

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY STEERING COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. BACKGROUND

Increased responsibility is now being placed on local government acting in collaboration with social and development partners including to develop effective strategies aimed at revitalising local and regional economy. New approaches to rural development and reduction of poverty are also being considered. These approaches include focus on strengthening market linkages, support to networks of organisation working with the poor, and ensuring better planning to support economic activity through collaboration between all levels of government and other stakeholders. This is done in order to attain government's targets of halving unemployment and poverty by 2014 as well as increasing economic growth by 6%.

The key to success in attaining the above targets is that all stakeholders should collaborate in creating a common pathway towards achieving shared growth. It is against this background that a decision was taken at a national level that each District Municipality in partnership with other social partners should host a District Growth and Development Summit before the end of March 2006.

2. INTRODUCTION

Amathole District Growth and Development Summit was held on 08th and 09 March 2007 at Mpekweni Beach Resort. The summit was attended by social partners from government, business, labour and civil society, and the outcomes of the summit was the signing of an agreement which outlines the development path and commitments by social partners for the purposes of growing and developing district.

The partners at the summit committed itself to post summit activities which are aimed at ensuring that summit resolutions and agreements implemented and that there are proper monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. It is against this background that the GDS Steering Committee is established.

VISION

The following was agreed as the vision:

The vision of the parties to this Growth and Development Agreement is to eradicate poverty and ensure holistic and sustainable human development in the district through:

- stimulating the economy so that sustainable and quality jobs are retained and created; and
- enhancing capacity of the municipalities and their partners to ensure improved and sustained service delivery

The broad objectives of the Growth and Development summit were agreed as follows:

1. To mobilise and consult stakeholders and reach broad agreement on a growth and development plan for the district, including identification of areas of priority and areas of potential in the short- medium- and long term;
2. Develop strategies to protect existing jobs and accelerate the creation of new decent jobs in the district;
3. Strengthen the strategic direction of the district IDP to ensure implementation of the district growth and development vision and agreement;
4. Strengthen the development and implementation of the Amathole Regional Economic Development Strategy;
5. Sign a Growth and Development Agreement with all key stakeholders.

3. POST SUMMIT COMMITMENTS

All parties commit to:

Integrate the vision, principles and commitment contained in this agreement into strategic and operations planning at all levels.

Participate in the forums and structures required for the successful implementation of the District Growth and Development Summit Agreement.

Participate in the monitoring, reporting and evaluation processes of the District Growth and Development Summit Agreement.

Make available the resources necessary to implement this District Growth and Development Summit Agreement.

4. NAME OF THE STRUCTURE

The name of the committee shall be known as Growth and Development Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (GDS M & E Committee)

5. CHAIRPERSONSHIP AND SECRETARIAT OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee shall be chaired by the Portfolio Head: Economic Development of Amathole District Municipality.

ADM will provide secretariat function of the committee. It will:

- Invite members to the committee.
- Facilitate logistical support to the committee.
- Write minutes of the committee.
- Co-ordinate the activities of the committee.

6. ROLE AND FUNCTION OF THE STRUCTURE

- Receive and consider action/implementation plans on commitments by stakeholders
- Receive and consider progress reports from stakeholders.
- Encourage institutions and agencies to co-operate and work together
- Promote and facilitate partnerships at district level between the private, public sectors and civil society.

7. The Steering Committee will be composed of the following representatives

- Amathole District Municipality representatives
- Local Municipalities within ADM
- Provincial Government Departmental Representative
- Provincial Government Parastatals
- National Government Representation¹
- National Government Parastatals
- Non-Governmental Organisation
- Organised Business
- Organised Labour
- Gender and Youth Organisations
- Other Civil Society Organisation

¹ This refers to Department with provincial or district offices such Department of Labour and Parastatals with Provincial presence such Industrial Development Corporation.

- Traditional Leadership
- Institutions of Higher Learning

8. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee shall meet at least once in a quarter to review the performance of and implementation of task assigned to each stakeholder as per the agreement.

The committee together with the Chairperson will decide and determine the dates, time and venue and agenda of the meetings of the forum

9. Sub – committees

The Committee shall set up sub-committees base on the task to be performed, more especially for tasks which require multi stakeholder participation.

10. QOURUM

Members of the committee are encouraged to attend all the meetings be treated within the spirit of co-operative governance and mutual partnership.

11. Conclusion

“We must today renew our pledge, to speak together of freedom, to act in partnership to realise the happiness for all that should come with liberty, to work together to build a South Africa defined by a common dream, to say, together, in action – enough of everything that made our country to contain within it and represent much that is ugly and repulsive in human society!” State President Mr T.Mbeki. State of the Nation Address 2007