

Executive Summary iLembe District Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2007 – 2012

iLembe District, the family of the 4 Local Municipalities of Mandeni, KwaDukuza, Ndwedwe and Maphumulo, is faced with the enormous task of not only meeting national and provincial developmental and economic goals, but also of becoming a world class African destination, for excellent services and quality of life for its people.

This being said, this 2007 to 2012 iLembe District IDP seeks to not only align the Local Municipalities' IDPs, but also to ensure cross-sectoral integration and vertical and horizontal alignment in respect of national and provincial government initiatives, strategic directives, policies and procedures, including EPWP and AsgISA principles. This is done within the context of formulating a Credible IDP and based on the guidelines provided in the Department of Provincial and Local Government's IDP Guide Pack.

National and provincial targets focus on the provision of basic services to all South Africans, the eradication of poverty and economic growth and employment creation in areas where this would be most effective and sustainable.

These aspects have been translated in the iLembe IDP into specific strategic development thrusts that take cognisance of the unique circumstances, opportunities and challenges presented in the iLembe District. Numerous opportunities are presented in the scenic beauty of the area, its pristine coastline and economic development initiatives such as the Dube Trade Port and King Shaka International Airport. In strong contrast to these are infrastructure and service backlogs, developmental imbalances and the financial dependency of specifically the Ndwedwe and Maphumulo Local Municipalities – these Municipalities have a low revenue base and are completely dependant on external grant funding.

The iLembe District Municipality has achieved some critical developmental and local economic milestones. Although much progress has been made in terms of local economic development within the District and the Local Municipalities, impact on job creation and poverty relief is still limited. Continued infrastructural and institutional support with regard to achieving sustainable settlement and development are still required.

To address the key issues and challenges identified in the iLembe IDP the strategic focus of development programmes and projects and the allocation of financial and human resources is ultimately on achieving sustainability with ample opportunity for all the residents, communities and stakeholders to participate and become part of the desired future. Within this context due cognisance is taken of iLembe Municipality's role as coordinator, implementor, stimulator and facilitator.

The iLembe 2007 – 2012 IDP therefore specifically highlights the following key areas of performance and supporting strategic objectives:

- **Infrastructure and Services:** To address services backlogs and future growth requirements in the Municipality and to maintain and upgrade existing infrastructure.
- **Land Use Management:** To improve spatial structure and definition of urban functions within the iLembe District and to improve access to opportunities in the urban core as well as rural areas.
- **Local Economic Development:** To stimulate local economic development to reverse the current trends of decline and lack in diversity of the economy, thereby enhancing economic growth.
- **Financial Management:** To manage the Municipality's resources to ensure financial sustainability and affordability.
- **Institutional Development:** To promote institutional structures which are fully representative, participative and empowered to champion social and economic change through and improve the institutional capabilities of the Municipality for service delivery.
- **Social Services:** To coordinate and facilitate the effective provision of Social Services within the iLembe District.
- **Governance:** To provide systems and mechanisms for accountability and public participation in the affairs of the Municipality.
- **Environment:** To invest in the management of a sustainable environment to deliver on the quality of life.

Ultimately, the integration of these facets must be achieved to ensure the eradication of poverty and service backlogs and the general improvement and growth of the economy of iLembe. Anticipated spin-offs would ensure the future sustainability of this area and enable the iLembe community to improve their quality of life. Aspects of particular significance in achieving this are imbedded in the 2007 – 2012 iLembe IDP as it sets clear guidelines for the allocation of financial and human resources to:

- Guide investment to where it would be most appropriate and of the greatest impact.
- Encourage human settlement that is based on sustainability and effectively creating livelihood opportunities.
- Preserving and protecting the natural and cultural environment as key elements to achieving sustainability and promoting this area as a desirable tourist destination.
- Facilitating efficiency and effectiveness in terms of efforts through shared services models, PPPs and organisational performance measurement.

The Capital Investment Framework (CIF) focuses on addressing the backlogs and future growth within iLembe District and more specifically the financial implications thereof. The CIF puts forward a consolidated framework which totals R4, 597 billion to

be allocated and invested in the iLembe District over the next five years. The bulk of the capital investment for the financial year 2007/8 goes towards high priority water and sanitation projects, which is aligned with the key area of intervention. MIG funding forms a large portion of the committed external sources of funding, which granted an amount of R72, 341 million to iLembe District. The Municipality have allocated an additional R18,2 million towards water and sanitation infrastructure development from it's own internal sources.

One of the biggest challenges is matching increased service demands with a relatively stagnant revenue basis. These challenges make the need for realistic and timeous financial planning even more critical. iLembe Municipality is faced with the awesome task of eradicating its massive backlogs in service provision and provide for future growth on a sustainable basis and within the context of available resources. Financial and human resource constraints are of national significance and the question remains that, even if the iLembe District Municipality has access to sufficient financial resources to fund this Capital Investment Programme and Framework, does it have the human resource capacity to give effect to this Capital Investment Framework?

The Operating Revenue and Expenditure Framework for iLembe are estimated at R181 million for the financial period 2007/8, with the most significant income being that of the Equitable Share Grant followed by water and sanitation services.

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