

Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality

Localized Strategy Guidelines

Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality Localized Strategic Guidelines

introduction

Strategy decisions of a municipality have to be informed by two sides: Firstly by the local context, i.e. by the municipality's priority issues, its vision and objectives, and secondly by national and provincial policy and strategy guidelines.

During a district level workshop where the municipalities within Thabo Mofutsanyana participated together with key government departments and service providers these national and provincial policy and guidelines were scrutinized together with the local priority issues. The result of this was guidelines that will be able to inform local decisions on strategies. These guidelines are an important integration tool within the IDP process. It leads the municipalities of Thabo Mofutsanyana and government departments to move in the same direction and by doing so optimizing the use of resources and limiting the possibility of duplication.

Although these guidelines are not legally binding, by not taking them into account when deciding on strategies, you run the risk of not qualifying for funding for further projects should these be in contrast to the guidelines.

There are five crosscutting issues for which strategic guidelines have been formulated. Under each of these issues the national and provincial policy and legislation to be considered have been listed. Following that is the localized strategic guidelines for the specific issues. These two categories should be read and used in conjunction with each other. No national or provincial policy can be discarded in favour of a local situation; they should serve to compliment each other.

Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality Spatial Strategic Guidelines

policy

WHY?

National Policy Documents

- Development Facilitation Act, Chapter 1
- The White Paper on South African Land Policy
- The Housing Act
- The Housing White Paper
- Green paper on Development and Planning
- National Environmental Management Act

guidelines

WHAT?

Localized Guidelines

The following is a set of principles/guidelines that can be incorporated within the strategies of the municipality:

- Formalize **informal areas** for urban development.
- Rural development should be classified in 2 groups (tribal land users and farm workers) and the active participation by **tribal and farm communities** should be encouraged.
- **Discourage illegal occupation** of land, without compromising development of new settlements.
- Focus should be on **implementation** of plans (LDOs, IIDPs, IDP) and not only on planning.
- Before building houses or allocating housing subsidies, **serviced land** should be made available. This will lead to more effective and sustainable housing development.
- The estimated **population density** on erven should be taken into consideration when services are provided.
- **Protect jobs on farms** by providing incentives for rural development to discourage urbanization.
- **Commonages must be managed** well with support and guidance by municipalities. Clear guidelines must be set out for the use of the commonage and the users should receive training before they can make use of the commonage.
- **Maintenance** of the existing **road network** should be priority.
- **HIV/AIDS impacts** on land development in various ways and should be taken into account in all strategies. Cemeteries should be carefully planned. The district municipality can take leading role with regard to burials.
- Identify suitable land for **waste management** on a regional basis.
- Promote Spatial Development zone

Thabo Mofutsanyana Localized Strategic Guidelines Poverty Alleviation & Gender Equity

policy

National and Provincial Policy Documents

- Constitution, sections regarding basic needs (section 26 and 27) and gender equity (sec 9)
- Reconstruction and Development Programme
- White Paper on Local Government
- SALGA Handbook on "Gender and Development"
- Poverty Eradication Strategy of the Free State

guidelines

Localized Guidelines

Each municipality experience similar and different local poverty situations and gender related problems. These problems should be targeted with the strategies for the IDP for the following population groups:

- Historically disadvantaged people eg. Farm workers, Youth and Women (also boys and men), Disabled people.
- Child headed households
- Single parent headed households
- The following is a set of principles/guidelines that can be incorporated within the strategies of the municipality:
- Involve **disadvantaged groups** at the planning stage to ensure full ownership of projects/development/transformation.
- Community profile: establish a directory of organizations and vulnerable people at ward level.
- When disadvantaged people receive ownership of land a conscious effort must be made to ensure access to **sustainable methods of production**.
- Engage with **farmers' unions/merging associates** to enable involvement of all role players in agriculture development.
- Involve **tribal authorities** in planning and projects.
- **Cluster similar organisations/projects** to use resources better.
- Consciously **develop skills** (overcome illiteracy by using art form as communication).
- Provide support to disadvantaged people with tender applications and simplify the process to promote **access to tenders**.
- **Community mobilization** e.g. street committee, networking.
- **Illegal immigrants** should be dealt with and planned for together with other areas and SADC.
- Implementation of **free basic water**.
- Intervention based on **well-researched** information.
- Allocate **funds** over longer periods (upfront funding).
- Appropriate support and monitoring and **capacity programs**.
- Integrated approach (**multi sectoral**).
- Strengthen local partnerships.
- Contextualise intervention (**local context**).
- Promotion of business opportunities to local emerging business
- Promote investment and planning in disadvantaged areas.
- Targeted empowerment programmes for youth, woman and disabled

Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality Strategic Environmental Guidelines

policy

WHY?

National and Provincial Policy Documents

- National Environmental Management Act, Chapter 1 principles
- Local Agenda 21
- National and Provincial Environmental Management Plans

guidelines

WHAT?

Localized Guidelines

- Municipalities should control subdivision of farmland so that it will not impact negatively on natural resources.
- District Municipality should be environmentally sensitive by helping to raise environmental awareness among communities and guide them in adhering to the National Environmental Management Act Principles.

<p><u>Endangered or Degraded Resources</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality are threatened by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Industries that pollute air - Wood, coal used as energy source - Township establishment • Water quality are threatened by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Storm water pollution - Grey water - Solid waste pollution - Graveyards • Biodiversity are threatened by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Veld fires - Housing development - Unsafe agricultural practices • Quarries • • 	<p><u>Sensitive Locations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarence - tourism potential • Golden Gate - national park • Platberg - wetland conservation • Fika Patso, Metsi Matso, Sterkfontein and Saulspoort dams • Cultural heritage sites • Archeological sites • Land for settlement below flood line
<p><u>Risks of Environmental Disasters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Floods (settlement in flood line) • Veld fires • Drought • HIV/AIDS • Alien species (e.g. eucalyptus trees) 	<p><u>Economic Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarrying (sand stone) • Township development • Agricultural development • Industries (tannery) • Waste Management (illegal dumping) • Unsafe working conditions

Thabo Mofutsanyana Localized Strategic Guidelines

Local Economic Development

policy

WHY?

National and Provincial Policy Documents

- White Paper on Local Government
- Growth, Employment and Redistribution Programme
- Local Economic Development Policy Paper

guidelines

WHAT?

Localized Guidelines

- Local Municipalities should act as **agents** for local communities to apply for funds. Funds should only be distributed through local municipalities. A condition for LED projects should be proper after care and monitoring facilitated by the local municipality with assistance from the district municipality.
- All development efforts of other organs of state or private organisations should go through municipalities.
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Focal Economic Sectors and Geographical Areas for Promotion

- **Tourism** (eco - tourism) - Clarens, Qwa Qwa, Bethlehem, Ficksburg, Fouriesburg, Harrismith, Kestell, Reitz and Memel
- **Agriculture** (agricultural products and agri-businesses)
 - Whole area of Thabo Mofutsanyana
 - Fruit production:
 - Horticulture:
 - Agro-packaging:
- **Industries** – Qwa - Qwa, Tsiame, Harrismith, Bethlehem
- **Land reform** – major economic sectors to address ownership (land tenure) with focus on poverty alleviation and gender sensitivity
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Basic Principles for promotion

- Labour intensive techniques
- Use of SMME's in projects such as repairing roads
- Create a database of SMMEs in each municipality
- Create district markets
- Promote involvement of women
- Good marketing strategies
- Improve knowledge: empowerment through training
- Maintenance of infrastructure (roads, water, sanitation)
- Manage the spread of HIV

Major Promotion Instruments

- Funds
- Resources (capacity, skills, human resources, facilities) and entrepreneurship
- Accessible infrastructure
- Institutions and policies (local government and other government departments)
- Stability, security and safety
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Major Target Groups/Beneficiaries

- SMMEs
- Women
- Farm workers
- Emerging Farmers
- Commonage users
- Established / existing business
- Investors locally and from overseas

Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality Institutional Strategic Guidelines

policy

WHY?

National and Provincial Policy Documents

- White Paper on Local Government, Section F
- Municipal Structures Act
- Municipal Systems Act

guidelines

WHAT?

Localized Guidelines

- Appointments should be in line with Skills Development and Systems Act
- Clear communication and sustainable monetary system.
- Co-ordination on all levels with the national and provincial departments and district and local municipalities.
- Strategies must make provision for alignment, co-ordination and integration mechanism.
- Sustainable and consistent structures at all levels of departments.
- All projects and strategies should make provision for adequate participation, advice and decision making at all levels.
- Initiating managerial reform
- Payment of services – pay for services you receive and be willing to pay for services you want to receive.