



co-operative governance  
& traditional affairs

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# PHASE 2: POLICY CONTEXT AND VISION DIRECTIVES REPORT

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Review of the Municipal Spatial  
Development Framework (MSDF) for  
Dipaleseng Local Municipality within  
a Period of 12 Months

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28 June 2019

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This document is the second in a series of deliverables for the Review of the Municipal Spatial Development Framework (MSDF) for Dipaleseng Local Municipality within a Period of 12 Months. It is the property of the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), Mpumalanga Province. To use any concept, idea or material presented in this document, an explicit permission must be sought from a competent authority within the COGTA Mpumalanga.

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## List of Abbreviations

<b>CRDP</b>	<b>Comprehensive Rural Development Programme</b>
<b>DLM</b>	Dipaleseng Local Municipality
<b>DRDLR</b>	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
<b>IDP</b>	Integrated Development Plan
<b>MSDF</b>	Municipal Spatial Development Framework
<b>LUMS</b>	Land Use Management Scheme
<b>MBCP</b>	Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan
<b>MEGA</b>	Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency
<b>MP COGTA</b>	Mpumalanga Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
<b>MTPA</b>	Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Authority
<b>NEMA</b>	National Environmental Management Act
<b>NDP</b>	National Development Plan 2030
<b>PSDF</b>	Provincial Spatial Development Framework
<b>RDP</b>	Rural Development Plan
<b>SDF</b>	Spatial Development Framework
<b>SPLUMA</b>	Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (Act No 16 of 2013)

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# **I INTRODUCTION**

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## **1.1 BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

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The Dipaleseng SDF is a spatial policy document that identifies the main challenges and opportunities confronting the municipality. The document sets out the municipal spatial Vision for the future and identifies a number of spatial strategies towards achieving this Vision.

The DLM is reviewing the existing municipal spatial development framework (MSDF) in order to compile a credible and updated Municipal SDF aligned with the provisions set out in the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA). The objectives of SPLUMA in the context of Municipal Spatial Development Frameworks are to:

- provide spatial goals and supporting policies to achieve positive changes in the spatial organization of Municipal areas to better ensure a sustainable development future;
- promote the sound planning principles according to the relevant legislation;
- promote the general well-being of its inhabitants, thereby ensuring that the most effective and orderly planning is achieved for an area whereby changes, needs and growth in the area can be managed to the benefit of its inhabitants;
- provide direction for strategic developments, infrastructure investments, taking cognizance of environmental management mechanisms; and
- Represent the municipal spatial development vision statement through integration and implementation of all relevant sector policies and plans.

The MSDF must also be underpinned by and give expression to the key principles of planning as expounded in SPLUMA, namely, spatial justice, spatial sustainability, efficiency, spatial resilience and good administration. The MSDF should also serve the purpose of integrating necessary functionalities and linkages within local government, delivering a multitude of services linked to an integrated development approach in the municipal area. It must equally indicate the desired spatial growth and development patterns as well as sufficiently provide for an economically and socially balanced development between rural and urban areas in the municipality.

In view thereof, the Dipaleseng MSDF must:

- provide spatial expression of the coordination, alignment and integration of sectorial development policies, strategies and objectives of all municipal departments; prioritise land use development patterns;
- translate developmental needs;
- unpack spatial directives and objectives for implementation;
- provide investment guidance and the mechanisms for implementation; and
- provide guidance on sectoral development needs, investments and programme implementation.

SPLUMA further acknowledges the status of the MSDF in that no land development decision may be taken if it is inconsistent with the MSDF. Where the MSDF is inconsistent with the PSDF, the Premier should take the necessary steps to ensure that a revision of the MSDF is done so that it is consistent with the PSDF. Hence, the need for this Dipaleseng SDF review, not only to be aligned with SPLUMA Principles but also to be consistent with the 2019 Mpumalanga PSDF.

## **1.2 STUDY AREA - DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

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The Dipaleseng Municipality is situated in the south western part of the Gert Sibande district municipality and it is the smallest of the seven local municipalities in the district. It is located south east of the Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve, just off the R23 that leaves the N3 north of Heidelberg heading into the province of Mpumalanga. The Free State Province borders the municipality to the south, Gauteng Province to the north west, Govan Mbeki Municipality to the north east and Lekwa Municipality to the south east.

The municipal area comprises a geographic area of 2,644 km<sup>2</sup>. Balfour is the seat of the municipality and is its major town. It is situated approximately 80km south-east of Johannesburg. It is a small coal mining and mostly a maize farming town. The three major urban nodes in the area are Balfour/Siyathemba, Greylingstad/Nthorwane and Grootvlei.

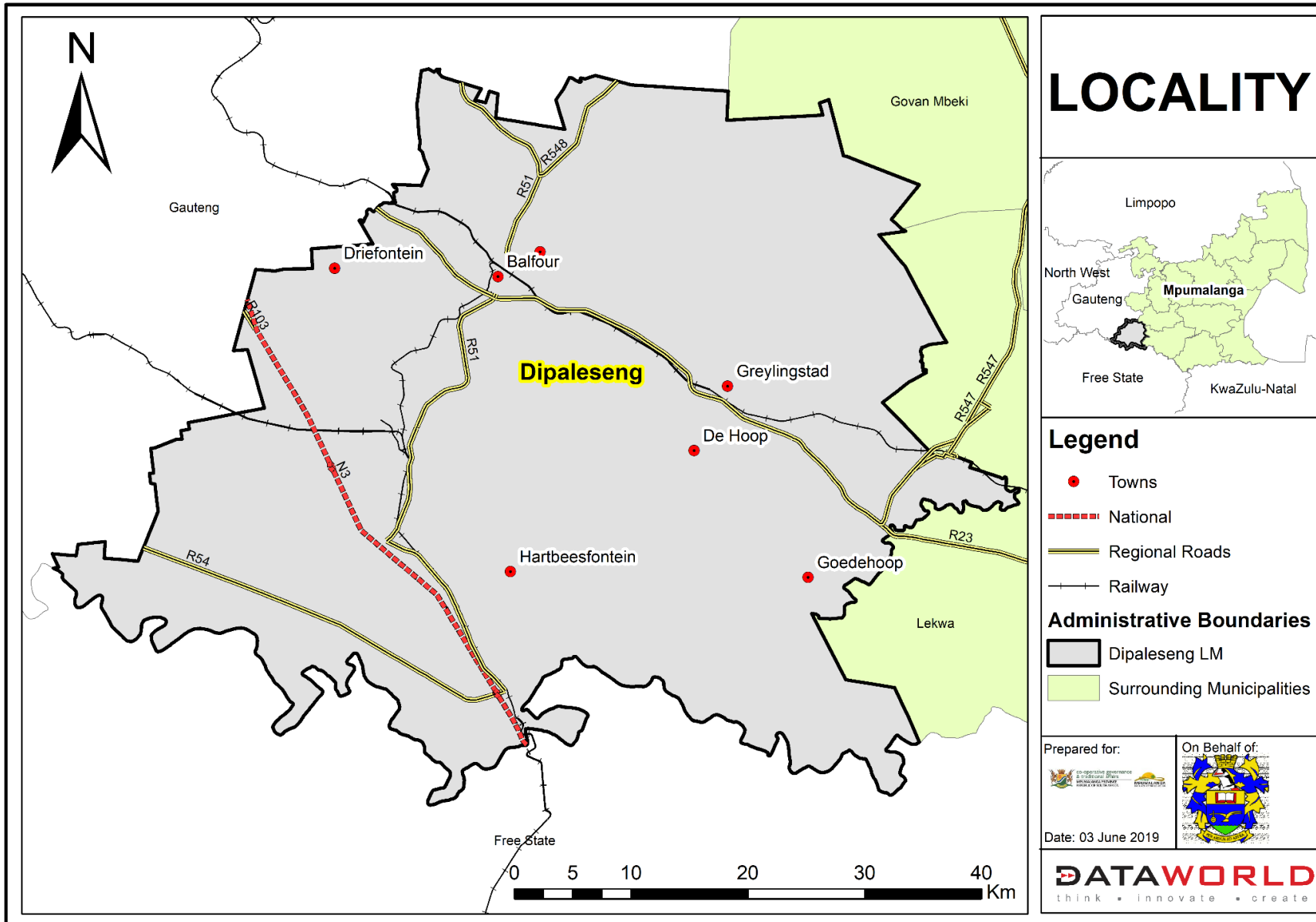
The major roads that transverse the municipal area are the N3, which runs from Johannesburg to Durban, and the R23 from Pretoria to Volksrust. The Johannesburg—KwaZulu-Natal railway system runs through the municipal area. The total population of the municipality is 45 232 people as per the 2016 Stats SA Community Census, indicating a growth of 6.7% from 2011 (42 390 people). Dipaleseng accounts for 4% of the district's population<sup>1</sup>.

The area is predominantly rural with Agriculture and Mining being the main economic sectors. The Municipality has a generally low income population with a large number of people living in abject poverty as they do not have a reliable source of income. The municipality also has a high dependence on grants funding such as welfare grants and pension. The locality of the municipality and its context within the surrounding local municipalities is depicted in Map 1.

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<sup>1</sup> Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development and Tourism, Socio-economic Profile of Dipaleseng, 2018





**Map 1: Dipaleseng LM Overview**

## **2 POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT**

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### **2.1 NATIONAL LEGISLATION, POLICIES, AND PLANS**

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#### **2.1.1 South African Constitution**

The Constitution of South Africa, contained in Act 108 of 1996, is the supreme law of South Africa. Amongst other things, it prescribes different functions to different tiers of government to ensure the equitable and functional distribution of roles, responsibilities and duties.

Section 152 of the Constitution clearly mandates that it is the responsibility of Local Government:

- To provide a democratic and accountable government for local communities;
- To ensure provision of services to communities in a sustainable manner;
- To promote social and economic development;
- To promote a safe and healthy environment; and
- To encourage the involvement of communities and community organizations in the matters of local government.

Section 153 also states that a municipality must:

- Structure and manage its administration, and budgeting and planning process to give priority to the basic needs of the community, and to promote the social & economic development of the municipality; and
- Participate in national & provincial development programmes.

Chapter 3 of the Constitution is dedicated towards 'Co-operative Government', which concerns the involvement, participation and sharing of information across the different tiers of government. It recognises that all levels of government are important and play a critical role in taking the country forward. Therefore, there should be a free-flow of information between all spheres of the government.

#### **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

The Dipaleseng Local Municipality is constitutionally mandated to undertake local planning for its municipal area, as well as achieve co-operative governance. This SDF review seeks to provide a modernised and holistic spatial plan that will guide the development of the municipality into the future while also facilitating coordination between the different sector departments and government spheres to achieve coherent and integrated development.

#### **2.1.2 Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA)**

The Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act 16 of 2013 (SPLUMA) aims to develop a new framework to govern planning permissions and approvals, sets parameters for new developments and provides for different lawful land uses in South Africa. SPLUMA also provides clarity on how planning law interacts with other laws, frameworks and policies.

SPLUMA aims to redress the fragmented and historical spatial imbalances of the past and promote integration of principals of sustainable development. Section 3 of

SPLUMA states that the Act aims to develop a 'uniform, effective and comprehensive system' of planning that 'promotes social and economic inclusion'.

The role of local government in spatial planning has therefore been re-energized through the introduction of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA). The intention of this national legislation is to introduce the norms and standards for spatial planning; to specify the relationship between spatial planning, land use management and land development; provide for the sustainable and effective use of land; redress spatial imbalances of the past and ensure that there is equity, uniformity and consistency in the application of spatial development planning and land use management systems.

Chapter 2 of the SPLUMA outlines a host of development principles that should apply in the preparation of the MSDP for spatial planning, land use management and land development in the municipal area. These are:

a) The principle of **Spatial Justice**:

- Deal with spatial imbalances and include areas that were previously excluded.
- Redress access to land for the previously disadvantaged/ excluded areas
- Plan for incremental upgrading and secure tenure
- Incorporate land use management systems for previously disadvantaged/ excluded area
- Ensures equitable distribution and increase access to social infrastructure and addresses the injustices of the past.

b) The principle of **Spatial Sustainability**:

- Promote land development that is within the fiscal, institutional and administrative means of the country
- Protect prime agricultural land and environmental resources
- Promote consistency of land use measures in accordance to environmental management systems
- Promote and stimulate the effective and equitable functioning of land markets
- Carefully consider social and infrastructural costs of land development
- Promote development in sustainable locations and limit urban sprawl
- Establish viable communities;

c) The principle of **Spatial Efficiency**:

- Land Development optimise efficient use of resources and infrastructure
- Minimise negative financial, social, economic or environmental impacts
- Efficient and streamlined development application procedures and timelines

d) The principle of **Spatial Resilience**:

- promote flexibility in spatial plans, policies and land use management systems are accommodated to ensure sustainable livelihoods in communities most likely to suffer the impacts of economic and environmental shocks.

e) The principle of **Good Governance:**

- An integrated approach to land use and land development guided by spatial planning and land use management systems
- Free-flow of information plans and policies between and within tiers of government
- All land use and land development requirements met timeously
- Empowering citizens

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

The compilation of this SDF review will be guided by the SPLUMA key provisions that seek to promote efficient and effective spatial planning and land-use management practices. Ultimately, the implementation of Dipaleseng's reviewed SDF should give effect to the SPLUMA development principles as elucidated above. The Act further states that municipal spatial development frameworks should integrate and be aligned with various plans and policies from both national and provincial sector departments that have a spatial implication or significance on the municipal area.

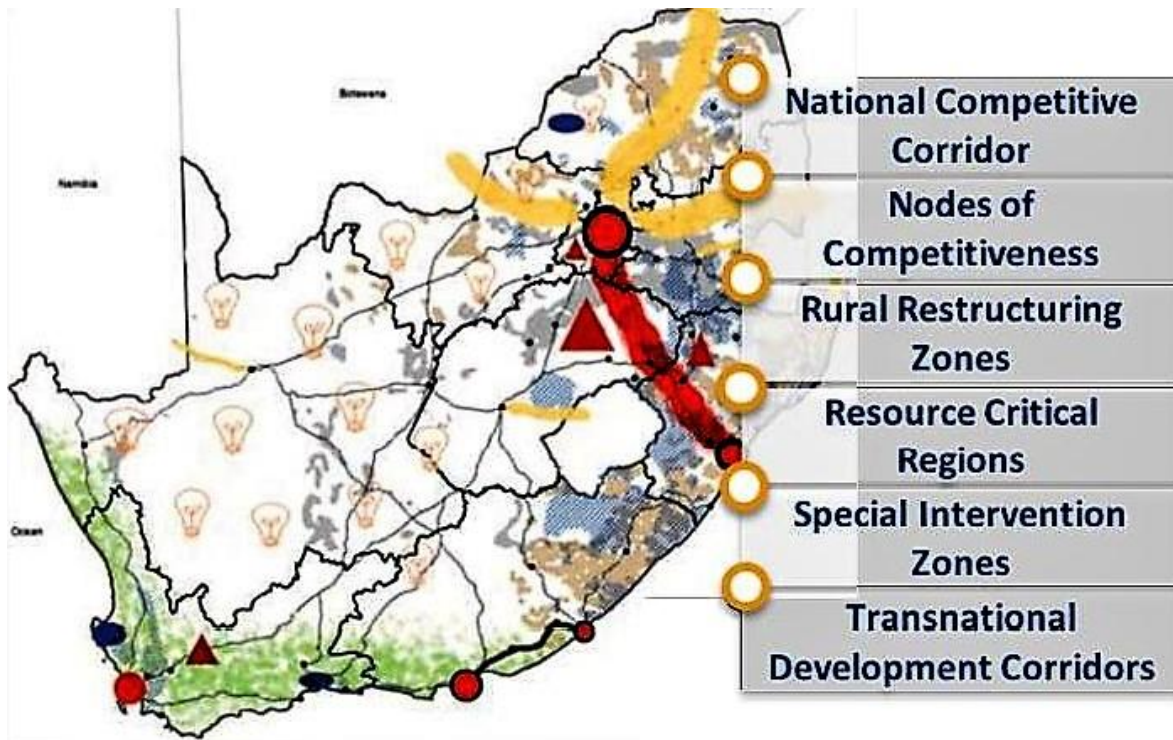
### 2.1.3 National Development Plan 2030

The National Planning Commission (NPC) has developed the National Development Plan: Vision 2030 (NDP) for South Africa. It integrates previous strategic policies with new approaches to make the country's economy work better for all. The NDP offers a long-term perspective. It defines a desired destination and identifies the role different sectors of society need to play in reaching it aims to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030. The plan focuses on addressing three core challenges which are: (a) reducing poverty, (b) inequality and (c) unemployment.

The NDP provides for spatial development proposals as part of the national spatial development interventions referenced schematically in Figure 2

- **Primary Transnational Development Corridors** and cross border infrastructure connections.
- Gauteng as a national **Node of Competitiveness** which strongly associates with the nearby economic activity nodes in proximity to Gauteng, which relates to eMalahleni, Middelburg, Secunda and Nelspruit as part of the Maputo Development Corridor.
- The **National Competitiveness Corridor** building on the Durban-Gauteng Freight Corridor, providing for logistics hubs, road, rail and fuel transportation.
- **Rural Restructuring Zones:** These zones include the more densely occupied parts of the previous homelands where there are sufficient numbers of people to provide the basis for viable markets through the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP). The rural restructuring zones within Mpumalanga as part of the provincial CRDP programme.

- **Resource critical zones:** These have valued mineral resources, and are areas of great importance to biodiversity and critical water production. The sustainability of these areas is crucial and needs specific policies to protect them.



**Figure 1: The NDPs Proposed National Schema for Spatial Targeting**  
 (Source: National Development Plan, 2030)

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**  
 The SDF will identify explicit spatial restructuring strategies which must include the identification of priority precincts for spatial restructuring.

### 2.1.4 National Spatial Development Framework (2018)

The National Spatial Development Framework (NSDF) seeks to make a bold and decisive contribution to bringing about the peaceful, prosperous and a truly transformed South Africa, as articulated in the Freedom Charter, the Reconstruction and Development Programme and the NDP.

The appointment of the *National Planning Commission* in 2010, and the subsequent preparation and adoption of the 2030- *National Development Plan* in 2012. It was especially Chapter 8 of the NDP – *Transforming Human Settlement and the National Space Economy* – that made specific reference to the need for a “*national spatial development framework*”.

The NSDF must accelerate the spatial transformation and ensure that equitable outcomes are achieved. It must do so in full recognition of (1) the need for urgency to act on redressing the apartheid spatial legacy, and (2) the scale of what the redress requires in terms of approach, resource use, and state capability. It needs to ensure that segregated development is reversed, and fundamentally improve the spatial quality, liveability vibrancy and productive capacity of places in which Black families live. The NSDF must provide guidance on the minimum amenities, functions and services that different types of settlements in the country must have or provide.

The NSDF must ensure that the ecological base on which all livelihoods and economic growth depend is protected and harnessed. As such, it must provide for (1) the development of sustainable human settlements in the national space with the long-term future in mind, and (2) the wise effective and inclusive use and enjoyment of the country's land, water and energy resources. The *Spatial Development Vision and Mission* that is proposed for the country, based on these drivers, builds on the overarching goal of *equity, unity and connectedness*, and reads as follows:

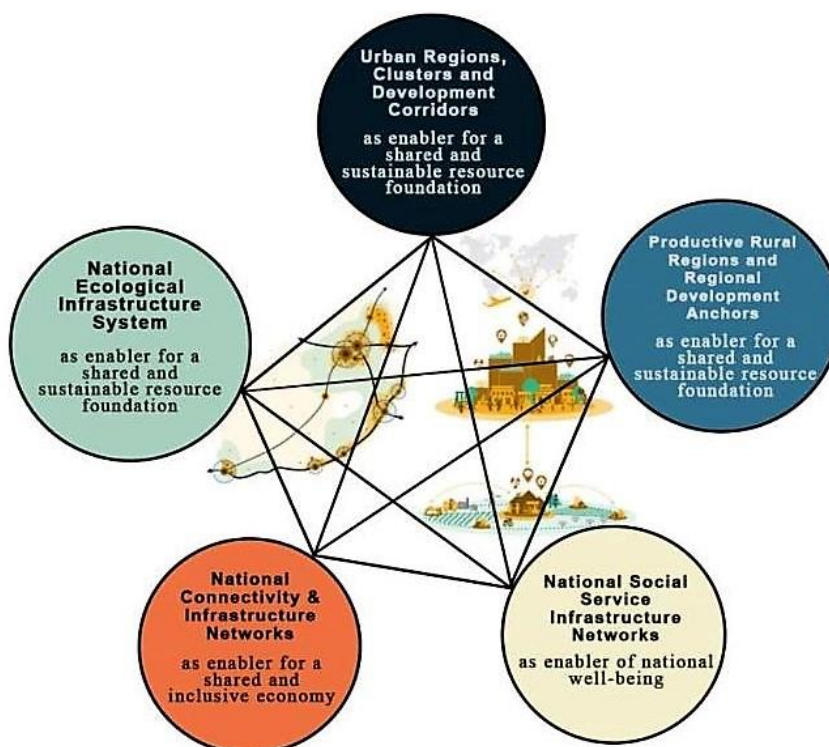
NSDF Vision Statement:

**“All Our People Living in Shared and Transformed Places in an Integrated, Sustainable and Competitive National Space Economy”**

NSDF Mission Statement:

**“Making our Common Desired Spatial Future Together Through Better Planning, Investment, Delivery and Monitoring”**

Guided by the normative principles contained in SPLUMA and the NDP directives as set out in the previous section, as well as the fourteen strategic outcomes of the Medium Term Strategic Framework, the vision will be realised by achieving the following set of mutually reinforcing high-level spatial frames as indicated in **Figure 2**



**Figure 2 Five frames to achieve our desired future spatial pattern**

(Source: National Spatial Development Framework, 2018)

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

The high-level frames of the NSDF will be incorporated into the Dipaleseng SDF review, thereby establishing the vertical linkage to the national spatial development plan (NSDF).

### **2.1.5 Medium Term Strategic Framework (2014-2019)**

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 National Development Plan (NDP). The MTSF sets out the actions Government will take and targets to be achieved. It also provides a framework for the other plans of national, provincial and local government.

The MTSF notes that Government is committed to improving access to housing and basic services, including the provision of approximately 1.495 million housing opportunities, the upgrading of informal settlements, and the expansion of access to water, sanitation and electricity. To give effect to the two key pillars of the MTSF, it is structured around fourteen (14) Priority Outcomes which includes:

- Quality basic education
- Long and healthy life for all South Africans
- All people in South Africa are and feel safe
- Decent employment through inclusive growth
- A skilled and capable workforce to support an inclusive growth path
- An efficient, competitive and responsive economic infrastructure network
- Vibrant, equitable, sustainable rural communities contributing towards food security for all
- Sustainable human settlements and improved quality of household life
- Responsive, accountable, effective and efficient local government
- Protect and enhance our environmental assets and natural resources
- Create a better South Africa and contribute to a better Africa and a better world
- An efficient, effective and development-oriented public service
- A comprehensive, responsive and sustainable social protection system
- A diverse, socially cohesive society with a common national identity

Fourteen appendices to the MTSF contain detailed plans for the 2014-2019 period for each of the Outcome areas. They set out the core objectives, the major challenges that have been identified and programmes and actions to be implemented during that period. Each outcome is broken down into sub-outcomes containing a set of actions together with indicators for measuring progress, targets and timeframes.

### **2.1.6 National Infrastructure Plan**

The South African Government adopted a National Infrastructure Plan in 2012. The aim is to transform our economic landscape while simultaneously creating significant numbers of new jobs, and strengthen the delivery of basic services. The plan also supports the integration of African economies.

The National Infrastructure Plan (NIP) seeks to promote:

- ❖ re- industrialisation through manufacturing of inputs, components and machinery;
- ❖ skills development aimed at critical categories;
- ❖ greening the economy; and
- ❖ Empowerment.

The NIP comprises 18 identified Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs) which integrate more than 150 municipal infrastructure plans into a coherent package. The

proposed SIPs entail both social and economic infrastructure across all nine provinces, but with an emphasis on lagging regions. They comprise catalytic projects that can fast-track development and growth. Note that many of the components within the SIPs have a national footprint such as the infrastructure programmes for school building, healthcare facilities and expanding access to broadband. However, the SIPs that impacts on Dipaleseng Local Municipality are:

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

- **SIP 2:** Durban- Free State- Gauteng Logistics and Industrial Corridor
- **SIP 9:** Electricity generation to support socio-economic development
- **SIP 11:** Increased investment in Agri-logistics and rural infrastructure (high impact catalytic and differentiated service).
- **SIP 18:** Water and sanitation infrastructure in the form of addressing water backlogs and the provision of a sustainable supply of water and sanitation services to meet social needs and support economic growth.

### **2.1.7 Industrial Policy Action Plan**

The Industrial Policy Action Plan 2017/18 (IPAP 1) 2019/20 (IPAP2) is in its ninth annual iteration based on the National Industry Policy Framework and its objectives. IPAP1 placed emphasis on job creation with a continuously strengthening focus on labour intensity, especially in labour intensive sectors that link to the productive sectors of the economy, across integrated value chains. The major weakness identified in South Africa's long-term industrialisation process is that the decline in the share of employment in the traditional tradable sectors, particularly mining and agriculture has not been offset by a sufficiently large increase in the share of relatively labour-intensive employment in non-tradable goods and services, particularly manufacturing. Consequently, the objectives of the IPAP2 are:

- To facilitate a shift away from reliance on traditional commodities and non-tradable services and promote value-added goods and services that compete in export markets (against imports).
- To intensify the industrialisation process and move towards a knowledge rich economy.
- To promote a more labour-absorbing industrialisation path, with particular emphasis on tradable labour-absorbing goods and services and economic linkages that enhance employment creation.
- To promote a broader-based industrialisation path characterised by increased participation of historically disadvantaged people and marginalised regions in the mainstream of the industrial economy.

### **2.1.8 The Regional Industrial Development Strategy**

The Department of Trade and Industry formulated a Regional Industrial Development Strategy (RIDS) in 2006. The aim was to promote regions based on their economic comparative advantages and to design support measures appropriate to each region to:

- Respond to persistent inequalities between the first and second economies;



- Encourage regions to seize current and potential opportunities presented by both the national and the international market economies; and
- Encourage the country's most successful economic regions to consolidate and improve on their current economic potential.

In view of the fact that the South African economy is a resource-based economy the purpose of RIDS is to respond in broad terms to issues of spatial differentiation in economic welfare levels. A key challenge is both to simultaneously support lagging regions and to assist leading regions to capitalise on their inherent strengths and potential. The RIDS provides a spatially referenced development perspective schematically. A key feature of the national space economy is the economic dominance of the three primary economic cores of Gauteng, greater Cape Town and eThekweni-uMtsunduzi. Outside the three primary economic cores there are at least 16 other prominent economic regions, based primarily on gross value added and key mineral, energy and manufacturing linkages.

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

Regarding regions, the RIDS identifies large parts of the GSDM area being part of the Witbank-Middelburg-Secunda "Diversified Mining Region" with mining and manufacturing being the main economic activities and supplemented by the infrastructure and services/tourism sectors and limited agriculture. Furthermore, Dipaleseng's critical advantage is its agricultural and mining and energy complexes. In a nutshell, it has a well-developed primary sector which is its national advantage over other and in particular the adjoining municipalities. In addition strategic and functional linkages with Gauteng, Durban and Free State via the N3 corridor are important directives

**2.1.9 Agricultural Policy Action Plan**

The Agriculture Policy Action Plan (APAP) seeks to assist in the achievement of Outcome 4 (Decent Employment through Inclusive Growth), Outcome 7 (Comprehensive Rural Development and Food Security) and Outcome 10 (environmental assets and natural resources that are well protected and continually enhanced) of the MTSF (2014-2019) and aligns itself to the New Growth Path (NGP) and the National Development Plan (NDP).

APAP focuses on a discrete number of value chains identified as strategic in meeting the objectives of the NGP, NDP and IPAP and these are:

- Contribution to food security;
- Job creation;
- Value of production;
- Growth potential; and
- Potential contribution to trade balance (including via export expansion and import substitution).

APAP recognises agriculture as a sector with significant job creation potential and with strategic links to beneficiation opportunities. When exploring the different models of rural development, there seems to be coherent global evidence that agriculture presents the best opportunities for the advancement of rural development agenda. Agriculture plays a strategic role in respect of food security, agrarian transformation and rural development.

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

As a recommendation, the impact of APAP could also be intensified by exploring opportunities in the sectors outside of rural development and land reform. For example, Dipaleseng could mobilise for development schools offering Agriculture as an assessed subject and support those schools. In this way, the Municipality is in a position to make a social capital investment for the advancement of APAP.

**2.1.10 National Transport Master Plan (NATMAP), 2050**

NATMAP (2050) was approved by the South African Government in 2011. The focus of the project is to ensure that by 2050 transportation development will meet the needs of freight and passenger customers; to ensure accessible, affordable, safe, frequent, high quality, reliable, efficient and seamless transport operations and infrastructure provision and development.

The project makes provision for a process of continued upgrading, innovative, flexible, economically and environmentally sustainable transportation that will support and enable government strategies, growth, development, redistribution, employment and social integration within the national spatial system. The project endeavours to address this distorted land use and transportation situation provincially and nationally.

The core directives or paradigm shifts emanating from the Master Plan are to:

- Place greater emphasis on developing rail as a transportation medium,
- Ensure greater integration between land use development and transportation planning; and
- Put more emphasis on enhancing the development of several priority national transport corridors.

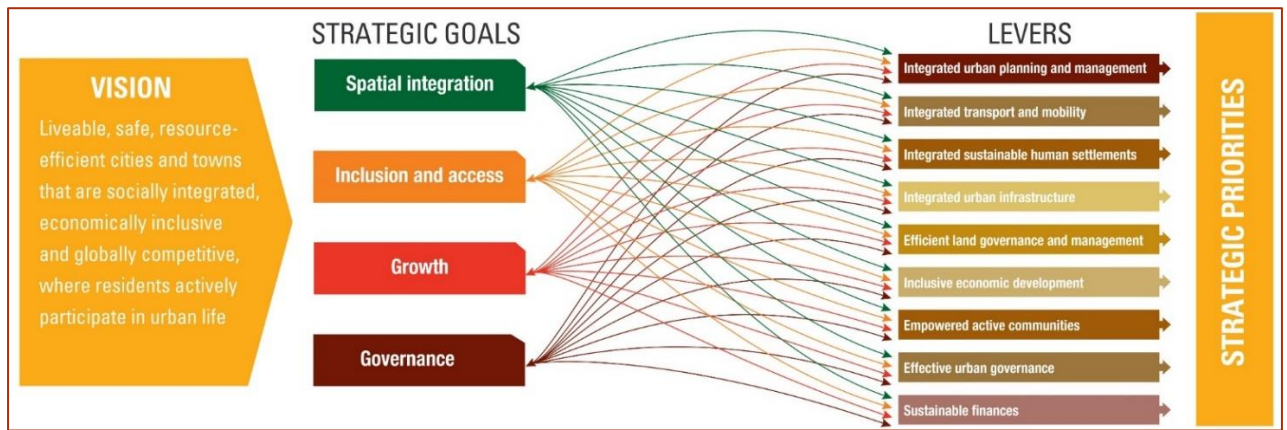
Figure 6 conceptually depicts the major corridors identified in South Africa as part of the NATMAP.

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

Freight rail infrastructure expansion from Lephalale via Rustenburg to Pretoria and Johannesburg to transport the coal reserves to other areas of the country – also the power stations in Mpumalanga (Eskom Station in Grootvlei); Combined Road and Passenger rail infrastructure development from Mpumalanga to facilitate daily passenger mobility. (Moloto Corridor and Phalaborwa-Mbombela Corridor).

**2.1.11 Integrated Urban Development Framework (IUDF)**

The Integrated Urban Development Framework (IUDF) is a policy initiative of the South African government, coordinated by the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA). The IUDF seeks to foster a shared understanding across government and society about how best to manage urbanisation and achieve the goals of economic development, job creation and improved living conditions in South African cities.



**Figure 3: Core Elements of the IUDF (Source: Integrated Urban Development Framework)**

### 2.1.12 National Environmental Management Act, (1998)

Section 24 of the Constitution provides the right to every person for a non-harmful environment and simultaneously mandates the government to protect the environment. The framework to enforce Section 24 of the Constitution is the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA).

NEMA is a progressive environmental management legislation in South Africa. It has provided the framework for decision-making for individuals, institutions, and government. The NEMA's key principles are aimed at promoting co-operative governance and ensuring that the rights of people are upheld, while at the same time recognising the importance of economic development. The predecessor to the NEMA, the Environmental Conservation Act, was largely unsuccessful or inadequate to deal with enforcement, administration, governance and so forth. The NEMA was developed to succeed in these aspects and more.

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

Any EIA needs to look at existing planning tools (like the SDF) to motivate for the development. The SDF is focused on sustainability and the protection of the natural environment, therefore development not in line with the SDF, and the protection of the natural environment, will not be allowed in the municipality.

## 2.2 PROVINCIAL SPATIAL PLANS, POLICIES AND DIRECTIVES

### 2.2.1 Mpumalanga Vision, 2030

The Mpumalanga Vision, 2030 is a strategic implementation framework that was developed as a direct implementation response to the NDP whilst reflecting the spatial and socio-economic needs of Mpumalanga. The framework describes the Province's approach to realizing the objectives of the NDP in the provincial context and seeks to achieve the MPG's Provincial Strategic Objectives (PSO's). Mpumalanga Vision, 2030 provides a provincial expression of the key priorities, objectives and targets that enumerated in the NDP and expressed within the policy. The Vision, 2030 seeks to affirm the provincial approach towards realising the national vision.

The Vision, 2030 has identified key drivers to formulate a spatial rationale for the province based on the nine Key Drivers. Key Drivers 1 to 6 is focused towards promoting economic development and job creation according to the space economy of Mpumalanga province from which priority nodes/areas for economic development have been identified. Key Drivers 7 and 8 are focused on human settlement in and around these priority nodes/areas identified. Key Driver 9 is focused on the conservation and sustainable management of the natural environment.

- **Key Driver 1:** Nodal Development
- **Key Driver 2:** Business, Commercial and Industrial Development
- **Key Driver 3:** Tourism Development
- **Key Driver 4:** Forestry Development
- **Key Driver 5:** Agricultural Development
- **Key Driver 6:** Mining and Energy Related Development
- **Key Driver 7:** Urban Development
- **Key Driver 8:** Rural Development
- **Key Driver 9:** Environmental Management and Conservation

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

Dipaleseng key economic sectors are agriculture and mining. As per this Vision, these sectors form part of the key drivers (Key Driver 5 and 6) for economic development and job creation. The SDF will therefore have to explore the various opportunities in terms of how they can be leveraged to achieve these imperatives.

### **2.2.2 Mpumalanga Economic Growth and Development Path, 2011 (MEGDP)**

The Mpumalanga Economic Growth and Development Path (MEGDP) is informed by the National Economic Growth Path. The Mpumalanga Province is committed to increasing local economic development and job creation in the agricultural, industrial, manufacturing, green economy, tourism and mining sectors. The MEGDP provides a detailed framework for the realisation of these objectives. The focal point of the Mpumalanga Economic Growth and Development Path is the creation of appropriate labour absorbing jobs which will have a positive direct, indirect and induced effect on the Provincial economy and the living standards of its people.

The primary objective of the MEGDP is to grow the economy of the province; balance growth and development in order to create jobs, reduce poverty and inequality and improve the socio-economic conditions of the province. The growth plan is anchored on a few factors which include sector development, inclusive & shared growth, spatial distribution, regional integration, sustainable human development and environmental sustainability with clearly defined strategic targets over a medium to long term period.

The following job drivers will be utilised to realise the objectives of the MEGDP and to secure strong and sustainable growth for the next decade. The Dipaleseng local municipality also has a key role to play in facilitating the achievement of these drivers.

- **Infrastructure for Employment & Development**
- **Job Creation in Economic Sectors such as:**

- **Seizing the Potential for New Economies in:**
- **Investing in Social Capital & the Public Service**
- **Spatial Development**

### **2.2.3 Mpumalanga Provincial Spatial Development Framework, Draft (2019) (PSDF)**

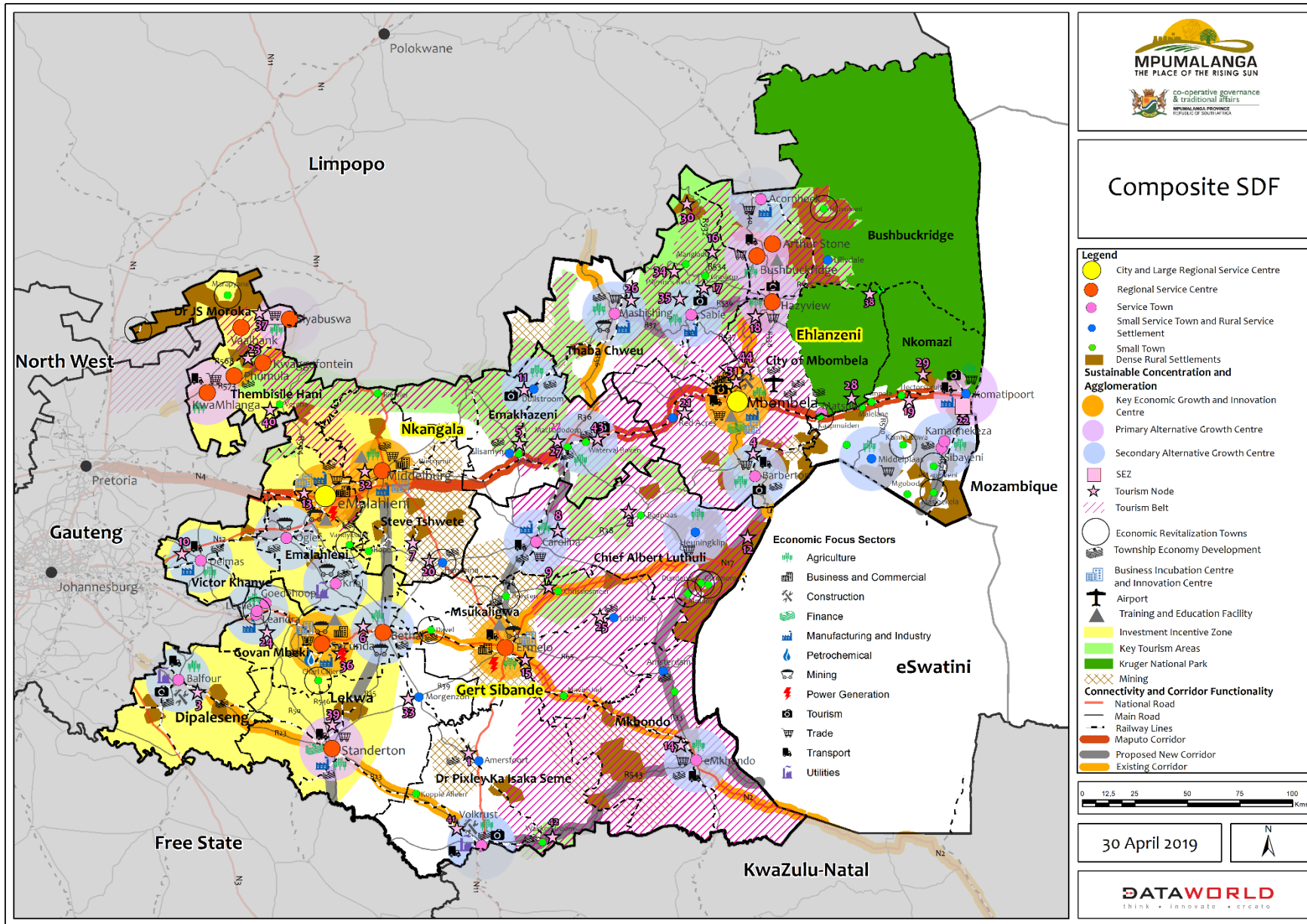
The Mpumalanga Provincial Spatial Development Framework was developed as one of the requirements mandated by SPLUMA. The objectives of the Mpumalanga PSDF is to cover the following aspects at provincial level; integration of development policies, strategies and objectives at various levels; prioritize land use development patterns; translate developmental needs; unpack spatial directives and objectives for implementation; provide investment guidance and the mechanisms for implementation; provide guidance on sectoral development needs, investments, integration and programme implementation.

The Mpumalanga PSDF has identified five strategic spatial development objectives to be carried out in order to achieve the overall development vision of the province and will have an influence on the spatial patterns and overall growth of Mpumalanga:

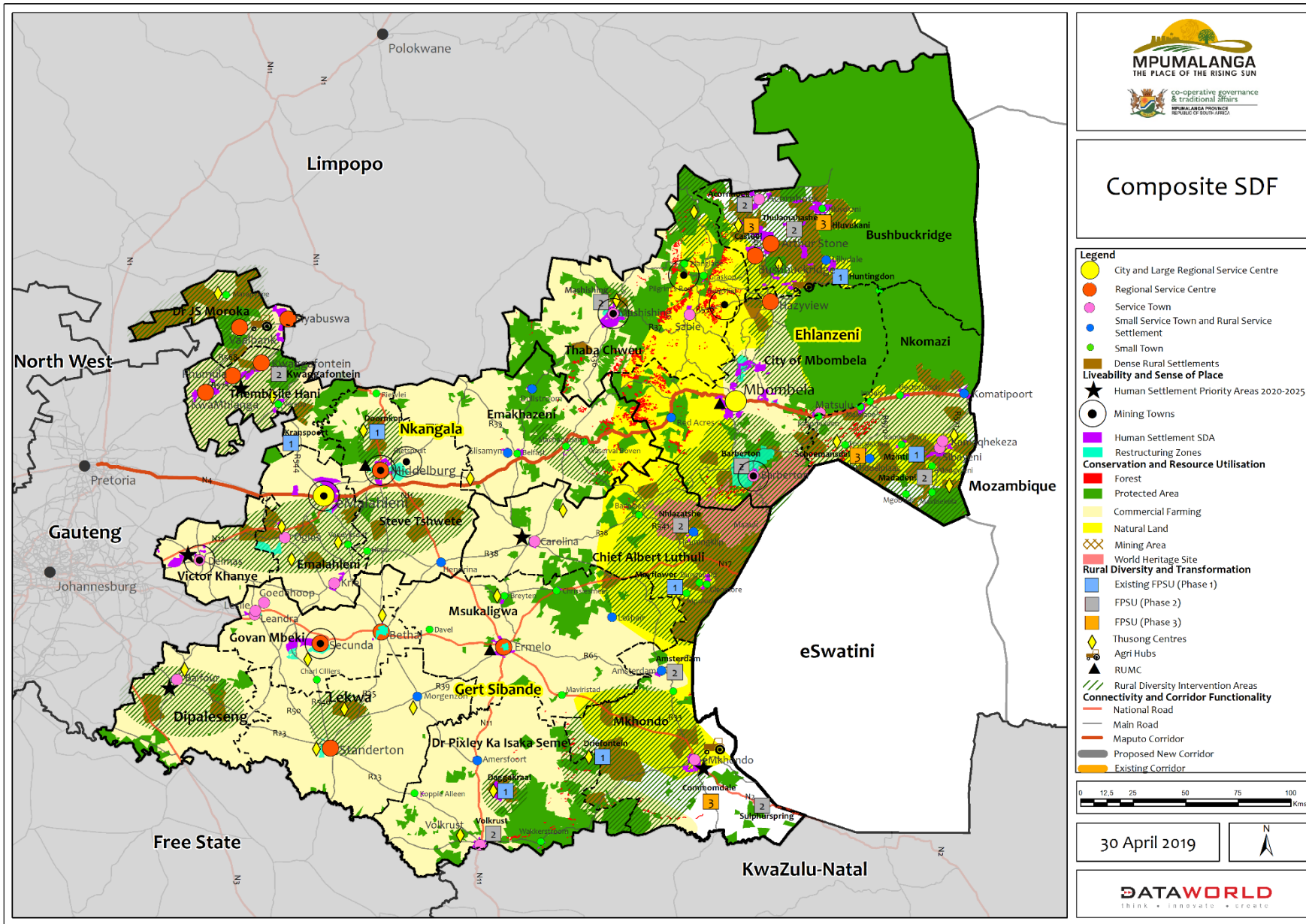
- 1. Connectivity and Corridor Functionality**
- 2. Sustainable Concentration and Agglomeration**
- 3. Conservation and Resource utilisation**
- 4. Livability and Sense of Place**
- 5. Rural Diversity and transformation**

#### **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

- Road improvements and rehabilitating projects of provincial corridors including R23.
- Decongestion of the coal haul roads and Improvement of Freight Network, by improving and upgrading freight railway network and coal haulage roads within Gert Sibande District Municipality. Increase the volume of rail freight network near coal mine areas
- Promote the economic development of the alternative growth centres with Balfour identified as one of the secondary alternative growth centre for development, which will be centred on the agricultural, agro-processing, construction, tourism and transport economic sector development.
- Promote Economic Growth through Incentives by creating an investment incentive zone on the western peripheral area of the province, with Balfour being one of the towns identified to benefit from this incentive zone.
- Promote the development of township economic development in townships like Siyathemba and Nthorwane in the Municipality
- Develop "Special Control Zones" to regulate mining activities.
- Promote compaction and densification in urban areas through the application of designated nodes, sustainable development and infill areas
- Create a Functional Rural Economic Nodes by Rural Restructuring and Linkage of Rural Economies.



**Map 2: Mpumalanga Provincial Spatial Development Framework 1**



**Map 3: Mpumalanga Provincial Spatial Development Framework 2**

## 2.2.4 Mpumalanga Infrastructure Master Plan

The Mpumalanga Infrastructure Master Plan intends to be guide and provide directive for infrastructure development as well as a programme of action with a detailed list of projects in the Province. The MIMP aims to set out a vision of the provincial infrastructure that will strive to be resilient, coordinated and contributes to economic growth and increased quality of life by 2020.

The MIMP proposes that the following development principles be paramount in terms of guiding and directing decisions regarding infrastructure investment in the Province:

- **Principle 1: Balance economic growth and social upliftment**
- **Principle 2: Respond to regional differences in development potential**
- **Principle 3: Recognise roles and responsibilities of stakeholders**
- **Principle 4: Build on existing initiatives**
- **Principle 5: Preserve existing assets**
- **Principle 6: Align investment with available resources**
- **Principle 7: Build a heritage**

### **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

These principles have an influence on the SDF and should potentially be considered as another baseline when proposals are being made in the later phases of the project.

## 2.2.5 Mpumalanga Sustainable Human Settlement Master Plan, (2013)

The Mpumalanga province aims to eradicate current housing backlogs through the development of the Sustainable Human Settlement Master Plan (SHSMP). The intent is assist in providing guidance in prioritising housing projects for urban, rural and agri-villages. Thus, one of the fundamental role of the SHSMP is guide the provincial government through the preparation and maintenance of strategic housing plans which targets housing challenges and delivery schedules. These plans therefore need to be in line with the National Housing Policy.

The SHSMP also endorsed various human settlement programmes/strategies and guidelines in order to facilitate and enhance special focus of rural and informal development through the provision of sustainable housing and formalisation of such areas. The goal is to promote mixed use, mixed density housing projects which offer a variety of tenure alternatives and providing economic and social integration.

### **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

Providing continued cooperation from all stakeholders to realise the swift and smooth process of housing provision as well as new and existing formalisation programs while also providing appropriate mechanisms for further engagements with stakeholders and community members, particularly those affected.



### 2.2.6 Mpumalanga Tourism Strategy, (2018)

The aim of the Mpumalanga Tourism Strategy is to elaborate a framework that will guide tourism initiatives and development in the Province. The ultimate objective is to attain sustainable benefits for the people of Mpumalanga by creating additional economic activity. The strategy's objectives are in line with national tourism objectives as well as those indicated in other provincial and local tourism policies. These objectives are:

- Develop the tourism sector as a driver of economic activity
- Product expansion & diversification
- Implement responsible & sustainable tourism practices
- Enhance the general competitiveness of the province
- Structure of effective institutional relationship
- Grow domestic tourism for a sustainable economy

Therefore the implementation of the above listed objectives is expected to increase spending in the province through international and domestic tourist thus creating new job opportunities within this sector. The provincial tourism sector is so diversified, hence the objectives/ guidelines that support the economic growth, procedures and transformation within the sector have somewhat influenced the vision statement. Realising the objectives of the tourism strategy, a few key strategies need to be developed and prioritised in order to improve the tourism sector, below are the key strategies identified:

1. **Marketing and Promotion**
2. **Destination Accessibility**
3. **Visitor Experience**
4. **Product innovation**
5. **Destination Management**
6. **Transformation and Development of SMMEs**

### 2.2.7 Provincial Comprehensive Rural Development Programme

The Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) is third planned priority for rural development within the government's current Medium Term Strategic Framework which was drafted for 2014-2019. The strategic design of the programme is established on experiences from pilot sites designated through socio-economic profiling, community participatory processes and intergovernmental co-operation. The CRDP is based on a positive participatory community-based planning approach rather than an interventionist approach to rural development.

The CRDP aims to be an effective response to poverty alleviation and food insecurity by maximizing the use and management of natural resources to create "vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities. The vision of the CRDP is to be achieved through a **three-pronged strategy** based on:

- A coordinated and integrated broad-based **Agrarian Transformation**;
- Strategically increasing **Rural Development** through infrastructure investment; and
- An improved **Land Reform Programme**.

## Outcome 7

Vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities and food security for all will be achieved through the following outputs:

Following are the Projects and Provincial output of CRDP:

- **Output 1:** Sustainable agrarian reform with a thriving small and large farming sector services to support livelihoods
- **Output 2:** Improved access to affordable and diverse food
- **Output 3:** Improved rural services to support livelihoods
- **Output 4:** Improved employment opportunities and economic livelihoods
- **Output 5:** Enabling institutional environment for sustainable and inclusive growth

### IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:

Four municipalities in Gert Sibande District form part of the Mpumalanga CRDP Pilot initiative. These include Mkhondo, Chief Albert Luthuli, Dr Pixley ka Isaka Seme and Dipaleseng.

## 2.2.8 Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan, (2014)

The Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan (MBSP) is a Guideline (maps) that informs permissible land-uses that upkeep biodiversity patterns and ecological processes therefore allowing for species to adapt to climate change. The plan is specifically used to support land-use decisions in order to reduce ecological loss, prioritise management intervention such as wetland rehabilitation and alien plant control.

The purpose of the MBSP is to inform land use planning, environmental assessment, land and water authorisations as well as natural resource management. The MBSP is therefore, the official reference for biodiversity priorities to be taken into account in land-use planning and decision-making by all sectors. The objective of the MBSP is to identify the minimum spatial requirements by identifying an efficient set of CBAs that are required to meet biodiversity management objectives. In a spatial configuration that conflicts as little as possible with other land use activities.

Its specific objectives are to:

- Serve as the primary source of biodiversity information for all land-use planning and decision-making in Mpumalanga, to be used in conjunction with information from other sectors.
- Ensure that Mpumalanga's ecological infrastructure is maintained, ecosystem fragmentation and loss is avoided, and the resilience of ecosystems and human communities to the impacts of climate change is strengthened.
- Provide a spatial framework for environmentally sustainable development and resource-use.
- Inform municipalities and other land-use planners and regulators about spatial biodiversity priorities in order to promote the wise management of biodiversity, and to streamline and monitor land-use decision-making.
- Focus on-the-ground conservation and restoration action in biodiversity priority areas, thus supporting the MTPA in implementing its biodiversity

mandate, including working with landowners to consolidate and expand the provincial protected area network.

- Mainstream biodiversity conservation into the day-to-day activities of a range of development and production sectors whose primary business is not biodiversity conservation, thus promoting greater synergy between biodiversity conservation and development through implementation of the MBSP.

### 2.2.9 Mpumalanga Industrial Development Plan

The Mpumalanga Industrial Plan (MIDP) as an integrative strategy that aims to build robust partnerships between government, industry sector and interested stakeholders to alter the structure and distribution of the industrial activity to promote economic growth, development together with job creation. Therefore the provincial Industrial Development Strategy provides a framework for state-led plans and intervention areas thus building productive capability to place the province on a more reasonable and labour absorptive growth path.

The MIDP has therefore further identified Industrial Centres of Competence that establish innovative platforms required for supporting sustainable industrial development in the targeted sectors, which shall form a central hub to be effectively marketed, promoted and coordinated. Such promising centres have been identified as follows:

- **Mining and Metals Technology Park-** A comprehensive facility for promoting industrial development within the mining and metals manufacturing sectors. This should be logistically well-positioned, adjacent to the N4 between eMalahleni and Middleburg. The preferred size of this park is 600 hectares.
- **Forestry Technology Park-** It will provide a platform for inter-firm cooperation, and lead to specialisation and improvement in quality standards for exports out of the Province. The park will be based at Sabie.
- **International Fresh Produce Market-** A site has been identified on the Sabie/Mashishing Road close to Nelspruit and the Riverside Park mixed-use regional node.
- **Petrochemicals Technology Park-** One of the major industrialisation initiatives in the Province, aimed at stimulating economic growth and job creation, both through Small, Medium and Micro-sized Enterprise (SMME) incubation and large-scale production. This park is based at Secunda. Land for the development of the proposed Technology Park has already been allocated by the Local Municipality.
- **Agro-processing Technology Park-** The Park has been proposed within the Nkomazi SEZ. The proposed Technology Park will serve as a hub for the development of other rural nodes, such as the proposed agro-processing hub in Bushbuckridge linked to the Dumphries C Irrigation Scheme and the Giba Community Property Association farming development near Hazyview.

In addition to intensification of industrial activities within the Industrial Centres of Competence, the MIDP advocates for the industrialisation of rural nodes to promote holistic socio-economic development in the province. The importance of developing priority rural nodes in order to enable business flows, technology transfer

and capacity development. To promote rural industrialisation, the plan proposes to develop activity links between the priority rural nodes with the Industrial Centres of Competence to enable business flows, technology transfer and capacity development.

## **2.3 DISTRICT SPATIAL PLANS, POLICIES AND DIRECTIVES**

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### **2.3.1 Gert Sibande Spatial Development Framework (GS SDF), 2014**

In 2014 the Gert Sibande Municipality undertook the review of the District SDF. The aim of the Gert Sibande SDF is to address integration and alignment between spatial, engineering, environmental and socio-economic issues confronting the district and local municipalities; and facilitate implementation of the IDP and all related government intentions to reduce poverty and facilitate urban and rural development in the GSDM area.

The Gert Sibande District SDF vision is as follows

#### ***“STRIVING TO EXCEL IN GOOD GOVERNANCE AND QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE”***

The Gert Sibande District SDF also outlines 12 development principles which are to be achieved in order to realise the district's vision. The principles are:

- **Development Principle 1:** Actively protect, enhance and manage the natural environmental resources of the District by way of the guidelines provided in the GSDM Environmental Management Framework (EMF).
- **Development Principle 2:** Optimally capitalise on the strategic location of the District through strengthening of the five national/provincial economic corridors, and to functionally link all towns and settlements to one another and to surrounding regions.
- **Development Principle 3:** Establish a functional hierarchy of nodal points in the Gert Sibande District area to optimise the delivery of social and engineering infrastructure/services, promote local economic development, and protect valuable agricultural land.
- **Development Principle 4:** Provide a full range of social services at all the identified nodal points, in accordance with the nationally approved Thusong Centre concept.
- **Development Principle 5:** Consolidate the urban structure of the District around the highest order centres by way of residential infill development and densification in Strategic Development Areas (SDAs) identified in Municipal Spatial Development Frameworks.
- **Development Principle 6:** Ensure that all areas in the GSDM (urban and rural) are at least provided with the constitutionally mandated minimum levels of services as prescribed by the NDP and enshrined in the Constitution.
- **Development Principle 7:** Utilise the Chrissiesmeer-Heyshope-Wakkerstroom precincts as Tourism Anchors around which to develop and promote the eastern parts of the District (around route R33) as a Primary Tourism Corridor.
- **Development Principle 8:** Promote forestry within and along the identified Primary Tourism Corridor

- **Development Principle 9:** Promote small-scale and extensive commercial farming activities throughout the District, and facilitate Agrarian Transformation within the CRDP priority areas.
- **Development Principle 10:** Facilitate and accommodate mining in the District in a sustainable manner in order to support local electricity generation and industrial development.
- **Development Principle 11:** Unlock the industrial development potential of existing towns through developing industry specific Special Economic Zones/Economic Clusters throughout the District, in line with the Mpumalanga SDF and the Mpumalanga Vision 2030 Strategy in accordance with the following sectors:
  - Agricultural Cluster
  - Forestry Cluster
  - Industrial Cluster
- **Development Principle 12:** Enhance business activities (formal and informal) in the identified nodal points in the District.

#### **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

- **Development Principle 2-** The R23 Corridor represents the old route between Gauteng Province and Durban/eThekweni in KwaZulu-Natal, linking prominent towns and settlements such as Balfour, Standerton and Volksrust to one another. This route virtually runs parallel and to the north of the N3 freeway, which is the main link between Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal.
- **Development Principle 3-** in terms of settlement hierarchy, Balfour and Greylingstad are identified as tertiary node within the district and Grootvlei and Driefontein are identified as rural nodes.
- **Development Principle 11-** Agricultural Cluster should be focused on agri-industries, and more specifically agri- processing of livestock and crop farming products in Standerton, Bethal, Ermelo and Mkhondo. Secondary Clusters could include Amersfoort, Volksrust and Balfour.

### **2.3.2 Gert Sibande Integrated Development Plan (GS IDP)**

The District Integrated Development Plan was formulated and adopted to serve as a guide to all of the local municipalities within the GSDM area, in the preparation of their respective Review Process. The IDP outlines clear objectives and strategies which serve to guide the allocation and management of resources thus improving coordination and integration of planning, budgeting and development within the district.

The Gert Sibande IDP proposes the following vision and mission of the District area:

#### **GSDM IDP Vision**

*“A community driven district of excellence and development”*

#### **GSDM IDP Mission**

*“To support and coordinate our local municipalities to provide excellent services and development”*

The Gert Sibande District IDP has adopted the following strategic goals in order to assist in realising the vision of the District. The Strategic goals of the District are:

- Provide equitable, consistent and sustainable services to the community
- Improve Socio-economic Growth
- Achieve and Sustain Financial Viability within all 8 Municipalities
- Strengthen Municipal capability

The above translates into six Key Performance Areas for the District as listed below:

- KPA 1: Municipal Transformation and Organizational Development
- KPA 2: Basic Service Delivery and Infrastructure Development
- KPA3: Local Economic Development
- KPA 4: Municipal Financial Viability and Management
- KPA 5: Intergovernmental Relations, Good Governance and Public Participation
- KPA 6: Spatial Rationale and Municipal Planning Alignment

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

Must form part of the basket of plans to assist the municipality to deliver on its service delivery and development mandate as per the above KPAs and goals.

### **2.3.3 Gert Sibande Rural Development Plan (GS RDP)**

The Gert Sibande Rural Development Plan is a plan seeking to achieve enhanced rural production and productivity, greater socio-economic equity, and aspiration, balance in social and economic development. The Rural Development Plan aims to also improve the impact of intensified and targeted government and private investments in rural areas through an assessment of current developmental realities and potential in these areas. The main objective of GSDM Rural Development Plan (RDP) is to address the needs of people who live in extreme poverty and who are subjected to underdevelopment in the rural areas of the District.

The District RDP has also been prepared to ease integration of the Agri-Park Initiative and the implementation of DRDLR projects into the various Local Municipalities of the District. They also intended to assist the LMs, GSDM and other sector departments and the private sector to invest and enable the development and functioning of Agri-Parks. The Gert Sibande Agri-Parks Business Plan identifies eMkhondo (Piet Retief) as the most suitable site for the establishment of an Agri Hub within the district. Ermelo town is allocated to perform the function of a Rural Urban Market Centre in the district.

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

The Gert Sibande Agri-Parks Business Plan also outlines that the proposed Agri- Hub in eMkhondo is to be supported by 28 FPSU's, of which 3 of those FPSU's are situated in Dipaleseng LM, in Balfour, Greylingstad and Grootvlei. Dipaleseng LM is also classified as priority 1 intervention for Rural Intervention Areas.

### **2.3.4 Gert Sibande District Municipality Integrated Transport Plan, 2014**

The Integrated Transport Plan (ITP) aims to integrate transport planning with land development planning and provides for a 5 year implementation programme for transport infrastructure and services. The purpose of the plan is to solve transport issues and problems in line with Gert Sibande District Municipality goals and

objectives, and to effectively communicate how transport will be arranged, executed and operated in a manner that is transparent and accountable to enhance the transport system for the benefit of all its citizens.

The Gert Sibande ITP transport goals for the GSDM are to:

- Co-ordinate, facilitate and provide efficient and effective transport infrastructure for all private, public passenger and freight transport.
- Ensure a sustainable financial allocation for the transport function.
- Ensure that transport is managed within a sound institutional framework.
- Ensure that municipal transport planning and coordination is maintained across all spheres of Government.
- Co-ordinate, implement, monitor and regulate efficient and effective public transport services.
- Ensure that transport is regulated in line with legislative requirements.
- Improve traffic management and safety through co-ordinated planning, maintenance, and education and law enforcement actions.

Freight transport, specifically coal haulage, was identified as the major transportation issue in the district. The reliance of on road based coal transport and its negative effect on the existing road infrastructure is recognized. Therefore the plan calls for programmes and projects that will assist in the decongestion of these routes and the upgrade of all road infrastructure In the District.

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

The SDF will have to explore opportunities that can be leveraged from existing and potential transportation routes/corridors, such as the R23, R59 etc.

### **2.3.5 Gert Sibande Local Economic Development Strategy, 2014**

The Gert Sibande Local Economic Development (LED) Strategy offers local government, the private and local communities the opportunity to work together to improve the local economy. It is prepared as a sector plan of GSDM Integrated Development Plan (IDP). The purpose of this strategy is to build up the economic capacity of a local area and enhance its economic future and improve the quality of life for all.

The following are strategic development goals identified in the GSDM LED Strategy:

- Ensuring that the local investment climate is functional for local businesses;
- Supporting small and medium sized enterprises;
- Encouraging the formation of new enterprises;
- Attracting external investment (nationally and internationally);
- Investing in physical (hard) infrastructure;
- Investing in soft infrastructure (educational and workforce development, institutional support systems and regulatory issues);
- Supporting the growth of particular clusters of businesses;
- Targeting particular parts of the city for regeneration or growth (areas based initiatives);
- Supporting informal and newly emerging businesses;
- Targeting certain disadvantaged groups.

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

Local economic development strategies as well as competitive advantages of the municipality from an economic perspective. These issues will be explored in detail in the ensuing phases as part of the status quo-analysis and spatial proposals.

### **2.3.6 Gert Sibande Environmental Management Framework (EMF) (2011)**

The development of the EMFs for the GSDM and its local municipalities provide guidelines for future planning and development by identifying sensitive environments, highlight potential conflict areas for development. The EMFs were developed in accordance with the EMF Regulations, 2010 (GNR547 of 2 August 2010) promulgated in terms of Section 24(5) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998). The EMF is an environmentally focused spatial development tool that can be used to assist in achieving Integrated Environmental Management (IEM). The tool looks at social and economic considerations through an environmental lens and attempts to guide development in a specific geographic area

The GSDM is an important area for mining and power generation with much of the municipality being underlain with coal reserves. The GSDM area is also a key agricultural area with forestry covering extensive areas to the east of the municipality. These economic drivers within the District have impacted on the air, water, land and ecological functioning of the natural resources thus posing a threat to the environment, its people and future economic growth in the area.

#### **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

Mapping of the ecological integrity of the municipal area by considering impacts of invasive developments and harmonizing conflicting between land use imperatives, identifying different interests, and understanding how the costs and benefits of conservation are distributed. EMFs are therefore a testament to and the embodiment of IEM, focusing on strategic and pre-emptive measures that guide stakeholders and raise awareness in biodiversity conservation

## **2.4 LOCAL SPATIAL PLANS, POLICIES AND DIRECTIVES**

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### **2.4.1 Dipaleseng Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan (DLM IDP)**

The Dipaleseng LM IDP was compiled following consultation with stakeholders in government, civil society and the private sector. The IDP outlines clear objectives and strategies which serve to guide the allocation and management of resources thus improving coordination and integration of planning, budgeting and development within the municipal area.

The Dipaleseng IDP proposes the following vision, mission and corporate values of the municipality:

IDP VISION:

***The vision of the Dipaleseng Local Municipality is to be “a centre of quality, affordable, good governance and sustainable economic opportunities”***



IDP MISSION:

***The Dipaleseng SDF mission “is to provide sustainable services to communities and ensure that they are served by accountable and effective Municipality.”***

Dipaleseng Local Municipality Priorities:

- Enhancement of revenue collection
- Basic Service Delivery ( Water, sanitation, electricity & refuse removal)
- LED and Job Creation
- Attraction of investors
- Public Participation and Good Governance
- Institutional Development
- Social Services (Education, Health, HIV/AIDS, Crime and Drugs Prevention)

Dipaleseng' development plans are mostly geared towards infrastructure upgrades and economic growth. In particular, housing, water and sanitation are key focus areas. Given the dependence on non-employment income, many households cannot afford services (infrastructure or social), the IDP has therefore Identified 4 KPA in order to address this challenge in the municipality. The KPA's are:

- **KPA 1: MUNICIPAL TRANSFORMATION AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
- **KPA 2: SERVICE DELIVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT**
- **KPA 3: LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
- **KPA 4: MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL VIABILITY AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **2.4.2 Dipaleseng Local Economic Development Strategy, 2011**

The Dipaleseng LM is legally bound to promote social and economic development within its community. This implies that public investment should largely focus on developing the Municipal area in terms of Local Economic Development and providing for the basic needs of the community. The purpose of the Dipaleseng LED strategy is to direct and align as many stakeholders as possible towards accelerated economic development, increased job creation and improved standards of living in the Municipal area. The LED vision is to create a conducive environment for economic growth, stability and development within Dipaleseng LM.

The LED strategy has identified several opportunities and potential development projects to be prioritised in accordance to their economic impact on the municipal area. The LED has a set of Strategic Development Pillars which serve as the point of alignment with the municipal IDP, SDF and other development policies. The Aim of the Pillars is to utilise existing strengths and opportunities by transforming workable programmes and actions that will assist in reducing threats and alleviate weakness in the local economic environment. The Pillars to be implemented are:

- **Pillar 1:** Rural Development
- **Pillar 2:** Human Resource Development
- **Pillar 3:** Institutional Development
- **Pillar 4:** Tourism Development

Below are the identified Strategic Goals as per the LED Vision:

- **The Protection of Natural Capital:** Ensuring sustainable long-term local economic development through the protection and maintenance of natural capital.

- **The Reduction in Income Disparity:** Reducing the income Disparity in Dipaleseng by focusing on skills training, capacity-building initiatives, local competitive advantages and development of the informal sector.
- **Improvement of Institutional Capacity:** Ensuring sustainable local economic development by improving the capacity of the Municipality through the establishment of an Economic Development Agency.
- **The Promotion of the Retention of Local Wealth:** Retaining wealth and increasing the circulation of the wealth in the Municipality by promoting local savings, investment and entrepreneurship.
- **Promotion of Public, Private Partnerships:** Ensuring that relations between the public and private sector are improved in an effort to better leverage LED support and resources at a local level by engaging all the sectors about their roles in LED.
- **The Promotion of Business/Investment Attraction and Job-Creation:** Ensuring effective job-creation strategies by focusing on specific occupations and industry sectors.
- **Innovation:** Creative and inclusive Rural Development and the application of Information Communication Technologies (ICT) in LED (e.g. Knowledge Economy).

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

As a forward planning instrument, the SDF must promote new and existing initiatives / projects that facilitate socio-economic and environmental benefits for people of the Dipaleseng municipality. The principles alluded to in this Strategy are crucial in achieving some of these imperatives.

### 2.4.3 Dipaleseng Land Use Management Scheme,

The Dipaleseng Local Municipality Land Use Management Scheme was prepared under the provisions of section 18 of the Town Planning and Townships Ordinance, 1986 (15 of 1986). Dipaleseng Local Municipality is the responsible authority for enforcing and/or executing the provisions of this Scheme. The intent of this scheme is to have a well-coordinated and harmonious development of the scheme area in order to effectively promote the economy, sustainable environment, health, safety and good order of the municipal area.

The principles of the Dipaleseng Land Use Management Scheme are to:

- Ensure sustainable and orderly development in the municipal area.
- To allow for a healthy and clean environment.
- Allow for a healthy economic environment with access to opportunities for all residents.
- Ensure equity to all in terms of land management.
- Allow for a democratic administrative and participatory process in land management.
- Ensure the optimal usage of resources such as agriculture, land, minerals, infrastructure and social facilities.
- Promotion of diversity of land uses.
- Promote the concept of compact urban areas.

- Contribute to the correction of historically distorted spatial patterns of settlement.
- Encourage environmentally sustainable land development.
- Promote the establishment of viable communities.
- Aspire to meet the basic needs of all communities in an affordable way.

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

This tool is used by Dipaleseng Local Municipality to guide and manage development according to the vision, strategies and policies of the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Spatial Development Framework (SDF). Each land use zone in the Scheme has its own development requirements, conditions and restrictions which must be adhered, these also include density, height, coverage, floor area restrictions, building lines and building restriction areas, parking requirements, loading, as well as the site development plans.

**2.4.4 Dipaleseng Environmental Management Framework, 2011**

The Dipaleseng Environmental Management Framework (EMF) 2011 is a sectoral policy that guides the protection and management of the environment in the municipality. The EMF was developed in terms of NEMA EMF Regulations, which serves as a management and decision-support tool to assist authorities with the planning parameters and environmental status quo. The purpose Dipaleseng EMF is to identify and spatially represent areas of potential conflict between sensitive environments and development proposals. Chapter 6 of the framework covers the Strategic Environmental Management Plan (EMP) which identified development zones based on environmental opportunities and constraints thus providing practical guidelines for land use management and informed decision-making within each development zone. The following is a list of the identified guidelines and zones:

- **General Guidelines & Existing Planning/Policy Documents**
- **Environmental Constraint Guidelines**
- **Environmental Management Zone**

As a result of the above a priority rating was assigned based on their conservation and development potential to ensure that the desired land uses in each area do not compromise the integrity of the environment. Therefore, five Environmental Management Zones were identified within the DLM, namely:

- Conservation/Ecotourism,
- Agriculture,
- Urban/Residential,
- Industrial/ Commercial, and
- Rural/Mining.

**IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIPALESENG SDF:**

The information contained within the EMF can be used to proactively guide planning at the broader district and local authority levels as well as to guide site-specific development plans and the authorization thereof. The Dipaleseng local

municipality was mandated to manage not only the environmental impacts resulting from their activities such as service provision but also to proactively implement measures to ensure environmental deprivation does not occur.

# 3 DRAFT SPATIAL VISION AND DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

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## 3.1 SYNTHESIS: POLICY CONTEXT

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Ultimately, what is of paramount importance is the manner in which people are excluded or included in the planning process. Spatial planning should be deliberative processes of conscious thought aimed for community development. As such, the Dipaleseng SDF review planning process will be informed by inputs arising from various stakeholders and public outreach programmes. This will help in identifying and prioritising actions that will lead to a socially, economically and environmentally vibrant municipality. The following are some of the key takeaways from the policy analysis as elucidated in the preceding sections:

- There is a need to accelerate spatial transformation in the municipality in order to redress the current spatial disparities and stimulate rural development to ensure access to economic opportunities and the provision of services (basic and social).
- Encourage economic development and job creation in agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, industrial, green energy and mining sectors.
- Ensure connectivity between nodes, secondary towns and marginalised areas.
- Promote the maximisation, protection and maintenance of ecosystems, scarce natural resources, and water and high-potential agricultural land in order to ensure food security.
- Development of sustainable human settlements.

## 3.2 DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

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Based on the Spatial Synthesis and Key Takeaways of all the policies, directives and frameworks done, the following development objectives were formulated, keeping in mind that the spatial development objectives of the current Dipaleseng SDF are still applicable and aligned with the Municipal IDP, PSDF and the District SDF (2014). Therefore, it is the intention of this SDF review to keep the current development objectives, improve upon them and include new objectives to help realize the Municipal vision.

**Objective 1:** To exploit economic opportunities and poverty reduction;

**Objective 2:** To promote sustainable human settlements and integrated development;

**Objective 3:** To protect and conserve the natural environment, its resources and biodiversity;

**Objective 4:** Promote sustainable development;

**Objective 5:** Concentrate development on development corridors and nodes;

**Objective 6:** Promote rural development;

**Objective 7:** Promote tourism development.

### **3.3 SPATIAL GOALS**

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To address the identified spatial challenges and give effect to the relevant policies, the Dipaleseng SDF should focus development towards:

- Explore and maximize on its inherent economic opportunities;
- Protection and utilization of resources such as the rich agricultural land and diverse natural environment;
- Development of sustainable settlements where residents can lead enriched, healthy and convenient lives; and
- An improved effectiveness in governance.

### **3.4 DRAFT SPATIAL VISION**

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As a SPLUMA requirement, the national, provincial, and municipal spheres of government must prepare SDFs that establish a clear vision which must be developed through a thorough inventory and analysis based on national spatial planning principles and provincial strategies and local long-term development goals and plans.

#### **3.4.1 Spatial Vision**

The existing Dipaleseng SDF (2010) Vision is as follows:

***“Providing quality affordable services, good governance and sustainable economic opportunities”***

Based on the review and synthesis of the relevant national, provincial, district and local policy frameworks, the draft Vision for the Dipaleseng SDF review has been formulated as follows:

***“Providing quality affordable services, good governance, rural development and sustainable economic opportunities, while protecting the natural environment”***