



MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

DECLARATION FOR THE MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC SUMMIT 2018

We, the delegates from Mopani District Municipal area, had gathered in Karibu Leisure Resort from 22 – 23 March 2018 for a District Economic Summit under the theme, “Towards an Inclusive Growth for the Attainment of Economic Transformation”. The delegation was led by Her Worship the Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, Cllr Nkakareng Rakgoale. The Executive Mayor was accompanied by the entourage of Mayors from local Municipalities in the district. The summit was also blessed by the presence of all key partners in the economic enterprise.

The hosting of this summit was driven by the current appalling economic realities in the district. The referred realities are fraught with high unemployment; high levels of poverty; and inequalities. The youth, women, and people with disabilities are the hardest hit. This therefore calls for everyone, in response to the recently delivered SONA by the new captain, His Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa, to raise to the

occasion and participate in the radical economic transformation leading to the sunrise. This will contribute in addressing the economic conundrum faced by the district. The district vision has it that we strive to be the food basket of Southern Africa and the tourism destination of choice. Mopani District has also identified four key economic thrusts, namely: Tourism, Mining, Agriculture, and Manufacturing. However, the economic realities on the ground portray a different picture, which is a cause for concern.

We thank all the participants including presenters towards the successful hosting of this event. We also commit to continuously involve key stakeholders from all levels in the implementation of economic growth initiatives.

We declare to contribute in the economic sunrise through the following:

1. To revisit the identified pains and enablers (SWOT) with a view to developing an implementable action plan. This plan will serve as a standing item in all the District economic engagement platforms.
2. To allow for alignment of internal organisational arrangements for effective implementation of the economic initiatives.
3. To tap on broadband opportunities including digital or industrial revolution.

4. To conduct/finalise the land audit exercise for identification of prime land for purposes of development.
5. To bring on board the institutions of higher learning to tap on research work for informed way forward.
6. To conduct Agriculture & Tourism, and Mining & Manufacturing Indaba in the first quarter of 2018/19 and 2019/20 respectively. This will help in consolidating the activities to respond to the four identified economic thrusts.
7. To explore the tourism opportunities related to the two airstreams (airports) found in the district. This must happen before end of June 2018.
8. To profile the corporatives established in all local municipalities for linkage and governance support by other institutions.
9. To create a separate engagement platform to resolve outstanding issues on Agri-Park. This must happen before end of June 2018.
10. To profile, create/sustain space for women and people with disabilities to participate in the radical economic transformation. The profiling of such structures to happen by end of June 2018.
11. To engage/involve all parties (organised & unorganised) including SMMEs regarding prioritisation in the industrial parks.
12. To facilitate the cost-benefit analysis of creating a new District Agency vs the conversion of the current Greater Tzaneen

Economic Development Agency (GTEDA), an entity of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality (GTM) into a district development agency.

13. To create an engagement platform between Eskom and municipalities/communities for funding of poverty alleviation projects including renewable energy initiatives.
14. To identify and engage all relevant institutions/professional bodies for the governance or financial support to SMMEs. The support will be inclusive of issues of aftercare to ensure sustainability.
15. The district to generate a consolidated annual calendar of events linked with all relevant sectors (private and public).
16. To engage other institutions for purposes of benchmarking on their Youth Development Programmes. This includes the establishment of Youth Contractor Development Programmes.
17. To coordinate the establishment of Farmers Development Programmes.
18. To tap on the youth incubation programmes dealing with Agriculture and Manufacturing processes.
19. To continuously activate collaboration with Royal Traditional Leadership for as the custodian of land.
20. To engage all parties for purposes of venturing into the flea market and free Wi-Fi projects for the benefit of local communities.

21. To identify, enter into partnerships (twinning agreements) with well-established organisations and to ensure sustainability thereon.
22. To profile all the current job creation opportunities in local municipalities and to reflect on future plans.
23. To develop an economic impact assessment tool with a view to improving it in future.

The pledges registered by the various organisations were noted. It is not about us but all is done in the name and spirit of collective communitarianism.

This declaration is presented for adoption by plenum.

Mover: Cllr Mankgero (Greater Letaba Municipality)

Seconder: Mr Mocketla (Limpopo Tomato Growers Association)

