable local companies</td>
<td>Catalytic - Major Enabler</td>
<td>Investigate the role, nature and operation of the agency</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>DTI</td>
<td>1. Number of SMME's supported 2. Number of jobs created</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
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<td>Improving tourism competitiveness</td>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>Enhance the tourism sector to create employment and local economic development</td>
<td>Leverage the natural heritage sites in the district</td>
<td>Catalytic - Game Changer</td>
<td>1. Training of tourist guides in the region to broaden their knowledge of the entire district &lt;br&gt;2. Registration of tour guides &lt;br&gt;3. Coordination of tourism routes</td>
<td>Medium to long term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Department of Tourism/ Dept. of Education/ SETA's/ communities</td>
<td>1. Number of tourist guides trained &lt;br&gt;2. Number of jobs created &lt;br&gt;3. Number of tour guides registered &lt;br&gt;4. Number of new tourist routes identified</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving tourism competitiveness</td>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>Coordinated promotion of the Capricorn region and its attractions</td>
<td>Specific targeting of the Blouberg tourist attractions</td>
<td>Catalytic - Major Enabler</td>
<td>1. List tourist attractions in the CDM  &lt;br&gt;2. Develop tourism brochures and materials  &lt;br&gt;3. Train local tourist guides  &lt;br&gt;4. Package and promote tourism destinations  &lt;br&gt;5. Support the development of community and local tourism</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Department of Tourism/ communities/ Dept. of Education/ SETA's</td>
<td>1. Number of jobs created 2. Percentag e increase in tourism in the area</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<td>DEVELOPMENTAL ACTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conserving the natural environment</td>
<td>Forestry</td>
<td>Address the issue of deforestation in the DM</td>
<td>Develop approaches to counteract the effects of deforestation in the DM</td>
<td>Key Enabler</td>
<td>1. Education of communities 2. Address the issue with commercial forestry operations 3. Put in place a framework for forestry in the DM 4. Provision of employment opportunities to community members</td>
<td>Long term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>DAFF/ DRDLR/ private sector/ commercial farmers/ emerging farmers/ community members</td>
<td>1. Number of information sessions held 2. Changes in the environment 3. Increase in number of trees planted</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investing in rural revitalisation</td>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>Investigate the potential for mining in Dalmyn and Windhoek-Papegaai</td>
<td>Promote small scale mining interventions in the Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Key Enabler</td>
<td>1. Develop a feasibility study for Capricorn DM to establish the viability of small scale mining in Dalmyn and Windhoek-Papegaai 2. Engage local community 3. identify funding opportunities and potential partnerships</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Department of Minerals and Energy/ Department of Human Settlements/ traditional authorities/DRD LR/tourism groups</td>
<td>1. Number of emerging mining operations created 2. Increase in growth in the mining sector 3. Number of mining jobs created 4. Increase in income levels</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
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<td>PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS/PROJECTS</td>
<td>PROJECT TYPE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investing in rural revitalisation</td>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>Upgrading local tourist accommodation</td>
<td>Identify houses in rural villages to upgrade for the purposes of tourist accommodation</td>
<td>Catalytic - Game Changer</td>
<td>1. Develop project proposal 2. Conduct feasibility study 3. Engage local community 4. Identify pilot areas 5. Market and promote the venture 6. Rate accommodation by national standards 7. Include the accommodation in local tourist centre offerings 8. Provision of technical and financial assistance to local community members to upgrade their properties</td>
<td>Medium to Long term</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
<td>Department of Human Settlements/ traditional authorities/ communities/ Department of Tourism/ private sector/ financial institutions</td>
<td>1. Increase in tourist accommodation in the area 2. Increase in income from tourism 3. Job creation</td>
<td>Capricorn DM - rural villages close to tourist attractions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investing in rural revitalisation</td>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>Development of a renewable energy research park</td>
<td>Developement of a 'laboratory' for renewable energy research and demonstration</td>
<td>Catalytic - Game Changer</td>
<td>1. Develop a feasibility study for Capricorn DM to establish the viability of a renewable energy park to increase the visibility of renewable energy technologies</td>
<td>Medium to Long term</td>
<td>Departme nt of Minerals and Energy</td>
<td>Capricorn DM/DRDLR/ Eskom/ Independent power producers/ Regional and international development agencies/ private sector/</td>
<td>1. R&amp;D investigativ e activities completed and published 2. Number of renewable energy pilot projects</td>
<td>Capricorn DM</td>
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<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
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<td>DEVELOPMENTAL ACTION</td>
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TIME FRAMES: SHORT TERM 1-3 YEARS; MEDIUM TERM 3-5 YEARS; LONG TERM > 5 YEARS
8.2 INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FRAMEWORK

The implementation of the Capricorn DRDP is dependent on the strengthening of the existing institutional framework. As aptly articulated in the NDP (chapter 13) the realisation of all development-oriented objectives is intrinsically linked to the building of a capable state. A capable state therefore is defined by the existence of functional, well-capacitated and well-funded institutions. Put succinctly, a capable, developmental state is characterised by the existence of institutional thickness and resilience primarily within government. As the NDP and the Provincial Growth and Development Plan (PGDP) also outline, the private sector, as well as civil society also have an integral role to play in the development of communities.

In implementing the identified projects, programmes and initiatives, an integrated approach to development planning will be critical. As the DRDP is located at a district level, the Capricorn district will play a leading role in the implementation process. Moreover, the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR) will be one of the key custodians of the DRDP. The departments engaged in agricultural development, economic development, and social development and environmental planning also have roles to play in realising the objectives of the DRDP.

The DRDP for Capricorn is also meant to allow for strategic planning and coordination within the internal branches of DRDLR i.e. Land Reform and Administration (LRA), Rural Enterprise and Industrial Development (REID), as well as Rural Infrastructure Development (RID). Moreover, the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management unit within the DRDLR is mandated with ensuring that there is alignment and harmonisation of spatial planning, land reform as well as rural development initiatives, projects and programmes.

While rural development forms one of the key focus areas of the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR), the district municipality as well as other sector departments also has a critical role to play in the realisation of rural economic transformation.

This institutional arrangement framework is shown in the figure below:
Institutional issues that may impede on the implementation of the DRDPs include:

- Changes in the demarcation of municipal boundaries;
- Changes in the allocation of municipalities – i.e. moving a local municipality from one district to another, although this can, to a certain extent, be addressed by the functional regional approach;
- The lack of integration in the development and implementation of development projects by the various sector departments;
- Traditional leader’s reluctance to have their role to allocate land and direct its usage diminished;
- Land invasion and illegal demarcation of sites in proclaimed areas by traditional authorities.
9 CONCLUSION

What is apparent from the main issues outlined in this DRDP is the persistence of hallmarks of underdevelopment in Limpopo’s rural areas. These markers of underdevelopment include; lack of basic services such as electricity, water, roads infrastructure and housing. The culmination of these absences is abject poverty, unemployment, frustration and relative poor quality of life.

As the DRDP is aimed at transforming rural economies in Capricorn District Municipalities, there exist economic, socio-spatial and environmental endowments that can be harnessed. From various policy articulations, focus is given to the agricultural sector’s potential in revitalising rural economies. To this end, the Presidency and DRDLR have identified strategic sites for setting up Agri-Parks. These Agri-Parks will be critical hubs for investment in physical infrastructure and human capital will be harnessed to promote agri-business. While agriculture, mining and manufacturing are traditional sectors holding rural economies, there is a need to identify ‘sunrise’ i.e., new economic sectors that can diversify rural economies.

Tourism and the service sector for instance, promise to provide new vistas for rural economic transformation. As rural economic development is taking place in the bedrock of a technological revolution, the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector has the potential to drive integrated rural development. In achieving this, rural development approach for Limpopo at large is hinged upon the identification and fostering of urban/rural linkages. The functionality of urban/rural spaces is dependent on the flow of capital, goods, people and ideas between and within these two spaces in an integrated fashion. The revitalisation of functional rural regions therefore will be dependent on the creation of sector-specific economic hubs, such as Agri-Parks, Techno-Parks and all-purpose community centres.

As highlighted above, the vision for rural development in Limpopo as well as the issues identified as levers and barriers to rural economic transformation have informed the strategic thrust of this DRDP. Furthermore, these development issues have also informed the implementation plan of this DRDP with specific programmes and projects that will act as catalysts for integrated rural development.