DISTRICT RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
LIMPOPO PROVINCE

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Contents

CONTENTS ........................................................................................................................................... 2

1 SECTION ONE – BACKGROUND ........................................................................................................ 9
   1.1 INTRODUCTION ................................................................................................................................. 9
   1.2 VISION FOR DISTRICT RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS ................................................................. 10
   1.3 METHODOLOGY ................................................................................................................................. 11
   1.4 DRDPs AND RURAL ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION .................................................................... 12
   1.5 RURAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES ............................................................................................... 12
   1.6 PURPOSE OF DISTRICT RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR LIMPOPO ........................................... 14
      1.6.1 DRDP as an Instrument for Coordinating Rural Strategic Spatial Planning .................................. 14
      1.6.2 DRDPs as Rural Economic Transformation Instruments ............................................................ 14
      1.6.3 Promoting Land Use Management & Productivity ......................................................................... 15
      1.6.4 Promoting Rural-Urban Functionality .......................................................................................... 15
      1.6.5 Alignment of District Rural Development Plans with Existing Planning Instruments .................. 15
   1.7 AGRI-PARK AS AN ANCHOR FOR AGRARIAN REFORM .................................................................. 16

2 SECTION TWO – STUDY AREA ............................................................................................................. 19

3 SECTION THREE – POLICY & LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT ..................................................................... 21
   3.1 NATIONAL POLICIES AND STRATEGIES ....................................................................................... 21
      3.1.1 National Development Plan 2030 (NDP) .................................................................................. 22
      3.1.2 Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA) ...................................................... 23
      3.1.3 New Growth Path (NGP) ............................................................................................................ 23
      3.1.4 Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) – 2014 to 2019 ..................................................... 24
      3.1.5 Comprehensive Rural Development Programme Framework (CRDP) – 2009 ......................... 25
      3.1.6 Agricultural Policy Action Plan (APAP) ....................................................................................... 25
   3.2 PROVINCIAL POLICIES AND STRATEGIES .................................................................................. 26
      3.2.1 Limpopo Provincial Growth and Development Strategy 2011 (PGDS) ...................................... 26
      3.2.2 Limpopo Provincial Employment Growth and Development Plan (PEGDP) 2009-2014 ............. 27
      3.2.3 Limpopo Development Plan (LDP) 2015-2019 ....................................................................... 28
      3.2.4 Limpopo Provincial Spatial Development Framework (SDF) 2007 ......................................... 29
   3.3 DISTRICT AND LOCAL MUNICIPALITY POLICIES AND STRATEGIES ...................................... 30
      3.3.1 Sekhukhune District Municipality 2025 Integrated Development Strategy (SGDS) 2015 ............ 31
4 SECTION FOUR – SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS..............................................................................39

4.1 DEMOGRAPHICS ............................................................................................................39
  4.1.1 Employment .................................................................................................................40
  4.1.2 Education .......................................................................................................................40
  4.1.3 Transportation, traffic and road network .................................................................40
  4.1.4 Settlement Types ..........................................................................................................45

4.2 KEY ECONOMIC DRIVERS ............................................................................................45
  4.2.1 Agriculture: ...................................................................................................................45

4.3 AGRICULTURE ................................................................................................................46
  4.3.1 Tourism: .......................................................................................................................56
  4.3.2 Mining: .........................................................................................................................56

4.4 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ............................................................................................57
  4.4.1 Sites of Cultural, Heritage, Religious and Historical Interests ....................................57
  4.4.2 Nature Reserves and Game Parks .............................................................................58
  4.4.3 Protected Areas And Environmentally Sensitive Areas ...........................................58
  4.4.4 Grasslands ....................................................................................................................59
  4.4.5 Topography ..................................................................................................................61
  4.4.6 Water Resources (Hydrology, Water Catchment Areas) ...........................................61
  4.4.7 Vegetation .....................................................................................................................61
  4.4.8 Geology and Soil Types ...............................................................................................62
  4.4.9 Soil Types .....................................................................................................................68
  4.4.10 Biodiversity ...............................................................................................................68
  4.4.11 Climate .........................................................................................................................70
  4.4.12 Air Quality ....................................................................................................................70

4.5 INPUTS FROM STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS .........................................................73
  4.5.1 Key Development Challenges ....................................................................................73
4.6 SWOT ANALYSIS ........................................................................................................... 74
4.6.1 Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality ................................................................. 74
4.6.2 Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality ................................................................. 74
4.6.3 Greater Tubatse Local Municipality ................................................................. 75
4.6.4 Fetakgomo Local Municipality ........................................................................ 75
4.6.5 Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality .............................................................. 76
4.7 KEY FINDINGS FROM IN LOCO/ GROUND TRUTHING INSPECTIONS ............. 76
4.8 SYNTHESIS ............................................................................................................... 78

5 SECTION FIVE - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES ........................................ 79

5.1 OBJECTIVE 1: IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY & COMPETITIVENESS OF THE
AGRICULTURE SECTOR ................................................................................................. 79
5.1.1 Development Action 1: Optimising the potential of Agri-Parks ......................... 79
5.1.2 Development Action 2: Supporting small-scale farmers, promoting of small scale
enterprise and survival strategies in rural villages ..................................................... 80
5.1.3 Development Action 3: Addressing the effects of climate change on agriculture ... 80
5.1.4 Development Action 4: Development of Agro Tourism in the Sekhukhune DM .... 80
5.2 OBJECTIVE 2: INVESTMENT IN RURAL REVITALISATION .................................. 80
5.2.1 Development Action 1: Promoting the Renewal of Rural Towns and Villages ...... 81
5.2.2 Development Action 2: Completion of Current Rural Development-Oriented Projects .81
5.2.3 Development Action 3: Investment in Physical Infrastructure ............................ 82
5.2.4 Development Action 4: Identification of sustainable green energy sources for rural
industrialization and development ............................................................................ 82
5.3 OBJECTIVE 3: PROMOTING INTEGRATED HUMAN SETTLEMENTS ....................... 82
5.3.1 Development Action 1: Reduction of service delivery backlogs ....................... 83
5.3.2 Development Action 2: Promoting integrated rural spatial planning .................. 83
5.4 OBJECTIVE 4: IMPROVING TOURISM COMPETITIVENESS .................................. 83
5.4.1 Development Action 1: Harnessing the cultural heritage development corridors ...... 83
5.5 OBJECTIVE 5: DEVELOPMENT OF THE MINING SECTOR .................................... 83
5.5.1 Development Action 1: Reviving of mining operations ....................................... 83
5.6 OBJECTIVE 6: STIMULATING GROWTH IN THE LOCAL ECONOMY ..................... 84
5.6.1 Development Action 1: Fast track the process of addressing land claims in the DM .. 84

6 SECTION SIX – SPATIAL RATIONALE ......................................................................... 84

7 SECTION SEVEN – SEKHUKHUNE FUNCTIONAL REGIONS AND INTERVENTION
AREAS 93
7.1 FR1 GROBLERSDAL FUNCTIONAL REGION .................................................................94
7.1.1 Intervention Area 1: Waterkloof, Dennilton and Kikvorschfontein and other surrounding areas ...............................................................96
7.2 FR2 JANE FURSE FUNCTIONAL REGION .................................................................98
7.2.1 Intervention Area 3: Sekwati, Ga-Marishame and Ga-phahla and surrounding settlement until Apel Cross ..................................................101
7.2.2 Intervention Area 4: Schoonoord, Ga-Mogashoa, Senkgapudi, Sopeyana and other surrounding areas ..........................................................103
7.3 FR3 BURGERSFORT FUNCTIONAL REGION ............................................................106
7.3.1 Intervention Area 5: Praktiseer, Ga-Motodi, Ga-manoke and Penge Areas ..........109
7.4 FR4 GA-NKOANA FR ..............................................................................................116
7.4.1 Intervention Area 6: Sefateneng, Bogalatladi, Atok, Molamanya, Mphaaneng and Malageng amongst others ........................................116
7.4.2 Intervention Area 7: Tswaing, Strydskraal, Tiekiedraai, Sesesehu, Apel, Vlakplaas, Lerejane, Ga-Nchabeneng and Ga-Nkonana ........................................118
7.5 FR1 MARBLE HALL FUNCTIONAL REGION ...........................................................122
7.5.1 Intervention Area 2: Tafelkop, Sterkfontein, Monyaka, Maphoko, leeufontein, Sephaku and Luckau and some settlements in the vicinity ........................................................................124
8 SECTION EIGHT – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN ................................................................127
8.1 RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS CATEGORISATION ..........127
8.2 INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FRAMEWORK ..................................................143
9 CONCLUSION .............................................................................................................146
LIST OF TABLES

TABLE 1: AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL.................................................................55
TABLE 2: RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS CATEGORISATION ......127
TABLE 3: PROJECTS IDENTIFIED AS PART OF IN LOCO INSPECTIONS AND CONSULTATIONS ...........................................................................................................129
TABLE 4: PRESIDENTIAL PACKAGE PROJECTS - ROADS...........................................138
TABLE 5: PRESIDENTIAL PACKAGE PROJECTS – LED PROJECTS .................................141
TABLE 6: PRESIDENTIAL PACKAGE PROJECTS - WATER AND SANITATION PROJECT ....142

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE 1: DRDP IN CONTEXT ...................................................................................15
FIGURE 2: NATURE OF AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY AND PRODUCTION OF HOUSEHOLDS IN SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT .........................................................................................47
FIGURE 3: AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS BY GENDER OF HOUSEHOLD HEAD AND AGE COHORT .....................................................................................................................48
FIGURE 4: LEVEL OF EDUCATION AND INCOMES OF AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLD HEADS. 49
FIGURE 5: AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY ..............................50
FIGURE 6: AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS OWNING LIVESTOCK ONLY .....................51
FIGURE 7: AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS OWNING CATTLE AND SHEEP ..............52
FIGURE 8: GOAT AND PIG PRODUCTION IN SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT ..........................53
FIGURE 9: WATER ACCESS AND SOURCES IN SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT ......................54
FIGURE 10: MULTI STAKEHOLDER MAPPING ................................................................144

LIST OF MAPS

MAP 1: SEKHUKHUNE AGRI HUB AND FPSUS ...........................................................17
MAP 2: SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY ......................................................20
MAP 3: SCHOOLS .......................................................................................................42
MAP 4: HEALTH FACILITIES AND POLICE POINTS ................................................43
MAP 5: INDIGENT HOUSEHOLDS ..............................................................................44
MAP 6: ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS ......................................................60
MAP 7: GEOLOGY .......................................................................................................64
MAP 8: HYDROLOGY ........................................................................................................65
MAP 9: MAXIMUM ANNUAL TEMPERATURE ..................................................................66
MAP 10: MEAN ANNUAL RAINFALL ..............................................................................67
MAP 11: BIODIVERSITY GROUPS ..................................................................................69
MAP 12: MAXIMUM ANNUAL TEMPERATURE ...............................................................71
MAP 13: MEAN ANNUAL RAINFALL ..............................................................................72
MAP 14: VISITED IN LOCO PROJECTS ........................................................................77
MAP 15: ACCESSIBILITY INDEX ...................................................................................87
MAP 16: POPULATION GROWTH AND DECLINE PROJECTS ..........................................88
MAP 17: ACTIVE MINES AND MINING COMMODITIES ...............................................89
MAP 18: AGRICULTURE POTENTIAL .........................................................................90
MAP 19: AGRICULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE ................................................................91
MAP 20: DIVERSE FUNCTIONAL REGIONS & INTERVENTION AREAS .........................92
MAP 21: FUNCTIONAL REGION 1 ...............................................................................95
MAP 22: INTERVENTION AREA 1 ................................................................................97
MAP 23: FUNCTIONAL REGION 2 ...............................................................................99
MAP 24: JANE FURSE FPSU .....................................................................................100
MAP 25: INTERVENTION AREA 3 ...........................................................................102
MAP 26: INTERVENTION AREA 4 ...........................................................................105
MAP 27: FUNCTIONAL REGION 3 ...............................................................................107
MAP 28: KENNEDY VALE SCHEME .........................................................................108
MAP 29: INTERVENTION AREA 5 ...........................................................................110
MAP 30: TSWELOPELE SCHEME ............................................................................111
MAP 31: ATCHAR FACTORY UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN PENGE AREA .......................112
MAP 32: FUNCTIONAL REGION 4 ............................................................................115
MAP 33: INTERVENTION AREA 6 ............................................................................117
MAP 34: INTERVENTION AREA 7 ............................................................................120
MAP 35: STRYDSKRAAL AGRICULTURAL SCHEME ..................................................121
MAP 36: FUNCTIONAL REGION 1 ............................................................................123
MAP 37: INTERVENTION AREA 2 ............................................................................125
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACRONYMS</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>AH</td>
<td>Agri Hub Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Agri Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APAP</td>
<td>Agricultural Policy Action Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COGTA</td>
<td>Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs</td>
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<td>Comprehensive Rural Development Programme</td>
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<td>Department of Rural Development and Land Reform</td>
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<td>DRDP</td>
<td>District Rural Development Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>FPSU</td>
<td>Farmer Production Support Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>GGP</td>
<td>Gross Geographic Product</td>
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<td>GVA</td>
<td>Gross Value Add</td>
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<td>IDP</td>
<td>Integrated Development Plan</td>
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<td>PSDF</td>
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<td>RETM</td>
<td>Rural Economic Transformation Model</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLLI</td>
<td>Strategically Located Land Index</td>
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<td>RUMC</td>
<td>Rural Urban Market Centre Unit</td>
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1 SECTION ONE – BACKGROUND

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The District Rural Development Plan (DRDP) for Sekhukhune 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) for 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 Sekhukhune as well as other rural districts identified as priority intervention areas.

The DRDP forms part of a range of strategic spatial planning instruments as well as other sector 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 Sekhukhune 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 the on-going land reform processes as well as the land tenure systems that continue to evolve.

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

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

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

The overarching objectives of the DRDP are to improve competitiveness in the agricultural sector by:

- Improving the mining, manufacturing and tourism sectors;
- Targeting the investment and marketing of non-agricultural economic activities;
- Promoting the revitalisation of rural towns and villages; and
- Promoting competitive and sustainable rural businesses.
1.2 VISION FOR DISTRICT RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

All the strategic spatial plans as well as sector 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. Sekhukhune, Capricorn, 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, the 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, harnessing of agricultural development, mining and tourism cut across all five district municipalities. While there exists 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 in 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 include 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 sector 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:\(^2\):

- 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

d) In loco/ground truthing inspections: Inspections/site visits were conducted in all the district municipalities as part of the ground-truthing exercise. Meetings were held with various stakeholders in order to find out the challenges and opportunities that need to be addressed in the identified intervention areas. Ground truthing informed the

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\(^1\) 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.

\(^2\) All maps are attached as annexures
formulation of proposals and strategies to address the existing challenges related to rural areas.

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 as well as the implementation plan of the DRDPs.

1.4 DRDPs AND RURAL ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

From the discussions held with DRDLR as well as 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 also 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 sources of employment in all of Limpopo’s five district municipalities. It is imperative, therefore, for the DRDPs to ensure that all agriculturally 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 the 7th outcome 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 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 the agricultural business as a catalyst for revitalising rural economies does not neglect the vulnerability of this sector to climate change, drought as well as global market forces. To this end, DRDLR and other departments responsible for rural development have put emphasis on non-agricultural sectors. DRDPs for Limpopo will therefore 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 in order to;

a) collaborate with established ones, and

b) 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 as well as 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. So, rural development is predicated not only on developing places, but also people.

DRDPs will therefore 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 of the apartheid space economy is the identification of key levers of economic transformation; notably land reform and 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 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.
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. DRDPs 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

District RDPs 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), the Agricultural Policy Action Plan (APAP), the 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 Sekhukhune 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, training and extension services located at the 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 namely:
  - The Farmer Production Support Unit (FPSU) – this is 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;
  - 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) It acts as a holding-facility, releasing produce to urban markets based on seasonal trends;
    c) It provides market intelligence and information feedback, to the AH and FPSU, using latest Information and communication technologies.
MAP 1: SEKHUKHUNE AGRI HUB AND FPSUs
Agri-parks, therefore, are catalytic sites for agrarian reform. Responding to the National Development Plan’s (NDP) call for rural economic transformation, as well as 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-parks programme across the country. The objectives of Agri-Parks are as 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);
- Promote the skills of and support to small-holder farmers through the provision of capacity building, mentorship, farm infrastructure, extension services, production inputs and mechanisation inputs;
- Enable producer ownership of the majority of Agri-Parks equity (70%), with the state and commercial interests holding minority shares (30%);
- Bring under-utilised land (especially in Communal Areas Land and land reform farms) into full production over the next three years, and expand irrigated agriculture; and
- Contribute to achievement of the NDP’s objective of fostering an inclusive rural economy and target of 1 million jobs created in agriculture sector by creating higher demand for raw agricultural produce, primary and ancillary inputs, as well as generating increased downstream economic activities in the sector.

In Sekhukhune, the location for the Agri-Hub site has been identified in Groblersdal. 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

Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) is one of 5 District Municipalities in the Limpopo province. The District was named after King Sekhukhune the 1st. Sekhukhune is situated in an area with long and proud history. It is also a place of majestic beauty with regal mountains, lush valleys and meandering rivers. The SDM consists of 5 local municipalities, namely:

• Elias Motsoaledi;
• Ephraim Mogale;
• Fetakgomo;
• Greater Tubatse; and
• Makhuduthamaga
The SDM is located in the south-eastern part of the Limpopo province and can be said to cover an area of approximately 13,528 km² with Greater Tubatse occupying the majority of the area with ± 4,602 km² followed by Elias Motsoaledi occupying approximately 3,713 km², Makhuduthamaga occupying ± 2,097 km², Ephraim Mogale with 2,011 km² and lastly, Fetakgomo covering the least with 1,105 km².

The district comprises of both rural and urban characteristics, however, it is mostly rural in nature and lies on the North western periphery of Mpumalanga. The SDM is located on the outskirts of major towns such as Pretoria, Nelspruit and Polokwane. It is estimated that approximately 5% of the district’s population lives in urban areas.

The main urban centres within the district are Groblersdal, Burgersfort, Marble Hall, Jane Furse, Ohrigstad, Steelpoort and Driekop. Outside these towns, there are 605 villages which are sparsely populated and dispersed throughout the district. Towns and villages in the SDM are serviced by the district's major rivers - the Olifants River, Tubatse River and Elands River.

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 Sekhukhune 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.

Sekhukhune 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)
- Agricultural Policy Action Plan (APAP)
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 active in their own development;
- Faster and more inclusive economic growth;
- Building capabilities;
- A capable and developmental state; and
- 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.

The overall objective is 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.

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.

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3 National Development Plan 2030

4 Ibid
The Sekhukhune District Rural Development Plan will align the Sekhukhune 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 2020\(^5\).

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\(^6\). The Sekhukhune District Rural Development Plan, by focusing on inclusive agricultural projects that are spatially diverse, will align itself closely with the New Growth Path.

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\(^5\) New Growth Path: Framework

\(^6\) Ibid
3.1.4 Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) – 2014 to 2019

The Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) is 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 Government will take and targets that need to be achieved. It also provides a framework for the other plans of national, provincial and local government.

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;
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
14. A diverse, socially cohesive society with a common national identity

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

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

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7 Medium Term Strategic Framework 2014-2019
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\(^8\). 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 rapid fundamental change in the relationship between land, livestock, cropping and community. It focuses on, amongst others, initiatives that support the establishment of rural business initiatives, agro-industries, co-operatives 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).

The Sekhukhune 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\(^9\):

- 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.

\(^8\) The Comprehensive Rural Development Programme Framework - July 2009

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)
- 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.

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, 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;

11 Ibid
• **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.; and

• **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 following 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

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 is 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.

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.

12 Limpopo Provincial Employment Growth and Development Plan 2009-2014
The PEGDP states that 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 Sekhukhune 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 SDM 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 as well as the private sectors are exploited to their full potential in order to ensure that the investments of 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 the 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.\textsuperscript{13}

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;

\textsuperscript{13} Limpopo Development Plan 2015-2019
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 Gross Geographic Product (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, and these include Greater Tubatse and Elias Motsoaledi in Sekhukhune District Municipality.

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 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:

\[\text{Link to the original document.}\]
The Limpopo Provincial SDF has been developed in order to achieve the spatial development objectives of the province, in a targeted and spatially co-ordinated manner. The Provincial SDF objectives set out to:

- Formulate a spatial framework which will guide and encourage equitable distribution of investment in terms of a functional settlement hierarchy;
- 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 agricultural development initiatives in the Limpopo SDF will be supported by the Sekhukhune 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 have been considered:

- Sekhukhune District Municipality 2025 Development Strategy (SGDS 2015)
- Sekhukhune District Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDP)
- Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDF)
- Sekhukhune District Municipality LED Strategy
- Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality IDP;
- Fetakgomo Local Municipality IDP;
- Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality IDP
- Greater Tubatse Municipality IDP; and
- Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality IDP
3.3.1 Sekhukhune District Municipality 2025 Integrated Development Strategy (SGDS) 2015

The Sekhukhune 2025 Development Strategy is an articulation of the longer term strategic direction to be pursued by the district in order to accelerate economic growth and enhance development. The 2025 Development Strategy is aligned to all plans put in place by the DM including the district and local integrated development plans.

The SGDS 2025 identified growth sectors to drive economic growth and social development in the District. In the SGDS, the Sekhukhune District deliberately chose to explore the potential of mining, agriculture and tourism as key contributors to its economy up to the year 2025.\(^\text{15}\)

The SGDS is structured into three components:

- Baseline research which outlines trends analysis in various thematic issues that are considered as shaping the District’s present and future;
- Four scenarios on different types of futures that might be experienced in Sekhukhune, depending on particular choice of policy positions; and
- Investment plans which detail short-to-medium term priority plans to be pursued by the District.

The SGDS goes on to indicate that there are huge opportunities, but also constraints to the development of these sectors in the District. These are outlined as follows\(^\text{16}\):

- **Agricultural opportunities:** Construction of abattoirs and feedlots, production of bio-fuels (from plants such as soya, sorghum, sunflower), dry land crop growing and livestock farming (cattle and goats)

- **Agricultural constraints:** lack of water due to unpredictable rainfall, distorted land ownership patterns, growing number of land claims and climate change

- **Tourism opportunities:** Development of the De Hoop Dam and Tsate Heritage Site as well as tourism initiatives such as the Family Recreation Cluster, Special Interest Cluster (birding, fishing, culture and heritage, mountain biking and 4x4 trails), Mega-Conservation Cluster, Golf and Game Cluster; and lastly the MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conference and Events) Cluster.

- **Tourism constraints:** Increasing incidents of crime, transport challenges e.g. lack of a rail link, other infrastructure, other service delivery constraints (e.g. telecommunications and electricity) and the lack of a major product.

- **Mining opportunities:** Beneficiation of minerals, building of a smelter, development of new platinum and chrome mines

\(^\text{15}\) Sekhukhune District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15

• *Mining constraints*: Falling price of minerals, pressure on environmentally sensitive areas

### 3.3.2 Sekhukhune District Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDP) 2014/15

The vision of the Sekhukhune District Municipality is to be a “Development oriented leader in Service Delivery”. This is supported by the deliverables of the Sekhukhune District Integrated Development Plan.

The SDM IDP seeks to align and integrate with policies at the national and provincial level through the following mayoral strategic priorities:

• *Economic growth, development and job creation*: Building an increased prosperity for all residents, sustainable job and income generation and better distribution of wealth;

• *Access to basic services and infrastructure*: Areas with limited access to infrastructure are characterized by high levels of poverty whilst those with access are better off. Absence of infrastructure therefore contributes to higher poverty levels;

• *Spatial development and sustainable land use practices*: Development requires resources including land. The municipality must therefore strategically facilitate access to land for sustainable development;

• *Active community participation and Inter-Governmental Co-operation*: Government programmes must be communicated to the community so they can measure the performance of government and hold it accountable in addressing the challenge of poverty, unemployment, and service delivery;

• *Community development and social cohesion*: Community development is a critical challenge facing the municipality in an attempt to create a stable and cohesive community; and

• *Accountable and Clean Governance*: The development of institutional capacity is a key priority to ensure that the SDM is equipped with high-quality staff that ensures that government programmes are implemented according to set targets.

Each priority is supported by envisaged outputs and key programmes for the District which, with the right levels of investment will provide opportunities for rural development related to agriculture amongst others. These outputs include:

• Economic growth, development and job creation: including agricultural development, tourism and mining development;

• Access to basic services and infrastructure: including roads, electricity and water services;

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17 Sekhukhune District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15

18 Ibid
• Spatial development and sustainable land use practices: including spatial planning and land use management;
• Active community participation and Inter-Governmental Co-operation: including monitoring government programmes and their impact;
• Community development and social cohesion: including environmental management and healthcare; and
• Effective, Accountable and Clean Governance: including skills development and organisational development.

The Sekhukhune District IDP acts as a broad business plan for the Sekhukhune District, and aims to tackle the challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality it faces. Emphasis in the financial year will be put on projects linked to budgets that support the opportunities it outlines.

3.3.3 Sekhukhune District Municipality Spatial Development Framework (SDF), 2008

The Sekhukhune District Municipality SDF was adopted in 2004 and reviewed in 2008. It is seen as an integral part of the district integrated development plan and is used as a tool to implement the IDP. It guides and informs all decisions of the municipality relating to the use, development and planning of land. \(^{19}\)

The Sekhukhune SDF identified spatial development objectives and principles for the District Municipality. These are aligned to the Limpopo SDF and include the following\(^{20}\):

• To actively protect, enhance and manage the natural environmental resources in the municipality in order to ensure a sustainable equilibrium between the mining, tourism and agricultural industries in the area.
• To promote commercial farming and food production along the Olifants River and Steelpoort River drainage systems in the District.
• To facilitate small scale and subsistence farming activities throughout the remaining part of the municipal area.
• To promote industrial/commercial development in the SDM with specific emphasis on agro-processing in the agricultural belt (Groblersdal), and mining/ore-processing in the mining belt (Tubatse).
• To create a strong east-west movement/development corridor in the SDM functionally linking the tourism precincts, mining belt and agricultural belt to one another, and to the markets of the Gauteng Province along the Moloto Corridor.

\(^{19}\) Ibid
\(^{20}\) Ibid
The SDF identifies a number of challenges that may impede further development in the region. In order to effect the spatial development objectives of the district, these will need to be addressed. Key spatial challenges identified include\(^\text{21}\):

- Uncertainty about the status of land ownership especially with reference to state and tribal land prohibits future development and investments;
- Unresolved and competing land claims in the area threaten to destabilize future development;
- There is an increase in the number of Informal settlements and housing backlog as mining and agriculture activities intensify;
- Competing land uses (i.e. mining, agriculture, Commercial, etc.) may cause spatial, social, environmental and economic constraints in future; and
- There is lack of adequate water to supply all settlements

Although agriculture is a key area for economic growth in the Sekhukhune District Municipality, the above challenges will seriously constrain planned development initiatives if not directly addressed.

### 3.3.4 Sekhukhune District Municipality LED Strategy\(^\text{22}\)

The Sekhukhune economy provides a mix of overwhelmingly negative features - such as the highest unemployment rate in Limpopo - and positive opportunities - such as the mining potential within the area\(^\text{23}\). The Sekhukhune Development agency (whose primary role is to unlock economic development in the district) states that agriculture, mining and tourism all have the potential to spearhead development in the SDM economy up to the year 2025 as indicated in Sekhukhune 2025 Development Strategy.

The Sekhukhune DM LED strategy identifies the municipal economy’s main features, describes its dominant sectors and concludes with an assessment of its competitive advantage. Its objective is to contribute towards economic growth and development in the DM thereby addressing unemployment and poverty.

The Sekhukhune LED identified a number of constraints to economic development in the district, these include\(^\text{24}\):

- Drops in global demand for minerals and agricultural commodities;
- Mining unrest;

\(^{21}\) Ibid
\(^{22}\) Adapted from the Sekhukhune Integrated Development Plan
\(^{24}\) Sekhukhune District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15
• Continued water scarcity;
• Land claims, tenure and ownership; and
• Inadequate services and infrastructure

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

• Platinum and chrome ore mining;
• Development of value adding industries such as agro-processing; and
• Growing the agricultural base.

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

3.3.5 Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality IDP 2013/14

The Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality is situated to the south and southwest of the Sekhukhune DM. It is primarily rural in nature with a high unemployment rate resulting in high poverty levels. The bulk of economic activity is concentrated around the commercial farms in the vicinity of Groblersdal town. The Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality identifies agriculture (both horticulture and livestock), tourism and mining as areas of significant development potential in the region.\(^25\)

The Elias Motsoaledi LM IDP outlines the priority issues that the municipality is currently facing, all of which are aligned to the 12 outcomes of the NDP. Some of these are summarized as follows: \(^26\):

• Access to basic service delivery – including electricity, roads and water;
• Local economic development – including the creation of jobs and provision of support to emerging businesses; and
• Spatial Rationale – including the provision of land for human settlement

With strategic objectives including:

• To ensure proper land use and human settlement;
• To provide high level infrastructure and basic services; and
• To ensure municipal economic growth through job creation and investor attraction.

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\(^{25}\) Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2013/14

\(^{26}\) Ibid
3.3.6 Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality IDP 2013/14

The Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality is situated within an intense farming area supported by the Loskop Dam irrigation water scheme. The LM is positioned to the east of the SDM, and is some 145km east of Pretoria and 150km from Polokwane. It is bordered by Makhuduthamaga LM in the south, Elias Motsoaledi in the east, Dr. JS Moroka LM (Mpumalanga) in the west, Mookgopong LM to the north west and Lepelle-Nkumpi to the north.\(^\text{27}\)

The Ephraim Mogale LM is predominantly rural, with mostly traditional land ownership. The main economic sectors include agriculture and agro processing with a wide variety of crops produced in the area.

The main thrust of the Ephraim Mogale IDP is to put in place strategies aimed at alleviating poverty, and it outlines the key challenges that the municipality is currently facing. These challenges are outlined below.\(^\text{28}\):

- Access to basic service delivery: including electricity, roads and water;
- Local economic development: including the creation of jobs and provision of support to emerging businesses; and
- Town planning challenges: including the provision of land for human settlement

With priority strategies as follows:

- Spatial Rationale – looking at land use and land use management in the LM;
- Service delivery, infrastructure and services – including the provision of water, electricity and roads in the LM; and
- Local Economic Development.

3.3.7 Greater Tubatse Local Municipality IDP 2015-2016

The Greater Tubatse Local Municipality is situated to the northeast of the Sekhukhune District. It is located north of the N4 highway, Middleburg, Belfast and Mbombela; and east of the N1 highway, Groblersdal and Polokwane. It borders Makhuduthamaga in the west, Fetakgomo in the northwest, Elias Motsoaledi in the southwest and Ehlanzeni District Municipality (situated in the Mpumalanga province) on the east.

The LM is largely rural in nature, with high dependence on mining. Agriculture dominates most land use; however, this is largely for subsistence purposes with only a small percentage used for commercial farming. A large proportion of land in the Greater Tubatse

\(^{27}\) Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2013/14

\(^{28}\) Ibid
LM is under land claims and scarcity of water in the region further hampers agricultural development.29

The Greater Tubatse IDP indicates the constraints to development that the municipality is currently facing. These include:30

- Lack of infrastructure: including water, roads, electricity and sanitation;
- Land ownership limitations: in former homeland areas and inappropriate land use management;
- Shortage of skills: in the local labour force and among unemployed people; and
- Institutional capacity: including the inability to attract and retain skilled staff.

The intrusion of the volcanic bushveld igneous complex into the sedimentary rock of the area has resulted in the introduction of minerals such as chrome, vanadium, platinum, asbestos, andalusite and magnetite. Mining therefore presents a large opportunity and coupled with the natural resources available in the area, creates the potential to develop tourism and thereby to diversify the economic base of the municipality.31

With this in mind, the LM has identified the following strategic thrusts, for the 2015/16 IDP review period. These include:

- Integrated planning and development;
- Reliable basic Service delivery and infrastructural development;
- Local Economic Development and growth;
- Urbanisation and integrated human settlements; and
- Financial viability.

3.3.8 Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality IDP 2014/15

The Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality is located centrally in the Sekhukhune District. It borders Fetakgomo in the northeast, Ephraim Mogale on the west, Elias Motsoaledi in the South, Greater Tubatse to the east and Lepelle-Nkumpi (Capricorn District Municipality) to the north.

The Makhuduthamaga IDP indicates the key challenges that the municipality is currently facing and states that land ownership is the single biggest constraint to economic growth in

29 Greater Tubatse Local Economic Development Strategy
30 Greater Tubatse Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2015/16
31 Ibid
the LM, and can be deemed as one of the root causes of poverty. Other challenges are summarized as follows:

- Environmental management: including livestock management and control;
- Service delivery and poor infrastructure: including access to water, sanitation, electricity, housing, waste management, roads and transportation;
- Local economic development and municipal revenue streams; and
- Access to proper healthcare and education.

In order to address the challenges identified, the Makhuduthamaga LM has identified strategies for the short, medium and long term. The main strategic objectives are:

- To ensure greater investment in infrastructure and provide better services to Makhuduthamaga residents and businesses;
- To build the capacity of the LM by raising institutional efficiency, effectiveness, competency, targeted training, recruitment, inculcating organizational culture of service and responsiveness;
- To build a sustainable revenue base for the Municipality;
- Promote local economic development (LED) in the municipal area; and
- Improve good governance and deepen community involvement in the affairs of the municipality.

The Makhuduthamaga LM promotes agriculture, tourism and mining as the key growth sectors, although it is currently an agricultural and farming municipality. The land tenure system, insufficient skills to develop both agriculture and farming into an economic development sector, poor and lack of infrastructure, ineffective support from agricultural institutions, lack of support from financial institutions and lack of proper studies that will determine the suitability of pieces of land are holding this sector back from developing to its full potential in the region.

3.3.9 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, the Limpopo province and the Sekhukhune District Municipality.

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

32 Ibid
33 Ibid
• 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.

Sekhukhune, 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 Sekhukhune 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 arrangements for an effective implementation of the Sekhukhune 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 Sekhukhune district rural development plan.

4.1 DEMOGRAPHICS

Data acquired from the 2011 census indicates the Sekhukhune District Municipality has a total estimated population of 1090424 people with Greater Tubatse having the highest population of ± 343 470 people (31.50%), followed by Makhuduthamaga with ± 262 738
people (24.10%), Elias Motsoaledi with ± 247 486 people (22.70%), Ephraim Mogale with ±124 511 people (11.42%) and lastly Fetakgomo with ± 112 232 people (10.29%).

When looking at population figures from 2001 to 2011, unlike the populations of other district municipalities in Limpopo that have seen a decline in population, the SDM population has remained constant. Census 2011 also shows that the SDM has more females than males and that the population is young, with the majority aged below 35 years.

4.1.1 Employment

Unemployment is a concerning issue in the SDM. According to the Sekhukhune IDP 2013/14 the district has an unemployment rate that is higher than the average unemployment rate of the Limpopo province. The estimated unemployment rate for the SDM is approximately 50.9% whereas the average unemployment rate of Limpopo is approximately 39.9%. This higher level of unemployment in the district results in a high dependency ratio of ± 74.7%.

4.1.2 Education

Education is vital for the success of both economic and social development of any district or local municipality. It is through education that the foundation of a nation’s economic destiny is built. The SDM IDP 2014/15 indicates that district has a relatively low literacy level with approximately 28% of the population not having obtained any form of formal education, and only ±1% obtaining some form of tertiary education. In total, the district has an overall number ± 902 educational facilities, with Makhuduthamaga hosting 274 schools, followed by Greater Tubatse with 247 schools, Elias Motsoaledi with 178, Ephraim Mogale with 109, and Fetakgomo with 94 schools.

Challenges that affect the quality of education in the SDM include the fact that the majority of the schools do not have a proper water supply system, and borehole to supply them with water with the majority using pit toilets. The District has an estimated backlog of 56 schools with Makhuduthamaga having the highest backlog of approximately 22 schools, followed by Fetakgomo with 12 schools, Ephraim Mogale with 11 schools, Greater Tubatse with 6 schools and lastly, Elias Motsoaledi with 5 schools.

4.1.3 Transportation, traffic and road network

17.7% of total population makes use of public transport.

There are railway stations at Burgersfort, Orighstad and Steelpoort but these are mainly for the transportation of goods.

According to the Tubatse IDP (2005) most community members (42%) walk where they want to be. 18% make use of public transport and 10% of private vehicles. Other transportation is
used by 30% of the community. Of the 13% of Tubatse residents that are employed, 88% are pedestrians, 4% make use of busses, 2% drive their own vehicle, 3% are passengers (lift clubs) and 3% make use of taxis.

The challenge in rural areas such as Tubatse is to sustain an effective accessible road network, with a secondary road network in place. Paved roads include:

- 350 km roads
- Degrading rapidly due to no maintenance
- Are well connected by provincial arterial roads
- R37 declared National road

Gravel roads include:

- 400 km
- Used to transport people in area
- Condition of roads - below standard
- Village streets - worse
MAP 3: SCHOOLS
4.1.4 Settlement Types

The Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) is a predominantly rural district with approximately 740 villages. Majority of these are located in the Greater Tubatse local municipality which has ± 233 villages, followed by Makhuduthamaga with 189 villages, Elias Motsoaledi with 151 villages, Fetakgomo with 98 and Ephraim Mogale with 69 villages.

In 2011, it was recorded that only ± 234 095 households were residing in formal dwelling units, with another ± 10 107 still residing in traditional dwelling (mud houses) and ± 17 861 residing in informal dwelling units (Shacks). These need to be formalized especially those situated around the main towns of the district. There have been decreases and increases in the population of the local municipalities within the district and with these population trends, the allocation of basic services such as water and sanitation should focus on those municipalities with increasing populations - the Greater Tubatse, Elias Motsoaledi and Makhuduthamaga LM's.

There is a great deal of rural to urban migration in the SDM as a result of the need to access a better quality and standard of life. This results in an influx to less formal townships in the district making it difficult to enable the upgrading of services and infrastructure.

4.2 KEY ECONOMIC DRIVERS

Economic succession is one of the main indicators of a progressing and growing district. There are different economic sectors that contribute to the economic succession of any district municipality or even province itself and for SDM, Agriculture, Mining and Tourism are the three sectors that drive the districts economy.

4.2.1 Agriculture:

The SDM is rural in nature, and due to this, agriculture will influence the districts economy. The agricultural sector in the SDM is comprised of both commercial and subsistence farming, with Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi local municipalities housing one of the largest clusters of commercial farming in the country. Despite the agricultural sector being one of the greatest contributors to employment within the district, it remains a marginal contributor to the GGP at approximately 9.7%. Water scarcity and the uncertainty created by the issue of land claims hinder the expansion of commercial farming. Commercial farming in the SDM is concentrated in the following areas:

- The South-Western part of the district (near Groblersdal and Marble Hall) (the Loskop Scheme); and
The Eastern section of the district (Near Burgersfort and Ohrigstad) (the Ohrigstad Scheme)

4.3 AGRICULTURE

Approximately two thirds of households in the SDM do not engage in agriculture. Agricultural activity recorded among households in respective local municipalities in descending order is Makhuduthamaga (38%), Fetakgomo (35%), Elias Motsoaledi (31%), Greater Tubatse (30%), and Ephraim Mogale (29%).

The nature of agricultural activity by households’ shows a diversity of production mainly confined to livestock, and major cropping in tobacco, wheat, cotton, soya beans, citrus, paprika, pumpkin, peas, commercial vegetables, seed maize, commercial maize, table grapes, dry beans, watermelons, Lucerne, olives and cantaloupes. Commercial agriculture in Sekhukhune is concentrated in two areas, namely the south-western part of the district (near Groblersdal and Marble Hall); and the eastern section of the district (near Burgersfort and Ohrigstad). These perspectives are noted in the figures overleaf.
FIGURE 2: NATURE OF AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY AND PRODUCTION OF HOUSEHOLDS IN SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT

Source: Statistics South Africa Census 2011
Among agricultural households, those headed by females dominate across all local municipalities. Delineating the district demographics further shows that 40% of agricultural 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 COHORT
There is low level of formal education in the district with approximately 86% of agricultural household heads with no schooling past grade 11. This confines them to the semi-skilled and unskilled as well as informal employment categories. Low level of education makes agriculture the most viable economic activity with the best absorption 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 revenue generation capabilities hence approximately 90% of agricultural households in the SDM fall into the no income and R1-R38400 income levels. This creates challenges in enabling individuals 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 type of agricultural activity engaged in by agricultural households in the SDM is largely confined to animals only, crops only or mixed farming. Fetakgomo and Greater Tubatse are engaged more in animal production than any other type of activity. 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 SDM is dominated by poultry only ownership, with 3 out of 5 local municipalities (Ephraim Mogale, Elias Motsoaledi and Greater Tubatse) in the district showing this as their main source of livestock. Goats-only ownership is dominant in Fetakgomo, with mixed ownership being the biggest contributor in Makhuduthamaga. This is depicted in the figure below.

Source: Statistics South Africa Census 2011

FIGURE 6: AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS OWNING LIVESTOCK ONLY
The scale of livestock production is a significant inference on the sophistication of livestock value chains in the SDM. In cattle production, subsistence farming (1-10 cattle) is the mainstay in the district, with smallholder production being practised across all local municipalities. Sheep production is mainly carried out at subsistence level throughout the district. Commercial sheep production is marginally practised in all LM’s with Fetakgomo (2%) and Greater Tubatse (2%) reflecting the highest percentage. This is illustrated in the figure below.

*Source: Statistics South Africa Census 2011*

**FIGURE 7: AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS OWNING CATTLE AND SHEEP**
Goat and pig production in the district are mainly at the subsistence level, with over 70% of the farmers in all LM’s operating at this level for both categories. The number of households that own goats is much higher than those that own pigs; however, the distribution of commercial farming activities across all LM’s in both categories remains very low.

Source: Statistics South Africa Census 2011

FIGURE 8: GOAT AND PIG PRODUCTION IN SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT
The agricultural capability of the district is highly dependent on the availability and consistency of the supply of water. Ephraim Mogale and Fetakgomo local municipalities have the best water reticulation in the district with Elias Motsoaledi, Makhuduthamaga and Greater Tubatse local municipalities experiencing the most challenges in water access. This is depicted in the figure below.

Source: Statistics South Africa Census 2011

FIGURE 9: WATER ACCESS AND SOURCES IN SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT
Agricultural potential in the SDM has been identified. This is noted in the table below:

**TABLE 1: AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Agricultural potential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables</td>
<td>Horticultural value chain enhancement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Citrus production and table grapes</strong></td>
<td>Citrus farming value chain enhancement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key learnings from the agriculture sector situational analysis include:

- The SDM 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 the creation of employment opportunities in the form of semi-skilled and unskilled employment.

- There is need to harness commercial production to stimulate the development of value chains that are inclusive to emerging sustent farmers in the district, thereby enabling access to market and education on good agricultural practices.

- Land tenure management systems are critical to the growth of subsistence farmers into smallholder farmers as it enables access to finance, markets and education.
4.3.1 Tourism:

Sekhukhune District Municipality is host to the scenic Flag Boshielo Dam area, Schuinsdraai Nature Reserve, Potlake Nature Reserve and the Maleoskop Resort and Conservancy. The district has established the Kamoka Open Africa Route, which can be linked to the existing African Ivory and Cultural Heartland and the planned Great Limpopo Route. The recent construction and opening of the De Hoop Dam in Steelpoort is set to boost tourism in Sekhukhune. De-Hoop Dam is located in the rural core of the district municipality.34

There are approximately 84 accommodation facilities offering ± 2 627 beds throughout the SDM. However, even though the tourism sector is listed as one of the economic drivers of the district, the SDM lacks a major product to attract a significant volume of tourists. According to the 2011 census the tourism sector employs just 962 people in the district. This number must be increased through the implementation of the Sekhukhune DRDP.

4.3.2 Mining:

For over a century modern mining has been practiced in Sekhukhune where focus has been on the mining of asbestos, chromite and platinum deposits from the Merensky Reef, which forms part of the mineral rich Bushveld Complex (the district contains the world’s largest deposits of platinum group metals). Changing commodity prices have had an impact on the mining industry in the SDM over the years as when prices rose, new explorations and development took place, and when prices fell, mines within the area were shut down. This is a crucial issue to consider when providing infrastructure and housing in support of expanding mining operations.

There are approximately 20 operational mines in the SDM, with the majority of the activity located along the Dilokong Corridor (R37 and R555). The Dilokong Corridor goes as far as Fetakgomo and Greater Tubatse Local Municipalities, with some isolated activities located in Ephraim Mogale LM. Major companies operating in SDM are:

- Anglo Platinum;
- Xstrata;
- BHP Billiton;
- Implats;
- ASA Metals; and
- Marula Platinum.

34 Sekhukhune Integrated Development Plan
Mining in the SDM has not reached its full potential and a focus on developing small scale mining activities will be pivotal to rural development. This could leverage the development of:

- Eleven new platinum and chrome mines over the next 3 years with an estimated creation of approximately 17 000 direct jobs; and
- A R2 billion smelter plant being considered for construction and is estimated to create approximately 18 200 jobs.

This growth will also result in spin-off of small businesses related to sectors such as catering and beneficiation projects.

In conclusion, economic activity is predominantly concentrated in Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi to the West, and Tubatse to the East. These LM’s also host the five main urban centres. Agriculture, Tourism and Mining are regarded as three leading contributors to the economy of the SDM, but statistics show that Community services, Mining and Trade are the sectors that dominate the districts economy with Community Services contributing ± 3.62% to GGP, followed by mining with ± 2.38% and trade with ± 2.66%. There is therefore potential to grow the agriculture, tourism and mining sectors in the SDM in support of rural development.

4.4 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The Sekhukhune District Municipality is an area with a long and proud history. It is also a place of majestic beauty with legal mountains, lush valleys and meandering rivers. Under its soil, lie vast deposits of precious metals. It is a land blessed with natural beauty, unusual resource endowments and a compelling history dating back to the 16th century.

4.4.1 Sites of Cultural, Heritage, Religious and Historical Interests

The Sekhukhune District Municipality offers a rich cultural heritage with world-renowned heritage sites such as Tšate, Lenao la Modimo, Ledingwe Cultural Village and many more. Some of the heritage sites offered by this historical region are outlined below: 35

- Ledingwe Cultural Village: history and heritage of the Ndebele people;
- Tjate: commemorates the cultural heritage of the Bapedi people;
- The battle of Sekhukhune tourism route;
- Echo Stone; and
- Lenao la Modimo (God’s footprint).

35 http://www.sekhukhune.gov.za
4.4.2 Nature Reserves and Game Parks

The Sekhukhune District Municipality has a number of game farms that are always fully booked during the hunting season as well as a number of nature reserves, these include:

The Potlake nature reserve, which lies approximately 16km's from the town of Groblersdal and is situated in the Fetakgomo Local Municipality. Although this reserve is earmarked to draw a large number of tourists, the nature reserve is currently in a state of disrepair. Upgrading the reserve is one of the Sekhukhune Development Agencies (SDA) plans to boost tourism.\(^{36}\)

North of Marble Hall lies the Schuinsdraai eco-system which surrounds Flag Boshielo and covers 9 037 hectares of land. The Schuinsdraai dam provides an ideal environment for the large crocodile population that inhabits the area. Other game that can be spotted at Schuinsdraai Nature Reserve includes kudu, impala, eland, warthog and rare roan antelope.\(^{37}\)

Moutse Nature Reserve lies about 23km South West of Groblersdal, in the Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality. The reserve - which was proclaimed a protected area in March 1996 - covers approximately 1500 hectares. There are neither facilities nor any documented activities in the reserve. The Loskop Dam Game Reserve, where some of the mammals that have been reintroduced to the reserve include White rhino, buffalo, eland, sable and giraffe to name just a few, lies approximately 30km South East of the Moutse Nature Reserve.\(^{38}\)

There are a number of other reserves and parks in the Sekhukhune district, however, little is known about these and the majority do not offer much in terms of tourist attractions. This is highlighted in the Sekhukhune integrated development plan as a potential for economic development in the region.

4.4.3 Protected Areas And Environmentally Sensitive Areas

The following environmental problems have been identified in most parts of the Sekhukhune District Municipality\(^ {39}\):

- Drought;

\(^{36}\) http://www.idc.co.za/home/ads-home/more-ads-projects/451-plans-for-potlake.html
\(^{37}\) http://www.encounter.co.za/schuinsdraai-nature-reserve.html
\(^{38}\) http://www.wheretostay.co.za/topic/5518
\(^{39}\) Sekhukhune District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15
• Overgrazing;
• Soil erosion;
• Deforestation;
• Pesticide poisoning and other forms of chemical pollutions; and
• Air pollution from the industrialised and mining areas that warrants urgent attention in terms of resources.

The Sekhukhune District Municipality does not have Environmental Management Inspectors to help educate the communities about conservation of the land, fauna and flora for the future. One of the major environmental problems in the area is inappropriate agricultural methods that lead to overgrazing and even desertification in places like Thabanaseshu.

Given the environmental challenges faced in the Sekhukhune district, special care must be taken to preserve and protect those areas that may come under threat such as the Moutse Nature Reserve, which is a large protected area in the region.

4.4.4 Grasslands

Elias Motsoaledi Ephraim Mogale, Greater Tubatse, Makhuduthamaga, and Fetakgomo are dominated by the natural grassland thicket, bushveld, bush clumps and high fynbos. In addition to the above-mentioned land cover, Ephraim Mogale is bordered by degraded forest and woodland, and forest plantations around Motseleope.
MAP 6: ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS
4.4.5 Topography

Topographically, the Sekhukhune District Municipality is characterised by undulating hills, ranging from the Steelpoort River Valley at about 900 metres to the Leolo Mountains at approximately 1,932m. The area is transected by major chains of hills and has a North-South orientation, creating moderately steep slopes facing predominantly east or west.

4.4.6 Water Resources (Hydrology, Water Catchment Areas)

The supply of water in the Sekhukhune District Municipality is a key challenge when considering business needs for water especially for agricultural purposes. The SDM has the lowest access to infrastructure amongst all districts in the Limpopo province. There are low levels of access to clean water, and access to piped water above RDP level has only slightly increased from 37% in 1996 to 40% in 2009. Water availability continues to be a major problem in the District, with a lack of stock water facilities and many boreholes not functioning.

In order to resolve the problem of water shortages in the area, the Flag Boshielo Dam has been raised by five meters and funds have been allocated to construct a new dam (De Hoop Dam) in order to increase the district’s capacity to provide water to its communities. These two dams will improve the state of water provision in the SDM.

Groundwater is a major water resource for most Sekhukhune households with 92% of households in Tubatse, 87% in Fetakgomo and 16% in Ephraim Mogale solely reliant on groundwater. The following water sources are found in the DM:

- Ground water;
- Wells;
- Rivers;
- Pools; and
- Dams e.g. Flag Boshielo,

4.4.7 Vegetation

The vegetation of the Sekhukhune District Municipality is diverse as it incorporates grassy plains, bushveld and misty mountains, as well as a myriad plant and animal species. There are four main vegetation types:

- Sekhukhune Plains Bushveld (Mixed Bushveld);
- Sekhukhune Mountain Bushveld (Sourish Mixed Bushveld);

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40 Sekhukhune District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15
- Sekhukhune Montane Grassland (Bankenveld); and
- Leolo Summit Sourveld (North-eastern Sandy Highveld).

The first two are semi-open woodlands with strong grass component, whereas the latter two are pure grasslands. The vegetation in the SDM is mainly used for grazing and browsing domestic livestock, primarily cattle and goats, although crops (mainly sorghum) play a very important role in subsistence agricultural production in some areas. The long-term ecological sustainability of these natural ecosystems is therefore critical to the maintenance of livelihoods and for sustaining rural development.\(^{41}\)

So far more than 2 200 species of vascular plants have been reported in the natural vegetation of the region (Siebert et al. 2002). Close to 70% of the plants in the DM are herbaceous species of which a large number are used directly for medicinal or cultural purposes, or are edible. Because this has until recently been a botanically under-explored area, new endemic plant taxa and biogeographically important species are still being discovered regularly. Some of these undescribed taxa are already threatened with extinction due to overgrazing and housing development.\(^{42}\)

### 4.4.8 Geology and Soil Types

The geology of the Sekhukhune District Municipality consists of the Eastern Bushveld and Springbok flats region. The overall geology of the area is classified as follows:

- Gabbro (South of the R37);
- Anorte band (adjacent to the R37);
- Clinopyroxenite (to the North of R37); and
- Arenite (adjacent to the Olifants River).

The Springbok flats coalfields are found on the Western side of the Sekhukhune District. The Transvaal Supergroup is found in Ephraim Mogale towards the east of the District, as well as in an arc inscribed by the Northern Drakensburg in the Far East. The stones and rocks found within the Transvaal Supergroup include dolomite, limestone, iron-formation, shale and quartzite, amongst others\(^{43}\).

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\(^{42}\) Ibid

\(^{43}\) Sekhukhune District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15
The unique geology of Sekhukhune has left the DM with the largest reserves of platinum group metals in the world which has led to an enormous growth in the mining sector and increased economic opportunity in the district\textsuperscript{44}.

The renowned Bushveld Complex is found at the centres of the region. The western portion contains acidic rocks, whilst the Eastern site has basic rocks that contain metal minerals. It is the latter that is of economic significance. The Merensky Reef is found within this Complex, and contains major deposits of the platinum group metal, nickel, copper and cobalt.

\textsuperscript{44} Sekhukhune District Municipality Air Quality Management Plan
MAP 9: MAXIMUM ANNUAL TEMPERATURE
MAP 10: MEAN ANNUAL RAINFALL
4.4.9 Soil Types

The Sekhukhune region is characterised by heavy metal soils that are derived from predominantly pyroxite, norite, and anorthosite formations. It forms part of the Bushveld Igneous Complex that has ultramafic layers45.

4.4.10 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 Sekhukhune District Municipality is rich in biodiversity. Above its soil sprouts more than 2200 indigenous species of vascular plants, making it an area of exceptionally high biodiversity that is globally recognized. There are however some risks to this in the DM. The region is rich in ultramafic-induced endemic plant species, which make it a treasure house for biodiversity. However, the substrate to which these plants are restricted is being used for mining which is causing some endemic species such as Melhania randii to be threatened with extinction. There are 58 endemic and approximately another 70 near endemic plant taxa in the region which have immense importance in traditional medicine.

The role of biodiversity in agricultural and natural ecosystems is to ensure food security and sustainable agricultural production through direct or indirect provision of food for humans and their livestock, provision of raw materials and services, such as fibre, fuel and pharmaceuticals and the maintenance of ecosystem functions. Any agricultural plan must therefore take the biodiversity of the region into consideration46.

45 Sekhukhune District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15
46 Ibid
MAP 11: BIODIVERSITY GROUPS
4.4.11 Climate

Across the globe, environmental stresses and major changes in climate conditions are influencing the lives and livelihoods of ordinary people and communities everywhere. This is apparent in the Sekhukhune District, with a prime example being the rainfall patterns which are highly variable. This disrupts a wide range of activities in the area such as rain-fed crop production, often with very little warning.

The Sekhukhune District Municipality is fairly typical of the Savanna Biome: warm, moist summers and cool, dry winters. The temperature shows moderate fluctuation with average summer temperatures of 23°C as well as a maximum of 28°C and a minimum of 18°C. In winter, the average is 13.5°C with the maximum of 20°C and a minimum of 7°C.

Sekhukhune is located in the Summer Rainfall Zone of the country, and receives more than 80% of its rainfall between November and March. The Southern parts of the area receive more rain (between 600mm – 800mm annually), whilst the Northern parts receive only 500mm – 600mm by comparison. This limits the type of agricultural activity that can take place in the north. Little rainfall occurs during the winter month of July with an average monthly precipitation of 3 mm.47

4.4.12 Air Quality

The Sekhukhune District Municipality Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) was developed to set the framework within which air quality will be managed in the DM in future. The vision of this plan is “The Greater Sekhukhune District Municipality is committed to the protection of its citizens and hence will endeavor to maintain a cleaner environment for them through the control and implementation of good air quality management standards”48.

This plan will ensure that the municipality is proactive about their approach to air quality management and planning. Although overall air quality within the SDM 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 DM does not deteriorate to unacceptable levels49.

47 Sekhukhune District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2014/15
48 Sekhukhune District Municipality Air Quality Management Plan
49 Ibid
4.5 INPUTS FROM STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS

The meeting was held on the 11th of June 2015 in Groblersdal. Present were representatives from Traditional Councils, DRDLR, Agriculture department, Sekhukhune DM and local municipalities. Below are some of the issues raised:

— The Director of Planning and Economic Development highlighted that most of the research on rural development in Sekhukhune has already been done. What is needed is the alignment and synthesis. The DRDP provides an opportunity to align all existing research.

— Representatives from local municipalities highlighted that they were finalising their IDPs and that the DRDP can be enriched by recently reviewed strategic spatial planning documents.

— It was suggested that the service provider compile a draft DRDP for Sekhukhune. The draft would then be workshopped and/or circulated to stakeholders for comments.

4.5.1 Key Development Challenges

Land in Sekhukhune is split between former homeland areas and areas which fell outside the Lebowa and KwaNdebele homelands. Land formed as part of these former homelands is characterized by low-density residential areas spreading over huge areas of land. Residential areas located within the western extents of the district are more densely populated / developed than those in the north due to their proximity to Gauteng. Land which fell outside the former homelands is characterized by private and commercial farms and medium density settlements clustered around semi-urban centres featuring retail and service-related activities.

Land ownership and land claims are a challenge for the district as the uncertainty of land ownership, especially regarding state owned land and tribal owned land may hinder development and future investments.

Land invasion is another challenge as the number of informal settlements keeps increasing alongside the housing backlog in the SDM due to mining and agricultural activities intensifying. These competing land uses cause socio-economic as well environmental issues. The provision of basic services especially the provision of adequate water for all settlements in the district is still experiencing backlogs.
4.6 SWOT ANALYSIS

Below is a synopsis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT analysis) that exist in Sekhukhune, 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.

4.6.1 Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality

| Strengths | — It is host to 3 growth points namely: Groblersdal Provincial Growth Point, Roossenekal and Motetema Municipal Growth Point. These growth points refer to settlement areas which feature strong economic, social and institutional activities. |
| Weaknesses | — Elias Motsoaledi is predominantly rural in nature.  
— Has a high unemployment rate.  
— Lack of service delivery.  
— Youth and women unemployment levels are high. |
| Opportunities | — SDF indicates that there lies great potential in the sectors of agriculture (horticulture and livestock) and tourism for this local municipality. |
| Threats | — A large percentage of the area cannot be considered for urban development because of its mountainous terrain.  
— Spatial separations and disparities of towns and townships have caused inefficient service provision.  
— Invasion of land hinders planning and development. |

4.6.2 Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality

| Strengths | — Is host to 3 growth points namely: Marble Hall Provincial Growth Point Van Der Merweskraal and Elandskraal Municipal Growth Points.  
— Major producer of citrus and table grapes. |
| Weaknesses | — A large network of informal traders operates throughout the |
municipal area and this increases the rates of those invading land as they sell where they are prohibited to.

— EMLM is predominantly rural, therefore, there is no bulk water provided in most villages. Example: Moutse West

**Opportunities**

— Flag Boshiebo Dam provides opportunity for tourism development and agriculture (horticulture and livestock).

— SDF indicates that there is high potential agricultural land in the LM.

**Threats**

— Urban Sprawl.

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**4.6.3 Greater Tubatse Local Municipality**

**Strengths**

— GTM has 5 Growth Points: Burgersfort Provincial Growth Point, Steelport District Growth Point, Mecklenburg, Driekop and Ohrigstad Municipal Growth Points.

— Has a strong mining sector.

**Weaknesses**

— Majority of the settlements are far apart, which makes the provision and maintenance of services very costly.

**Opportunities**

— SDF indicates that there lies great potential in the sector of mining for this local municipality.

**Threats**

— Due to the rural nature of GTM, the municipality is experiencing high service delivery backlogs.

— Approximately 50% of the land in GTM is under claims; they are mostly in rural areas and only one in an urban area, Steelport. 24% of the claims are submitted by traditional authorities and 18% by individual persons.

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**4.6.4 Fetakgomo Local Municipality**

**Strengths**

— Fetakgomo has one growth point: Apel Municipal Growth Point.

**Weaknesses**

— Fetakgomo is predominantly rural in nature.

**Opportunities**

— SDF indicates that there lies great potential in the sectors of
### Agriculture and Tourism for this local municipality.

#### Threats
- Majority of the land is owned by Traditional Authorities, which to a certain extent, results in the unavailability of land.

#### 4.6.5 Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality

##### Strengths
- Makhuduthamaga is host to 2 growth points namely: Jane Furse Provincial Growth Point (Regarded as the Business Hub of MLM) and Phokwane municipal growth point (regarded as the agricultural node).
- The De Hoop Dam, 13th largest dam in the country, which will help alleviate water scarcity, and become a catalyst for social and economic development.

##### Weaknesses
- Makhuduthamaga is predominantly rural in nature.

##### Opportunities
- SDF indicates that there lies great potential in the sectors of Agriculture and Tourism for this local municipality.

##### Threats
- Land invasion.
- Land claims and ownership- almost 80% of the farms in MLM are under land claims. There are 42 claims awaiting approval.

### 4.7 KEY FINDINGS FROM IN LOCO/ GROUND TRUTHING INSPECTIONS

In loco inspections were conducted on the 11th and 12th of November 2015 in all of the identified intervention areas in Sekhukhune district municipality. Meetings were held with various stakeholders in order to determine the challenges and opportunities in the identified areas. There is a lot of undocumented information that is only seen when visiting the intervention areas and talking to the community members. This information will inform proposals and strategies to address the existing challenges and also assist in forward planning.

Various projects were visited in the rural areas of Sekhukhune in order to find out the kind of interventions that the government can embark on to improve the livelihoods of communities in these areas. The majority of projects visited provided good feedback and a general understanding of the areas of interest.
4.8 SYNTHESIS

Sekhukhune District Municipality has one of the greatest and most beautiful environments and is situated in an area with a long and proud history. It is also a place of majestic beauty and regal mountains, lush valleys and meandering rivers, which can be said to be the district's greatest assets. There lies great developmental potential within the district and therefore it needs to be valued and taken care of.

The majority of the land within the district forms part of the former Lebowa and KwaNdebele homelands and this is what gives the district its rural character with the majority of the population staying in rural areas and only 5% of them residing in urban areas. Regions within the SDM have great agricultural potential especially in livestock, vegetables, grains and pasture.

Service provision and community facilities with the district are dispersed and inadequate due to the fact that villages are sparsely populated. More effort must be put into introducing these areas in growth point strategies to enable wider access to services. Land ownership and land claims especially in Greater Tubatse and Elias Motsoaledi pose a challenge as the majority of land in the SDM is either privately owned or owned by traditional authorities. Initiating development therefore requires the owners' permission.

Based on feedback from in loco inspections and meetings held with the municipalities, traditional leaders and other stakeholders, the following was discovered:

- There are a number of projects in the villages that were abandoned and neglected and this has resulted in communities losing jobs.
- There are many niche commodities in the villages that need to be developed and marketed in order to enter into the mainstream economy.
- Most of the schemes visited have recurring challenges and problems that hinder production and need to be attended to.
- Capacity building and infrastructure provision remains a challenge for the communities in rural areas and this hinders development. Rural villages are unable to attract investors or access other economic opportunities.
- There are a number of commodities that if well researched and developed, can alleviate poverty in the rural areas, e.g. mining, agriculture, tourism and cultural activities.
- Regular Monitoring and evaluation of projects by funders needs to be carried out as there are projects that are left in a dilapidated state with almost all the necessary infrastructure in place. This leads to wasted expenditure.
• Rural development planning is found to be an acceptable tool that can assist in unveiling hidden potential and opportunities in the rural areas and in turn assist in alleviating poverty through job creation.

• Rural economic transformation can be attained if resources are well developed in the rural areas.

In Sekhukhune, agricultural development potential rests in the enhancement of the horticultural value chain as well as citrus farming value chain. Table grapes for instance are a niche commodity in this district. Moreover, the recently built De Hoop Dam provides a unique opportunity for agriculture as well as other socio-economic developments. The dam will also serve as a tourist attraction spot. A tourism master plan for De Hoop Dam has also recently been developed.

5 SECTION FIVE - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

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

Agricultural development is likely to create jobs for many people residing in the Sekhukhune 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 Sekhukhune 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 Sekhukhune. 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:

• Groblersdal as an Agri-Hub (production, equipment hire, processing, packaging, logistics and training unit) be utilised for strengthening the agricultural commodity value-chain in the entire district municipality;

• Development of Agri-villages in the intervention areas as outlined in detail in previous pages should be carried out. These include Sekwati, Ga-Marishame and Sopeyane;

• Agricultural related infrastructure in settlements and villages engaged in agricultural activities be provided;
• It is suggested that the Farmer Production Support Units (FPSUs) located in Jane Furse as well as other areas to be identified, in alignment with the Agri-Parks implementation plan;

• New commodities and markets based on the Sekhukhune competitive and comparative advantages be identified; and

• Access to funding for investment into new machinery and equipment, as well as agriculture and conservation-related research and development (R&D) be provided.

5.1.2 Development Action 2: Supporting small-scale farmers, promoting of small scale enterprise and survival strategies in rural villages

• Improvement of the irrigation schemes through such interventions as investment in irrigation infrastructure, will benefit small scale farmers.

• Strengthening/Promoting the participation of small-scale farmers in the Agri-park; and

• The provision of agricultural implements, seeds, fertilisers as well as irrigation equipment to small-scale farmers.

5.1.3 Development Action 3: 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

• Promote the use of drought tolerant crops

5.1.4 Development Action 4: Development of Agro Tourism in the Sekhukhune DM

• Feasibility study of agro tourism in the Sekhukhune DM

• Identify projects to develop the agro tourism industry e.g. botanical tours

• Training of local community members

5.2 OBJECTIVE 2: 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 economic nodes such as Jane Furse, Elias Motswaledi, Groblersdal, Greater Tubatse and Marble Hall as well as townships and villages surrounding them. To this end, the economic functionality of the Sekhukhune district must take into account the flow of goods and capital as well as the movement of people within and
between urban and rural spaces. The following developmental actions are therefore proposed:

5.2.1 Development Action 1: Promoting the Renewal of Rural Towns and Villages

- **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 investment 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 investment;

- **Village revitalisation** – projects must be implemented in all densely populated villages. The focus of these projects must be on the provision of water, electricity and other social services critical for the improvement of the 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. Strategic towns that should be developed include:
  - Jane Furse
  - Schoonoord
  - Steelpoort
  - Marble Hall
  - Dennilton
  - Ga-Nkoana

5.2.2 Development Action 2: Completion of Current Rural Development-Oriented Projects

With numerous rural development projects underway in Sekhukhune, such as the construction of an Atchar Factory in the Penge area as well as Department of Agriculture’s Fetsa Tlala schemes, it is imperative to ensure that;

- Sustainable, long-term funding mechanisms are put in place for all rural development-oriented projects;

- Fostering of inter-governmental and inter-departmental coordination of rural development projects for strategic harmonisation and alignment of efforts is actioned;

- Strengthening of the monitoring and evaluation instruments in the district municipality to ensure successful completion of existing projects is carried out.
5.2.3 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 Sekhukhune district. Improving access to communication technology, and harnessing the use of new media for promoting urban-rural business interactions and innovation.

5.2.4 Development Action 4: Identification of sustainable green energy sources for rural industrialization and development

- Development of an industrial and business park focused on the development of renewable energy technologies and the manufacturing of renewable energy products.
- Explore other sources of renewable energy

5.3 OBJECTIVE 3: PROMOTING INTEGRATED HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

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

The condition of schools in the district municipality has been raised as a major concern which needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency. Furthermore, the use of pit latrines is still prevalent in the area and the sooner this is addressed, the better for the communities residing in Sekhukhune. Most Sekhukhune households can be defined as poor. At present, approximately 79% of the households in Sekhukhune fall into this category. These are the households to which Free Basic Water (FBW) must be supplied. At least 25% of the households in Sekhukhune District Municipality do not have access to piped water. At least 41% the villages in Greater Tubatse Local Municipality have no access to water, 29% are located in Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, 11% in Fetakgomo Local Municipality and 4% in Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality. Only 22% of Sekhukhune households receive above-RDP standards sanitation services. The sanitation backlog is primarily within the rural villages, comprising 78% of households without adequate sanitation. In addition to that the electrification backlog is currently estimated at 37 124 households in the district. Within the District, there is a general lack of roads (Ngwalemomg settlement) – and of tarred roads in particular; connecting the inner section of Sekhukhune, which consists largely of scattered villages with minimum economic activity at present. Majority of the roads in the district are gravel roads such as in Fetakgomo municipality.
5.3.1 Development Action 1: Reduction of service delivery backlogs

- Monitoring of water services backlogs and development of water infrastructure plan;
- Installation of new sanitation connections to households;
- Social institutions such as schools, clinics, police stations, Thusong Centres and community halls;
- Electrification projects;
- Housing projects;
- Adopting district-wide Public Transport Network.

5.3.2 Development Action 2: Promoting integrated rural spatial planning

- Strengthening, and monitoring of IDP, SDF and LED implementation processes;
- Standardising land use management and administration thereof across the district municipality, in order to address existing inconsistencies;

5.4 OBJECTIVE 4: IMPROVING TOURISM COMPETITIVENESS

5.4.1 Development Action 1: Harnessing the cultural heritage development corridors

- Development of tourism-related activities in townships and villages to allow for broad-based participation in this sector, with a specific focus on the participation of women and youth;
- Harnessing the pristine natural environment in and around Sekhukhune to boost eco-tourism;
- 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;

5.5 OBJECTIVE 5: DEVELOPMENT OF THE MINING SECTOR

5.5.1 Development Action 1: Reviving of mining operations

- Harnessing the potential of new mining activities
- Involving women and the youth in mining beneficiation programmes;
- Small scale mining and other beneficiation initiatives; and
- Monitoring the negative impact that mining operations may have on the environment.
5.6 OBJECTIVE 6: STIMULATING GROWTH IN THE LOCAL ECONOMY

5.6.1 Development Action 1: Fast track the process of addressing land claims in the DM

- Review the current land claim process in the SDM
- Identify areas that are impeding the process
- Put in corrective measures
- Finalise all area based plans in the district
- Educate tribal authorities on the various land acts
- Provide support to land reform beneficiaries

6 SECTION SIX – SPATIAL RATIONALE

The district rural development plan for Sekhukhune 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 Sekhukhune’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 consist 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:

a) knowledge-intensive business services,

b) land-intensive; as well as

c) 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:\footnote{51:}

- Diverse/composite service regions;
- Specialised service regions;
- 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 Sekhukhune, various variables and datasets were used. These include;

- 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 services and government services, and 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.

- Population count in the Sekhukhune district municipality (decline and growth) – This value is indicative of urbanisation and depopulation trends in the area. Rural development is about improving people’s lives, and so the analysis of population trends allows for a more people-centric approach to municipal planning.

Groblerstdal and Jane Furse are identified as district gateways. The gateways allow for the movement of goods and services and in addition, good road networks necessitate the movement of people from intervention areas to functional regions. There are numerous irrigation schemes in the regions.

Areas around Groblersdal are most accessible according to the accessibility index, and there are various departmental projects in the district with several mining commodities as well as active mines. Large portions of the SDM have arable land and are well supplied by the perennial rivers. The subsequent maps show the spatial distribution of various transport and agricultural infrastructure as well as various commodities which were considered in locating Diverse Functional Regions and areas within the district that are in need of government intervention, i.e. intervention areas.
MAP 15: ACCESSIBILITY INDEX
MAP 17: ACTIVE MINES AND MINING COMMODITIES
MAP 18: AGRICULTURE POTENTIAL
MAP 19: AGRICULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE
7 SECTION SEVEN – SEKHUKHUNE FUNCTIONAL REGIONS AND INTERVENTION AREAS

Based on the criteria above and stakeholder engagements, the following functional regions were identified.

- DFR1: Groblersdal area
- DFR2: Jane Furse area
- DFR3: Burgersfort area
- DFR4: Fetakgomo/Nkoana area
- DFR5: Marble Hall and

Within each functional area, there are regions that have been selected as intervention areas. Proximity to commodities, infrastructure and government projects (RID, REID, CASP projects, CDRP sites) contributed significantly to the selection of intervention areas, in addition to the population count.

Outlined below are some of the key issues raised during the ground truthing exercise in Sekhukhune:

- There is potential for a sorghum plantation in the Schnoord area.
- The area stretching from Luckau, Tafelkop, Sephaku and areas close to Jane Furse are well known for maize production; hence it is categorized as a maize belt, but the area has been neglected and that has resulted in lowered production. The schemes used to be funded by the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) but at the moment are neglected.
- Marble Hall should be included as part of the Groblersdal functional region.
- Fetakgomo should be classified as an independent functional area and the surrounding villages as intervention areas.
- Penge area has potential for farming (Mango and sugar cane).
- Tswaing, Phetoane and Wonderboom are classified as Maize belt areas. There is an existing water canal with flowing water that is not being used.
- Land ownership is an issue when it comes to pursuing agricultural projects.
- There is a problem of land invasion in the Praktiseer settlement on land that is suitable for agriculture.
- Aquaculture is proposed in the scheme along Olifants River.
- Fish processing plants already planned at Tompi Seleka Agricultural College.
- A village dairy is planned in the Phokwane/Nebo area where milk products will be processed.
- Sheep and goat breeding already exists in the Fetakgomo area and this needs to be enhanced.

### 7.1 FR1 GROBLERSDAL FUNCTIONAL REGION

This area hosts the Sekhukhune District Agri-Hub site that measures 50ha in extent. The centrality of the Agri-Hub was questioned by officials and stakeholders present indicating that the site is far from other municipalities in the district and would thus result in protracted costs in terms of doing business (i.e. delivery of goods).

A similar concern was raised with regard to the abattoir site in terms of its locational disadvantage to municipalities in the district. The abattoir will be used for slaughtering and processing of chickens from poultry farms in the Sekhukhune district and forms part of the Agri-Hub.

The size of the structure was highlighted as a challenge that would hinder the mass processing of products.

*Market stalls in Groblersdal area*  
*Agri Park Site in Groblersdal*

*An abattoir under construction in Grobelarsdal industrial area*
7.1.1 Intervention Area 1: Waterkloof, Dennilton and Kikvorschfontein and other surrounding areas

The settlements found in this area include Waterkloof, Dennilton and Kikvorschfontein and other surrounding areas. This intervention area is at the western gateway to the district from the Mpumalanga Province. It is mainly comprised of commercial farms for grapes and citrus. The area also has dense settlement with a shopping center and some community facilities, but it lacks basic infrastructure such as roads, clinics and halls.

7.1.1.1 Commodities

a) Agriculture

Crop farming is the dominant commodity in the intervention area. A large portion of the land is occupied by commercial farmers, especially along the R25 road to Gauteng Province. Citrus fruits and grapes are the dominant products on the commercial farms. The intervention area has a few rural areas where subsistence farming is conducted with maize planted in backyard gardens.

There is greater opportunity for farming, however, it needs to be linked to the mainstream economy for the transformation of the rural economy.

b) Mining

There is less evidence of mining in the western part of the district than on the eastern part of the district.

7.1.1.2 Proximity to the Agri-Hub and FPSU

The intervention area is close to the Agri-Hub in Groblersdal and is approximately 45 km away. The areas are linked by the R 25 road to Bronkhorspruit. The Agri-Hub will help the local farmers in marketing their products and create a link to the economy.

Challenges

- Poor access roads to the villages
- Lack of social infrastructure
7.2 FR2 JANE FURSE FUNCTIONAL REGION

This area is developing and growing rapidly with an existing shopping center, government offices, a hospital and other facilities. A FPSU is also proposed for the area, which will support all areas surrounding the functional region.
MAP 23: FUNCTIONAL REGION 2
7.2.1 Intervention Area 3: Sekwati, Ga-Marishame and Ga-phahla and surrounding settlement until Apel Cross

The villages in this intervention area include Sekwati, Ga-Marishame, Ga-phahla and surrounding settlement right up to Apel-Cross. There are a number of secondary roads leading to Jane Furse, which is a district gateway. The settlements are clustered along the main road to the Capricorn District Municipality and to Jane Furse. The area still needs some provision of infrastructure and social amenities.

7.2.1.1 Commodities

The area does not have special commodities although there is a serious need for intervention in terms of infrastructure provision. The area is completely rural with minimal services.

Crop and animal farming is done at a lower scale in this intervention area but there is a need for initiatives in terms of farming commodities. Most of the activities are of a subsistence manner and they need to be commercialized.

7.2.1.2 Proximity to the Agri-Hub and FPSU

The intervention area is close to the FPSU in Jane Furse area and it will assist in providing knowledge and skills to the local people.

7.2.1.3 Challenges

- Subsistence farming is dominant in the area
- Lack of social and physical infrastructure
- Illegal sand mining
- Environmental degradation
7.2.2 Intervention Area 4: Schoonoord, Ga-Mogashoa, Senkgapudi, Sopeyana and other surrounding areas.

This settlement comprises Schoonoord, Ga-Mogashoa, Senkgapudi, Sopeyana and other surrounding areas. The region is serviced by secondary roads that lead to Jane Furse, which has been identified as a district gateway.

7.2.2.1 Projects Visited

Moretsele area

- The farmlands close to Jane Furse are mainly used for sorghum farming.
- Development encroachment has been highlighted as one of the key issues hindering proper growth in the agricultural sector in the area.
- It was indicated that lack of support from the Department of Agriculture creates uncertainty in the market with farming often put on hold due to the absence of supporting infrastructure.

Tsatane Irrigation Scheme

- North of the intervention area lies the Tsatane Irrigation Scheme. This focuses on a variety of produce including tomatoes, butternuts, beetroots and onions.
- The scheme is however constricted in terms of growth due to lack of land.
- Water is provided by means of a nearby water source.
- The lack of farming infrastructure was indicated as a challenge in the area.
- A local nodal point exists in the region that provides an opportunity for formal market stalls and a sub-regional agricultural market. The node currently provides a variety of services including a fuelling station, shops and trading stalls.

A view of Tatsane Agricultural scheme in the Schoonoord area
7.2.2.2 Commodity

a) Agriculture

Crop farming in this intervention area is dominant. This area is within a sorghum belt running from Moretsele to the Schnoord area. The area was once active in terms of sorghum plantation but the operation ceased due to poor infrastructure and lack of support from the government. Moreover, there were birds eating the sorghum grains that affected production and led to the collapse of the operations.

There are also agricultural schemes in the Schnoord area specializing in tomatoes, Peppadew, beetroots, carrots and maize. They face the challenge of a lack of support from government.

Sisal growing has potential in the intervention area, however, the farms are abandoned and need revitalization. Animal production is important in the area but is done at a subsistence level.

7.2.2.3 Proximity to the Agri-Hub and FPSU

The area is close to the FPSU in Jane Furse and is accessible through the tarred roads. However, the topography of the area has negative influence on the conditions of the gravel roads linking the commodities.

7.2.2.4 Challenges

- Insufficient support from government
- Lack of skills to operate farms
- Sorghum farms lying fallow
- Land of agricultural infrastructure
- Unplanned settlement extension
7.3 FR3 BURGERSFORT FUNCTIONAL REGION

Mining is the area's most dominant commodity and contributes towards employment and local economic development initiatives in the area. However, these activities have also resulted in a significant loss of prime agricultural land. The area comprises both formal areas and villages with the former being an old mining town that is currently in a state of ruin. Population thresholds are also low in these areas.

Poverty is visible in the area with most households living in old and degraded houses. These households are involved in subsistence farming in the form of mango and banana crop production. The area's potential lies in its fertile soil.

Although water is present from the Olifants / Lepelle River, access to it is fairly limited. This situation also applies to the De Hoop Dam.

Due to its potential, an FPSU is proposed in the area.

There is a proposed atchar factory in the area that shows clear spatial mismatch challenges due to its location in a remote area far from communities and supporting markets. The small size of the structure weighed against the anticipated mango yields in the area will also be a potential challenge to production.
MAP 28: KENNEDY VALE SCHEME
7.3.1 Intervention Area 5: Praktiseer, Ga-Motodi, Ga-manoke and Penge Areas

This settlement includes Praktiseer, Ga-motodi, Ga-manoke and Penge. There are secondary roads linking settlements to the main road that leads to Burgersfort. The area has great potential for agriculture and mining.

- Praktiseer is one of the largest settlements in the Tubatse LM with a diverse set of activities and socio-economic profiles. The area is relatively well serviced. However, access to water and refuse removal are both notable challenges.
- The area has large tracts of agricultural land that support crop and potato farming.
- The Ga-Motodi area has high potential arable land strategically located next to the perennial Tubatse River.
- Land invasion has been a growing concern in the area with the agricultural sector experiencing a decline in suitable available land.
- Additional challenges noted in the agricultural sector have been the lack (declining) of participation in the agricultural sector by farmers. This is primarily due to a lack of support from various institutions.
- It was indicated that mining activities in the area are having an adverse effect on the water system (Tubatse River) from waste deposited indirectly into the water system.
- There are existing schemes in the area supported by the Department of Agriculture and other programs from the DRDLR such as Fetsa Tlala which are being vandalized from time to time, namely, Tswelopele agriculture scheme, which is approximately 453 hectares, and Phiring scheme, which is approximately 383 hectares.
- The Penge area also has an unveiled potential. There is a new Atchar factory that is being built that will be supplied with mangoes collected from the surrounding local farms. Penge also has existing mines that boost the local economy. The area has old mining houses that can be renovated and utilised for other uses to further boost the economy, hence alleviating poverty.
MAP 29: INTERVENTION AREA 5
MAP 31: ATCHAR FACTORY UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN PENG E AREA
7.3.1.1 Projects Visited

Kennedy Farms

- The Kennedy Farms are an outcome of an agreement between local communities and the miners (as owners of the land) to lease the land for agricultural activities of a subsistence nature. This is however not a sustainable solution as mine owners could claim back the land in the eventuality of expansion of operations.
- The farm lands are highly arable and are mainly used for small scale activities in the form of crop farming.
- Challenges indicated in the area are a lack of proper farming infrastructure and lack of support by institutions.

Steelpoortdrift Irrigation Scheme

- The Steelpoortdrift Irrigation Scheme provides for the production of butternuts, tomatoes, potatoes and onions within the intervention area. Distinct in this regard is that the area only has 30 Hectares of land under irrigation with threats of development encroachment being faced.
- The scheme is supported by a local informal market in the form of vegetable stalls where products derived from the scheme are sold.

7.3.1.2 Commodities

a) Mining

Mining is a special commodity in this area although it is done at a higher scale. A lot of the people in the intervention area are employed in the mining sectors in Burgersfort and Steelport area. Beneficiation schemes should be seen to be benefiting a lot of communities with infrastructure and related activities. There is a mining town in the Penge area that needs to be revitalized and used as a proper settlement as it is closer to the Atchar factory. There is also mining activity taking place in Segorong village which has also employed majority of the people in the intervention area.

b) Tourism

There is little evidence of tourism in the intervention area and there is a need for further research on how the tourism attraction points can be unveiled.

c) Agriculture

Tubatse River makes it possible for crop farming to flourish in the area. Water has never been a problem in the intervention area because of this river. There are agricultural schemes that are not operational to full capacity at this moment due to vandalism and administrative challenges. However, the Department of Agriculture is playing a supporting role by providing assistance in terms of funds, infrastructure and capacity building through its programs such
as Fetsa Tlala and Letsima. There is a potential for poverty alleviation through the utilization of the scheme to its full capacity. Potato and maize are the dominant products in the region.

7.3.1.3 Proximity to the Agri-Hub and FPSU

The intervention area has a farmer production support unit in it and it becomes accessible and functional to the local community.

Praktiseer FPSU

The unit is well located in the accessible locality to assist farmers with skills and other services. The FPSU is close to Burgersfort town and is also accessible via the R 37 and R 555 roads. The FPSU is approximately 148 km to the Agri-Hub in Grobelarsdal.

7.3.1.4 Challenges

- Land invasion
- Vandalizing of agricultural scheme infrastructure
7.4 FR4 GA-NKOANA FR

7.4.1 Intervention Area 6: Sefateneng, Bogalatladi, Atok, Molamanya, Mphaaneng and Malageng amongst others

This includes villages such as Sefateneng, Bogalatladi, Atok, Molamanya, Mphaaneng and Malageng amongst others. This area has a potential for agricultural schemes since it is along the Olifants River, but most importantly, there is an existing mine at Atok Village that has done a lot for the local communities around providing jobs and also providing social infrastructure. This area still needs a lot of intervention in terms of accessibility and provision of other basic infrastructure.

7.4.1.1 Commodities

a) Mining

Atok mine is one of the anchor mines in the intervention area and it has employed a lot of people in the area. Illegal sand mining along Olifants River is taking place at a large scale and has an effect on the environment.

b) Agriculture

Olifants River hosts a lot of agricultural activities in terms of crop farming. There are a lot of agricultural schemes along the river that are operating although they have their own challenges that need to be addressed. There are many products that are produced in the schemes ranging from Maize, potatoes and wheat that are sold to local markets.

7.4.1.2 Proximity to the Agri-Hub and FPSU

The intervention area is close to Jane Furse FPSU although there are challenges in terms of accessibility since it is along the R37 road to Burgersfort. The intervention area is far from the Agri-Hub in Grobelarsdal so the FPSU in Jane Furse is ideal in order to assist farmers who cannot access the Agri-Hub.

Challenges

- Poor access roads
- Illegal sand mining
MAP 33: INTERVENTION AREA 6

Legend
- Towns
- REID
- Restitution claims
- CRDP Sites
- Population Per Settlement
  - 0 - 3711
  - 3712 - 13414
  - 13415 - 39175
- Mining Commodities

SEKHUKHUNE DRDP INTERVENTION AREA 6

MAP 33: INTERVENTION AREA 6
7.4.2 Intervention Area 7: Tswaing, Strydskraal, Tiekedraai, Sesesehu, Apel, Vlakplaas, Lerejane, Ga-Nchabeneng and Ga-Nkonana

This includes villages along the D4250 from Schoonoord to Apel Cross which are amongst others Tswaing, Strydskraal, Tiekedraai, Sesesehu, Apel, Vlakplaas, Lerejane, Ga-Nchabeneng and Ga-Nkonana. The area has a great potential for agriculture as it is based along the Olifants River and has many existing agricultural schemes. Due to the existing infrastructure and facilities, it was agreed that the area be classified as a functional region and the villages around it be classified as intervention areas.

- The area has existing mining activities such as Atok mining and it is also in the platinum belt.
- There is an existing mall at Ga-Nkoana area including government offices.
- It falls within the Fetakgomo Local Municipality and is classified as an Agriculture node in terms of the municipality Spatial Development Framework.
- There is a grain belt stretching from Ga-Nkosi to Ga-Mogashoa and Tswaing.

7.4.2.1 Projects Visited

Strydskraal scheme

- The scheme is a registered cooperative with centre pivots and irrigation equipment.
- The farm is now run by strategic partners since there were management and administrative conflicts amongst the cooperative members.
- The strategic partners share the dividends with the cooperative members at the end of each year after selling the products.
- This brings along a point of capacity building to the local farmers as currently they are losing out because they are not getting full profit. The farms have five cooperatives, namely Ikageng (15 members), Lengoai (5 members), Mooiplaas (267 members), Strydskraal (33 members) and Mabokotsoane (56 members). The scheme is based along the Olifants River.

Veeplaats scheme

- The scheme is close to the Apel Cross settlement along the Olifants River.
- The dominant products are wheat and maize.
- The scheme also has management problems; hence a strategic partner is managing the place.

7.4.2.2 Commodities

Crop farming is the primary commodity in the area. The soil is fertile and it allows for the plantation of a variety of crops. There are many thriving schemes in the area although they
face administrative challenges. Proximity to the Olifants river makes it possible and easy for the schemes to thrive.

As for animal farming, the area has a lot of goats and sheep that are sold to the outside market. There is a need to formalise the market so that the commodity will benefit the rural farmer to the maximum level.

The commodities are transported to the market and also to the supermarkets in the vicinity.

7.4.2.3 Proximity to the Agri-Hub and FPSU

The intervention area is close to the Jane Furse Agri-Hub which is approximately 40 km away. The Agri-Hub is located in a strategic position accessible to the market and the local people.

7.4.2.4 Challenges

- Administration of the schemes
- Illegal occupation of land
7.5 FR1 MARBLE HALL FUNCTIONAL REGION

Marble Hall is an agricultural center of the area and is the residential base for all the workers of the marble lime mine situated here.

Marble Hall is well known for its rather extensive irrigation farming where numerous lush crops such as wheat, cotton as well as citrus play a very important role in the country’s economy. Marble Hall is also well known for its game farms and lies in close proximity to the Loskop Dam.

The Northern production region (Groblersdal, Marble Hall) in Limpopo, is also one of South Africa’s five table grape producing regions.

It produces quality grapes that are the first export table grapes for the South African table grape season. The industry is primarily export oriented with up to 90% of the total production being exported.
7.5.1 Intervention Area 2: Tafelkop, Sterkfontein, Monyaka, Maphoko, Leeufontein, Sephaku and Luckau and some settlements in the vicinity.

Tafelkop, Sterkfontein, Sephaku, Sterkfontein, Monyaka, Maphoko, Leeufontein, and Luckau are some settlements located in this area. The area is serviced by secondary roads which connect it to the main road for the movement of goods, services and people.

7.5.1.1 Projects visited

Tafelkop

- The Tafelkop area has undergone massive land invasion over recent years and this has directly conflicted with land demarcated for farming activities.
- The maize belt forms part of the intervention area stretching to the Jane Furse (Mokweti) area.
- The lack of water and farming infrastructure is limiting growth and investment in the area.
- Economic activities in the area are well positioned along the main road and have been functioning efficiently over recent years.
- The area is diverse in terms of socio-economic conditions. However, acute poverty is very common in the area. Access to water is mainly via public standpipes with some households having taps inside the yard. There is no water-borne sewage in the area and the pit latrine system still dominates.
- Amenities in the area include a community stadium, community halls and a clinic.
- Road infrastructure and access in the area is well provided and has resulted in good integration of the different local communities / villages.
- Niche activities in terms of bean and peanuts farming were identified in the Ramogwerane area. Farmers within these schemes sell their goods to the processing centre in Groblersdal and to local communities. The seasonal nature of the practice however means that the land remains largely unutilized for the better part of the year.
- To diversify production, farmers are also shifting towards crop production.
Luckau

- Luckau shares similar characteristics to other regions in the intervention area and forms part of the existing maize belt linking Tafelkop to Jane Furse.
- The area’s strategic location in the Highveld region makes it ideal for agriculture due to the presence of rain.
- Uncontrolled development and land invasion are threatening both livestock that relies on portions of the area as grazing camps and agricultural land.

![Image](image.jpg)

*An area classified as a maize belt within the Luckau area due to its potential*

7.5.1.2 **Commodities**

Crop farming is the main commodity in the area and there are many agricultural schemes. The Department of Agriculture assists a lot of farmers in this intervention area with skills, funds, capacity and machinery.

The area from Tafelkop, Luckau, Sephaku towards Jane Furse is famous for producing maize and sorghum and is categorized as a maize belt. The area is unfortunately lying fallow at this moment because it is not being utilized. There is therefore serious attention and intervention needed from government to revitalize the schemes.

Cotton is another main product in the area and is produced in large quantities.

7.5.1.3 **Proximity to the Agri-Hub and FPSU**

The area is close to the Agri-Hub and also to the FPSU therefore it will make it easy for the local farmer to access assistance from a closer proximity. The other part of the intervention area is occupied by private commercial farms that already have markets.

7.5.1.4 **Challenges**

- Land lying fallow
- Little assistance from government to farmers
- Scarcity of water and farming infrastructure
8 SECTIONS EIGHT – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

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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</table>
| District-wide programme & projects | • **District economic game changers** - these are projects that profoundly redefine and/or alter the structure of a given district economy. Examples include Agri-Parks and related physical infrastructure.  
• **District social needs projects and programmes** – these support immediate social needs at a district level.  
• **District development enablers** – projects that provide enabling infrastructure at a district level. These include building of roads, large-scale housing, and dams for instance. |
| Village & Household Survival Strategies | • **Household microenterprises** – these are projects that are located at a 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.  
• **Village microenterprises** – these are projects that the community participates in seasonally. These include communal growing of vegetables (small-scale agricultural cooperatives). |
While the district-wide projects and programmes require more financial investment from 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 as well as 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 instance, commercialisation of village survival projects and programmes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>SECTOR</th>
<th>DEVELOPMENT 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</th>
<th>LOCALITY/INTERVENTION AREA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improving productivity &amp; competitiveness of the agriculture sector</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Optimising the potential of Agri-Parks Supporting small-scale farmers</td>
<td>• Support and infrastructure for Tatsane Irrigation, Kennedy Farms; capacity building for farmers in Strydskraal scheme Scheme; Enhancement of sheep &amp; goat breeding in Fetakgomo • Land reform programmes to support emerging farmers as well as the restoration of schemes such as Tswelopele and Phiring Irrigation Schemes</td>
<td>Catalytic - Game Changer</td>
<td>Development of Agri-Hub to foster small and medium-scale agricultural development as well as harnessing existing agricultural value chain and identification new ones.</td>
<td>Short to Medium</td>
<td>Sekhukhune DM</td>
<td>• Dept. of Agriculture Forester and Fisheries • Dept. of Small Business • DRDLR • Department of Water Affairs • Private Sector • Communities/Community based organisation</td>
<td>• Number of small scale farmers supported • Number of SMMEs that accessed new/existing markets • Niche commodities identified</td>
<td>• Interventio n Area 5 (Tubatse LM) • Interventio n Area 7 (Fetakgom o Local Municipalit y)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investing in rural industrialisation and innovation</td>
<td>Industry &amp; Technology</td>
<td>Promotion of rural industrialisation and innovation enterprises.</td>
<td>• New Atchar factory in Penge currently under construction;</td>
<td>Catalytic - Major enabler</td>
<td>Establishment of SMMEs and other emerging enterprises</td>
<td>Short to Medium</td>
<td>Sekhukhune DM</td>
<td>• Department of Science and Technology • Department of Trade and Industry</td>
<td>• Number of small scale farmers supported • Number of SMMEs that accessed</td>
<td>• Interventio n Area 5 (Tubatse LM)</td>
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<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
<td>SECTOR</td>
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<td>DESCRIPTION/ACTIVITIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving Tourism Competitiveness</td>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>• Harnessing the cultural heritage development corridors</td>
<td>• Fish Processing Plant planned at Tompi Seleka Agric College • Smelter plant to be built</td>
<td>High Priority Programme</td>
<td>Marketing and support of existing tourism routes such as the Battle of Sekhukhune Tourism Route; De Hoop Dam, and Flag Boshielo Dam • Tourism Development Projects - identification and packaging of tourism products</td>
<td>Short to Medium</td>
<td>Sekhukhune DM</td>
<td>Agri SETA • Private Sector</td>
<td>new/existing markets • Niche commodities identified</td>
<td>Makhuduthamaga LM</td>
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<td>Marketing and support of existing tourism sites, Promotion of Eco-tourism and Tarring of roads especially those areas leading to tourism attraction areas.</td>
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| Investment in rural revitalisation | Sustainable human settlement s | • Reduction of service delivery backlogs.  
• Promoting integrated rural spatial planning | • Building of houses, renovation of old mining houses in Penge;  
• Building of clinics, Thusong centres, and community halls  
• Provision of water and refuse removal services in Penge Area;  
• Eradication of pit latrines in Tafelkop & surrounding areas | Catalytic - Major social needs projects | Provision of adequate public amenities such as schools, clinics, community centres, recreational facilities as well as water and sanitation | Short to Medium | Sekhukhune DM | Department of Human Settlements  
Department of Public Works  
Department of Water & Sanitation  
Department of Environmental Affairs  
Private Sector | New housing units provided  
New social infrastructure developed/built  
Improved sanitation services provided | Intervention Area 2 (Elias Motsoaledi LM) |
| Improving productivity & competitiveness of the agriculture sector | Optimising the potential of Agri-Parks  
Supporting small-scale farmers | • Farmer Production Support Unit development in Jane Furse | Catalytic - Game Changer | The FPSU does primary collection, storage, processing for the local market, and extension services including mechanisation | Short to Medium | Sekhukhune DM | Dept. of Agriculture Forester and Fisheries  
Dept. of Small Business  
DRDLR  
Private Sector  
Emerging farmers | FPSUs identified and developed. | Functional Region 2 (Jane Furse and other FPSU sites as part of the Agri-park project) |
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<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
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<th>STAKEHOLDERS</th>
<th>KPI</th>
<th>LOCALITY/INTEREST AREA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>iventing in rural revitalisation</td>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>Identification of sustainable green energy sources for rural industrialization and development</td>
<td>Support and promote enterprise development, Development of small business incubators and mentorship programmes</td>
<td>High Priority Programme</td>
<td>Enterprise development with a focus on agro-business and cooperative business development</td>
<td>Short to Medium</td>
<td>Sekhukhun e DM</td>
<td>Department of Economic Development, Department of Small Business Development, DRDLR, Private Sector</td>
<td>New SMME's identified and supported, Jobs created</td>
<td>District Wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving productivity &amp; competitiveness of the agriculture sector</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Optimising the potential of Agri-Parks Supporting small-scale farmers</td>
<td>Support and promote enterprise development, Development of small business incubators and mentorship programmes</td>
<td>High Priority Programme</td>
<td>Enterprise development with a focus on agro-business and cooperative business development</td>
<td>Short to Medium</td>
<td>Sekhukhun e DM</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture, Forester and Fisheries, Dept. of Small Business, DRDLR, Department of Water Affairs, Private Sector</td>
<td>Small Scale farmers supported, Identification of niche commodities</td>
<td>Functional Region 2 (Jane Furse)</td>
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<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
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<td>DEVELOPMENT ACTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Development of Agro Tourism in the Sekhukhune DM</td>
<td>• Infrastructure development of agro villages linked to agri-hubs and FPSUs</td>
<td>Catalytic - Game Changer</td>
<td>• 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</td>
<td>Medium to Long term</td>
<td>Sekhukhune DM</td>
<td>• Department of water affairs • DRDLR • Commercial farmers • Private sector • Various government departments</td>
<td>• Number of projects identified • Number of projects implemented</td>
<td>District Wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
<td>SECTOR</td>
<td>DEVELOPMENT ACTION</td>
<td>PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS/ PROJECTS</td>
<td>PROJECT TYPE</td>
<td>DESCRIPITON/ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>TIME FRAMES</td>
<td>LEAD ROLE</td>
<td>STAKE HOLDERS</td>
<td>KPI</td>
<td>LOCALITY / INTERENTI ON AREA</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 counteracting the effects of climate change in the DM • 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</td>
<td>Catalytic - Major enabler</td>
<td>• 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</td>
<td>Medium to Long term</td>
<td>Sekhukhun e DM</td>
<td>Department of water affairs • DRDLR • commercial farmers • emerging farmers • community • SETA's</td>
<td>• Feasibility study completed and reviewed • Projects identified and approved • Project plans in place • Farmer education programmes rolled out</td>
<td>District Wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment in Rural Revitalisation</td>
<td>Sustainable settlement s</td>
<td>Completion of current rural development oriented projects</td>
<td>• Completion of current rural development oriented projects</td>
<td>Formalisation of Rural Towns</td>
<td>Identifying towns in Sekhukhune for revitalisation programmes</td>
<td>Short to Medium</td>
<td>Sekhukhune DM</td>
<td>Regional and International Development Agencies • Private Sector</td>
<td>Rural renewal projects identified • Infrastructure development projects completed</td>
<td>District Wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investing in rural revitalisation</td>
<td>Industry &amp; Technolog y</td>
<td>Promotion of rural industrialisation and innovation enterprises/Renewal of rural towns</td>
<td>• Conducting feasibility studies for techno Hub development and Industrial Parks • Identification of niche areas in R&amp;D</td>
<td>Catalytic - Major enabler</td>
<td>Establishment of techno Hub and district industrial parks</td>
<td>Medium to Long Term</td>
<td>Sekhukhune DM</td>
<td>Department of Science and Technology • Department of Trade and Industry • Agri SETA • Private Sector</td>
<td>R&amp;D investigative activities completed and published</td>
<td>District Wide</td>
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134
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>SECTOR</th>
<th>DEVELOPMENT ACTION</th>
<th>PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS/PROJECTS</th>
<th>PROJECT TYPE</th>
<th>DESCRIPITON/ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>TIME FRAMES</th>
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<th>STAKEHOLDERS</th>
<th>KPI</th>
<th>LOCALITY / INTERENTION AREA</th>
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<tr>
<td>Promoting Integrated Human Settlements</td>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>human settlements</td>
<td>Reduction of service delivery backlogs. Promoting integrated rural spatial planning</td>
<td>Building of houses, renovation of old mining houses in Penge; building of clinics, Thusong centres, and community halls Formalisation of rural towns and villages Expansion and maintenance of roads, water, electricity supply</td>
<td>Catalytic - Major social needs projects</td>
<td>Provision of adequate public amenities such as schools, clinics, community centres, recreational facilities as well as water and sanitation</td>
<td>Short to Medium</td>
<td>Sekhukhune DM</td>
<td>Department of Human Settlements, Department of Public Works, Department of Water &amp; Sanitation, Department of Environmental Affairs, Private Sector</td>
<td>New housing units provided, New social infrastructure developed/built</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving Tourism Competitiveness</td>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td></td>
<td>Harnessing the cultural heritage development corridors</td>
<td>Tourism Development Projects - identification and packaging of tourism products Road Infrastructure – tarring and maintenance of roads</td>
<td>High Priority Programm e</td>
<td>Marketing and support of existing tourism sites, Promotion of Eco-tourism and Tarring of roads especially those areas leading to tourism attraction areas.</td>
<td>Short to Medium</td>
<td>Sekhukhune DM</td>
<td>Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure (LDPW), Department of Economic Development, Environment &amp; Tourism (LEDET)/ DRD/ SA Tourism, Private Sector</td>
<td>Increased numbers of visitors to tourism sites, New tourism types identified</td>
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<tr>
<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
<td>SECTOR</td>
<td>DEVELOPMENT ACTION</td>
<td>PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS/PROJECTS</td>
<td>PROJECT TYPE</td>
<td>DESCRIPTION ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>TIME FRAMES</td>
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<td>STAKE HOLDERS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development of the Mining sector</td>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>Build up the small scale mining industry in Sekhukhune DM/Reviving mining sector</td>
<td>Identify opportunities for beneficiation of minerals and the development of new platinum and chrome mines</td>
<td>Catalytic - Game Changer</td>
<td>• Put in place support for small scale mining operations • Skills training for small scale mining ventures • Feasibility studies for the development of new mines • Building of a smelter</td>
<td>medium to long term</td>
<td>Sekhukhune DM</td>
<td>• Department of Minerals and Energy • DAFF • DRDLR • DTI • Communities private sector • Dept. of Small Business • Emerging miners</td>
<td>• Number of small scale miners supported • Markets identification and expansion • Number of jobs created • Number of training interventions</td>
<td>Greater Tubatse LM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stimulating growth in the local economy</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Fast track the process of addressing land claims in the DM</td>
<td>Review the land claim process and land tenure in the Sekhukhune district to address the issue of land for development</td>
<td>Catalytic - Major enabler</td>
<td>• Review the current land claim process in the SDM • Identify areas that are impeding the process • Put in corrective measures • Finalise all area based plans in the district • Educate tribal authorities on the various land acts • Provision of</td>
<td>Short term to medium term</td>
<td>Sekhukhune DM</td>
<td>• DRDLR • Traditional leaders • Local municipalities • Government departments</td>
<td>• Number of land claims resolved • Increase in land available for development • Number of land claim beneficiaries identified and supported • Number of Jobs created</td>
<td>District Wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
<td>SECTOR</td>
<td>DEVELOPMENT ACTION</td>
<td>PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS/PROJECTS</td>
<td>PROJECT TYPE</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>support to land reform beneficiaries</td>
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TIME FRAMES: SHORT TERM 1-3 YEARS; MEDIUM TERM 3-5 YEARS; LONG TERM > 5 YEARS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LM</th>
<th>Road number</th>
<th>Point to point description</th>
<th>Intervention required</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fetakgomo</td>
<td>D4190-R37</td>
<td>Gankoana/Seotlong/R37</td>
<td>Designs completed and road requires further extension</td>
<td>Short term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fetakgomo</td>
<td>D4109-D42100</td>
<td>Ga-nchabeleng/Mphanama/R579</td>
<td>Designs to be confirmed with Provincial Roads Agency, road requires tarring</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fetakgomo</td>
<td>D4180</td>
<td>Atok/Selepe/Manotwane</td>
<td>Road requires tarring</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fetakgomo</td>
<td>D4190/D4220/D4185/D5013</td>
<td>Lerajane-Tswereng</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Short term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fetakgomo</td>
<td>D4200/D4213/D4212</td>
<td>Mphanama-Radingwana-Oria</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fetakgomo</td>
<td>D4190/D4206/D4207</td>
<td>Mohlaletse-King Thulare</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Short term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fetakgomo</td>
<td>D4204/D4209</td>
<td>Mohlaletse-King KK</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Short term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D4180</td>
<td>Phashaskraal/Ga-Mashabele/Modimolle/</td>
<td>Road requires tarring</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D4170</td>
<td>Modimolle/Diphale/GaMahlakwane/Crossong</td>
<td>Road requires tarring</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D4169</td>
<td>Mahlokwane/Ga-Maroga/R37</td>
<td>Road requires tarring</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D4185</td>
<td>Phahlamanoge/Tjate/R37</td>
<td>Road requires tarring</td>
<td>Long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>R37</td>
<td>Bothashoek/R37 Junction</td>
<td>Traffic calming measures</td>
<td>Short term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>R37</td>
<td>Riba-cross/R37 Junction</td>
<td>Traffic calming measures</td>
<td>Short term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D1392</td>
<td>Ga-Malekane/Phasha-Mampuru/Mahlakwena</td>
<td>Tar road incomplete, requires extension</td>
<td>Short term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D4045</td>
<td>Malekane Steel bridge</td>
<td>Construction of new bridge</td>
<td>Short term</td>
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<tr>
<td>LM</td>
<td>Road number</td>
<td>Point to point description</td>
<td>Intervention required</td>
<td>Period</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D4140</td>
<td>Malokela/Mabotsha</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D4134</td>
<td>Penge/Malokela</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Short term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D4176/D4177/D4179</td>
<td>Thokwane/Shakung/Mabotsha</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D4150</td>
<td>Motodi/Taung</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D4240</td>
<td>Ngwaabe/Masevern</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Short term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D2405</td>
<td>Alberton/Kgautswana</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Short term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D4166</td>
<td>Rivercross/Ga-Riba/R37</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Short term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>R37</td>
<td>Bothashoek-Moroke</td>
<td>Doubling and tarring of road</td>
<td>Medium to long term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>R555</td>
<td>Middleburg-Burgersfort</td>
<td>Doubling and tarring</td>
<td>Medium to long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D1296</td>
<td>Steelpoort to Riba cross vie Samancor</td>
<td>Upgrading and tarring</td>
<td>Medium to long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>D737</td>
<td>Steelpoort-Lydenburg v ve Lapeng Lodge/R37</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Medium to long term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>R37</td>
<td>Burgersfort by-pass road</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Short term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Burgersfort/Bothashoek</td>
<td>New bridge</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Makgopa-R37</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Short term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Makhuduthamaga</td>
<td>D4260</td>
<td>Phokwane-Malope</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Makhuduthamaga</td>
<td>R579/D2219</td>
<td>Monsterlus-Jane Furse</td>
<td>Doubling and tarring</td>
<td>Medium to long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Makhuduthamaga</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Schoonoord/Leolo</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Makhuduthamaga</td>
<td>D4200/D4203</td>
<td>Madibong to Nchabeleng Hospital (vie Mphanama)</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>LM</td>
<td>Road number</td>
<td>Point to point description</td>
<td>Intervention required</td>
<td>Period</td>
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<tr>
<td>Makhuduthamaga</td>
<td>D4283/D4282</td>
<td>Glencowie/Malaka/Thoto</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Makhuduthamaga</td>
<td></td>
<td>Malaka/Maepa</td>
<td>Tarring (cross-municipal road)</td>
<td>Long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ephraim Mogale</td>
<td>D2924</td>
<td>Driefontein/Malebitsa</td>
<td>Road requires tarring/designs available</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ephraim Mogale</td>
<td></td>
<td>Maklerekeng Settlers</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ephraim Mogale</td>
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<td>Mohlalaotwana - Ramogwerane - Mabitsi</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ephraim Mogale</td>
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<td>Moeding - Tafelkop</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ephraim Mogale</td>
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<td>Mbuzini/Morarela/Emmerpal</td>
<td>tarring</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elias Motsoaledi</td>
<td>R25/D2247/D29</td>
<td>R25-Blompoort/R573</td>
<td>Road requires tarring</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elias Motsoaledi</td>
<td>R33/D1547</td>
<td>Groblersdal-Monsterius</td>
<td>Doubling and tarring</td>
<td>Medium to long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elias Motsoaledi</td>
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<td>Luckau/Mmotwaneng</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elias Motsoaledi</td>
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<td>Luckau/ Mmotwaneng Road</td>
<td>Tarring</td>
<td>Long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project name</td>
<td>Locality</td>
<td>Progress</td>
<td>Period</td>
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<tr>
<td>Potlakwe Nature Reserve</td>
<td>Fetakgomo</td>
<td>Feasibility study done</td>
<td>Short term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fresh produce market</td>
<td>Tubatse</td>
<td>Business plan developed</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small towns regeneration</td>
<td>Jane Furse/Ga-rkoana/Marble Hall/ Groblersdal/ Burgersfort</td>
<td>Precinct plans developed</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>De Hoop Dam Tourism development</td>
<td>Elias Motsoaledi/Tubatse</td>
<td>Master plan developed</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rescucitate Tompi Seleka Agricultural College</td>
<td>Ephraim Mogale</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Short term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mining academy</td>
<td>Greater Tubatse</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<td>Tomato growers support programme</td>
<td>Makhuduthamaga</td>
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<td>Medium term</td>
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<td>Potato growers support programme</td>
<td>Greater Tubatse</td>
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<td>Medium</td>
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<td>Cross-municipal (Penge, Mafefe, Maruleng)</td>
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<td>Short term</td>
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<td>Special Economic zone</td>
<td>Greater Tubatse</td>
<td>Feasibility done</td>
<td>Medium to long term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maize production &amp; commercialisation</td>
<td>Makhuduthamaga</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
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<td>SMME Support Programme (entrepreneurship)</td>
<td>Municipal wide</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Short term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project name</td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>Period</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tubatse Regional WWTW</td>
<td>R190m</td>
<td>Construction of gravity outfall sewer and construction of new 16.5ml/day WWTW</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jane Furse WWTW</td>
<td>R150m</td>
<td>Outfall sewer and oxidation ponds</td>
<td>Short term</td>
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<tr>
<td>De Hoop Augmentation</td>
<td>R334m</td>
<td>Doubling of rising main and pump station to Jane Furse</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>De Hoop WTW</td>
<td>R210m</td>
<td>Tripling of De Hoop WTW to 36Ml/day</td>
<td>Short term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lebalelo North</td>
<td>R57m</td>
<td>Extend Lebalelo Pipelines into Northern Zone</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>ORWRDP</td>
<td>R732m</td>
<td>Bulk raw water to supply mooihoek WTW</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zaalplaas source development and bulk</td>
<td>R201m</td>
<td>Explore ground water resources to supply Zaalplaas area and bulk pipes</td>
<td>Short term</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tripling of Groblersdal WTW</td>
<td>R210m</td>
<td>Triple Groblersdal WTW to supply moutse bulk (40Ml/day)</td>
<td>Short term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lebalelo South</td>
<td>R87m</td>
<td>Connector pipes to Lebalelo South and Reticulation</td>
<td>Short term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moutse EAST-WEST reticulation</td>
<td>R300m</td>
<td>Extension of reticulation to villages served by Moutse west</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Mkgwaneng, Klopper, Doornlaagte, Keerom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reticulation</td>
<td>R45m</td>
<td>Mooiriver, Moganyaka, Mamphokgo, Puleng A, Makhutso</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reticulation</td>
<td>R15m</td>
<td>Maroga, Mapea</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>De Hoop pipeline extension</td>
<td>R54m</td>
<td>Extension of pipe from Lobethal to Mashabela</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flag Boshielo WTW</td>
<td>R15m</td>
<td>Upgrading of water treatment works</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blyde water source and bulk</td>
<td>R25m</td>
<td>Investigation of source and bulk supply</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Penge water source and bulk</td>
<td>R30m</td>
<td>Investigation of source and bulk supply</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malekana-Mampuru-Tukakgomo bulk supply</td>
<td>R300m</td>
<td>Construction of bulk pipeline and reticulation</td>
<td>Short to medium term</td>
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8.2 INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FRAMEWORK

The implementation of the Sekhukhune 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 Sekhukhune 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 Sekhukhune 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 for 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

• Lack of local political leadership support of proposed interventions
9 CONCLUSION

What is apparent from the main issues outlined in this document 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 a relatively poor quality of life.

As the DRDP is aimed at transforming rural economies in the SDM, there exist economic, socio-spatial and environmental endowments that can be harnessed. From various policy articulations, focus is given to the potential of the agricultural sector in revitalising rural economies. To this end, the Presidency as well as DRDLR have identified strategic sites for setting up Agri-parks. These Agri-parks will be critical hubs where 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 as well as the service sector 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, the 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 Sekhukhune as well as the issues identified as levers and barriers to rural economic transformation informs the strategic thrust of DRDP’s. Moreover, these development issues inform the implementation plan of DRDP’s, outlining specific programmes and projects that will act as catalysts for integrated rural development.