

MUNICIPAL MANAGER FOREWORD

It is clear that Kwa Sani Local Municipality has achieved major success during the past decade – in many instances under very difficult circumstances. There were many lessons to be learnt along the road. The municipality is, however, now much better equipped and geared towards service delivery than before. Given the current institutional memory, human resources and financial capacity of the Municipality, the IDP seeks to harness synergies and opportunities in the advances made towards the realization of the all-important goal of a better life for all.

Integrated Development Plans are the most important mechanisms available to government to transform the structural differences in our previously divided society. Integrated development planning is a process by which the planning efforts of different spheres and sectors of government and other institutions are coordinated at local government level. The IDP brings together various economic, social, environmental, legal, infrastructural and spatial aspects of a problem or plan. This should take place in a way that enhances development and provides sustainable empowerment, growth and equity for the short, medium and long term. Communities cannot develop in isolation and integrated development planning ensures this. Through community engagements processes such as the Outreach Programme, stakeholder engagements through various forums, the communities of Senqu Local Municipality have reaffirmed the need for water and sanitation, roads, housing, stormwater, electricity, job creation, health, education, SMME empowerment and support, recreational facilities, etc. this means that not only is local government involved, but also Provincial and National Government Departments. Thus it will be critical for the municipality to strengthen its engagements with all stakeholders involved in the development process.

Informed by the priority needs of the communities, this IDP is geared towards improving the quality of life of the community through a particular focus on the following pillars:

- Service delivery, access to and levels of servicing;
- Good governance and administration;
- LED and job creation;
- Environmental and health issues; and
- Land use, urban integration and linkages.

Within the context of Vision 2014, this IDP sets the following indicators as a barometer to measure the achievements in terms of the MDG milestones:

All households (including villages) to have access to clean potable water by

2016

There must be decent sanitation for all by 2016;

- There must be electricity in all households by 2016;

Reduction of poverty, unemployment and skills shortages by 50% respectively by 2016; and Services should be improved to achieve a better National Health Profile and a reduction of preventable causes of death including violent crimes and road accidents by 2014.

With the 2015 target date fast approaching, it is more important than ever to understand where the goals are on track, and where additional efforts are needed, both globally and at the country level. The United Nations emphasizes the following issues:

In order to achieve the MDGs, countries will need to mobilize additional resources and target public investments that benefit the poor. In general, strategies should adopt a wide-ranging approach that seeks to achieve pro-poor economic growth, including through the creation of a large number of additional opportunities for decent work. This, in turn, will require comprehensive programmes for human development, particularly in education and health, as well as building productive capacity and improved physical infrastructure. In each case, an effort should be made to quantify the resources required to implement these programmes. The results achieved in the more successful cases demonstrate that success is possible in most countries, but that the MDGs will be attained only if concerted additional action is taken immediately and sustained until 2015. With half the developing world without basic sanitation, meeting the MDG target will require extraordinary efforts.

By focusing on our 9 Key Performance Areas, namely, Good governance and effective administration; Sustainable Infrastructure Development; Sustainable Basic Services; Economic Development; Environmental Management; Social Development; Financial Viability; Empowerment of Youth, Women and Disabled and Safety and Security, and acting as a collective, the municipality will be in a position to respond to its objectives and all the developmental challenges confronting our municipality. We have made significant inroads in ensuring that our municipality is characterized of the following attributes:

Sound financial management systems, timely and accurate accounting for public resources; Functional and effective community participation mechanisms and Ward Committees; Access to quality affordable and reliable municipal services, with equal, easy and convenient access for the public to the municipality and its services; and Compilation of a credible IDP that is an expression of state-wide planning, including a balanced infrastructure investment and sustainable economic development programme.

It is against this background that we invite comments and feedback from both our social partners, stakeholders and communities on the implementation of this document as one of the mechanisms of monitoring our progress and identifying areas where we can improve.