



# LIMPOPO

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**PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT**  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**PROVINCIAL POLICY AGENDA**

**2015 -2019**

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## Acronyms

NDP	National Development Plan LDP
LDP	Limpopo Development Plan
LPF	Limpopo Policy Framework
LPPA	Limpopo Provincial Policy Agenda
MTSF	Medium Term Strategic Framework
LEDET	Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
LDOE	Limpopo Department of Education
LSAC	Limpopo Sports, Arts and Culture
EXCO	Executive Council
EPWP	Expanded Public Works Programme
CWP	Community Works Programme
SDSP	Sector Departmental Strategic Plans
COGHSTA	Department of Co-Operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs
DPME	Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
SMME	Small Medium Micro Enterprises

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Policy Agenda is a set of issues, problems or subjects to which people inside and outside government are paying serious attention to at any given time and are prioritized by Policy Makers (Politicians in Government Context).

The Limpopo Provincial Policy Agenda details the Policy development , implementation and management focus areas that the Limpopo Provincial Administration will engage on in the financial years 2015 -2019, this in support of NDP,MTSF, LDP and SDSP. The Policy Agenda provides a systematic approach to policy development and implementation by presenting policy priority areas which the sector departments and clusters should focus on in the next five years in order to realise the objectives of LDP. The agenda will include an implementation plan which will be developed annually and annexed.

The Office of the Premier will coordinate policy development and implementation functions within the Province in line with the Limpopo Provincial Policy Development Framework. Provincial Departments will have to capacitate the Policy Officers in their employ on policy analysis skills.

## **2. LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORK**

The Agenda is based on and is part of the following Legislations and policy frameworks

- 2.1. The constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 108 of 1996;
- 2.2. Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2 of 2000;
- 2.3. Public Finance Management Act 2015;
- 2.4. Limpopo Provincial Planning Framework 2015;

- 2.5. Limpopo Provincial Policy Development Framework, 2015;
- 2.6. Limpopo Provincial Research Framework, 2015;
- 2.7. Limpopo Development Plan, 2015 and
- 2.8. National Development Plan, Vision 2030.

### **3. POLICY ENGAGEMENT**

Policy engagement refers to the actual work to execute in the development of policy. Policy council will develop and advocate for Policies which will reduce unemployment, poverty and inequality in resonance with the NDP and LDP. The Agenda distils the MTSF over-arching strategic themes: radical economic transformation and improved service delivery, into tangible activities with focused areas to deliver measurable impact.

In order to deliver on the Policy Agenda, the following strategies will be pursued:

#### **3.1. EXCO ADVISORY SERVICES**

The Policy Council and working groups will render advisory services to Exco by developing policy briefs / notes/ reports on a quarterly basis. These will provide the EXCO with evidence regarding the implementation of policies and provide alternatives to improving and or unblocking hindrances for consideration by EXCO.

#### **3.2. POLICY ADVOCACY SERVICES**

The Policy Council and its working groups will develop policy positions and play advocacy role among all stakeholders and beneficiaries. Therefore, their role will entail rendering continuous support to sector departments and

creating a platform for policy dialogue in all identified policy areas

#### **4. PRINCIPLES**

The implementation of the policy agenda will be guided by the following principles:

- Evidence based (Decisions by policy makers should be anchored on credible evidence);
- Communication (The need to communicate policies to stakeholders);
- Honesty (The need to provide stakeholders with credible evidence and feedback in the development of policies);
- Quick wins (Policy interventions that will effect immediate developmental changes) and
- Collaboration (a coordinated approach to policy development, implementation and management).

#### **5. LIMPOPO DEVELOPMENT PLAN TARGETS**

In terms of the LDP the province should achieve the following targets by 2019:

- Improve the economic growth rate from 3% to 5%;
- Increase the matric pass rate from 72, 9% to 80%;
- Create 429 000 jobs by 2019;
- Reduction of official unemployment rate from 16,9% in 2014 to 14% (Expanded definition of unemployment: from 36.9% in 2014 to 33% in 2019) ;
- Increase access to water from 83% in 2014 to 90%;
- Increase access to electricity supply from 83% in 2014 to 90%;
- Increase access to Sanitation from 43% in 2014 to 50%;

- Reduce HIV and TB Incidence from approximately 9% of the total population of the province to 5%;
- Increase life expectancy to 60 years for males and 65 years for females from 58, 3 and 62 respectively;
- Decrease Inequality (Gini- Coefficient) from 0.61 to 0.50 and
- Increase GGP contribution to the national economy from current GDP (value) 7.1% to 11 %.( LDP, 2015).

The LDP key developmental drivers are:

- Economic development and transformation;
- Infrastructure development;
- Building a developmental state and
- Social cohesion and transformation.

These targets may seem quantitative, it should be noted that quality is inherent as per the MTSF, 2015/16 Outcomes: quality education, healthy life, decent employment and efficient, effective and developmental public service, in policy work the one is not exclusive to the other. This Agenda focuses on policies that are cross cutting and require collaboration and cooperation between departments, Local municipalities, civil society, Labour, business and academia. The sector Departments will continue to develop specific organisational policies to address the unique and department specific needs.

The Provincial Administration's strategic focus (LDP) is the building block of collective opportunity undergirded by education which is essential to obtaining and keeping a good job which in turn can support a family with concomitant health benefits. Perceptibly good health helps adults to be productive at work and children to concentrate and stay on track at school.

The agenda also advocates and realises that incomes which can cover daily

expenses and allow for savings for tomorrow have the potential to build a solid foundation for families and this will have potential to bridge inequality gaps.

## **6. POLICY PRIORITY AREAS**

The triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality cut across all government departments and to strengthen collaboration the agenda follows a cluster approach, recognizing that these are not cast in stone and from time to time a department in another cluster may invited to another cluster.

### **6.1. DEVELOPMENTAL SOCIAL POLICY**

**(Limpopo Department of Education, Health, Social Development, Limpopo Sport, Arts and Culture and Safety, Security and Liason)**

The Early childhood development policy recognises that *“preschool years are critical for cognitive and social development, which lay the foundation for success in high school, at the tertiary level, in the world of work and life in general.”* To effectively reduce high failure and school dropout rates, we must improve access to quality and affordable child care, numeracy and literacy activities, after school programmes (extra curricula) as well as winter enrichment programmes. The school curriculum is an important area which determines whether the province will defeat the scourge of poverty, unemployment and inequality. The province will have to intervene in this area without undermining learners’ choices.

The World Health Organisation cautions us that having health care coverage is associated with longer, healthier lives. Most of the people served by the Provincial public health system are children, the elderly, and the vulnerable and low income families. A minority which includes middle to high income families



receiving services from private health providers also uses public Health facilities when they suffer from chronic diseases and when costs are exorbitant in the private health facilities. This implies that a comprehensive approach is needed to ensure that people of our province are healthy throughout all stages in their lives. The people need to be able to access consistent, reliable and quality preventative services without being blocked by financial or logistic barriers.

The social cluster will focus on the following policy areas that improve:

- 6.1.1. Early childhood development;
- 6.1.2. Access to nutritious food and quality health care (Primary Health Care);
- 6.1.3. Education provisioning (Learner, educator and management support);
- 6.1.4. Curriculum policy areas that will provide skills for economic growth and
- 6.1.5. Physical activities (sports) which reduces lifestyle diseases.

The province will further advocate for community-school support by encouraging the development of broad based coalitions and partnerships between government, school governing bodies, Health/Clinic committees, Sports/ Arts Federations, business , nongovernmental organisations and organised labour committed to improving the conditions which support learning ,teaching, healthy living, preventative and curative care.

## **6.2. DEVELOPMENTAL GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION POLICY**

**(Office of the Premier, Treasury, Department of Co-Operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs)**

The province has recently experienced some departments being placed under section 100 of the Republic of South Africa Constitution due to administrative/

regulatory lapses. The LDP further notes that spending patterns on Municipal Infrastructure Grant remains below 50% due to lack of competent staff and or inadequate regulatory framework. Resourcing and supplies of key medicines, learning materials, competent human resources continue to plague the province.

Development-oriented regulatory policy in this Provincial Agenda refers to regulatory development that is designed to ensure maximum compliance with regulation and accomplishment of substantive policy goals at lowest cost. It seeks to leverage government resources to avoid potential compliance failures and malicious compliance that undermine substantive achievement of policy objectives.

The cluster will focus on the following policy areas that improve:

6.2.1. Regulatory certainty, coherence and compliance.

6.2.2. Government capacity to deliver quantity and quality of goods and services on time.

6.2.4. Impact monitoring and evaluation of departmental policies.

The Province will further advocate for community involvement by strengthening corruption hot lines and citizen complaints registers in all institutions, gathering reports on Imbizos, Municipal IDP consultations reports etc.

### **6.3. DEVELOPMENTAL ECONOMIC POLICY (Limpopo Economic Development, environmental affairs and Tourism, Agriculture, Public works, Roads and Infrastructure, Transport and Department of Co-Operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs Treasury)**

Despite the provincial improvement in the unemployment rate, some issues still

need to be addressed in terms of creating employment in the province. The province has to increase the labour force participation and absorption rates in the Limpopo economy. In March 2014 the labour force participation rate was 40% and absorption rate was 32, 6% in Limpopo (Statistics SA, 2014). More than two million people were deemed not to be economically active. About 377 000 job seekers were deemed to be discouraged and not actively looking for work (Statistics SA, 2014).

The Economic Sector Departments have to ensure that the EPWP and CWP programmes are refocused to encourage community-led or local economic development aimed at stimulating entrepreneurial energy and spirit in communities that allows the economy to show a bottom up growth.

Although the level of income inequality in Limpopo improved since 2003 the distribution of income is still relatively skewed in the province. The province also still has relatively high levels of poverty, despite the improvement since 1996. However, access to basic services also improved since 1996 even though poverty and inequality remain the key challenges of the local economy.

According to an analysis conducted on the Limpopo Industrial Master Plan, the manufacturing sector in Limpopo faces constraints ranging from a poor investment and business environment, lack of access to finances, skilled labour and information, economies of scale and competitive advantage, lack of attention to the potential development contribution, inadequate physical infrastructure and a low level of investment in research and development and low skills and education levels.

The province should focus on policy measures to diversify the Limpopo economy away from its dependency on the primary sector, without neglecting the primary sector. The province has to consider new opportunities in the green economy, creative industries etc. Provincial administration will engage in policies areas that:

- 6.3.1. Enable the Province's lower-income families to secure family- sustaining employment, access income support and affordable housing;
- 6.3.2. Enable lower income families to grow savings and assets which will ultimately reduce income/economic inequalities;
- 6.3.4. Encourages investment in small medium enterprises and rural economic initiatives to increase job growth and
- 6.3.5. Reduce the number of poor households in the Province.

The Province will advocate for policies that create investor friendly environment, generate decent employment and resourcing of SMME's. These will be done in collaboration with investors; businesses and labour organizations.

## **7. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

The Policy coordination Division in collaboration with monitoring and evaluation division within the Office of the Premier will oversee the implementation of the Agenda by coordinating development and presentation of policy products from the sector departments to the Policy Council and Director General on quarterly basis. Policy product is a written document and or an oral presentation and takes a variety of forms e.g. discussion paper, briefing note, submission e.t.c.

## **8. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

Provincial policy implementation plan will be developed on an annual basis and form annexure A of this Agenda. Office of the Premier will coordinate departmental policy inputs and develop annual policy implementation plan leading to 2019.

## 9. REFERENCES

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~~APPROVED/NOT APPROVED~~

  
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19/02/2016.  
DATE