



SEKHUKHUNE

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

REVIEW OF THE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

DRAFT FINAL REPORT

NOVEMBER
2025





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ACRONYMS:

Acronym	Description
AH	Agri-Hub
CBA	Critical Biodiversity Areas
CBD	Central Business District
COGTA	Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
CRDP	Comprehensive Rural Development Programme
CSA	Critical Support Areas
DM	District Municipality
DMRE	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
DPME	Department of Monitoring and Evaluation
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
DWS	Department of Water and Sanitation
EMF	Environmental Management Framework
FET	Further Education and Training
FPSU	Farmer Production Support Unit
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GVA	Gross Value Added
HPAA	High Potential Agricultural Areas
ICT	Information and Communication Technology



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IDP	Integrated Development Plan	NPC	National Planning Commission
IPAP	Industrial Policy Action Plan	NSDF	National Spatial Development Framework
IPP	Independent Power Producers	NSDP	National Spatial Development Perspective
IRP	Integrated Resource Plan	NSSD	National Strategy for Sustainable Development
IUDF	Integrated Urban Development Framework	NU	Non-Urban
KNP	Kruger National Park	PLAS	Proactive Land Acquisition Strategy
K2C	Kruger 2 Canyon	PA	Protected Area
KV	Kilo Volt	PICC	Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Commission
LED	Local Economic Development	PSC	Public Service Commission
LM	Local Municipality	PSDF	Provincial Spatial Development Framework
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals	R&D	Research and Development
MDM	Mopani District Municipality	RISDP	Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Framework	RUMC	Rural Urban Market Centre
MTSF	Medium Term Strategic Framework	SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
MVA	Mega-Volt Ampere	SANRAL	South African National Roads Agency Limited
NATMAP	National Transport Master Plan	SDF	Spatial Development Framework
NBA	National Biodiversity Assessment	SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
NBF	National Biodiversity Framework	SDI	Spatial Development Initiative
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan	SDM	Sekhukhune District Municipality
NDP	National Development Plan	SEP	Socio-Economic Profile
NEMBA	National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004	SGD	Strategic Grid Plan
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development	SIP	Strategic Infrastructure Projects
NFEPS	National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas	SPD	Spatial Development Program
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisation	SPLUMA	Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act 16 of 2013
NHI	National Health Insurance	SWSA	Strategic Water Source Area
NLTA	National Land Transport Act 5 of 2009	TDP	Transmission Development Plan
NMPP	New Multi-Products Pipeline Project	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
NPAES	National Protected Area Expansion Strategy	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



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VIP	Ventilated Improved Pit latrines
WCWDM	Water Conservation and Water Demand Management
WWTW	Waste Water Treatment Works





SEKHUKHUNE

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



SECTION ONE

INTRODUCTION

1. INTRODUCTION

The project aims to review the Spatial Development Framework (SDF) for the Sekhukhune District Municipality, guiding future development, improving spatial coordination, and aligning with national and Provincial plans, as well as those of adjoining municipalities and the respective internal municipalities. The SDF will be reviewed in light of the legislative requirements for alignment with the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act No. 16 of 2013), the SPLUMA (2015) Regulations, and other key pieces of legislation.

Being fully cognizant and appreciative of the reality of the legacy of Apartheid Planning and its enduring impact on the spatial history and trajectory of any area in the Republic of South Africa, the SDF review will be undertaken, taking into account the history, context and spatial challenges and opportunities in the Sekhukhune District Municipality.

The District Municipality intends to review the current developed Spatial Development Framework so that the SDFs continues to remain a credible, up to date and robust document that is able to guide present and future development within Municipal area of jurisdiction as well as informing similar decisions in the immediate surrounding and abutting regions in which the spatial decision guides and framework have strong resonates and implications on the spatial growth and development outcomes and processes. The current SDF, which has a set of objectives, strategies and policy guidelines that direct development and development options to ensure that the envisaged long-term urban and rural development planning and target deliverables are realised, requires updating, strengthening and improvement in areas in which the spatial performance of the document has revealed gaps and shortcomings.

1.1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

Sekhukhune district municipality, similar to most parts of the Limpopo province, generally contains a range of different-sized towns, settlements and villages. These exist as either small towns, small rural settlements and development nodes. In conducting the SDF review, it is germane that rural areas in the district will need clear articulation and development, as previous SDFs inadequately analysed and fully incorporated the growth and development spatial issues confronting such areas. Areas such as different types of villages/ rural settlements; towns, informal settlements in commercial farming areas and former homelands in the study areas will require unpacking and the development of relevant strategies to address them. Spatial land resource and development conflicts in rural areas are viewed as presenting a potential for causing acute conflicts, which are projected to escalate in future in the wake of dwindling and diminishing scarce resources.

Therefore, attending to issues pertaining to tourism, agriculture, mining, and biodiversity from a spatial planning and development perspective is a critical building block in an attempt to pre-empt and mitigate land use and development conflicts, including in areas under traditional councils. In any case, the issue of land under or in traditional councils' areas and how land use and spatial decisions regarding access and use of land are a cause for concern and a mechanism to deal with these challenges requires development and application.

Despite the introduction of SPLUMA (2013) and its clear provision for wall to wall land use schemes, to date land development in some rural areas still takes place outside the scope of the existing spatial planning tools, resulting in multiple forms of informalities and illegalities that find common expression in terms of land disputes, land invasion, uncoordinated service delivery, an increased rate of environmental degradation and emanation of land-use practices that are neither economically efficient nor environmentally sustainable.



In post-apartheid South Africa, and also applicable to SDM, issues pertaining to horizontal and vertical alignment of various national, provincial and municipal plans with the SDFs still remain a challenge. Invariably, the central and strategic role of an SDF as a spatial integrator and coordinator of various government activities and programmes has not been adequately achieved.

The interrelationship of an SDF, the land use scheme (LUS), and the integrated development plan (IDP) (including sector plans and national strategic directives) is not clearly reflected, and in most instances is interpreted differently, making the SDF's credibility and impact questionable. While progress has been made in these fronts, SDFs implementation and monitoring strategies have been singled out as areas that require continuous improvement in most of the documents.

The above-mentioned and discussed issues and problems are compounded by the fact that capacity, both to plan and implement plans in the district municipality, remains a challenge. As a result, spatial and economic fragmentation continues to pose major challenges despite the progress made by the government in formulating relevant spatial planning legislation and policies since 1994.

1.2. STUDY AREA

1.2.1. REGIONAL LOCALITY

The Sekhukhune District Municipality's Spatial Development Framework (SDF) is shaped by its regional context, which includes its location within Limpopo Province, its economic drivers, and its relationship to surrounding municipalities and development initiatives. Geographically, the district lies adjacent to Mpumalanga Province to the south, **Figure 1.1**. To the north, the district shares borders with four district municipalities: Mopani District Municipality, Vhembe District, Capricorn District, and the

Waterberg District, which collectively comprise the Limpopo Province. Notably, the district is the smallest in terms of land area among the five districts.

The Sekhukhune District Municipality is connected to its neighbouring districts primarily through a network of national roads, which facilitate regional accessibility and economic integration. The N11 serves as a key corridor linking Sekhukhune to the Waterberg District to the west and further south toward Mpumalanga and Gauteng. To the north, the N1, although not passing directly through Sekhukhune, is accessible via connecting regional routes and links the district indirectly to both the Capricorn and Vhembe Districts, serving as a major north-south trade and transport route. The R37, a primary regional connector feeding into the N1 near Polokwane, strengthens the linkage between Sekhukhune and the Capricorn District. Similarly, connections to the Mopani District are supported through regional roads that link into the broader national road network, including access routes that feed into the N1 and R36.

1.2.2. LOCAL CONTEXT

As illustrated in **Figure 1.2**, the District Municipality is composed of four local municipalities: Elias Motsoaledi and Ephraim Mogale, both located in the southern part of the district, as well as Makhuduthamaga and Fetakgomo-Tubatse, which are situated in the central and northern areas, respectively. These municipalities are linked by an established network of regional roads that support internal connectivity and spatial integration across the district, as well as between rural settlement areas.

In terms of spatial connection between the various municipalities, the Elias Motsoaledi LM is connected to Ephraim Mogale via the N11. The R33 provide vital access to surrounding rural settlements and traverses through Elias Motsoaledi LM from its intersection with the N11. Both Elias Motsoaledi and Ephraim Modale municipalities border the Makhuduthamaga LM in the north, and are connected to Elias Motsoaledi LM via route R579, and to the Ephraim Mogale LM connection is through lower-order roads.



Figure 1.1: Sekhukhune Regional Context

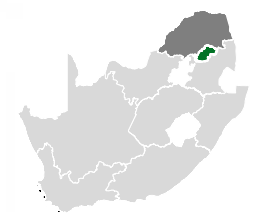
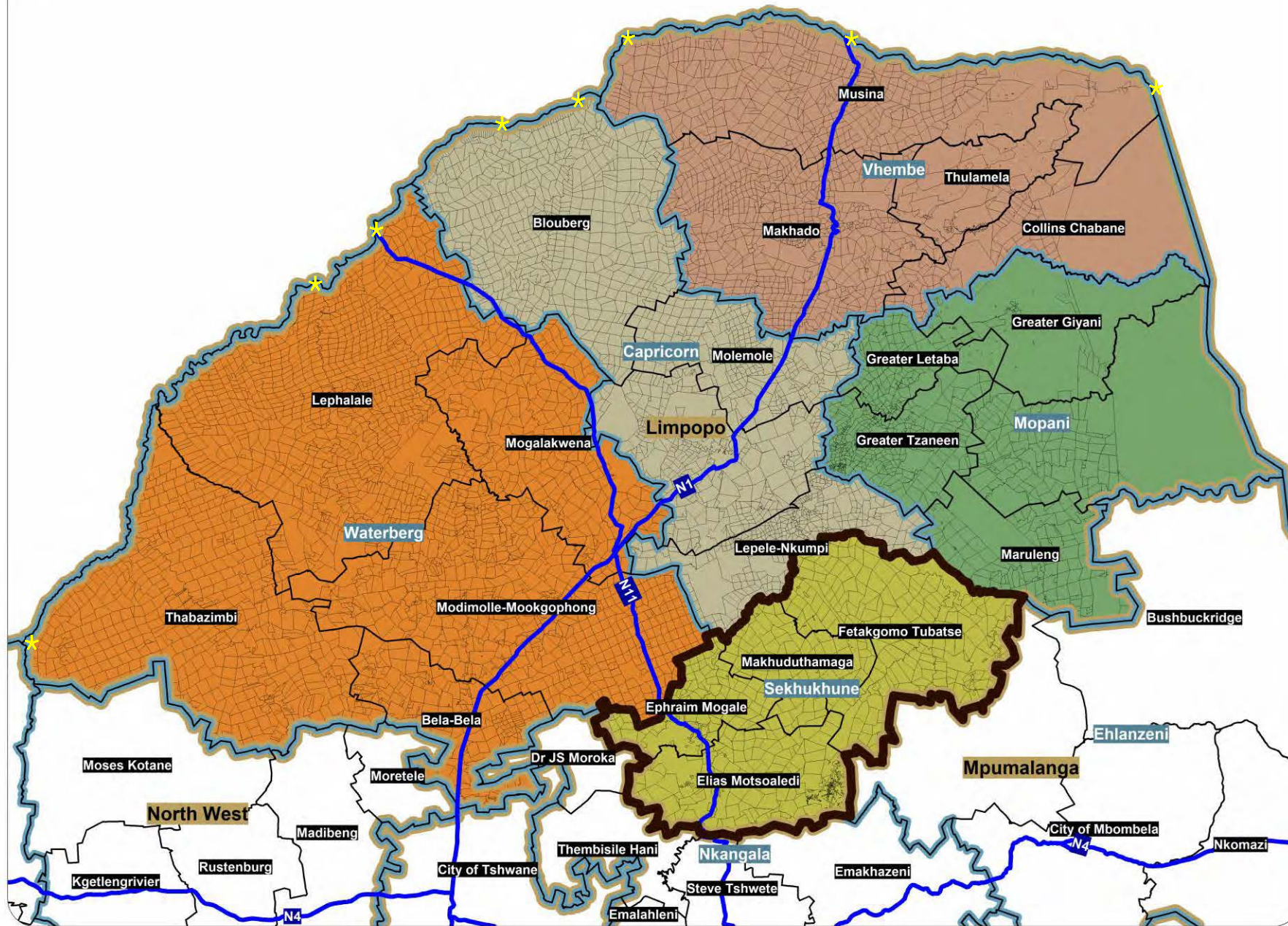


REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

REGIONAL CONTEXT

Legend

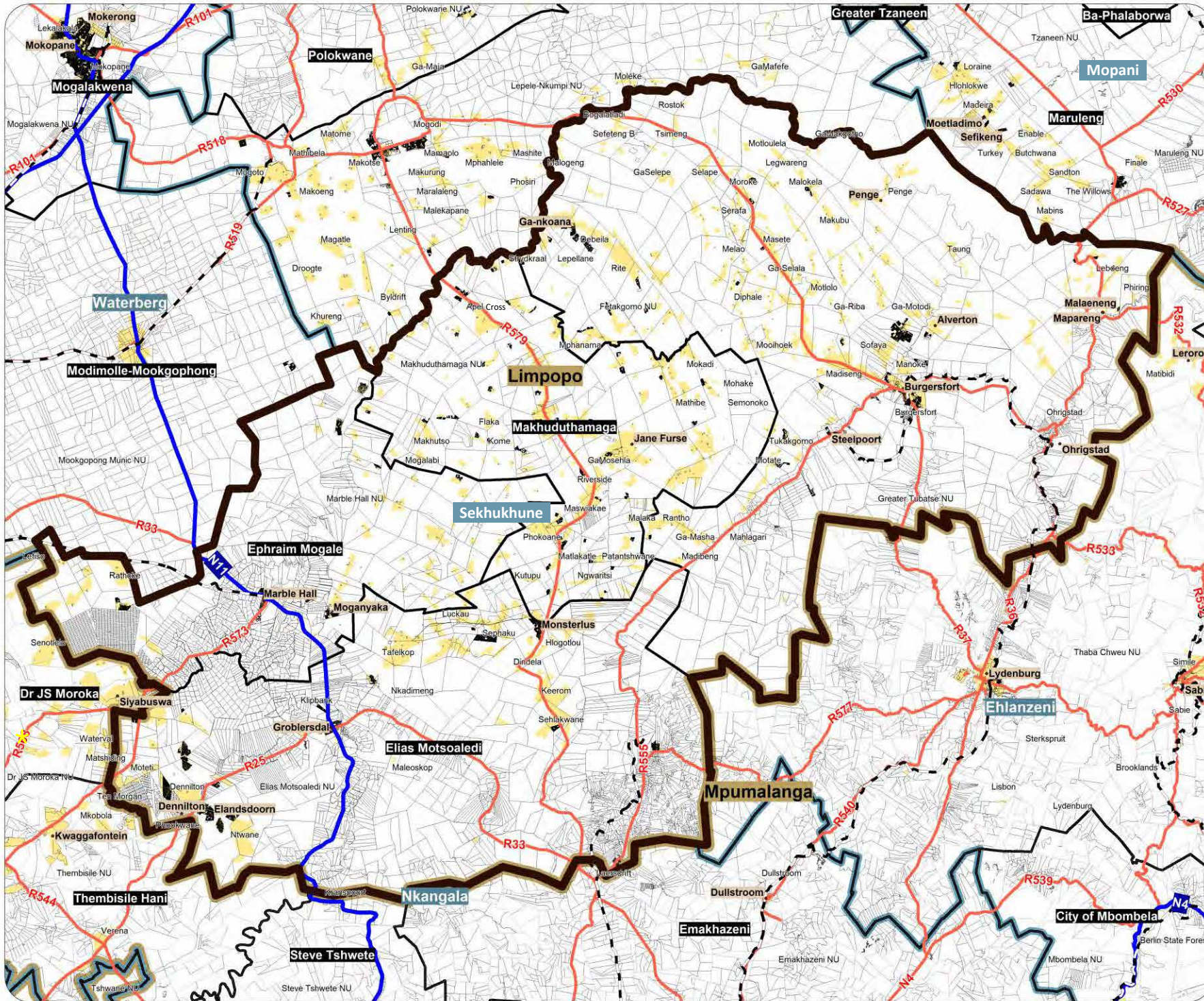
- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Mopani District Municipality
- Vhembe District Municipality
- Capricorn District Municipality
- Waterberg District Municipality
- Border Posts
- National Road



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 0470

Tel: 013 262 7300

Figure 1.2: Sekhukhune Local Context



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

LOCAL CONTEXT

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Rural Settlement
- Cadastral (Erven, Farm, Parent Farm)
- Regional Roads
- National Road
- Railway line



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Notably, while Makhuduthamaga and Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipalities are both connected to Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality via regional roads such as the R579 and R555, there is no direct regional road linking Makhuduthamaga and Fetakgomo-Tubatse to each other.

1.3. PROJECT BACKGROUND

The aim of the District Spatial Development Framework is to give direction to spatial development within the district, as well as achieve the following:

- Ensuring compliance with the SPLUMA legislation and principles;
- Aligning spatial development frameworks of municipalities within the district and adjoining municipalities;
- Aligning spatial development within the district with national and provincial spatial initiatives and plans;
- Coordinating land use management actions within the district.

The purpose of the SDM Spatial Development Framework as a land use management tool is to plan and direct land uses at the district level to ensure the application of the development principles of sustainability, integration, equality, efficiency and fair and reasonable governance to create quality of living, investors' confidence and security of tenure. Consequently, the purpose of reviewing the SDF is to ensure that the document remains a credible, solid, and authentic spatial guide and tool for direction, supporting the local, municipal, district, national, and international interconnected and related spatial planning growth and development requirements.

Thus, the primary purpose of the spatial development framework is to create a competent municipal spatial structure, thus providing, in National Spatial Development

Perspective (NSDP) terms, a framework within which to explore and discuss future development of the municipal space economy in the context of the district, provincial and national space economies.

The intent is to reflect municipal wards that are in severe need and deprivation, assess and plan for sustainable resource use of existing and projected potential, evaluate the infrastructure endowment and explore the full range of the current and potential economic activities by means of describing key social, economic and natural trends and issues shaping the municipal geography.

1.4. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The Sekhukhune SDF is designed to guide spatial development by aligning with local, district, provincial, and national policies. Its key objectives include:

- Ensure coordination and alignment with municipal SDFs, the provincial SDF, and any other relevant regional planning frameworks;
- Develop a spatial representation of the District Municipality's land development policies and strategic objectives within a broader planning context.
- Formulation and analysis of socio and spatial data to comprehend the extent of socio-economic dynamics and inform future planning;
- Sectoral Integration: Coordinating the spatial alignment of sector plans from local and provincial departments;
- Address spatial inequality and fragmented, inefficient land use patterns, particularly where disadvantaged communities are disconnected from economic opportunities;
- Outlining desired land use patterns across urban and rural areas, including areas unsuitable for certain types of development, and taking cognisance of the natural environment;



- Promote land use conflict management by way of balancing competing land demands between agriculture, mining, urban growth, and conservation/tourism areas;
- Identify and promote Urban-Rural Linkages by ensuring functional spatial and economic relationships between urban centres and rural hinterlands;
- Identifying areas for strategic public and private investment in both rural and urban settings;
- Devise an economic strategy to enhance the district's economic footprint through sustainable development approaches;
- The framework to guide public and private investment toward designated priority areas, aligning capital investment programmes of the district and relevant government departments in a coordinated manner that upholds the five SPLUMA development principles
- Ensure that spatial priorities and investment focus areas will be closely linked to the District Budget through the Sekhukhune Integrated Development Plan (IDP).

1.5. PROJECT METHODOLOGY

An integrated and holistic system approach is necessary to ensure the long-term sustainability of the development of the planning area. The methodology for compiling the Spatial Development Framework is discussed below and encompasses the following phases/ or major components:

- Phase 1: Inception
- Phase 2: Policy Context and Status Quo Analysis
- Phase 3: Spatial Challenges and Opportunities
- Phase 4: Spatial Proposals
- Phase 5: Implementation Framework

The project inception report starts with a project kick-off meeting with the Sekhukhune District Municipality. In this phase, the service provider submits an inception report to the project management team of relevant officials. The Project Management Team oversees the implementation of the SDF process and the timely finalisation of tasks by the service provider and government officials. Furthermore, we will approve the Project Inception Report, which will be reviewed to reach an agreement on the scope and work plan.



Diagram 1 represents the summarised project methodology for the review of the Sekhukhune Spatial Development Framework project, summarised below in six (6) phases.

Diagram 1: Project Methodology



Phase 1: Inception

The inception meeting will provide an opportunity to identify a list of documents gathered from the project team to request any relevant documents or data from the client and/or the various local municipalities. The highlighted phases form part of the upcoming project phases till project completion.

A reviewed draft spatial vision, to focus on “keeping the end in mind”, is formulated considering the existing spatial vision of the district and the spatial visions of local municipalities within the district. Alignment with the IDP vision is also necessary. The spatial objectives, derived from the spatial development policy and legislative framework, provide the basis for aligning and integrating development policies and legislation within the Sekhukhune District SDF. The relevance of these objectives to the future spatial development of the Sekhukhune District Municipality is summarised.

Typical structures that should be in place to ensure proper consultation are as follows:

- Steering Committee
- Representative Forums (IDP and others)
- Ward Committees (headed by the Ward Councillor)
- Executive Committee Stakeholders to be interacted with:
- Administrative level: The Municipal Manager, Head of Departments and Cluster Managers;
- Political level: Executive Mayor, Mayoral Committee and Portfolio Councillors, and;
- Community level: IDP Forum, Steering Committees.

Phase 2: Policy Context and Vision Directives Outcome

This phase will cover aspects entailing policy review and legislation derived from national, provincial, district, and local policies. To collectively incorporate and synergise all relevant plans and initiatives from the different governmental spheres. Additionally, the phase will encapsulate development strategies such as precinct plans, human settlement policies, and other collaborative governmental development initiatives. Spatial development policies and initiatives consider the need to address the spatial implications of the following strategies and plans for the development of the district municipality.

The national, regional, and provincial development strategies, sector policy directives (e.g., fiscal, environmental, infrastructural, transport, and human settlement), and other collaborative governmental development initiatives will be considered. At a National context, the section will encompass plans such as the National Development Plan: Vision 2030, the National Spatial Development Framework, the National Infrastructure Plan, and other relevant policies. The Provincial Context will allude to the Provincial strategic plans, policies, and initiatives. As well as municipal level policies such as the IDP; Sector Plans; Precinct Plans; SDF's of local municipalities, and other relevant policies and initiatives.

The review of the draft spatial vision is formulated in consideration of the existing spatial vision of the district and the spatial plans of the respective local municipalities in the district. Alignment with the IDP vision is also necessary. The spatial objectives, derived from the spatial development policy and legislative framework, provide the basis for aligning and integrating development policies and legislation within the Sekhukhune District SDF. The relevance of these objectives to the future spatial development of the Sekhukhune District Municipality is summarised.



Phase 3: Status Quo Analysis, Spatial Challenges and Opportunities

The status quo will encompass the spatial dynamics prevalent within the District Municipality, its neighbouring districts, and the socio-economic profile, and will evaluate the municipality's economic competitiveness against the District's economic performance. Below further elaborates on the information to be captured in Phase 3.

The Status Quo Report will highlight the following aspects:

- Regional and local movement networks, such as roads and rail infrastructure, connecting the community to prominent areas of employment and social services;
- The location of prominent economic nodes and nodal hierarchy, as these will serve as the major marketplace for the distribution of goods and services;
- Settlement patterns of both Urban and Rural environments to comprehend their spatial relationship, and /or degree of dispersion;
- Distribution and level of service of engineering services; Water resources; Bulk Water infrastructure; Internal Bulk infrastructure; Water Treatment Works; Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW); Service needs (Water needs; Sanitation needs; Electricity and required added capacity);
- Rationalise the various economic sectors (such as retail, agriculture, industry, mining, etc.) that are widespread throughout the Province, their extent of development within the municipal space, and the extent to which they contribute to the economy (GDP) and labour absorption.
- Gathering information on regional land ownership and land claims for future development and security.
- Land Use Composition of existing development uses and amenities, as well as the extent of utilisation and quality of existing facilities.

- Environmental features such as the topography, river systems, soil potential, and wetlands contribute to the broader spatial structure and their influence on emerging and subsistent farmers.
- Evaluate the existing level of basic services, bulk distribution, and service capacity, as well as the level of backlogs (if any), to determine their impact on development and the local economy.
- Planned and projected infrastructural services to serve the rural communities/ village settlements.

Phase 3 (Status Quo Analysis) will conclude with a summary highlighting the main challenges, constraints, and opportunities related to spatial dynamics, service delivery, socio-economic conditions, etc. Community Needs Indicators will cover the analysis of needs and constraints in towns and villages, social and economic challenges, and key elements of the enabling environment, such as access to water, electricity, sanitation, telephone services, refuse removal, and housing types and requirements.

Comprehending the spatial challenges and opportunities derived from the analysis of the biophysical, socio-economic, built and institutional environments, sector plans, and community needs analysis is provided, which is key to understanding and establishing strategies that would improve local social and economic conditions.

Phase 4: Spatial Proposals

This phase will include the development of the district's spatial vision and draft spatial proposals. The Spatial Vision will be informed by Spatial Objectives derived from relevant development policies, legal frameworks, research, and spatial analysis.

Encapsulated in the phase, the spatial vision is founded on critical policy directives, spatial analysis, and stakeholder input, promoting sustainable urban and rural



development, identifying priority development areas, and coordinating public and private investment. Ultimately, this provides the foundation for more detailed planning and implementation through the Spatial Development Framework (SDF).

The development of the spatial vision and identification of key issues will require active participation through a structured stakeholder engagement programme and bilateral meetings with individual stakeholders during the formulation of the SDF. Meaningful consultation and strong stakeholder buy-in are crucial to the successful development of the Spatial Development Framework (SDF). This collaborative approach helps identify key issues, establish a shared spatial vision, and address planning precinct priorities. The effectiveness and implementation of the SDF rely heavily on the commitment and support of all stakeholders involved.

The detailed Spatial Development Framework (SDF) phase involves a thorough assessment and planning process to guide spatial growth and development. From the analysis phase, the phase considers all existing data across the district and its local municipalities. Thus, it formulates a detailed Spatial Development Framework plan which integrates infrastructure plans, environmental considerations, and service delivery requirements.

The outcomes of the detailed spatial plan aim to shape future development, inform investment decisions, and foster coordinated growth throughout the district. It emphasises key priority development areas and initiatives that will improve economic development, while ensuring the needs of communities are met to achieve an equitable society.

Phase 5: Implementation Framework

This phase focuses on translating the spatial development framework into actionable steps, ensuring that the strategies outlined in the framework plan are effectively implemented through project listing and prioritisation.

Identified projects are prioritised into short, medium and long-term projects, and key responsible departments and organisations to ensure implementation. This is done to manage the financial resources necessary to implement the spatial development strategies proposed in the PSDF. It links the broader spatial goals to specific infrastructure projects, land use initiatives, and development programs that require long-term funding and investment.

The phase provides the concrete, actionable blueprint needed to move from planning to realisation. It ensures that the plans and projects within the SDF are attainable through funding, implementation, and ongoing monitoring, driving the spatial and economic development of the region.

Phase 6: Finalisation and Approval

Based on the comments received, the District Spatial Framework will be amended and will accordingly serve as the final draft document, after being presented and submitted to the Council for approval.

Included in the phase is the preparation of both soft and hard copies of the report and maps, as well as incorporating the GIS training manual into the project.





SEKHUKHUNE

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



SECTION TWO

POLICY

2. POLICY REVIEW AND LEGISLATION

The section below outlines the legislative and policy review, originating from the global policy context and cascading down to the national, provincial, and municipal levels, subsequently assessing the respective local municipalities and precinct-level spatial policies. **Diagram 2**, depicted below, highlights the summarised legislation and policy structure.

Diagram 2: Summarised Legislation and Policy Structure



GLOBAL POLICY CONTEXT

2.1.1. GLOBAL POLICY CONTEXT

2.1.1.1. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

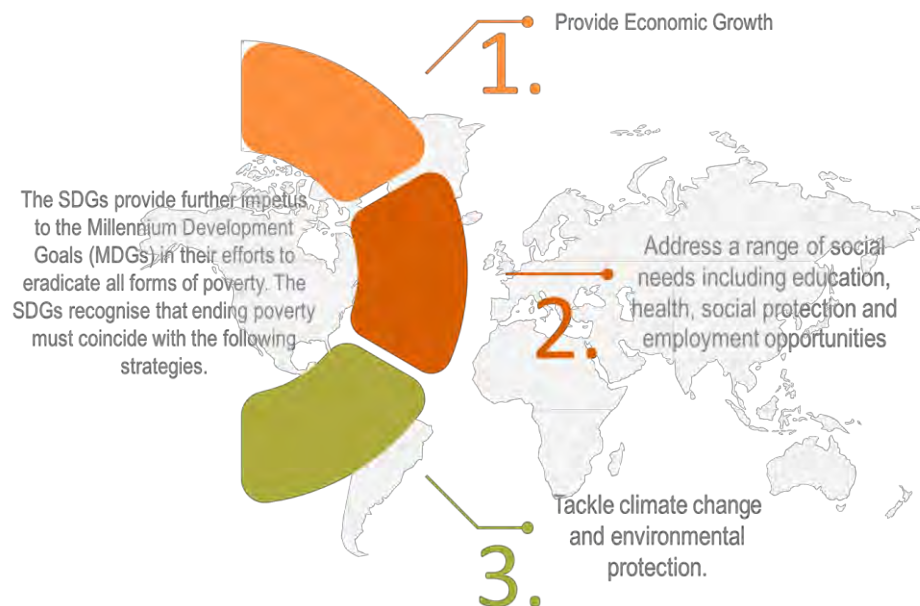
The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals require the mobilisation of efforts to end all forms of poverty through sustainable economic growth, fight inequality in various social needs, including education, health, social protection and employment opportunities and tackle climate change and ensure environmental protection.

Diagram 3.1: Sustainable Development Goals



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) acknowledge that eradicating poverty is a foundational step toward achieving the following three strategic goals.

Diagram 3.2: Sustainable Development Goals



CONTINENTAL POLICY CONTEXT


2.1.2. CONTINENTAL POLICY CONTEXT

2.1.2.1. Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want

Agenda 2063 is Africa's blueprint and master plan for transforming Africa into a global powerhouse of the future. The framework focuses on a social, economic and political renaissance that links the past, present and future. Overall, Agenda 2063 seeks to strengthen industrialisation, is linked with agriculture and food security and aims to build on the continent's comparative advantages, such as its human development potential, natural resources and geographic location.

To become an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena, Agenda 2063 provides a strategic framework based on the following seven (7) aspirations:

Diagram 4.1: Agenda 2063

- 
- i. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
 - ii. An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance
 - iii. An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice, and the rule of law
 - iv. A peaceful and secure Africa
 - v. An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, shared values, and ethics
 - vi. An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children
 - vii. Africa as a strong, united, resilient, and influential global player and partner

2.1.2.2. The New Urban Agenda;

The mandate of the New Urban Agenda (NUA), as adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), provides a global framework for sustainable urban development, focusing on the following main core elements.

Diagram 4.2: The New Urban Agenda

- 
- 1. Social and Ecological Responsibility**
 - Ensure land use serves social and ecological purposes, progressively realizing the right to adequate housing, water, sanitation, and equal access to public goods and essential services.
 - 2. Inclusive and Participatory Urban Spaces**
 - Foster civic engagement, social cohesion, and inclusive public spaces that support cultural, generational, and political participation, especially for vulnerable groups.
 - 3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**
 - Promote full and equal participation of women and girls in all areas, ensure decent work and pay equity, and eliminate discrimination and violence.
 - 4. Sustainable Economic Development**
 - Use urbanization to drive inclusive, sustainable economic growth and transformation, recognizing the role of both formal and informal economies.
 - 5. Territorial and Urban Integration**
 - Act as hubs for integrated urban and territorial development across regions and administrative boundaries.
 - 6. Sustainable Mobility**
 - Support inclusive, age- and gender-responsive urban mobility and efficient transport systems that link people and economic activities.
 - 7. Resilience and Climate Action**
 - Implement disaster risk management, enhance resilience to hazards, and address climate change through mitigation and adaptation.
 - 8. Environmental Protection**
 - Conserve ecosystems, water, and biodiversity while promoting sustainable consumption and production practices.

The implications of global and continental policies for the District Municipality have significant spatial development implications, particularly in efforts to eradicate poverty, trade agreements, and mutual agreements pertaining to the use and sharing of water resources. They encourage the district to pursue economic growth by harnessing urbanisation as a catalyst for spatial transformation, increased productivity, and promoting value-added, resource efficient activities. This approach involves strengthening local economies and recognising the informal sector's contributions, while facilitating a gradual and inclusive transition to the formal economy.

In addition, they emphasise addressing climate change and protecting natural systems, such as water resources, ecosystems, and biodiversity, through conservation, restoration, and minimising environmental impact. Integrating spatial and economic policies with global frameworks positions the Sekhukhune District Municipality within a broader international development context.

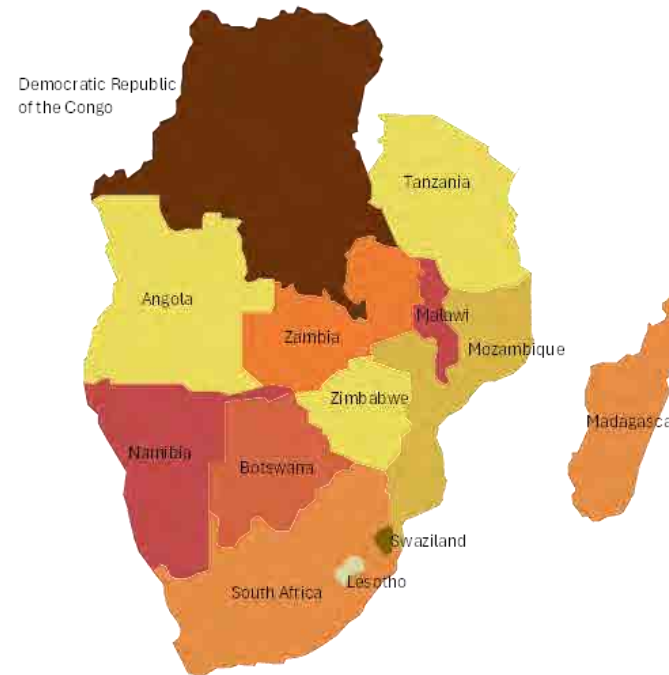
SUB-CONTINENTAL POLICY CONTEXT



2.1.3. SUB-CONTINENTAL POLICY CONTEXT

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) which encompasses several states in the southern region of Africa, namely the countries of Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa, Swaziland, Mozambique, Seychelles, Tanzania, collectively form the southern regional organization.

Figure 2: SADC Member Countries



In forming this regional organisation, the SADC, it is intended to coordinate development and critical responses to address regional development priorities. Thereby, ensuring regional-wide efforts and challenges are addressed and jointly shared.



Diagram 5.1: Summarised SADC Critical Development Priorities



The following represents policies and frameworks governing the alliance between these SADC member states, guiding their cooperation, regional and resource integration and development across each state.

- SADC Policies and Plans
- SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP)
- SADC Strategic and Policies
 - SADC Regional Water Policies 2005
 - SADC Regional Agricultural Policy
 - SADC Industrial Strategy, 2015 – 2063
 - SADC Climate Change Strategy

2.1.3.1. SADC Vision 2050

The SADC Vision 2050 does not provide any spatial objectives – rather it represents a high-level vision for the SADC region, attending to cross-cutting issues including

Gender, Youth, Environment and Climate Change, and Disaster Risk Management. It does not make any locational or country-specific mentions. The vision is expressed in three pillars based on a firm foundation of Peace, Security and Good Governance, and premised on three interrelated vision pillars, namely:

- Industrial Development and Market Integration
- Infrastructure Development in support of Regional Integration
- Climate change.

Diagram 5.2: SADC Vision 2050



2.1.3.2. SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP)

The Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020-2030 is a regional integration development framework that operationalises the SADC Vision

2050 by setting priorities, policies and strategies for achieving the long-term goals of the Southern African Development Community.

Diagram 5.3: SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP)



In the South African context, the strategic priorities outlined in the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) are to some extent reflected in national and provincial policies. These frameworks aim to transform the legacy of apartheid-era spatial planning by promoting integrated development, ensuring that resources are distributed equitably to achieve economic inclusivity. These priorities have been further localised at the district and municipal levels to ensure context that is implementable. While also effectively emphasising intergovernmental coordination and inclusive stakeholder engagement to foster collaborative development efforts across the country.

2.1.3.3. SADC Regional Water Policy 2005

The SADC Regional Water Policy (2005) is a framework that provides guidelines for managing the region's water resources across boundaries, ensuring equitable distribution to advance regional development, economies, and livelihoods. The Limpopo River Basin distributes water to three other SADC member countries:

Botswana, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe. Moreso, parts of the country, which also include the entire Sekhukhune District Municipality.

The Limpopo River Basin is primarily semi-arid, characterised by a climate that is extremely unpredictable and subject to severe droughts and flooding. The basin's water resources are already over capacity, and food production is still significantly reliant on rainfall. The vulnerability of large rural populations, many of whom are impoverished and rely on natural resources (land and water supply) for their livelihoods, which are gradually compromised. The capacity to resolve poverty and withstand shocks is further constrained by undiversified economies and limited public and private resources. Overall, these factors make the Limpopo River Basin highly at risk for long-term change and climate-related hazards. Climate projections indicate that the basin will experience substantial warming, accompanied by prolonged dry periods and increased frequency of droughts.

As a result, the SADC Water Policy consists of the following nine thematic areas that address the water resources management issues and challenges or are aimed at optimising the development opportunities:

- 1) Regional Cooperation in Water Resources Management
- 2) Water for Development and Poverty Reduction containing
- 3) Water for Environmental Sustainability
- 4) Security from Water-related Disasters
- 5) Water Resources Information and Management
- 6) Water Resources Development and Management
- 7) Regional Water Resources Institutional Framework
- 8) Stakeholder Participation and Capacity Building

This resource not only sustains a rich diversity of natural ecosystems, but also economic industries spanning from domestic and industrial water supply to social and sanitation management for the region's population.

2.1.3.5. SADC Climate Change Strategy

The Climate Change Strategy shall guide the implementation of the Climate Change Programme over a Fifteen-year period (2015 - 2030). The Strategy provides a short, medium to long-term framework for implementing elaborate and concrete climate change adaptation and mitigation programmes and projects. With that, the goal of the SADC Climate Change Strategy is to provide a regional framework for collective action and enhanced cooperation in addressing climate change issues, thereby improving local livelihoods, achieving sustainable economic growth, and contributing fairly to preserving a global good.

Below highlights priorities which the SADC Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan aim to achieve;

- Provide a broad outline for standardised and coordinated Regional and National actions to address and respond to the impacts of climate change in line with global and continental objectives;
- Devise adaptation tools to address climate change, however, bearing in mind the diverse levels of vulnerabilities each state experiences within the region;
- Establish means to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, taking into consideration the respective capabilities of the member states;
- Supports nationally and regionally appropriate mitigation actions given the mitigation's potential opportunities for sustainable development; and
- Enhance the region's ability and capacity to mobilise resources, access technology, and build capacity to facilitate adaptation and mitigation actions.

In terms of the Sekhukhune District Municipality, all local municipalities lack fully integrated specific climate adaptation plans and budgets within their municipal policies, such as in the IDP, spatial policies to mitigate against climate change;

The district lacks adoption of best practices like climate budgets and institutional climate champions in most local areas;

Lack of municipal capacity building, education, and info-sharing to enable informed local decision making that would (i) assist farmers during the drought season to maintain livestock and production, and (ii) help communities protect and maintain the environment.

2.1.3.6. SADC Industrialisation Strategy, 2015 – 2063

The framework is a long-term vision to transform the region's economy through the promotion of industrialisation and integration of the region's resources to enable the SADC members to compete at a global scale.

The following represents key objectives of the SADC Industrialisation Strategy;

- Transform and Diversify the Regional Economy, by way of progress SADC economies from heavy dependence on raw material exports toward establishing regional value-added production and industrial diversification, particularly in manufacturing and agro-processing;
- Enhance Regional Economic and Development Integration through establishing industrial linkages and regional value chains to deepen trade integration and economic cooperation among Member States;
- Formulation and linkages of Regional Value Chains between the members of state in order to support and advance the regional economy, and cross-border production, and
- Establish Intra-Regional Trade by way of encouraging cross-border production and transfer of goods and reducing trade barriers through aligning trade standards and customs that ease trade relationships. The objective also recognises the importance of investing in regional movement infrastructure to ensure an efficient movement of goods.





NATIONAL LEGISLATIONS

2.1.4. NATIONAL LEGISLATIONS

2.1.2.1. Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 108 of 1996

The Constitution states that developmental local government should provide for a democratic and accountable system of governance for communities. It also encourages municipalities to provide services to communities in a sustained manner, promoting social and economic development. It promotes a safe and healthy environment, and encourages the involvement of communities and community organisations in local government matters. Within its financial and administrative capacity, a municipality must strive to achieve the objectives outlined in this subsection.

In terms of its implications on the Sekhukhune District SDF. The spatial policy encompasses a set of normative principles that guide SDF in creating liveable, equitable, sustainable, resilient, and efficient spaces, while supporting economic opportunities and social cohesion.

2.1.2.2. Municipal Systems Act 32 Of 2000

The requirement for municipalities to prepare a Spatial Development Framework (SDF) was introduced through the Municipal Systems Act (MSA), Act 32 of 2000. The MSA defines the SDF as a municipality's Integrated Development Plan (IDP) core component. It also mandates that the SDF must be aligned with the municipality's land use management system. The accompanying MSA Regulations specify the required content of an SDF and reinforce its role in linking spatial planning with land use decisions.

Before the MSA, South African spatial planning primarily relied on Guide Plans and Structure Plans. While helpful in setting spatial vision, these earlier planning tools often failed to connect with municipalities' fiscal and operational realities. A key advancement introduced by the MSA was its requirement that the SDF include a capital investment framework, directly tying spatial planning to the municipal budget and broader development programmes.

The enactment of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA), Act 16 of 2013, and the Land Use Planning Act (LUPA), Act 3 of 2014, further expanded the scope, content, and legal authority of SDFs. SPLUMA provides detailed guidance on what should be included in an SDF, while LUPA outlines the procedural steps municipalities must follow during its preparation.

One of the most critical developments introduced by SPLUMA is found in Section 22(1). This provision states that a Municipal Planning Tribunal or any decision-making authority cannot approve a land development application that is inconsistent with the municipality's SDF, unless justified by site-specific circumstances. If no such justification exists, the SDF must first be amended before the application can be approved.

This represents a significant shift in the legal status of the SDF. Under the MSA, the SDF functioned mainly as a guiding policy document. SPLUMA, however, elevates the SDF to a legally binding planning instrument, ensuring that municipal land use decisions are aligned with long-term spatial planning goals and that ad hoc, inconsistent development is curtailed.

Integration between the SDF and other sector plans is critical. The SDF needs to be guided by the spatial requirements of these plans and, in turn, spatially reflect where these requirements will be met. All of this must happen with an understanding of the existing levels of infrastructure provision within the municipality and where any

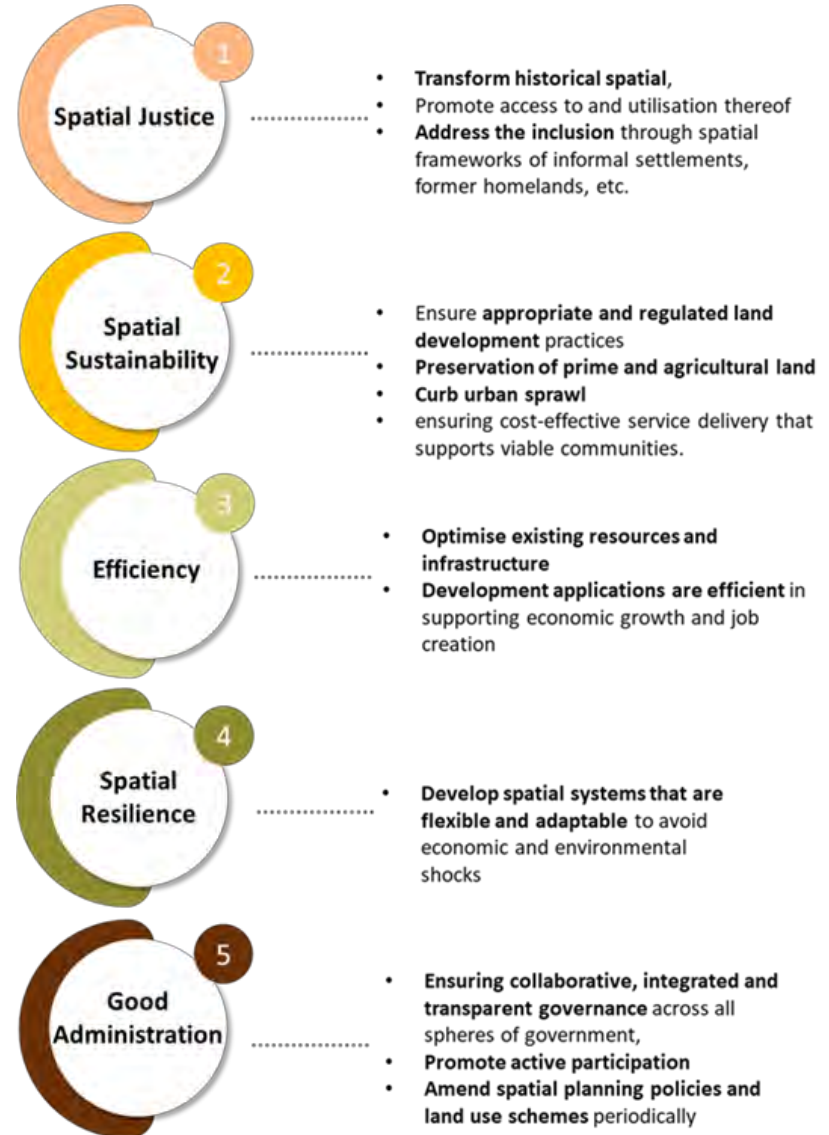


shortfalls exist. Additionally, the SDF needs to address the cost of providing infrastructure to meet any shortfalls in the short and medium terms. The Act influences the SDF and should be considered as another baseline when proposals are being made in the project's later phases.

2.1.2.3. Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act 16 of 2013

The Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA), Act No. 16 of 2013, is South Africa's primary legislation governing spatial planning, land use management, and land development. It establishes a coherent and uniform system that applies across national, provincial, and local spheres of government. As such, the frameworks are grounded in five core development principles: spatial justice, spatial sustainability, efficiency, spatial resilience, and good administration. These five principles not only guide the formulation and adoption of the SDF but also the development of any related policies or bylaws concerning land use and spatial planning. Below provides a description of each principle;

Diagram 6: SPLUMA Principles



Consequently, the review and update of the Sekhukhune District Municipality's SDF will be directly informed by SPLUMA's key provisions. These provisions aim to support efficient, integrated, and sustainable spatial planning and land-use management across the municipal area. In implementing this SDF, the SDM must ensure that its strategic objectives align with the SPLUMA development principles while integrating national and provincial spatial policies and plans that apply to or influence the district. This alignment is critical to fostering coherent development and maximising the impact of planning efforts across governance levels.

2.1.2.4. Medium-Term Strategic Framework, 2019-2024

The MTSF 2019-2024 promotes alignment, coordination and ultimately full integration of all development planning instruments into an integrated framework bearing results without duplication, role conflict and development contradictions, better coordination of implementation through the district-based delivery model. It provides a mechanism for alignment of various development planning frameworks (IDPs, SDF and APPs).

It will bring much-needed focus on government development planning, which provides for partnerships, coordination of state entities, social compacts, and an active citizenry. It will also aim to fast-track spatial transformation to ensure that the location of projects addresses spatial inequalities and priorities. The main aim of the framework in rural areas is to improve land administration and spatial planning for integrated development, with a bias towards rural areas. Sustainable rural enterprises and industries are characterised by strong rural-urban linkages, increased investment in agro-processing, trade development, and access to markets and financial services. It also improves integration and coordination of rural development across all spheres of government and between government departments due to the implementation of synchronised rural development strategies.

MTSF also has a spatial dimension that supports national and local development. The drive towards spatial transformation seeks to redress the Apartheid spatial planning system. This is articulated in the strategic interventions in Priority 5 of the MTSF. The spatialisation of the MTSF will be achieved inter alia through the National Spatial Development Framework (NSDF) and the District Development Model. The National Spatial Action Areas provide the guidance for an improved, inclusive and cohesive spatial logic that aims to ensure spatial justice and more effectively address the triple threat of poverty, unemployment, and inequality.

2.1.2.5. National Development Plan, 2023

The National Development Plan (NDP) is a strategic framework to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality in South Africa by 2030. The NDP alludes to the following key priority areas;

- **An economy that will create increased job creation** and initiatives tailored to local resources and sectors, such as agriculture, tourism and manufacturing, as well as promoting small businesses to unlock rural economies;
- **Improving infrastructure** to advance the quality of life and enabling business growth;
- **Encourage the adoption of low-carbon initiatives**, a green economy and a climate-resilient development and infrastructure;
- **Advocate for an inclusive settlement planning**, better public transport, and equal access to services, helping to integrate fragmented communities and improve urban-rural linkages;
- **Provide access to quality education, skills development programs and training**, and digital learning to increase access for all;
- Ensure **quality health care** in both urban and remote rural areas;



- **Social protection**, particularly for vulnerable populations through social grants, housing support, nutrition programs;
- **Foster safety in communities** through the implementation of community safety forums, crime prevention programs to reduce high levels of crime;
- **Build a capable, transparent and accountable public sector** by way of ensuring administrative efficiency, employing capable human resources, providing the necessary skills, and ensuring service delivery;
- **Implementation of anti-corruption policies**, encourage law enforcement and community engagement platforms so as to build trust and accountability; and
- **Transforming society and uniting** through inclusive governance, cultural programs, and community dialogues, to build social cohesion and cooperation.

With that, the NDP recognises the need for new spatial norms and standards that include densification, transformation of human settlements, improving public transport, locating jobs where people live, upgrading informal settlements and addressing critical gaps in the housing market. The plan strongly advocates for a review of the current planning system, with a focus on ensuring that municipalities develop spatial restructuring strategies with precise implementation mechanisms and identify priority precincts for spatial restructuring. The plan stresses the need for a balanced approach between rural and urban development.

2.1.2.6. National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, 2019

The National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy serves as the cornerstone for climate change adaptation in the country, reflecting a unified, coherent, cross-sectoral, and economy-wide approach to climate change adaptation. To achieve its mandate, the strategy outlines priority areas for adaptation to guide adaptation efforts and inform resource allocation. These include the following critical priorities;

- Build climate resilience and adaptive capacity to respond to climate change risk and vulnerability;
- Promote the integration of climate change adaptation response into development objectives, policy, planning and implementation;
- Build intergovernmental coordination to jointly address climate risks across all government spheres, outlining the roles of each institution and ensuring support, particularly for local municipalities as implementing agents
- Increase access to information to build awareness, and further research and innovation that would support climate-adaptive solutions

The National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (NCCAS) requires municipalities to develop Spatial Development Frameworks (SDFs) that, among other objectives, identify the long-term risks associated with specific patterns of growth and development, and outline the policies and strategies needed to mitigate those risks. The strategy (NCCAS) supports this process by offering climate risk profiles and recommended adaptation actions, which can be integrated into SDFs to promote climate-resilient planning.

A number of national policies and legislations promote the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation into spatial and developmental plans. Disaster Management Act, 2002 (The strategy can support compliance with the Act by providing information that can be used to expand municipal disaster management plans to include risk assessments and risk mapping for functional areas and for areas with vulnerable populations, and also by providing adaptation actions to reduce these risks).

2.1.2.7. Agricultural Policy Action Plan 2015

The intention of the Agricultural Policy Action Plan (APAP) is to drive inclusive growth, job creation, and food security in South Africa's agricultural sector by transforming and revitalising agriculture, agro-processing, and related industries.



The policy promotes food security by advocating for increased commercial and subsistence production, diversifying agricultural commodities through value chains, and promoting access to land and markets to increase agriculture's contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The Agricultural Policy Action Plan aligns itself with the New Growth Path (NGP), the National Development Plan (NDP) and Industrial Policy Action Plan (IPAP), IPAP seeks to assist in the achievement of outcome 4, decent employment through inclusive growth, and that of outcome 7, comprehensive rural development and food security. The goals could include issues such as biosecurity, food security, reducing rural poverty, or increasing economic value through cash crops, improved food distribution, or food processing.

The policy implementation in the SDM SDF aims to ensure a profitable and competitive small and medium agro-processing industry that will significantly contribute to reducing poverty, unemployment, and inequality, as outlined in the NDP, IDP, and NSDF.

2.1.2.8. Industrial Policy Action Plan 2014-2015

The policy aims to diversify South Africa's economy by reducing dependence on traditional commodities and non-tradable services. This involves promoting increased value addition per capita, notably by expanding innovative and unconventional equipment, goods and services that are competitive in domestic and international markets. A critical focus of the policy is on fostering a more labour-absorbing industrial path, emphasising labour-intensive, tradable sectors and developing economic linkages that drive job creation. The policy also promotes an inclusive industrialisation model from raw materials to end-user products, encouraging greater regional participation and accommodating the historically disadvantaged and marginalised population in the formal industrial economy

(Carew, 2001). Additionally, it contributes to regional industrial development in Africa, with a strong focus on building productive capabilities across the continent.

In that, the policy will guide the spatial redevelopment of industrial activities within the District Municipality. Such redevelopment aims to optimise the location benefits for key sectors and enable them to maximise the advantages inherent in clustering. In this manner, the District Municipality can facilitate a business environment where efficiency and productivity in all spheres are maintained at internationally competitive levels.

2.1.2.9. Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP)

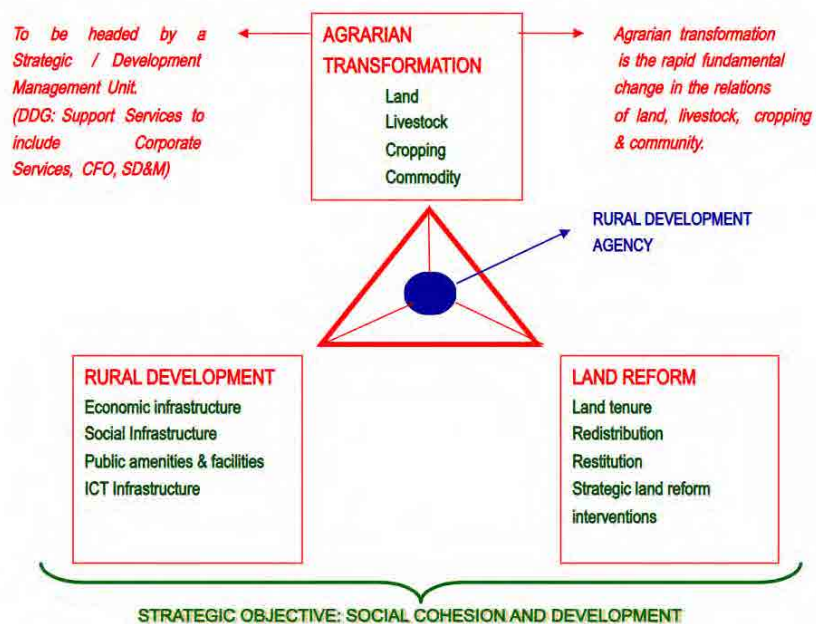
The Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) is an initiative that aims to revitalise rural areas by addressing infrastructure deficits, stimulating economic development, and empowering local communities. The objective of this initiative is to ensure secure land tenure, improve the quality of life in rural areas through effective service delivery, and ensure stable livelihoods and food security.

The CRDP focuses on transforming rural areas to achieve social cohesion and inclusive economic growth. Its primary objectives include achieving the following. Refer to **Diagram 11**, which depicts the three key strategies listed below;

- **Agrarian Transformation:** Promoting sustainable agricultural practices to enhance food security and create employment opportunities;
- **Rural Development:** Improving access to basic services, infrastructure, and economic opportunities in rural communities;
- **Land Reform:** Facilitating equitable land redistribution and ensuring its productive use.



Diagram 7: The Comprehensive Rural Development Programme Concept



Source: Department of Rural Development and Land Reform

The Sekhukhune Spatial Development Framework (SDF) is shaped by three key strategic thrusts, each aimed at fostering sustainable rural development, economic growth, and land reform:

1. Agrarian Transformation

- Promote the development of rural and agro-industries, cooperatives, local markets, and cultural initiatives.

- Support increased agricultural production and the sustainable use of natural resources, including exploring diverse plant and animal species for food and economic purposes.
- Strengthen agricultural value chains to boost local economies.

2. Rural Development

- Improve access to community and social infrastructure, focusing on well-resourced clinics.
- Develop and rehabilitate infrastructure essential for economic growth, such as:
 - Transport and distribution networks
 - Agricultural facilities
 - Water and energy infrastructure
 - Storage, market, retail, and telecom systems
 - Invest in social infrastructure; health, education, etc.

3. Land Reform

- Advance restitution, tenure reform, and land redistribution in a fair and sustainable manner.
- Expand land access for previously disadvantaged individuals.
- Establish Agri-villages to promote local economic development on farming land.
- Ensure the availability of accurate land claims data and maintain a reliable property registration system.
- Provide land-related information and spatial planning services to assist government and private sector entities in planning, development, and investment activities.

2.1.2.10. Sustainable Human Settlement: Breaking New Ground 2004

This policy marks a shift in focus from the government's earlier approach of simply providing housing to a more comprehensive strategy aimed at creating sustainable human settlements that address the social and economic needs of communities in their daily lives (Makie, 2021). The new human settlements plan strengthens the Department of Human Settlements' vision of building an integrated and inclusive society by developing sustainable, well-planned communities and delivering quality housing and service delivery. It emphasises accelerating housing delivery as a key tool for poverty alleviation while also positioning housing as a driver of job creation and a means for all citizens to access property as a source of wealth and empowerment.

The housing policy aims to assist the SDF in addressing housing needs and backlogs by identifying areas for residential intensification, infill and redevelopment, new residential expansion areas that would be supported by public transport, service delivery and increased accessibility to social and economic opportunities. It also promotes access to housing opportunities, which include secure tenure, basic services, and support for achieving incremental housing improvements in living environments with requisite social, economic, and physical infrastructure.

2.1.2.11. Nine-Point Initiative Plan

The Nine-Point Plan was introduced in 2015 to address the structural challenges that have hindered the performance of the country's domestic economy and its ability to meet economic and development advancement. Its primary objective is to stimulate economic growth through Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI), positioning it as a key driver for immediate and long-term development and focusing on addressing key challenges such as electricity shortages, revitalising agriculture, and advancing marine industrial innovation, achieving the following;

- Strengthening the National System of Innovation (NSI)

- Aligning publicly funded research institutions with government priorities
- Building the research and innovation capacity needed at each phase of the plan
- Leveraging knowledge and innovation to drive sustainable economic development

The policy directly relates to Sekhukhune, particularly by focusing on unlocking the potential of SMMEs, cooperatives, and township and rural enterprises. These sectors are critical for local economic development and job creation in the district. The plan also prioritises resolving energy constraints, which seriously challenge national growth and local livelihoods. In response, the Local Spatial Development Framework (LSDF) for Sekhukhune has identified the need to promote solar energy projects in Limpopo to address electricity shortages. This aligns with the SDF's role in guiding the efficient allocation of resources, infrastructure planning, and supporting sustainable energy initiatives

Additionally, the plan supports broader development through investments in ICT infrastructure, broadband rollout, and essential services like water, sanitation, and transport, all of which are critical enablers of spatial and economic transformation within the Sekhukhune District.

2.1.2.12. National Spatial Development Framework

The National Planning Commission in 2010, followed by the adoption of the National Development Plan (NDP) 2030 in 2012, laid the foundation for long-term strategic planning in South Africa. Chapter 8 of the NDP, titled *Transforming Human Settlements and the National Space Economy*, specifically highlighted the need for a National Spatial Development Framework (NSDF) to guide spatial transformation and development throughout the country.



NSDF Vision Statement:

“All Our People Living in Shared and Transformed Places in an Integrated, Sustainable and Competitive National Space Economy”

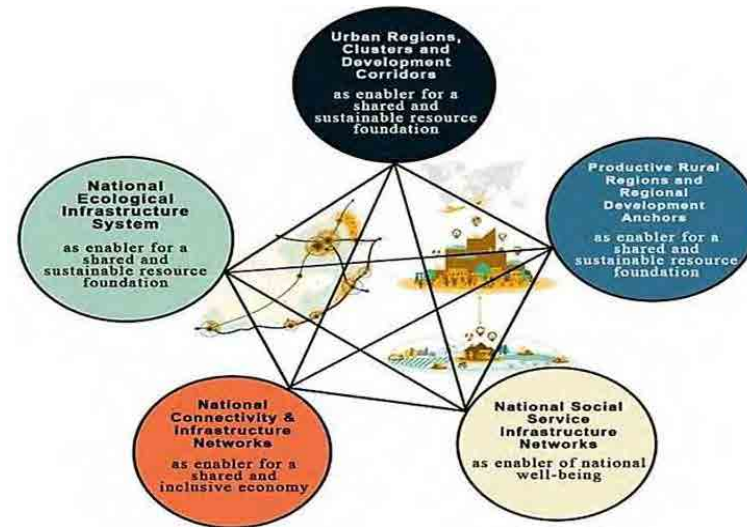
NSDF Mission Statement:

“Making our Common Desired Spatial Future Together Through Better Planning, Investment, Delivery and Monitoring”

The National Spatial Development Framework (NSDF) aims to accelerate spatial transformation and promote equitable development outcomes across South Africa. It does so with full recognition of two critical imperatives: (1) the urgent need to redress the enduring spatial legacy of apartheid, and (2) the magnitude of transformation required, particularly in terms of planning approach, resource allocation, and state capacity. The NSDF seeks to reverse segregated development patterns and significantly enhance the spatial quality, liveability, vibrancy, and economic potential of areas where Black communities reside. To support this, the plan provides a mandate to ensure more inclusive, equitable and balanced spatial development.

The *Spatial Development Vision and Mission* that is proposed for the country, based on these drivers, builds on the overarching goal of *equity, unity and connectedness*, and reads as follows:

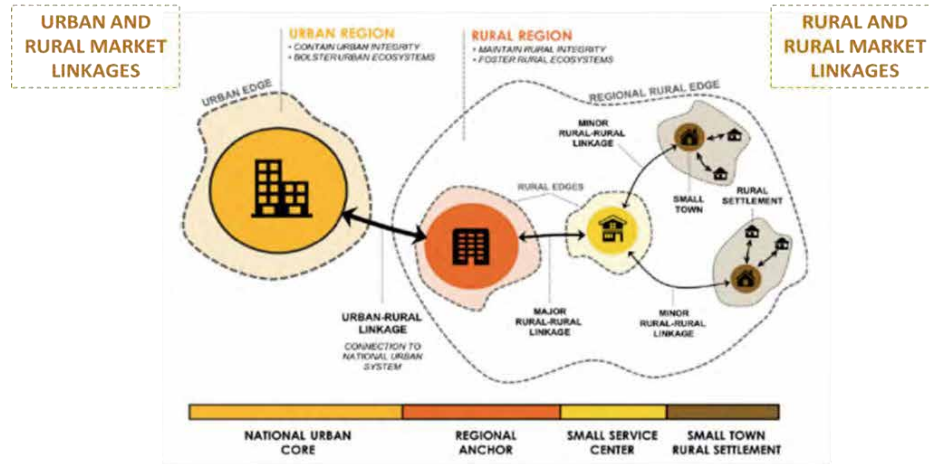
Diagram 8: NSDF – Five Frame to achieve a desired future spatial pattern



The National Spatial Development Framework advocates for the concept of nodal development to create support between nodal hierarchies to ensure socio-economic support, for lower-order nodes and rural economic markets continue to flourish. **Diagram 9** below illustrates the Conceptual Urban-Rural Market Linkages and Rural-Rural Market Linkages, which are connected via the National Urban System's 'strategic movement corridor,' binding these distinct nodes/markets.

Diagram 9: Urban-Rural Region Model and Rural-Rural Region Model

NATIONAL SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK
URBAN-RURAL REGION MODEL



Source: National Spatial Development Framework

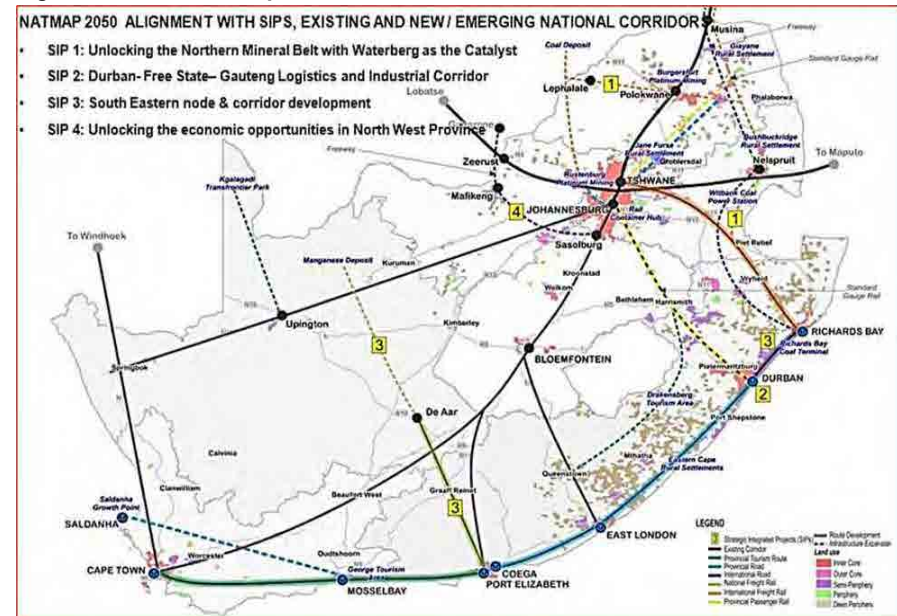
Additionally, it recognises the significance of rural markets, which offer resources and a labour force needed by urban areas to sustain the economy and its population. This creates a symbiotic relationship between urban and rural markets, with rural markets serving as the backbone of production and urban markets driving demand. With the enviable population increase in urban areas, rural areas suffer from the pressure of production, and more so, the need to introduce innovative agricultural practices that will ensure output, improve efficiency, and delivery of products.

2.1.2.13. National Transport Master Plan (MATMAP 2050)

The National Transport Master Plan (NATMAP) is a long-term strategic framework designed to guide the development of South Africa’s transport system up to 2050. It

aims to create an integrated, efficient, sustainable transport network supporting economic growth, social development, and environmental sustainability. The plan aims to enhance connectivity and access between urban and rural environments, providing a strategic framework for future road and rail infrastructure investments. This alignment ensures consistency with national development goals and spatial policies.

Figure 3: National Transport Master Plan



2.1.2.14. National Growth Path

The New Growth Path (NGP) aims to promote sustainable economic growth and eradicate poverty by expanding employment opportunities, increasing household incomes, and enhancing equity and income distribution. It supports the growth of

REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

domestic and regional markets while enhancing the global competitiveness of South African goods and services by focusing more strongly on exports to regional and emerging markets.

The NGP prioritises sectors with high job creation potential, primarily driven by the private sector, to ensure strong and inclusive growth over the next decade. At the core of the strategy is a significant investment in infrastructure, seen as a key catalyst for stimulating employment and economic activity across various sectors.

The framework identifies five key investment areas, namely energy, transport, communication, water, and housing. This statement expresses that investment in these key areas will create jobs in the construction, operation, and maintenance of infrastructure. The new growth path views the infrastructure programme as a catalyst to develop a local supplier industry that manufactures components for the build programme.

With that, the Sekhukhune District Municipality Spatial Development Framework needs to spatially accommodate the Job Drivers of the New Growth Path and the Industrial Policy Action Plan, which involve infrastructure development for employment and development, including:

- i. Industrial areas
- ii. Infrastructure
- iii. The Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) attends to a large rural population
- iv. Tourism, agriculture, mining, and agro-processing strategic interventions (Job Driver 2)
- v. The green economy aims to ensure the conservation of the environment, providing employment opportunities in the mining, agricultural, and tourism sectors.

The objectives of sustainable development to support the alleviation of poverty need to form an integral part of decision-making at the Sekhukhune District Municipality. The optimal integration of social, economic, institutional, political, physical, and engineering services into decision-making is a prerequisite for coherent growth. The plan has an influence on the SDF and should potentially be considered as another baseline when proposals are being made in the later phases of the project.



PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION

2.1.5. PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION

2.1.3.1. Limpopo Development Plan 2020-2050

Vision

“The Limpopo Development Plan envisions a “resilient, vibrant, and prosperous Province”

The LSDF plays both a directive and coordinating role in planning and implementation in the province. It sets the strategic direction for sector planning and municipal planning in the province. The framework aligns with the National Development Plan (NDP) Vision 2023, the National Spatial Development Framework (NSDF), and the Medium-term Development Plan (MTDP) priorities. To realise the objectives outlined in above mentioned policies and other higher-level strategic policies such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the African Union’s Agenda 2063, the Limpopo Development Plan aligns with and reinforces these priorities at the provincial level, while also articulating a spatial vision that reflects the province’s spatial context. To facilitate alignment between planning and implementation, this tool guides the spatial targeting of investment and spending in the province.

The LSDF provides a strategic link between national and municipal spatial planning, interpreting the NSDF into provincial realities to improve the economy and socio-economic imbalances.

The following presents the aim of the Limpopo Development Plan;

- Establish a strategic framework that supports inclusive economic growth, social advancement, and environmental preservation;
- Align provincial initiatives with national development priorities;
- Promote coordinated planning and resource mobilisation throughout the province and across sectors;
- Stimulate industrialisation and job creation; and
- Promote equitable development to benefit all communities.

2.1.3.2. Limpopo Spatial Development Framework (LSDF)

The Limpopo Provincial Spatial Development Framework was developed as one of the requirements mandated by SPLUMA. The aim of the Limpopo Spatial Development Framework (LSDF) is to promote social, economic and environmental sustainability throughout the province and to ensure that it has relevance to the development needs of all the dispersed urban and rural communities in the Limpopo Province, which it represents. It envisions a provincial spatial structure where the natural environment and valuable agricultural land in rural areas are protected for future generations, with a strong, diverse and growing economy focused around a range of nodal areas that offer its residents high-quality living environments and good job opportunities in a sustainable manner.

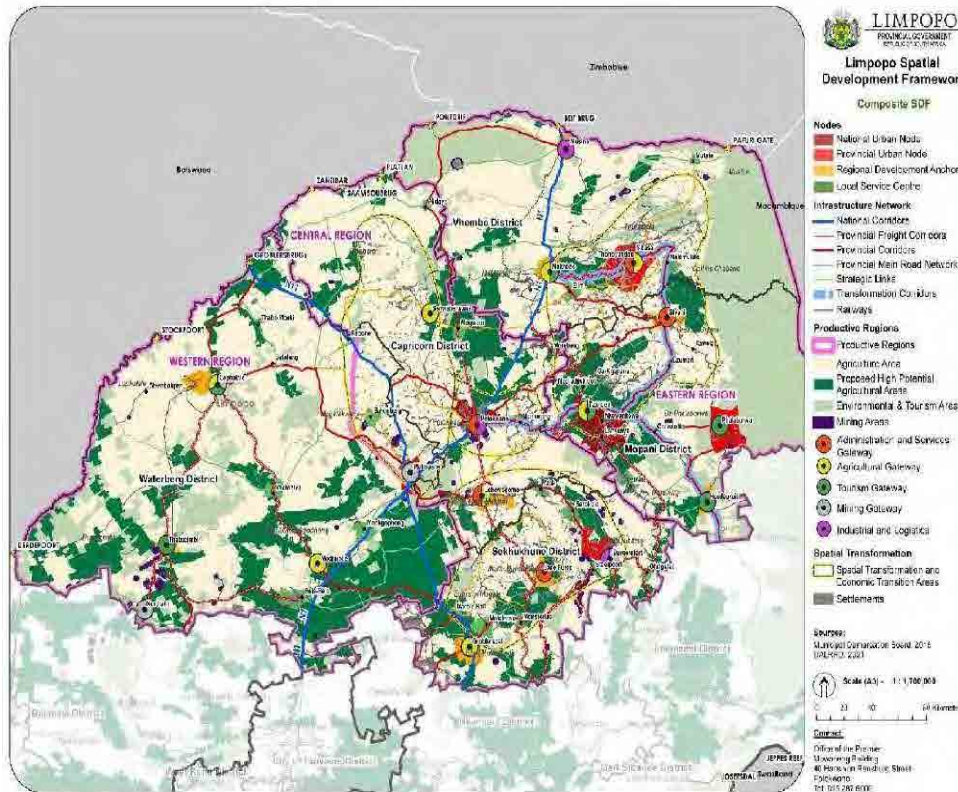
The spatial development objectives of the Limpopo Spatial Development Framework are the following:

- Capitalise on the Province's strategic location within the SADC region

- to facilitate trade links and regional cooperation on resource sharing;
- Capitalise on, and improve regional and local connectivity to establish a connected network of nodes and settlements;
- Provide a strategic and coherent rationale for public sector investment, including engineering, community and economic infrastructure, to optimise service delivery;
- Encourage urban and rural spatial restructuring and sustainable human settlement as a necessity;
- Aggressively protect and enhance the province's natural resources, including scarce fresh water sources and high biodiversity landscapes;
- Ensuring the preservation of the province's valuable agricultural land as a scarce resource and national asset;
- Consolidate and enhance the province's ecotourism product;
- Encourage and institutionalise the sustainable development of its massive mineral potential and encourage diversification and industrialisation through green economy initiatives; and
- Create an enabling environment for both large- and small-scale business development (retail, office, commercial, industrial).



Figure 4.1: Limpopo SDF



1.5.3.3. The Provincial Development Framework (PSDF)

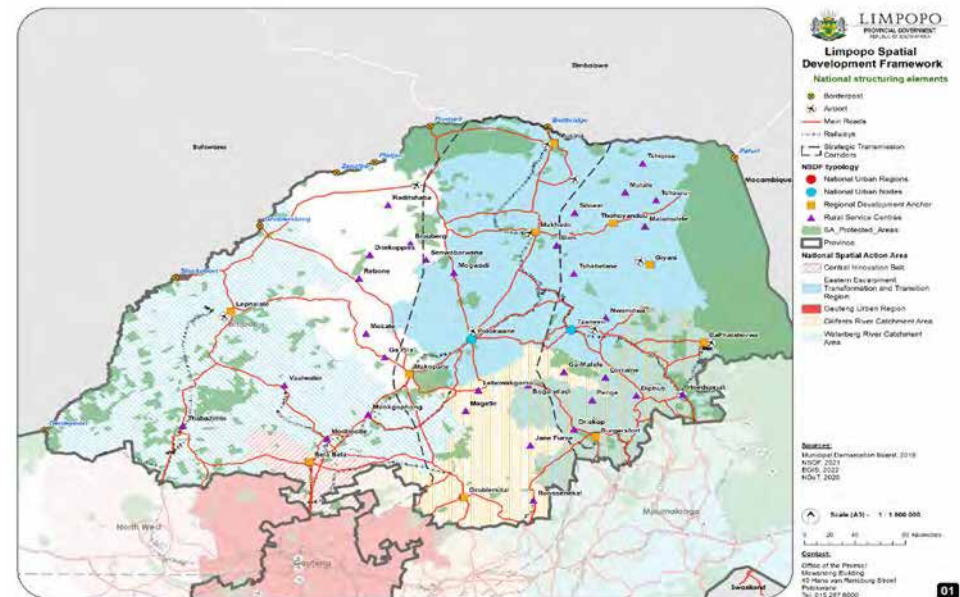
- Serves the purpose of spatial justice, spatial sustainability, efficiency, spatial resilience and good administration, integrates necessary functionalities and linkages within the spheres of government;
- Delivering a multitude of services linked to an integrated development approach in the province. includes the new planning paradigm implementation, integrates and sufficiently provides an economically and socially balanced development between rural and urban areas in the province;
- Aims to reduce the spatial fragmentation which poses major developmental challenges in spite of the existence of several initiatives and programmes;
- Facilitate efficient spatial targeting through the identification of a range of provincial, district, municipal and rural nodal points to serve as focal points for investment and service delivery;
- Establish a multi-modal transport network to optimise the movement of people and goods between nodes within the province and to all major destinations in Southern Africa;
- Direct engineering infrastructure investment towards the priority nodal points where the majority of economic activity and human settlement will establish;
- Prioritise consolidation of community infrastructure at the identified nodal points and in line with the concept of multi-purpose Thusong Centres/ Rural Development Centres in Rural Nodes;
- Create conditions conducive to development in multi-functional business areas and implement Urban Revitalisation Strategies in such areas where required;
- Optimise the utilisation of the agricultural potential of Limpopo Province to provide sustainable livelihoods to marginalised communities in rural areas in partnership with commercial farms;

REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

- Utilise the provincial environmental resources as attractions to promote sustainable tourism development (and conservation) in all parts of the province;
- Promote mining activity and associated job creation potential in an environmentally sustainable manner;
- Address industrial sectoral diversification by way of area-specific investment in high-value production and value-added technologies and industries;
- Within the Sekhukhune District Municipality, an Agri hub for agro-processing should be established at Groblersdal, and
- Sustainable Human Settlement in urban and rural areas

From the various strategic initiatives planned in the province, nine were defined as the High Impact Growth Catalytic Programmes for Limpopo Province. The programmes are illustrated in the Figure below and are a clear summary of the key initiatives to drive economic diversification and growth in the province.

Figure 4.2: National Structuring Elements

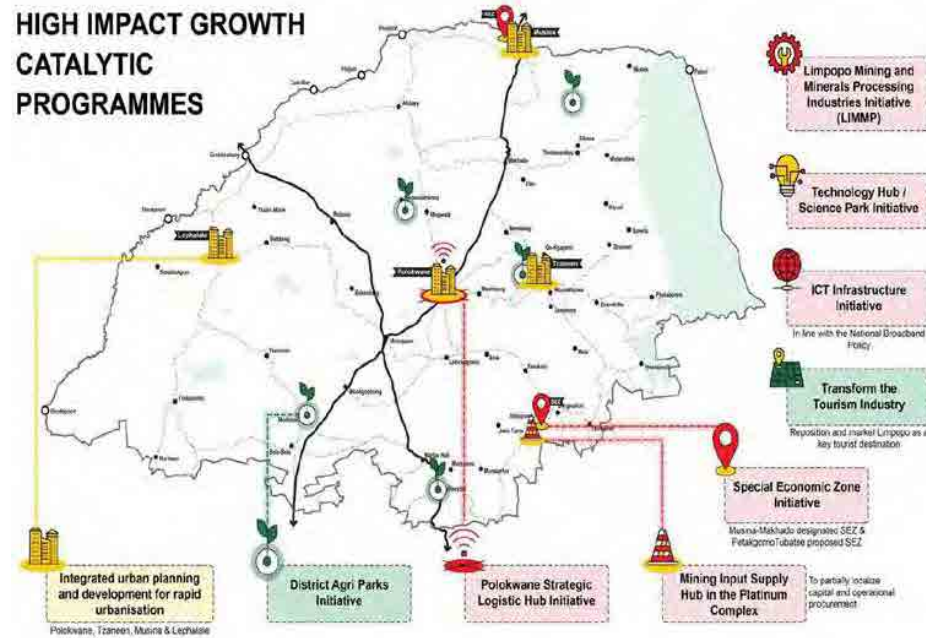


2.1.3.3. Provincial Nodal Strategy and Growth Point Programme

The programme is a key component of South Africa's broader Provincial Growth and Development Strategies (PGDS). It is also referred to as the provincial nodal strategy, which applies the spatial nodal hierarchy in the allocation of public investment. Ten priority provincial growth points were identified, but due to a lack of implementation over the last decade, five priority provincial growth points for the current administration were identified. These include:

- Lephalale in the Waterberg District,
- Polokwane in the Capricorn,
- Musina-Makhado Corridor in the Vhembe District,
- Fetakgomo Tubatse in the Sekhukhune District and
- Tzaneen in the Mopani District.

Figure 4.3: Limpopo High-impact growth catalytic programmes



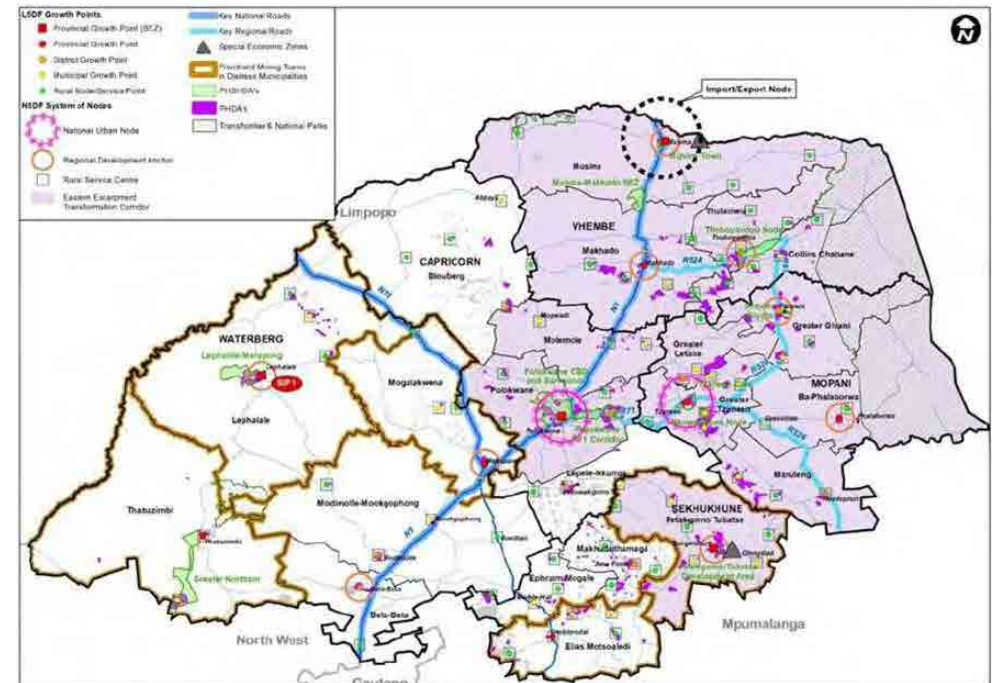
2.1.3.4. Limpopo Multi-Year Human Settlement Development Plan 2019-2024

The MYHSDP aimed to address the province's human settlement challenges by aligning development with other provincial plans and promoting sustainable and integrated settlements. The plan also made a unique proposal, namely, to align human settlement development with other national and provincial initiatives related to spatial targeting, consolidation and prioritised investment for asset poverty alleviation.

2.1.3.5. Limpopo Multi-Year Human Settlement Development Plan 2019-2024

The goal of the Limpopo Revitalisation of Agriculture and Agro-processing Value Chain (RAAVC) Plan, approved in June 2021, is to increase agricultural production, promote agro-processing, and foster economic growth. which should result in job creation, improved food security, and enhanced rural livelihoods, as well as foreign exchange earnings through increased exports, and an overall contribution to the provincial socio-economic recovery.

Figure 4.4: Limpopo MHS DP 2019-2024 Spatial targeting areas



2.1.3.6. Limpopo Revitalisation of Agriculture and Agro-Processing Value Chain Plan, 2021

The goal of the Limpopo Revitalisation of Agriculture and Agro-processing Value Chain (RAAVC) Plan, approved in June 2021, is to increase agricultural production, promote agro-processing, and foster economic growth. This should result in job creation, improved food security, enhanced rural livelihoods, increased foreign exchange earnings through exports, and a significant contribution to the provincial socio-economic recovery.

2.1.3.7. Limpopo Industrial Master Plan 2020-2030

The Limpopo Industrial Master Plan is a strategic framework aligned with the Limpopo Development Plan (LDP) and the National Development Plan (NDP). Its aim is to stimulate industrial growth, create jobs, and improve the province's economy by focusing on key sectors like mining, agriculture, and tourism. The plan also emphasises the development of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and Industrial Parks, including the development of the Musina-Makhado SEZ.

2.1.3.8. Limpopo Tourism Growth Strategy

The strategy is a holistic and integrated tourism plan closely aligned with the Revised National Tourism Sector Strategy (2016-2026). Its aim is to leverage the province's unique tourism assets for economic growth and development, while addressing current issues specifically related to the tourism sector environment in the Limpopo Province. With a focus on promoting ecotourism and sustainable tourism practices. The plan was a comprehensive framework designed to harness the province's tourism potential, promote sustainable development, and contribute to the province's overall economic prosperity.

2.1.3.9. Limpopo Green Economy Plan

The plan has short-term, medium-term, and long-term goals, which include creating jobs and improving environmental quality as short-term objectives. Medium-term goals involve creating enabling conditions for green growth, changing behavioural and production patterns, and building a new economic/environmental paradigm for Limpopo as the long-term goal. The Limpopo Green Economy Plan focuses on the local production and consumption, encompassing the efficient use of energy, water, and care of natural and created resources. The Limpopo Province has the potential to be the national pioneer in the Green Economy due to:

- The perfect geographic situation to develop a variety of green industries and economies of scale.
- The invaluable mineral resource base for local beneficiation.
- Unexploited biodiversity resources for green tourism and payment for ecosystem services
- Vibrant young population to enthusiastically engage in new, innovative, and developmental economic activities.



DISTRICT POLICIES

2.1.1.6. DISTRICT POLICIES

2.1.4.1. Sekhukhune Integrated Development Plan

The Integrated Development Plan (IDP) is a comprehensive business plan designed to identify developmental needs and provide guidelines on achieving identified goals that align with the municipality's budget. The SDM's vision is to be "an innovative leader in integrated economic development and sustainable



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

service delivery”. The deliverables of the SDM Integrated Development Plan (IDP) support this vision and seek to align and integrate with provincial and national policies through the following strategic priorities:

- Economic growth, development, and job creation
- Access to basic services and infrastructure
- Spatial development and sustainable land use practices
- Active community participation and Inter-Governmental Co-operation
- Community development and social cohesion
- Accountable and Clean Governance

2.1.4.2. Adjacent District Spatial Development Frameworks

The Sekhukhune District Municipality in Limpopo is bordered by four other district municipalities: Capricorn to the north, Mopani to the east, Ehlanzeni to the south-east, and Waterberg to the north-west. Additionally, it also borders Nkangala to the south.

I. Mopani District Municipality – Spatial Development Framework (2025)

The Mopani District SDF outlines the following spatial development proposals;

- It identifies the need for infrastructure development to support growth and improve living conditions in the district.
- Desired spatial structure for the district, including the location of key nodes, corridors, and areas for different land uses
- The SDF ensures that spatial planning is integrated with other municipal plans and strategies, including the Integrated Development Plan (IDP), and aligned with provincial and national spatial planning initiatives;
- The SDF incorporates principles of environmental sustainability, aiming to minimise negative impacts on the environment and promote responsible resource management.
- considers economic development opportunities and promotes strategies to create jobs and improve the livelihoods of residents.

Figure 5.1: Mopani District Municipality SDF, 2025 Composite Plan



II. Capricorn District Municipality (2025)

The SDF addresses various aspects, including:

- **Spatial Structure:** Defining the spatial organization of the district, including settlement patterns, infrastructure networks, and land use zones.
- **Economic Development:** Promoting economic growth and diversification through strategic land use planning and infrastructure development.
- **Social Development:** Ensuring access to basic services, housing, and other social amenities for all residents.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** Protecting natural resources and promoting environmentally friendly development practices.

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- Alignment with Other Plans:
The SDF is aligned with the District Development Model (DDM) One Plan and the Limpopo Spatial Development Framework (LSDF), ensuring a cohesive approach to development across different planning levels.
- Implementation:
The SDF guides the implementation of various spatial planning and land use management activities within the district.

Figure 5.2: Capricorn District Municipality SDF, 2025 Consolidated Plan



manage and enhance the Waterberg Biosphere, a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve, while also addressing economic development and settlement priorities. As such, it highlights the following development proposals;

- The policy recognises the importance of the Waterberg Biosphere for conservation and eco-tourism, emphasising the need to protect its ecological integrity.
- Provides guidance on land use, infrastructure development, and settlement patterns within the district, aiming for balanced and sustainable growth.
- Outlines priorities for settlement development, focusing on areas with higher potential and addressing needs in a strategic manner.

Figure 5.3: Waterberg District Municipality SDF, 2021 Composite Plan



III. Waterberg District Municipality (2025)

The Waterberg SDF refers to the Spatial Development Framework (SDF) of the Waterberg District Municipality in Limpopo, South Africa. It's a strategic document that guides spatial planning and development within the district, aligning with the broader provincial and national spatial development frameworks. The SDF aims to



IV. Nkangala District Municipality

The Nkangala District Municipality's Spatial Development Framework (SDF) guides spatial planning and development within the district, and thus highlights the spatial recommendations.

Key Focus Areas:

- The district is strategically located, bordering Gauteng and hosting the Maputo Corridor, which offers significant economic development potential.
- The SDF addresses issues like land use management, infrastructure development, environmental sustainability, and economic development;
- It aligns with national and provincial policies, including the National Spatial Development Perspective and the Growth and Development Strategy (GDS) of the province;
- The SDF recognises a hierarchy of service centres within the district. Cities act as primary service centres, while towns like Delmas and Belfast serve as secondary centres, providing services to the surrounding rural areas'
- Nkangala District Municipality includes six local municipalities: Victor Khanye, Emalahleni, Steve Tshwete, Emakhazeni, Thembisile Hani, and Dr JS Moroka.

V. Ehlanzeni District Municipality

The Ehlanzeni District Municipality aims to promote spatial justice, sustainability, efficiency, and resilience and as such highlights the following key aspects;

- The SDF serves as a framework for spatial development, guiding land use and development activities within the district.
- It integrates various functionalities and linkages across different spheres of government.
- It helps to harmonize and integrate societal activities and issues through planning policies and directives.

- It ensures a uniform approach to growth and development across different levels of government.
- It provides a legal framework, including goals, principles, guidelines, and statements, to steer development within the district.

The following page provides the Spatial Development Framework maps of the relevant District Municipalities except Nkangala and Ehlanzeni Districts, for which we await inputs.





SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

SECTION THREE

STATUS QUO



3. DISTRICT SPATIAL STRUCTURE

The section below highlights the spatial structure of a district municipality, alluding to the physical attributes of the municipal landscape, including its natural features and the built environment. This will ultimately provide a lens through which to assess these different attributes and, accordingly, their interrelationship, which collectively constitute the makeup of the district's landscape.

3.1. SPATIAL STRUCTURE

Figure 6.1 illustrates the spatial structure and settlement pattern within the district, which is predominantly dispersed. This scattered distribution is largely a legacy of apartheid-era planning, the various traditional structures, and the influence of the area's ecological footprint traversing the northern and eastern extents. The majority of the population is predominantly in the central and northwestern areas, while the eastern escarpment along the northern boundary has restricted further expansion in that direction. It is evident that the majority of the population is concentrated in the central and northwestern parts of the district, and the presence of the eastern escarpment along the northern boundary has constrained further expansion in that direction.

A continuous pattern of human settlement is evident in the northern parts of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, extending northward along the R579 and R555 regional routes into Makhuduthamaga and further into Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality. Subsequently, a continual settlement pattern forms in a north-westward direction, extending into the Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality. Lesser developed areas, with little or no settlement are realised in parts of the Elias Motsoaledi and Ephraim Mogale, where it is most predominated by agriculture. Only a relatively

small settlement cluster is evident in the far southern part of the district along the municipal borders.

The mountainous terrain has a significant influence on settlement patterns, acting as a natural constraint on where people settle and shaping the prospects for future development. Notable mountain ranges are most prominent in the northern parts of the district, south of the R37, within the Fetakgomo-Tubatse and Makhuduthamaga municipalities, as well as along the eastern boundary of Elias Motsoaledi, where protected areas such as the De Hoop Nature Reserve and the Kwaggavoetpad Nature Reserve are located.

Shown in **Figure 6.2** is the distribution of development intensity across the district municipality, highlighting areas ranging from densely developed to less developed. As shown, the most densely developed areas are located along national and regional routes. These include Groblersdal in Elias Motsoaledi, the Jane Furse business node in Makhuduthamaga, and the town of Burgersfort in Fetakgomo-Tubatse. The second tier of development is observed in areas such as the town of Marble Hall, the Glen Cowie and Phokwane business nodes, as well as along the R597 corridor, which also displays higher settlement density. Overall, the majority of the district is characterised by densely populated rural settlements spread across the central parts of its landscape.

3.2. ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARIES

3.2.1. WARD BOUNDARIES

In terms of ward boundaries, **Figure 6.3** shows that the district comprises a total of 117 wards. Fetakgomo-Tubatse has the highest number with 39 wards, followed by Elias Motsoaledi and Makhuduthamaga, each with 31 wards. Ephraim Mogale has



Figure 6.1: Spatial Structure and Settlement Pattern

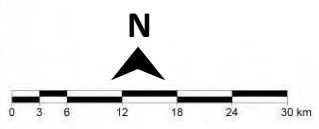
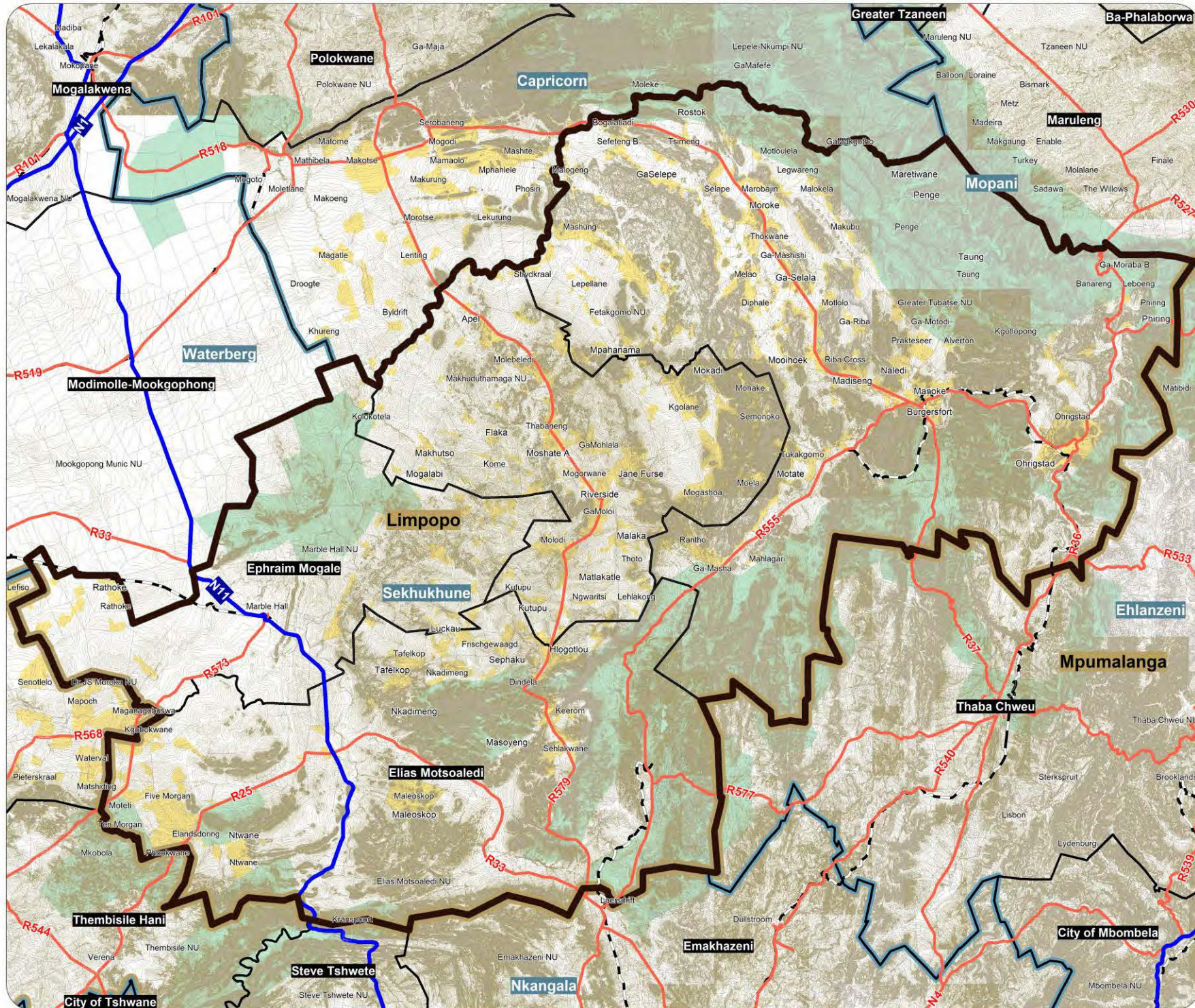


REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

SPATIAL STRUCTURE AND SETTLEMENT PATTERN

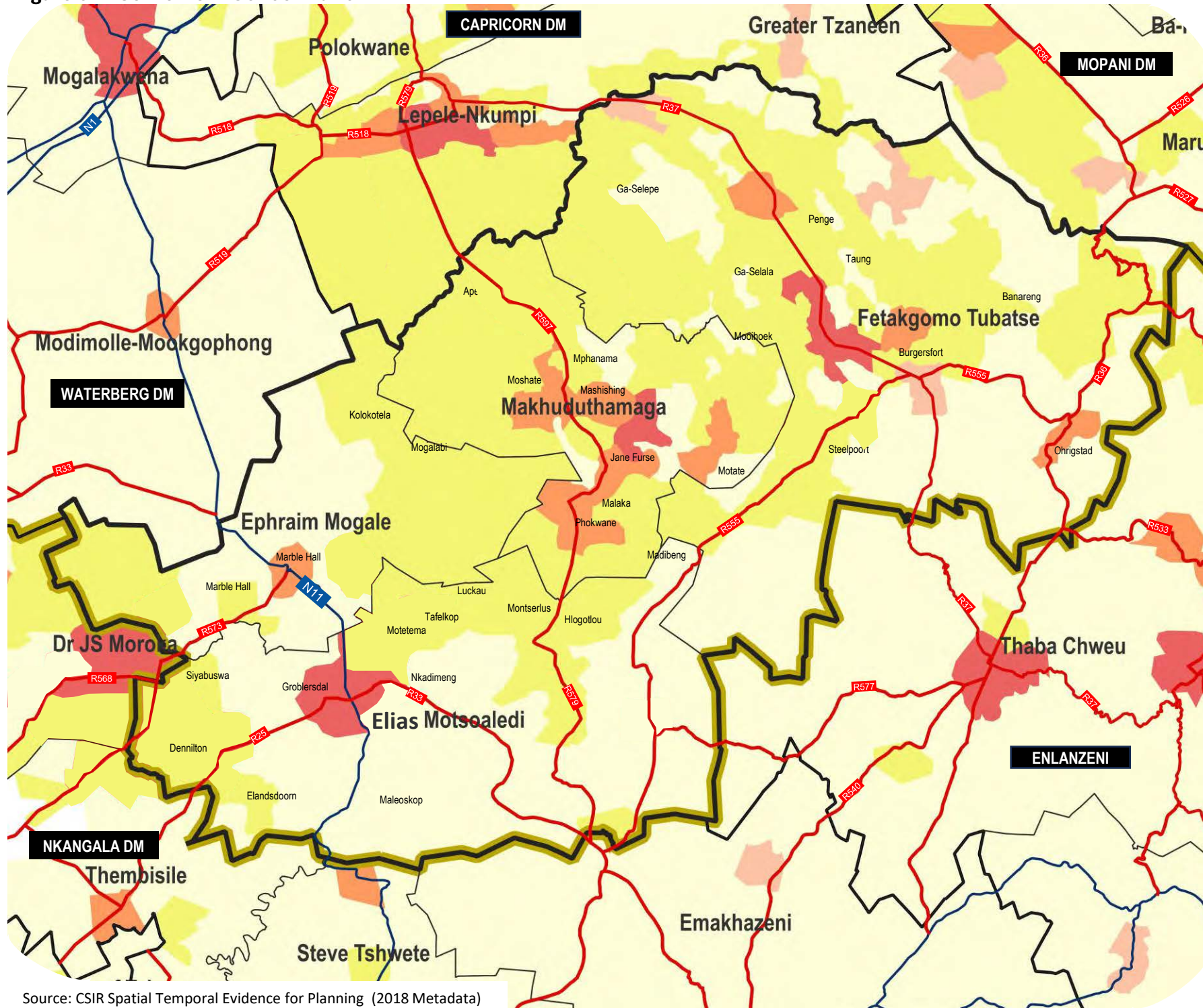
Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Rural Settlement
- Nature Reserves
- Protected Areas
- Contours
- Regional Roads
- National Road
- Railway line



Client Contact:
 Sekhukhune District Municipality
 3 Wes Street
 Groblersdal
 0470
 Tel: 013 262 7300

Figure 6.2: Settlement Concentration

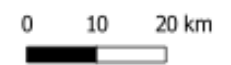


REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

SETTLEMENT CONCENTRATION

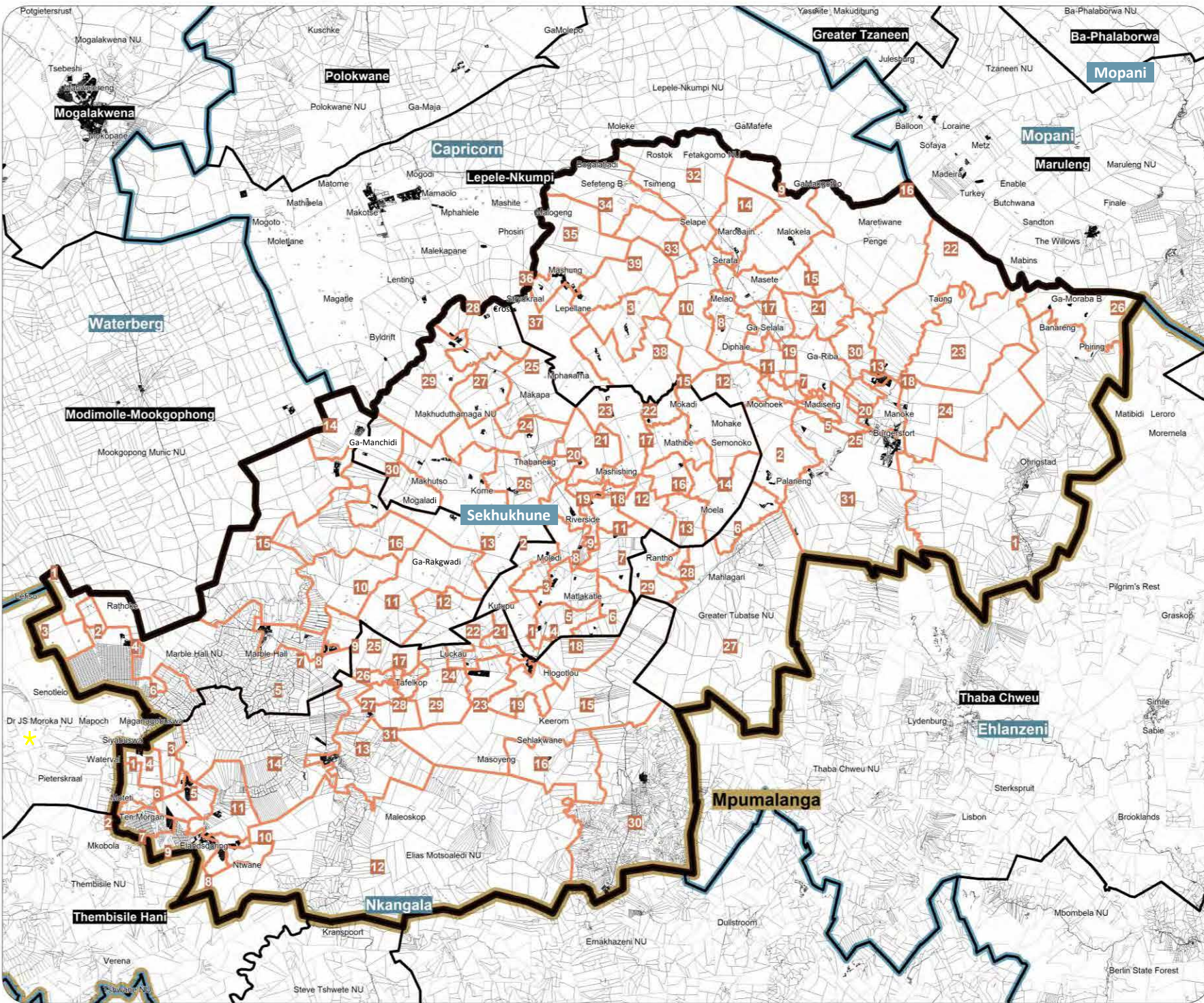
Legend

- Roads
 - Primary
 - Secondary
 - ▭ SDM Boundary
 - ▭ Local Municipalities
 - ▭ District Municipalities
 - ▭ Provincial boundary
- Sparsely Populated Rural Settlement Areas
- Dense Rural Settlement Areas & Villages
- Local Towns/Settlement Nodes
- Regional Service Centres



Source: CSIR Spatial Temporal Evidence for Planning (2018 Metadata)







Figure 6.3: Municipal Wards



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

MUNICIPAL WARDS

Legend

-  Provincial Boundary
-  District Boundary
-  Local Municipal Boundary
-  Sekhukhune District Municipality
-  Cadastral (Erven, Farms, Parent Farm)
-  Municipal Wards



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the fewest, with 16 wards. Collectively, these wards encompass a total of 764 villages.

3.2.2. TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES

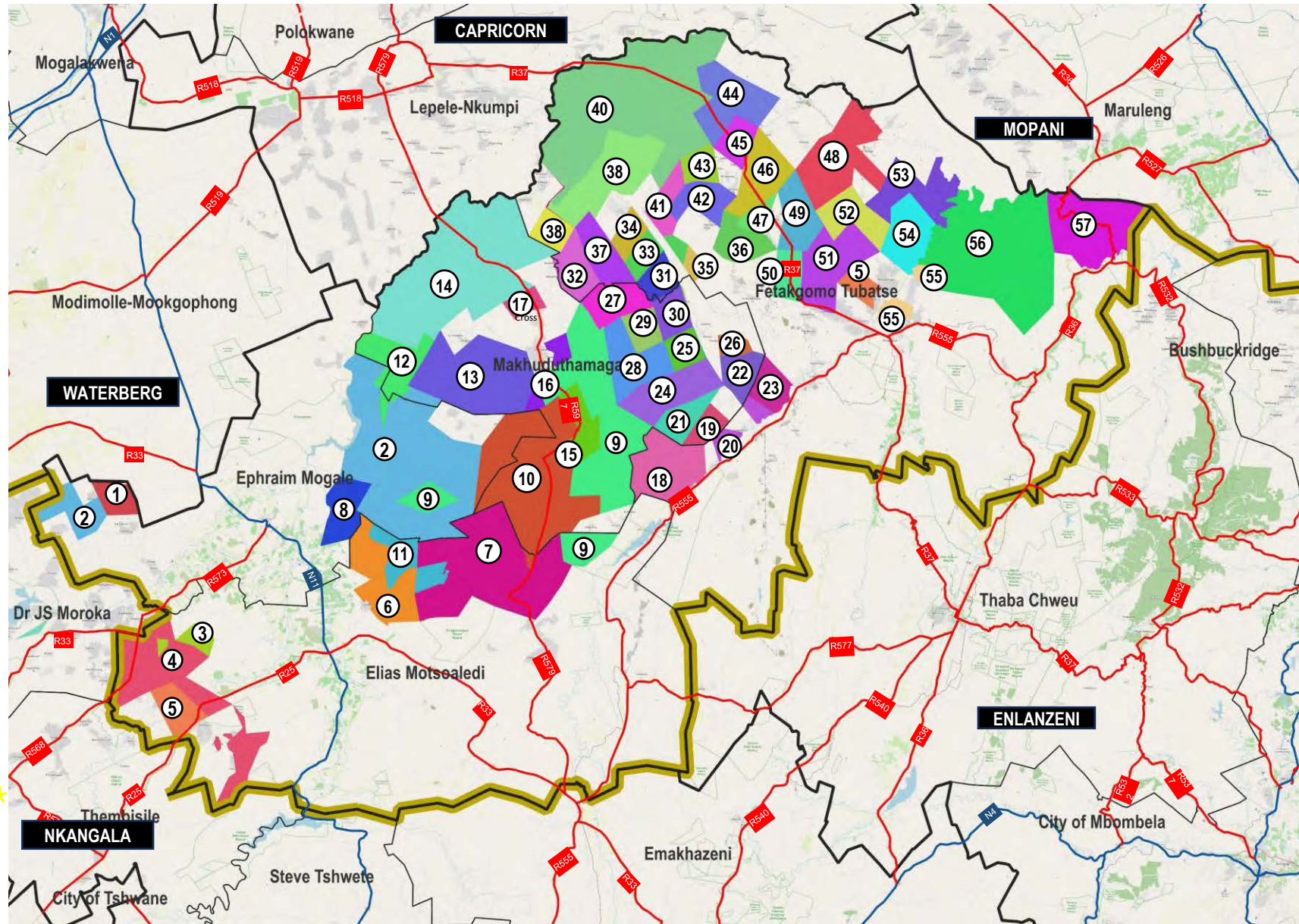
As shown in **Figure 6.4**, the Sekhukhune District is home to 74 traditional authorities, previously also known as bantustans, which are mainly located north-east of the district in the Fetakgomo Tubatse LM and Makhuduthamaga LM, and some in the western and south-western parts of the district in Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoledi local municipal areas. Traditional authorities within the Sekhukhune District Municipality administer approximately 48% of the municipal area, which

encompasses 658,887 hectares of land. Accordingly, **Figure 6.5** displays the locations of traditional offices of the respective traditional authorities.

Per local municipality, the traditional authority land in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM covers approximately 329,850 ha of the municipal area, representing 58% of the land within the municipality within their administration. In the Makhuduthamaga LM, traditional authority land accounts for 83% of the land, equivalent to 176,393 ha in land area. Land under traditional leadership in Elias Motsoaledi LM covers 83,876 ha, which constitutes about 22% of the municipal area. In Ephraim Mogale, 34% of the land is within the traditional authority's jurisdiction. That is, 68,758 ha of land is under the leadership of traditional authorities.



Figure 6.4: Traditional Authorities

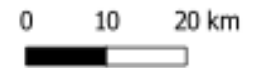


REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Local Municipal Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Boundary
- Regional Road
- National Road



1. Amadebele amotlétane	2. Bakulswere-Ba-Makofane	3. Makwana-Rantlo	4. Maitla-Mapitsane	5. Marota-Manuleng	6. Mofitse	7. Roka-Phasa-Phokwane	8. Tau-Mankolwane
9. Ba-Bina-Noko-Ba-Mampuru	10. Bakwena	11. Komi-Lagare	12. Maitla-Sepole	13. Marota-Namitleng	14. Nareng-Tholwane	15. Roka-Leeba	16. Tau-Nkedieng
17. Ba-Kgwete-Ba-Kgautswane	18. BaPedi ba Ramaube	19. Komi-Maloma	20. Maitela-Mahlabophelo	21. Marota(Tsaitane)	22. Ndebele	23. Roka-Motshana	24. Tau-Tswaledi
25. Babina-Noko ba Mofaloti	26. Baroka ba Mashabela	27. Komi-Segopela	28. Maitela-Meswase	29. MASEMOLA	30. Pedi-Mamone	31. Roka-Radingwane	32. Tau-Kgaphola
33. Bafalwane-ba-Molekane	34. Baroka ba-Nkwana	35. Kwena-Maditlaba	36. Maitela(Mantwane)	37. Maitlwa	38. Phokwane	39. Roka-Selepe	40. Tau-Phahamohleka
41. Bafalwane-Ba-Magphopho	42. Bafalau-Nchabeng	43. KWENA, MADHLABA	44. Mampone	45. Maitlwa a Di-chang	46. Pulana-Matoga	47. Roka(Makgalanatho)	48. TISANE
49. Bakoni ba ga matlaba(Letshweng)	50. Bengwenyama-ya-Miswazi	51. KWENA, MASHABELA	52. Maroke	53. Mogaoya-Mamamane	54. RAHLANGANE	55. Roka-Maipel	56. Tokwa-Magdego
57. Bakoni-Phuti	58. Dinqwanyane	59. KWENA, MAFIKA	60. Marota a-Bogashwa	61. Mogaoya(Ditlakeng)	62. Raka-Makwane	63. Roka(Mashishi)	64. Tswako(Lekentle)
65. Bakopa		66. Magadima-Ntweng-Ba-Mogakala	67. Marota a-Maobong	68. MURONGDATA	69. Raka-Maigane	70. Swazi-Mnyamane	71. Tswako-Moepa

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REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025



No:	Traditional Authority
1.	Amandebele Amoetlane
2.	Matlala
3.	Bakoni ba ga Matlala (Lehwelereng)
4.	Banwana
5.	BaPedi ba Ramaube
6.	Bakopa
7.	Ndebele
8.	Rahlangane
9.	Pedi Mamone
10.	Phokwani
11.	Bakwena
12.	Mampane
13.	Moroangoata
14.	Masemola
15.	Kwena Madihlaba
16.	Tisane
17.	Kwena Mashabela
18.	Hiakwana-Rantho/Twako-Maopa/Bahlakwane-ba-Malekane/Bahlakwane-ba-Maphopha
19.	Koni-Maloma
20.	Ba-Bina Noko ba Mampuru
21.	Mogaswa-Manamane
22.	Bengwenyama-ya-Maswazi
23.	Roka Phasa-Phokoane
24.	Tau-Tswaledi/Koni-Legare/Ratau (Makgane)/Mogaswa (Dihlakaneng)
25.	Koni-Seopelo/Maila-Mapitsane/Tau-Nkadimeng
26.	Tlokwa-Magolego
27.	Marota-Madibeng/Maila-Segolo
28.	Matlala a Dichoeng
29.	Marota-Marulaneng
30.	Marota-Mathibeng
31.	Marota (Tsatane)
32.	Tau (Kgaphola)
33.	Tau (Phahlamohlaka)
34.	Babina-Noko ka Mohlaetsi
35.	Tswako (Lekentle)

36.	Tswako-Mohlala
37.	Roka-Radingwane
38.	Maisela-Mahlabaphoko
39.	Batau-Nchabeleng
40.	Baroka-na-Nkwana
41.	Roka-Lebea
42.	Boroka-ba-Mashabela
43.	Swazi-Mnyamane
44.	Roka (Makgolanotho)
45.	Magadima-Ntweng-Ba-Magakala
46.	Nareng-Thokwane
47.	Roka (Mashishi)
48.	Roka (Malepe)
49.	Kwena-Mafolo
50.	Pulana Maroga
51.	Bakoni-Phuti
52.	Bakutswe-Ba-Makofane
53.	Roka-Motshana
54.	Marota-Bogashwa
55.	Manoke
56.	Ba-Kgwete-Ba-Kgautswane
57.	Dinkwanyane

Figure 6.5 : Traditional Authority Offices

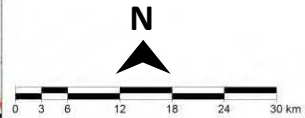
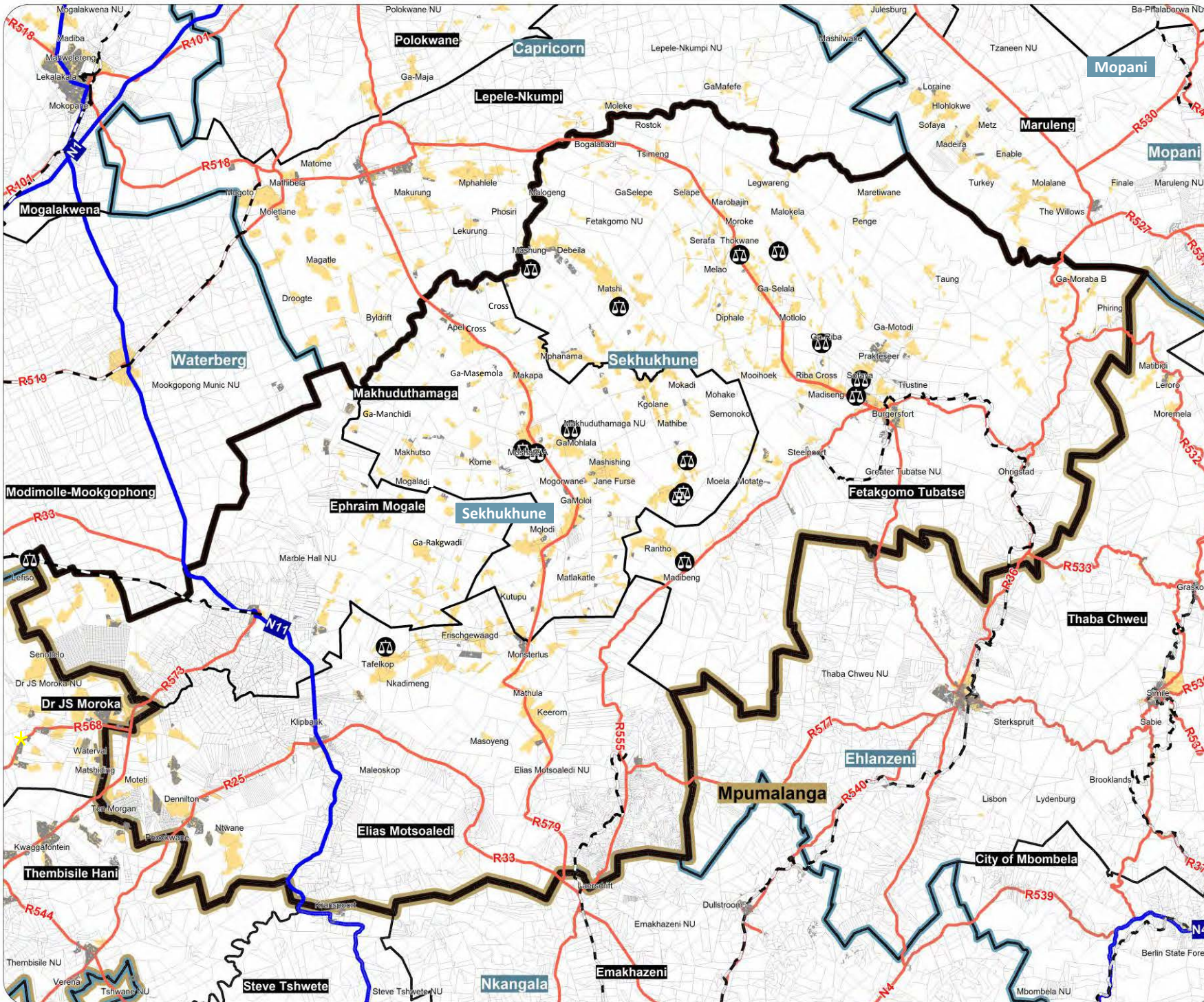


REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY OFFICES

Legend

- Cadastral
- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Rural Settlement
- Traditional Authority Offices
- Regional Roads
- National Road
- Railway line



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3.3. MOVEMENT NETWORK

The movement infrastructure is key in shaping the economic and social landscape of a district municipality. It serves as the backbone for forging spatial integration, increasing access to economies, enabling the efficient movement of goods and people, and fostering trade. The section below alludes to the district's movement network and its significance to the district's economy and respective trade areas, communities and access to social services.

As shown in **Figure 7**, the N11 is the most dominant route in the district, facilitating trade and the movement of goods, such as agricultural products, minerals, and manufactured goods, between the provinces of Mpumalanga and Limpopo. Furthermore, it is a vital organ that enables connection and access between local businesses, farming enterprises in and around the Groblersdal and Marble Hall regions, and larger markets based in Polokwane and Middelburg, as well as various parts of the country via the N11 (KwaZulu-Natal Province) and the N4 and N12 to the Gauteng Province. Furthermore, the route plays a key role in transporting raw materials and equipment to the mining operations in the regions.

Regional accessibility is predominantly facilitated via three roads that traverse the district in a northwest–southeast alignment (N11, R579, and R37). Route R555 traverses the district from south to north along the eastern borders. Together these roads constitute the leading freight and logistics corridors connecting the district's economic activity areas to prominent provincial nodes and economic activity areas, e.g. Mookgopong, Mokopane, Polokwane, Lydenburg and Middelburg.

The presence of the Klein Drakensberg and Strydpoortberge hinders connectivity to the north into Maruleng and parts of Lepelle-Nkumpi. More specifically, the N11 Freeway connects the towns of Marble Hall and Groblersdal with Mookgopong and the N1 Freeway towards the north-west. From there, the road leads to Mokopane

and eventually links to Botswana via the Groblersbrug border post. To the south, the N11 connects Marble Hall and Groblersdal with Middelburg, which is situated along the N4 Maputo Corridor.

- **The R579** traverses the central extent of the district and serves to connect Jane Furse and Monsterlus with Lebowakgomo to the north and Sehlakwane and Stoffberg to the south.
- **The R37** traverses the northern extents of the district, and serves to connect Burgersfort with Lebowakgomo towards the north-west and Lydenburg towards the south-east.
- **The R555** traverses the eastern extents of the district and serves to connect Steelpoort and Burgersfort with Stoffberg towards the south-east. Routes R37 and R555 form the Dilokong Platinum Corridor.
- **Route R36** serves to connect the Burgersfort/ Steelpoort area with Ohrigstad, and down to Lydenburg to the south and to Hoedspruit in Maruleng to the north.

Although the majority of the urban centers and smaller towns are located along these roads, a vast number of settlements within the western, central, and eastern extents of the district are only accessible via secondary gravel roads

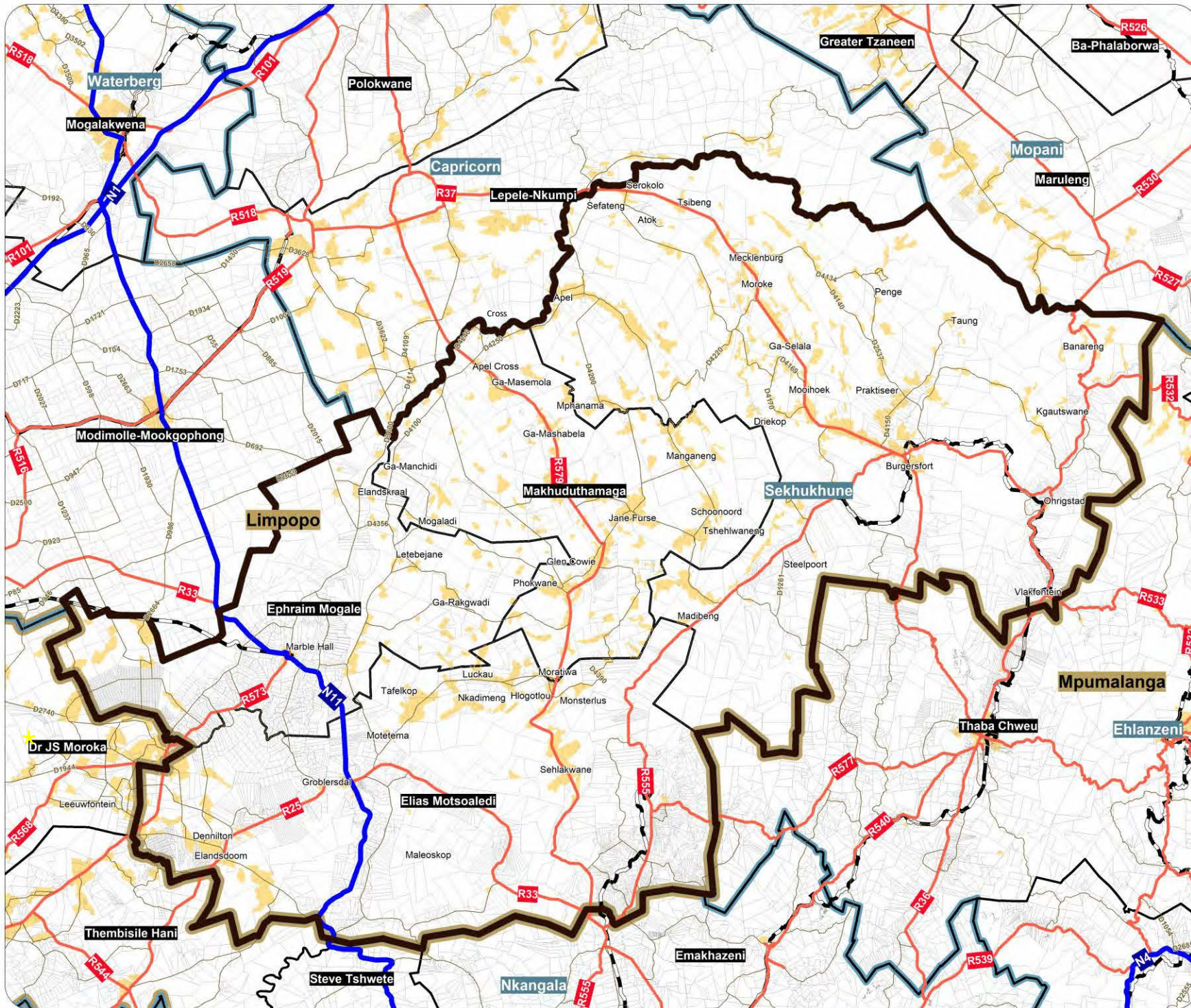
The three railway lines include:

The railway line entering the SDM from the south, next to Stoffberg, from where it continues northwards for approximately 30km, eventually ending at an abandoned mine near Mapochs Mine.

- The railway line entering the SDM from the west, near Nutfield, from where it continues eastwards to Marble Hall.
- The railway line entering the SDM from the east, passing near Ohrigstad and Burgersfort, and terminating near Steelpoort (near the Tubatse mine).



Figure 7: Movement Network

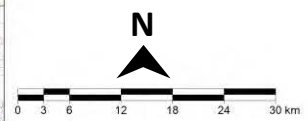


REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

MOVEMENT NETWORK

Legend

- Cadastral
- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Rural Settlement
- Local Road
- Regional Roads
- National Road
- Railway line



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The general condition of roads within the SDM is poor. Severe damage, such as potholes and edge cracking, can be observed along most roads. Road damage is particularly prevalent along the following sections of road:

- The R33 between Groblersdal and Stoffberg;
- The R555 between Stoffberg and Roosenekal;
- The R579 between Nebo and Stoffberg; and
- The R25 between Dennilton and Groblersdal.

3.4. SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

The following section provides a socio-economic analysis of the district and its respective local municipalities, focusing on population distribution, educational attainment, age demographics, access to basic household services, and dwelling types. In order to establish an understanding of the extent of existing service delivery and identify gaps.

Population Demographics

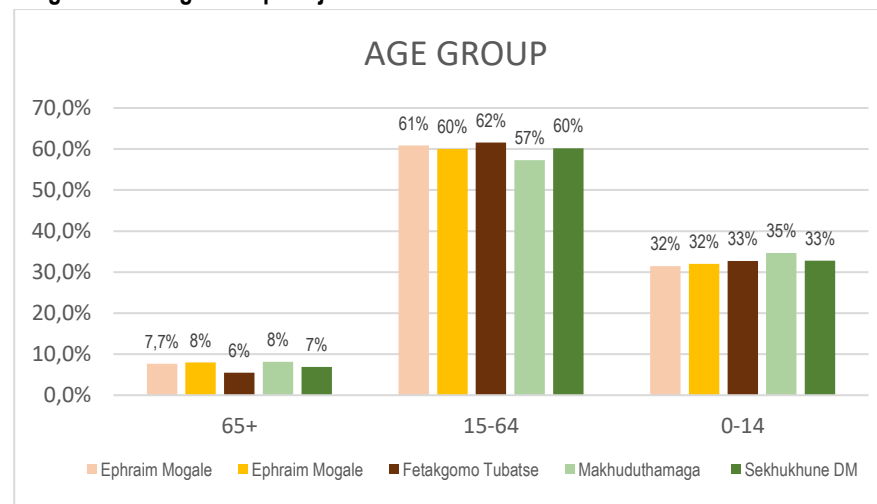
As illustrated in **Figure 8.1**, the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality experienced the most notable population growth between 2011 and 2022, with an estimated increase that brought its total population to 147,012. Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality recorded the second-largest population gain, growing by approximately 65,448 individuals over the same period. In contrast, Elias Motsoaledi LM and Ephraim Mogale LM showed the smallest increases, with their populations rising by 38,686 and 8,820, respectively, during the 10 years.

Age Profile

The age distribution across all four local municipalities in the Sekhukhune District reveals a predominantly working-age population (**Diagram 10.1**). Individuals aged 15–64 make up approximately 57% to 62% of the population, with Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM recording the highest proportion at 62%. This suggests a strong

potential labour force that, if properly empowered through education and economic opportunities, could drive local development.

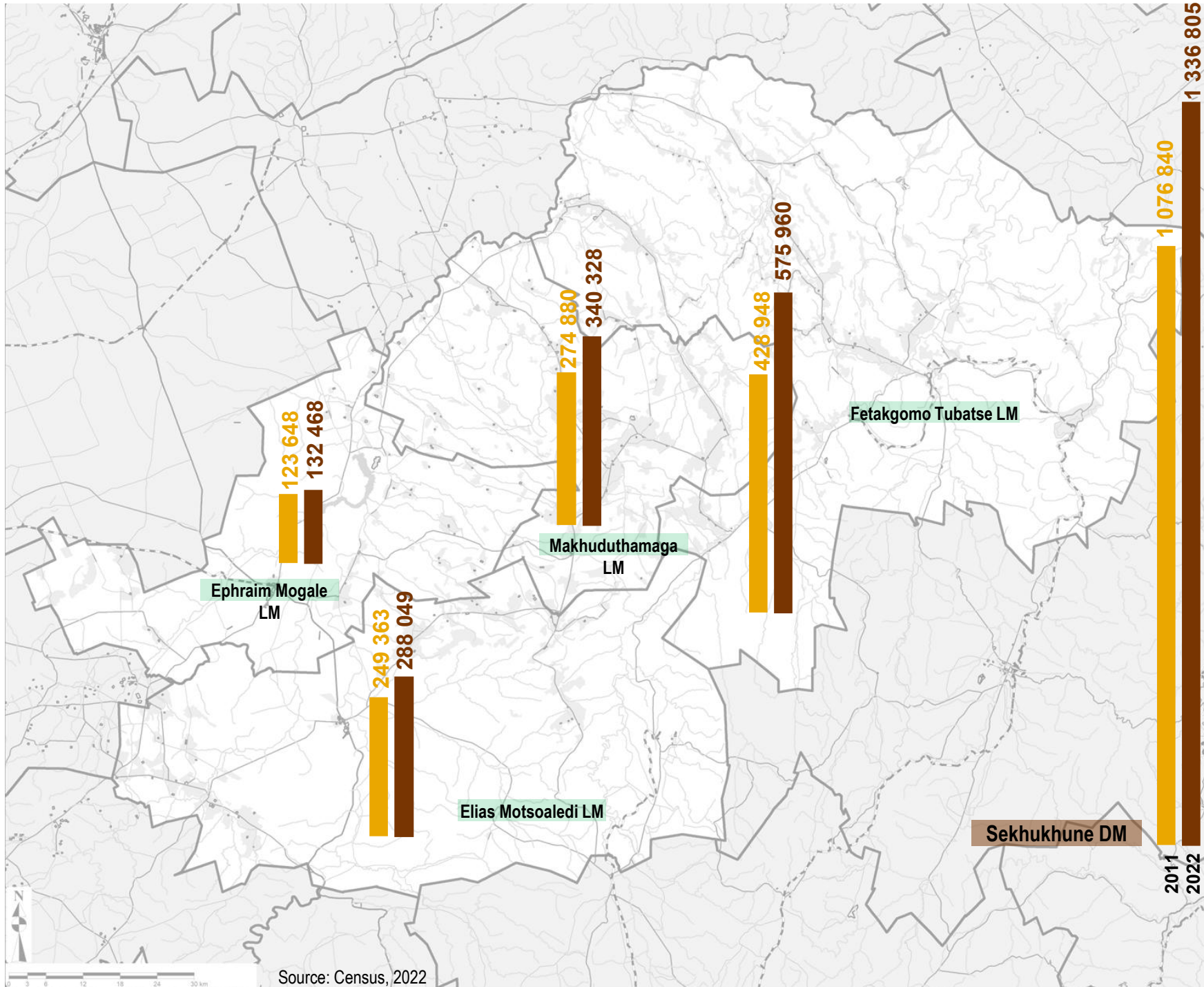
Diagram 10.1: Age Group Project



Source: Census, 2022

Children aged 0–14 years represent about 35% of the population across all municipalities, highlighting the ongoing demand for education and child-focused services. The elderly population (65 years and older) comprises a smaller share, between 6% and 8% indicating that the district has a relatively youthful demographic overall.

Figure 8.1: POPULATION PER LOCAL MUNICIPALITY 2011-2022



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

POPULATION PROFILE PER LOCAL MUNICIPALITY 2011-2022

Legend

- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- 2011
- 2022



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Source: Census, 2022

Educational Level

Education is essential for increasing people's chances of finding fulfilling work and, consequently, reducing poverty and reliance on social grants. An illiterate population is well-equipped with the essential skills needed in the labour market, which opens up more economic options and increases their level of financial independence. Below is outlined the educational profile across the municipalities in the Sekhukhune District for the year 2022, with a focus on higher education, Grade 12 completion, and the prevalence of informal schooling (refer to **Figure 8.2**).

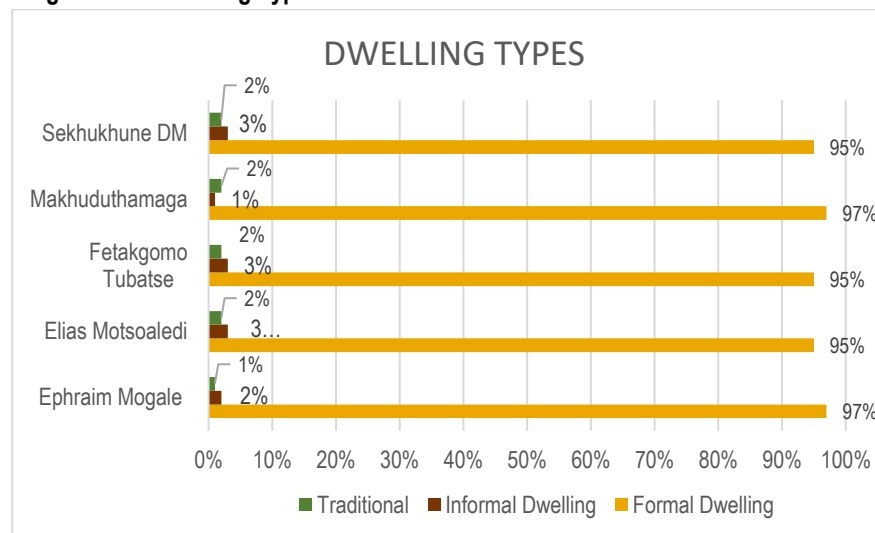
In terms of higher education (post-Grade 12 qualifications), the district recorded an overall rate of 7%. Fetakgomo-Tubatse, Makhuduthamaga, and Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipalities each matched this district average. Ephraim Mogale LM had the lowest proportion of residents with higher education, at just 5%. Regarding Grade 12 attainment, 31% of the district's population had completed this level. Elias Motsoaledi LM led with 33%, followed by Fetakgomo-Tubatse at 31%. Ephraim Mogale and Makhuduthamaga LMs each reported 30%.

The proportion of the population with no formal schooling stood at 15% district-wide. Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi LMs recorded the highest rates of no schooling at 18% each, followed by Makhuduthamaga at 16%, and Fetakgomo Tubatse LM at 12%.

Dwelling Types

The majority of the district's population (approximately 95%) resided in formal dwellings. In terms of housing per local municipality, the municipalities of Ephraim Mogale and Makhuduthamaga had the highest proportions, with 97% of their populations living in formal housing. The Fetakgomo-Tubatse and Elias Motsoaledi LMs each reported 95%.

Diagram 10.2: Dwelling Type



Source: Census, 2022

Informal dwellings accounted for just 3% of the district's total. Makhuduthamaga LM had the lowest proportion at 1%, followed by Ephraim Mogale at 2%. Fetakgomo Tubatse LM and Elias Motsoaledi LM both reported a 3% increase. Traditional dwellings made up 2% of all housing in the district. Ephraim Mogale LM had the lowest share at 1%, while Makhuduthamaga, Fetakgomo-Tubatse, and Elias Motsoaledi each aligned with the district average of 2%.

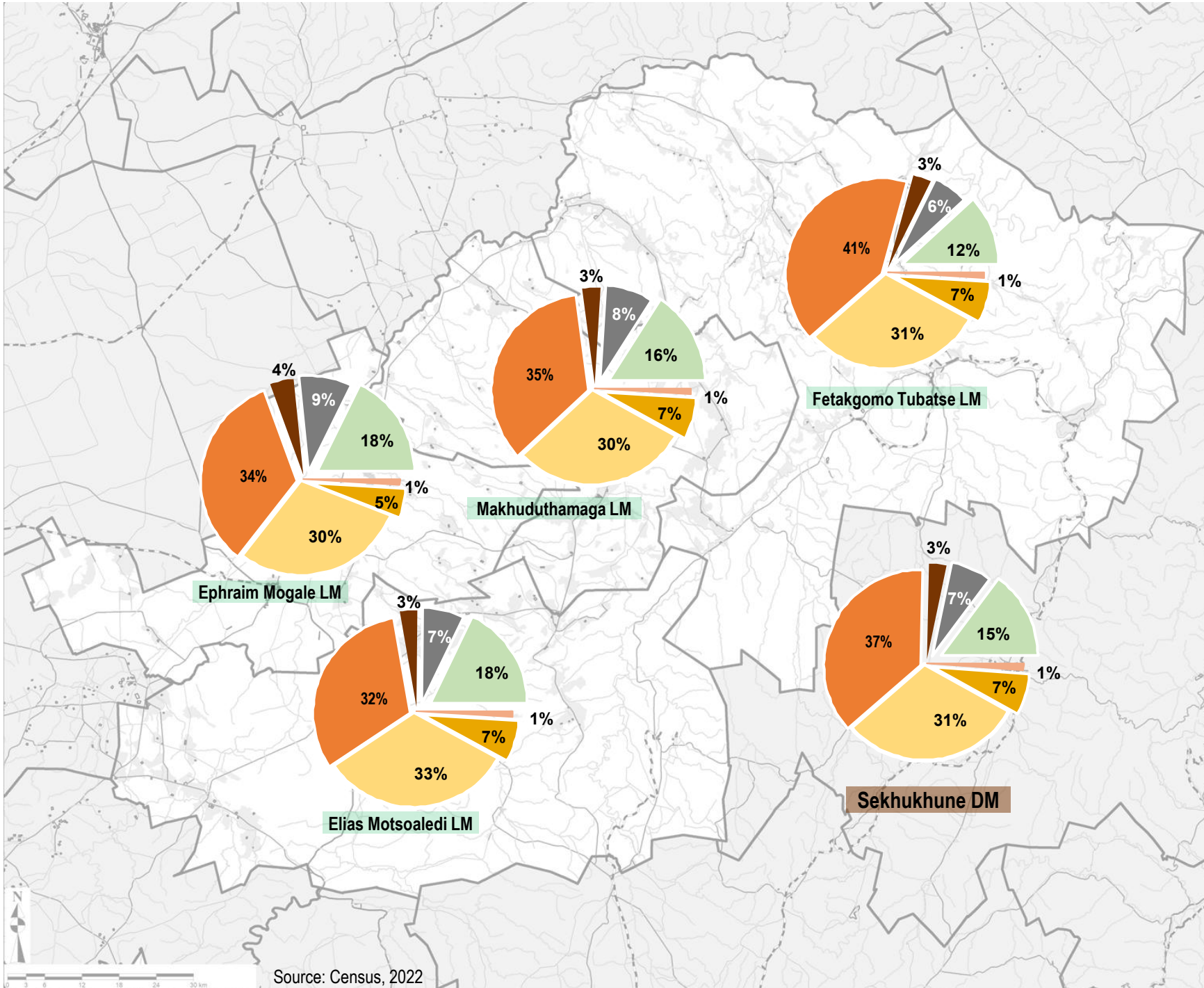
3.4.1. ENGINEERING SERVICES

BASIC SERVICE PROVISION

Household Water Supply

This section examines the level of basic service provision across the Sekhukhune District Municipality and its local municipalities, with a focus on access to water,

Figure 8.2: LEVE OF EDUCATION



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

HIGHEST EDUCATION LEVEL PER LOCAL MUNICIPALITY 2011-2022

Legend

- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- No Schooling
- Some Primary
- Completed Primary
- Secondary
- Grade 12
- Higher Education
- Other



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Source: Census, 2022

refuse removal, energy, and sanitation, and a specific emphasis on water accessibility in 2022 (**Diagram 10.3** per local municipality, and **Figure 8.3** depicts the summarised services provision in the district.

Only 25% of the district's population had access to water inside their dwellings. At the municipal level, Elias Motsoaledi LM recorded the highest in-house water access at 31%, followed by Ephraim Mogale LM (28%), Fetakgomo Tubatse LM (24%), and Makhuduthamaga LM with the lowest at 19%.

An additional 22% of the population across the district obtains access to water within their yards. Ephraim Mogale LM led this category with 33%, while the other three municipalities, namely, the Fetakgomo Tubatse LM, Elias Motsoaledi LM, and Makhuduthamaga LM, each reported 22%. Regarding access through communal standpipes, the district reported an average of 19%. Makhuduthamaga had the highest share at 29%, likely due to limited bulk water infrastructure. In contrast, Fetakgomo Tubatse LM stood at 20%, Elias Motsoaledi LM at 14%, and Ephraim Mogale at just 6%. Finally, 34% of the district's population accessed water from other sources (e.g., rivers, boreholes, or water tankers). The local municipality of Elias Motsoaledi LM reported the highest proportion in this category at 37%, followed by Ephraim Mogale LM and Fetakgomo Tubatse LM at 34% and Makhuduthamaga LM at 30%.

Bulk Water Supply

The District Municipality serves as both a Water Services Authority and a Water Services Provider, as mandated by the Water Services Act (No. 108 of 1997). Its core service delivery function is the provision of water across the district. Water is supplied to 811 villages through 45 water supply schemes. Full water services are currently provided in the main towns of Burgersfort, Marble Hall, Groblersdal, Steelpoort, and Ohrigstad, which also benefit from additional high-level services, including refuse collection and road infrastructure.

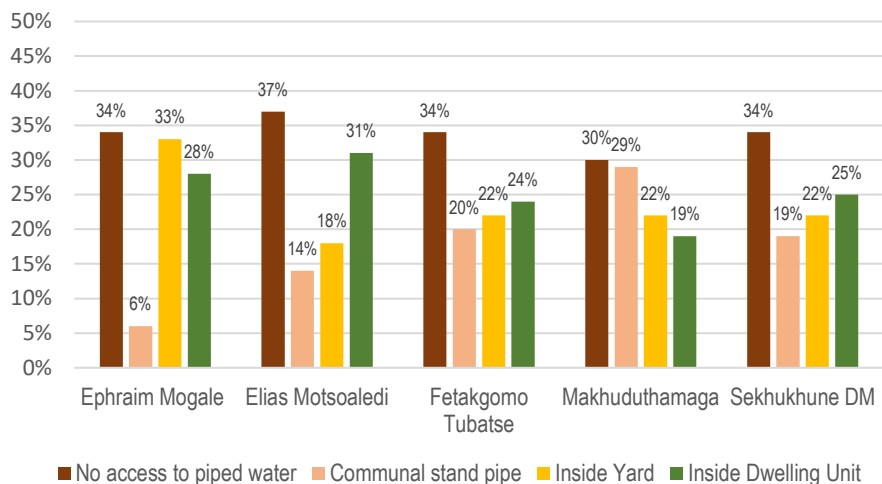
In the district's extensive rural areas, groundwater remains the primary source of water. Where necessary, water tankers supplement the supply. Villages within the Flag Boshielo Water Scheme area tend to receive better water services than other rural parts of the district.

Recent progress includes the extension of water supply from the De Hoop Dam to several villages, including Mpelegane, Maepa, Ratau, Maphopha, Rantho, Masha, Malekana, and Maseven. This marks a positive step in expanding dam-based supply to more remote areas. Groundwater remains a vital water resource, relied upon by over 75% of the district's communities. It contributes approximately 25.61 megalitres per day (or 9.35 million cubic meters annually) to the district's total daily water demand of 52.42 megalitres, just below 50%.

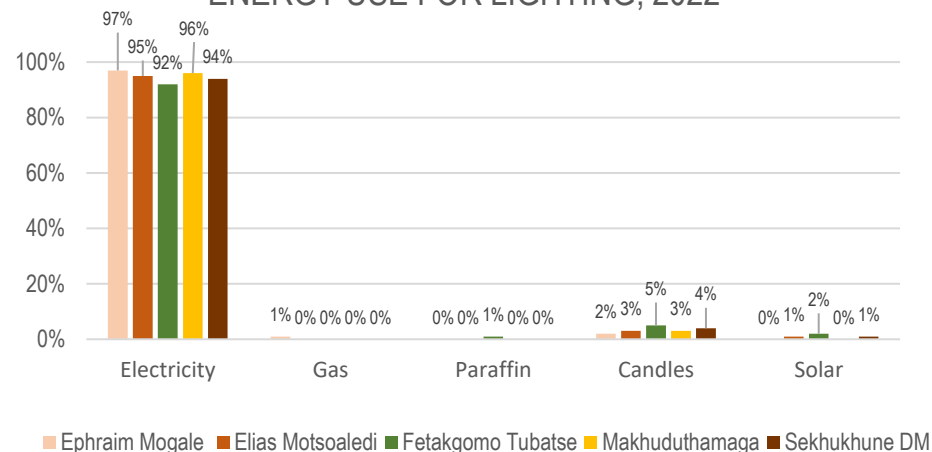
Table 1 below marks a positive step in expanding dam-based supply to more remote areas, listing planned bulk water projects in the district to improve water supply. These projects have been further spatially mapped and displayed in **Figure 8.4**.



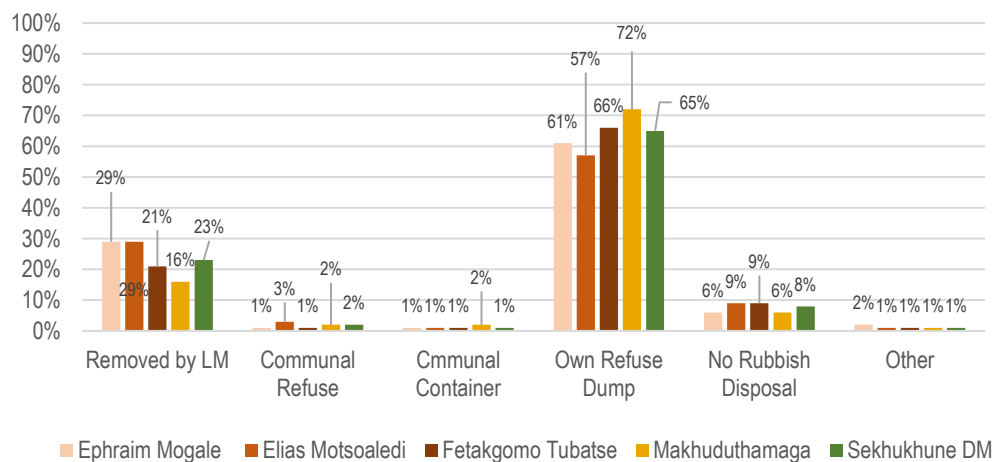
ACCESS TO PIPED WATER, 2022



ENERGY USE FOR LIGHTING, 2022



REFUSE, 2022



SANITATION, 2022

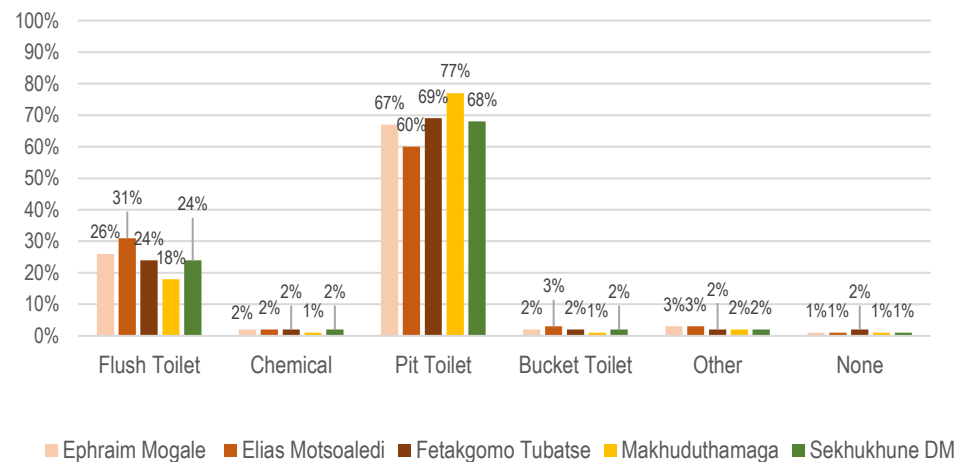
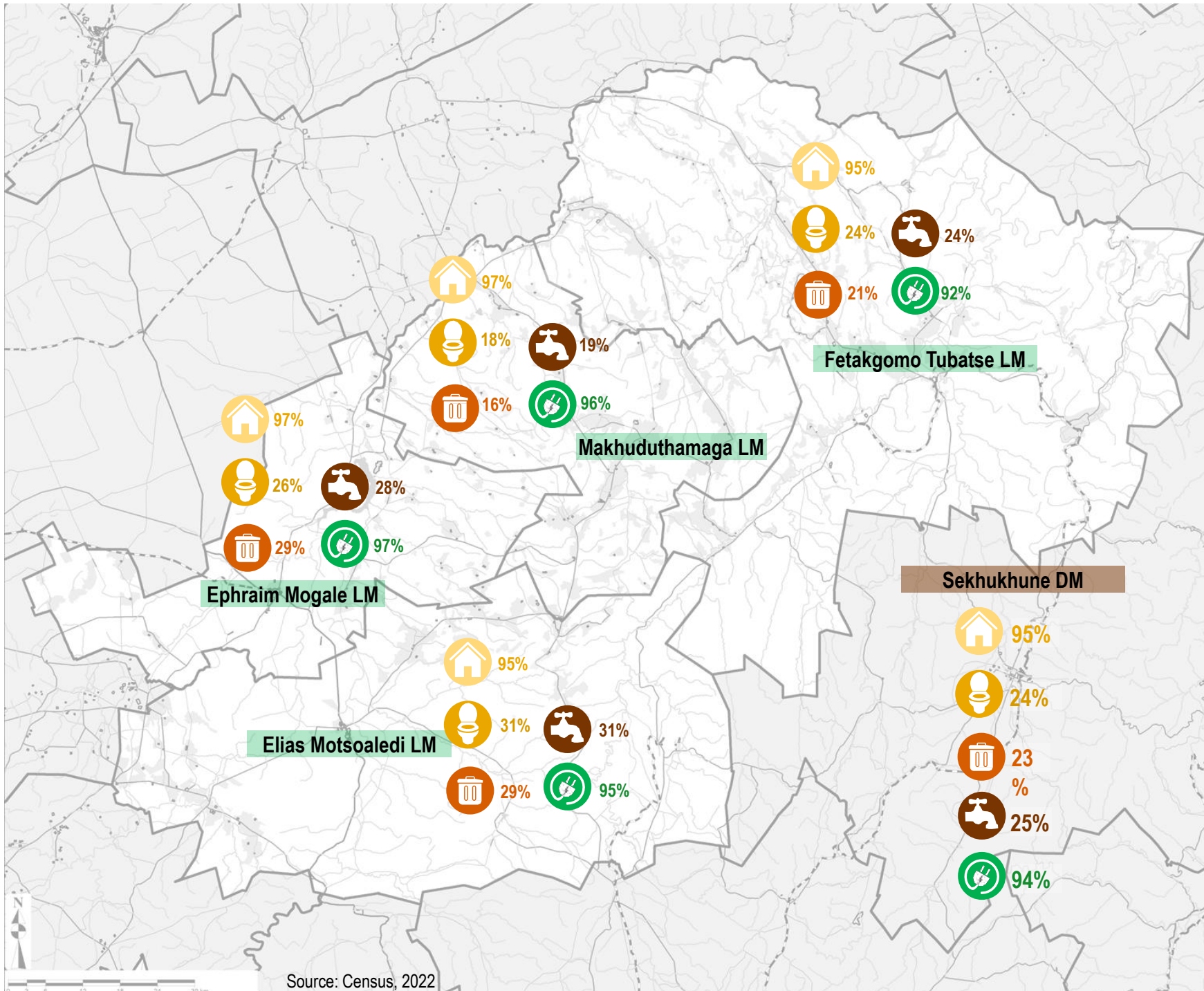


Figure 8.3: Basic Engineering Services



Source: Census, 2022



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

BASIC ENGINEERING SERVICES PER LOCAL MUNICIPALITY 2022 (%)

BASIC SERVICES

Legend

- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Formal Dwelling
- Flush Toilet
- Weekly Refuse Disposal Services
- Piped water in Dwelling
- Electricity for Lighting



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Figure 8.4: BULK WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

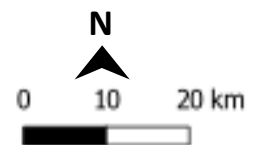
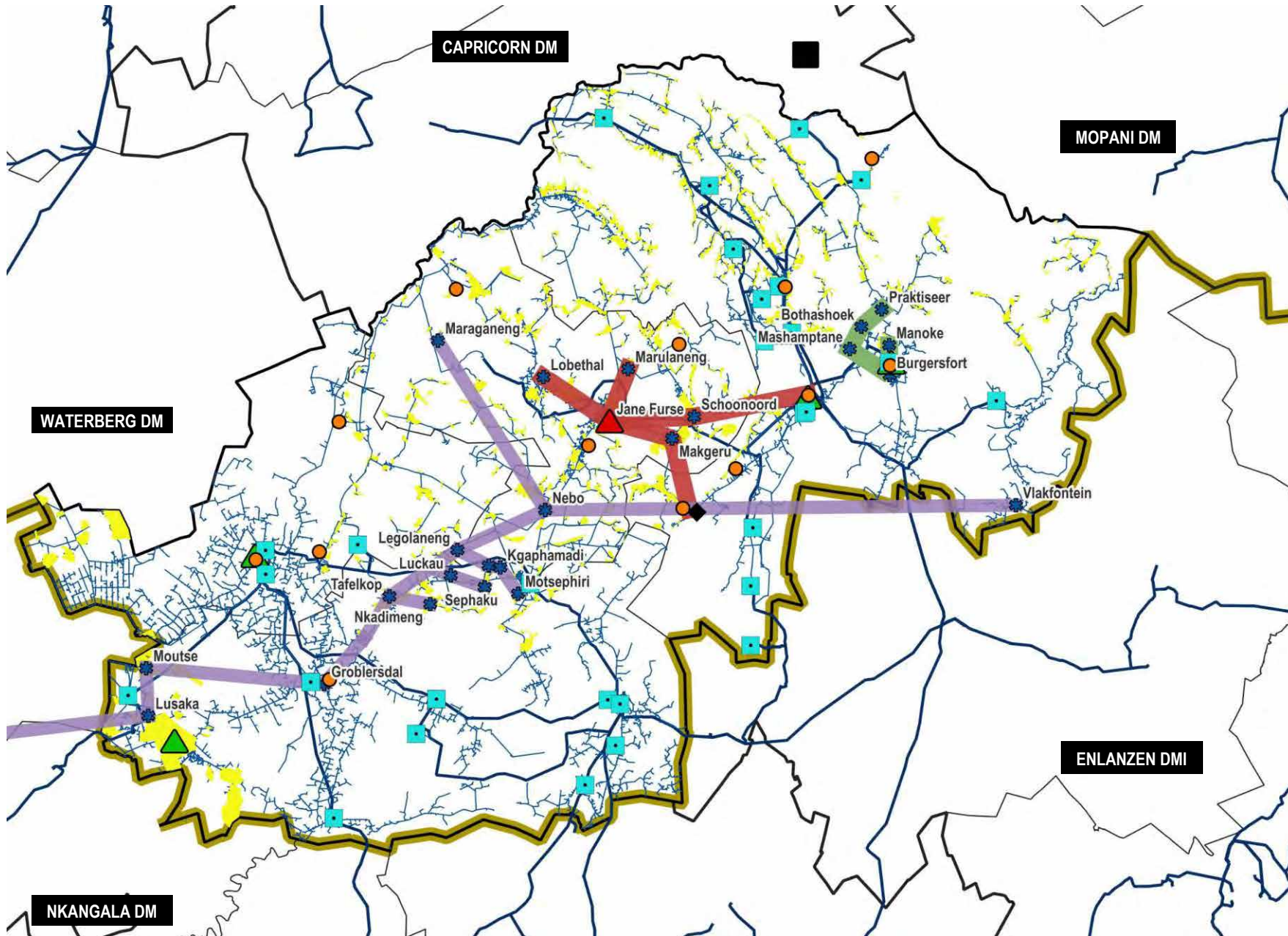


REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

BULK WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- High Voltage Substation
- Medium Voltage Line
- High Voltage Line
- Rural Settlements
- PowerPlant
- Future WWTW
- Existing WTW
- Future WTW
- Bulk Water Supply Areas
- Moutse Regional BWS
- Nebo BWS
- Mooihoek-Tubatse BWS



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Table 1.1: Bulk Water Projects

BULK WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS					
	PROJECT NO:	PROJECT NAME	SCHEME NAME	PROJECT SIZE	PROJECT STATUS
1.	LPR019 and LPR021	Moutse Regional Bulk Water Supply Scheme	Kwandebele/ Renosterkop/ Elias Motsoaledi WS	Regional	Ongoing
	LPSRB15-RBIG-22b	Functional Phase 2 (Stage 07 and 08). Functional Phase 3 (Stage 09 to 12)		Small	Construction
2.	LPR010	Groblersdal Lukau Bulk Water Supply	Groblersdal/Lukau	small	Completed
3.	LPR026	Nebo BWS - De Hoop Augmentation/ North/ South/ Steelpoort	De Hoop/Nebo Plateau RWS	Small	Feasibility
	LPR011-RM012	Nebo Bulk Water Supply: Steelpoort River Pipeline to Jane Furse Command Reservoir and Schoonoord Command Reservoir		Large	On hold
	LPSRB04-RBIG-03	De Hoop Augmentation		Large	Defects and viability period
	LPSRB03-RBIG-09	De Hoop Augmentation: Phase 3C Magnet Heights to Schoonoord Bulk Pipeline		small	Conceptual
4.	LSRBD04-SDMM031	Nkadimeng RWS: Jane Furse to Marulaneng Bulk pipeline		Small	
5.	LPR012/ RM07	Mooihoek Tubatse RWS	Lower Steelpoort Tubatse WS	Mega	Construction
6.	LPR007-SDM14FS	Ohrigstad Bulk Water Supply	Orhigstad WS	Large	Feasibility

Source: Department of Water and Sanitation



Bulk Water Project Description:

- I. According to the Department of Water and Sanitation, the Moutse Regional Bulk Water Supply Scheme project in the Elias Motsoaledi LM is planned to supply potable water to the Moutse East and Moutse West villages from the existing Groblersdal Water Treatment Works. The project comprises 15 contracts (stages/sub-projects), which include upgrading the Groblersdal Water Treatment Works from its current 22 Mℓ/day capacity to 40 Mℓ/day, constructing bulk pipelines, a pump station, a 10 Mℓ Lusaka reservoir, and undertaking mechanical and electrical works.
- II. Groblersdal Lukau Bulk Water Supply will supply water to several communities situated along the route D1547 from Groblersdal to Nebo. The water supply will be extracted from the Olifants River at Groblersdal and purified at the Groblersdal water purification treatment plant. Thereafter, the water is pumped to Motetema, then to three (3) reservoirs located at the entrance of Tafelkop. In addition to Tafelkop, water will be distributed to several villages, including Legolaneng, Maraleng, Kga-Phamadi, Motsephiri, Luckau, Sephaku, Vlakfontein, Maretheng, and Nkadimeng. The system will also be able to supply water to villages presently supplied from the Flag Boshielo scheme.
- III. The Nebo Bulk Water Supply: Steelpoort River Pipeline to Jane Furse Command Reservoir and Schoonoord Command Reservoir will encompass several phases. Firstly, the construction involved a 30.55 km reinforced concrete and face-brick pipeline to reinforce concrete and face-brick pump stations, the supply and installation of six high-lift pumps and motors, control panels and switchgear, telemetry, and the installation of one 1.76 MW and one 2 MW power connection points from Eskom. The project will transport water to Jane Furse, an estimated 25 Mℓ reservoir (MIG) from Phase 3B and Phase 3E. Phase 2C: River Crossing towards Ga-Malekana Water Treatment Works (MIG) is a sub-phase for Phase 2C for De Hoop. It is 300 m length steel pipe of 600 mm diameter. Phase 3B:

The construction of about 9,45 km of steel pipe from Jane Furse to Marulaneng. Phase 3E: Construction of approximately 18 km of 300 mm diameter and 100 mm diameter ductile iron pipe from Jane Furse to Lobethal. Phase 3C: The construction of a 5km pumping Main Pipeline from the T-off of Makgeru to the proposed new 10 Mℓ reservoir at Schoonoord and about 18km of gravity Main Pipeline.

- IV. De Hoop Augmentation is planned to double the rising main and pump stations from Malekane WTW to Jane Furse. The project, however, does not include land acquisition.
- V. De Hoop Augmentation: Phase 3C Magnet Heights to Schoonoord Bulk Pipeline project will encompass the construction of a 6.5km pumping main pipeline from the T-off of Makgeru to the proposed new 10 Mℓ reservoir at Schoonoord and about 18.1km gravity main Pipelines.
- VI. Nkadimeng RWS: Jane Furse to Marulaneng Bulk pipeline project will entail the construction of a 9.45 km steel pipe from the 25 Mℓ Jane Furse Reservoir to Marulaneng.
- VII. The Mooihoek Tubatse Regional Water Scheme forms part of the Lower Steelport Tubatse Water Supply project, which will encompass the construction of a 14 km pipeline by Esorfranki and approximately 82 manholes. This project involves constructing a 14 km steel pipeline with 82 reinforced concrete chambers within the pipeline, starting from the Mashamothane intersection pipe. The route is from Mashamothane, Bothashoek to Praktiseer. Phase 4: Bulk water supply in Burgersfort and to Manoke and Dresden. The distribution network will consist of approximately 30 km of steel pipe, varying in diameter from 800 mm to 250 mm, and three reservoirs.
- VIII. The Ohrigstad Bulk Water Supply, the project covers 29 rural villages and one formal village. The Implementation Ready Study proposed that the boreholes be refurbished, new ones developed and linked to the reticulation

REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

Accordingly, the following highlights water infrastructure projects that are currently approved and underway in the district, along with their current status. Notably, several projects have been delayed as a result of needing further financial allocation, administrative challenges, and slow project progress, while others are currently underway.

Table 1.2: Approved and Construction Water Infrastructure Projects

	PROJECT NAME/DESCRIPTION	STATUS
1.	03 Water Licenses Applied	Incomplete
2.	Refurbishment of 3 WWTWs (Burgersfort, Penge, Phooko Booster pump station)	Incomplete
3	Review of the Water and Sanitation By-Law	Incomplete
4	Registration of two servitudes	Incomplete
5	Erection of 3 steel tanks	Incomplete
6	2 setting dams, construction of 1,5km of external pipeline, construction of a retaining wall, and the Department of Agriculture offices.	Slow Progress
7	11km of pipeline construction	Slow Progress
8	Moutse East and West water reticulation phase 1	Slow Progress
9	Moutse East and West water reticulation phase 2	Delayed
10	Mampuru Bulk Water Scheme	Incomplete
11	Olifantspoort South Regional Water Supply Phase 6	Delayed
12	Ga-Maphopha Command Reservoir	Incomplete
13	Refurbishment of Leeufontein WWTW	Progress delayed
14	Refurbishment of Dennilton WWTW	Delayed
15	Lebalelo Central RWS Sub-scheme 1A	Delayed
16	Nebo BWS Commission Malekana to Jane Furse Pipeline	Duration extended
17	Development of IRS on the De Hoop, Nebo Plateau scheme up to Zaaiplaas	Incomplete
18	Moutse BWS project (7-12)	Incomplete
19	Moutse BWS project 13 & 14	Incomplete
20	Maeba Water Intervention project- Phase 5	Delayed
21	Commissioning of Moutse Bulk	Delayed
22	Ga-Marishane village water supply	Delayed
23	Eenzama water supply (works package 1)	Delayed
24	Kgotlopong water intervention (work package 1)	Delayed



Energy Access

According to 2022 data (as shown on **Diagram 14.3**), electricity access across the Sekhukhune District Municipality and its four local municipalities exceeds 90%, indicating a strong overall level of energy service provision. This high coverage means that only a small portion of the population relies on alternative energy sources such as candles, gas, solar, and paraffin.

Among these alternatives, candles are the most commonly used, accounting for approximately 4% of the district's overall energy usage. Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality reported the highest reliance on candles compared to the other municipalities.

Refuse Removal

Refuse removal data from 2022 indicates that the majority of the Sekhukhune District Municipality's population manages waste independently, with 65% using their own refuse dumps. Among the local municipalities, the Makhuduthamaga LM reported the highest usage of its own refuse dumps at 72%, followed by the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM at 66%, and both the Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi municipalities at 61%. The local municipality's refuse collection services were used by 23% of the district population. Ephraim Mogale had the highest proportion of municipal refuse removal at 29%, followed by the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM at 21%, and the Makhuduthamaga LM at 16%.

A further 9% of the district population reported having no refuse removal service. The highest percentages were recorded in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM and the Elias Motsoaledi LM (9% each), while Ephraim Mogale and Makhuduthamaga municipalities reported slightly lower at 6% each.

Other forms of waste disposal, including communal refuse sites, communal containers, and miscellaneous methods, accounted for small shares of the total,

each averaging around 1% to 1.75% across all municipalities. These statistics highlight a heavy reliance on independent waste removal, indicating a limited capacity of formal refuse collection services in the district.

As shown, the overall service provision within the district municipality is relatively decent, with electricity provision at 94% and housing provision at approximately 95%. All four municipalities showed an average provision of above 97%. Water, refuse, and sanitation were the lowest, with each reporting 25% in terms of water supply inside dwelling units, waste removal by the authority at 23%, and flush sanitation at 24%, respectively. The municipality showing the highest provision of the three was Elias Motsoaledi LM, followed by Ephraim Mogale LM, Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM, and Makhuduthamaga LM, which reported the lowest provision.

Sanitation Facilities

Based on 2022 data, pit latrines remain the most common form of sanitation in the Sekhukhune District Municipality, used by 68% of the population. The Makhuduthamaga LM recorded the highest usage at 77%, followed by the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM at 69%, Ephraim Mogale LM at 67%, and Elias Motsoaledi LM at 60%. This widespread reliance on pit latrines suggests a shortage of bulk sanitation infrastructure across the district.

Access to flush toilets is limited, with only 24% of the district's population using this type of sanitation system. The Elias Motsoaledi LM has the highest proportion at 31%, followed by the Ephraim Mogale LM at 26%, the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM at 24%, and the Makhuduthamaga LM with the lowest at 18%. These statistics align with earlier data on water access, highlighting that areas with better access to water, such as the Elias Motsoaledi and Ephraim Mogale local municipalities, also tend to have higher sanitation service levels.

Additionally, the district reported that approximately 2% of the population uses bucket toilets, while about 1.75% rely on chemical toilets. Overall, the data indicate



that sanitation levels are closely linked to water accessibility and infrastructure availability within the district.

3.4.2. COMMUNITY FACILITIES

This section provides a report on community facilities such as education, government and municipal services, health, safety, and security services distributed across the Sekhukhune District Municipality.

2.4.2.1. Educational Facilities

Pertaining to educational facilities (refer to **Figure 9.1**), the district currently holds 1,076 educational facilities within the district, ranging from primary schools to special schools (schools for students with special needs). Of these, 575 are primary schools, with the majority located in Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM with 232, followed by Makhuduthamaga with 169, Elias Motsoaledi with 103, and Ephraim Mogale with 71. There are 470 secondary schools in the district. These are located in Fetakgomo-Tubatse, which has 182, Makhuduthamaga, 136, Elias Motsoaledi, 94, and Ephraim Mogale, 58. The district also has 11 combined schools, with Elias Motsoaledi hosting the largest number at 6, followed by Fetakgomo-Tubatse with 4, and Makhuduthamaga with 1.

In terms of higher-order educational institutions, the district has nine tertiary educational facilities, with the majority located in Elias Motsoaledi, followed by Fetakgomo-Tubatse with three and Ephraim with only one. Makhuduthamaga has no educational facilities. Despite not having any tertiary facilities, Makhuduthamaga registered the same highest percentage of population with higher education as Elias Motsoaledi and Fetakgomo-Tubatse, which happen to have the highest number of tertiary facilities. This suggests that educational desire in Makhuduthamaga is just as strong as that of Elias Motsoaledi LM and Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM. Additionally,

the district has five special schools; two are located in Elias Motsoaledi, three in Makhuduthamaga, and one in Ephraim Mogale.

There are also six libraries, two in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM and Elias Motsoaledi LM, and one each in Makhuduthamaga and Ephraim Mogale. Despite lacking tertiary facilities, Makhuduthamaga was among the highest municipalities in terms of individuals possessing higher education, as indicated in the 2022 data under the 'education level' section in the socio-economic analysis. Data also shows that there is a relatively high level of individuals with secondary education, and it is the municipality with the least schooling, second to none other than Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM. There is an educational need in Makhuduthamaga LM that needs to be catered to. Figure 9.1 illustrates the distribution of these educational facilities across the various municipalities in the Sekhukhune district municipality.

2.4.2.2. Government and Municipal Services

Government and Municipal services appear to be fairly distributed within the district municipality, and as depicted on **Figure 9.2**, these are most clustered in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM and Makhuduthamaga LM. These facilities include government and municipal services, such as government and municipal offices, community halls, courts, and post offices. With regards to municipal offices, there are an estimated 53 municipal offices in the entire district municipality, with approx. 20 in the Elias Motsoaledi LM, an estimated 14 in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM, 12 in the Makhuduthamaga LM, and roughly 7 in the Ephraim Mogale LM. There are 23 community centres, with 13 located in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM, 6 in Ephraim Mogale, 3 in Elias Motsoaledi, and 1 in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM.

In terms of magistrate courts, there are 3 in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM and one each in Makhuduthamaga LM and Elias Motsoaledi LM. None was found in Ephraim Mogale. In total, the district has a recorded total of 5 magistrate courts. Pertaining to post offices, approximately 23 post offices are established in the district municipality, with 7 each found in the Makhuduthamaga LM and the Elias Motsoaledi



Figure 9.1: Educational Facilities Distribution

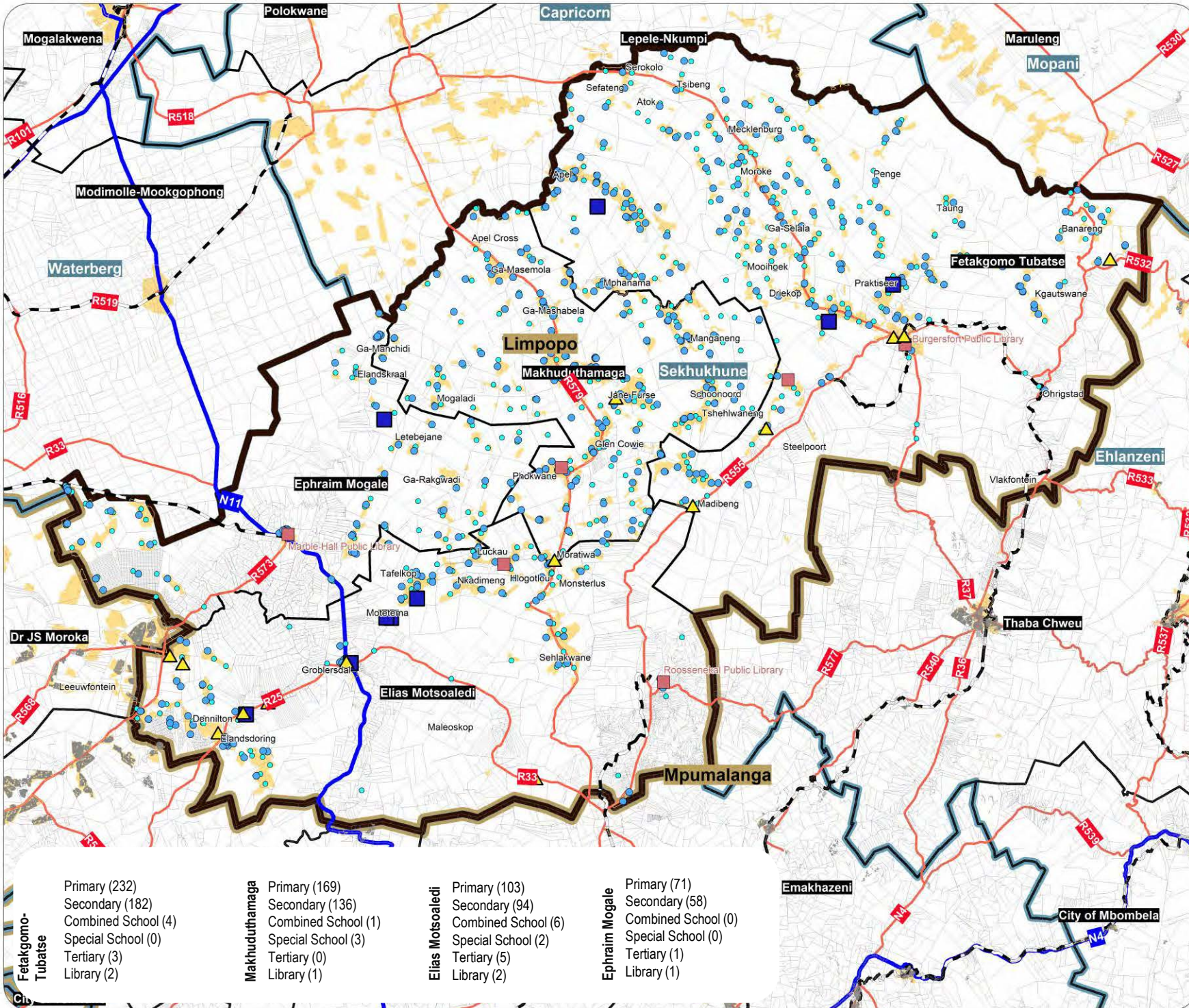


REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Rural Settlement
- Cadastral (Erven, Farm, ...)
- Regional Roads
- National Road
- Railway Line
- Primary
- Secondary
- Combined School
- Tertiary Institution
- Public Library

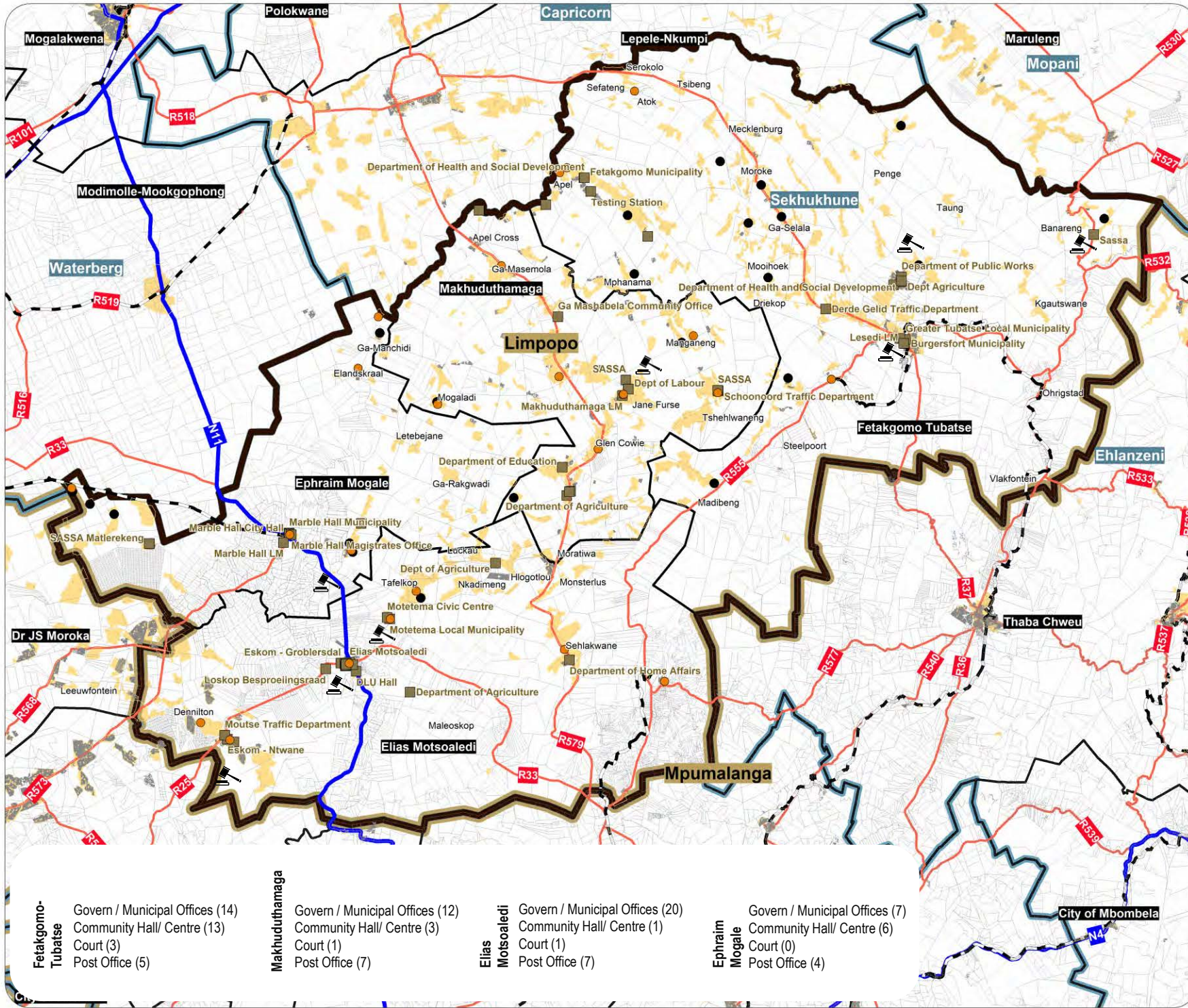


Fetakgomo-Tubatse	Primary (232)	Makhuduthamaga	Primary (169)	Elias Motsoaledi	Primary (103)	Ephraim Mogale	Primary (71)
Secondary (182)	Secondary (136)	Secondary (94)	Secondary (58)	Secondary (94)	Secondary (58)	Secondary (58)	
Combined School (4)	Combined School (1)	Combined School (6)	Combined School (0)	Combined School (2)	Combined School (0)	Combined School (0)	
Special School (0)	Special School (3)	Special School (2)	Special School (0)	Special School (0)	Special School (0)	Special School (0)	
Tertiary (3)	Tertiary (0)	Tertiary (5)	Tertiary (1)	Tertiary (5)	Tertiary (1)	Tertiary (1)	
Library (2)	Library (1)	Library (2)	Library (1)	Library (2)	Library (1)	Library (1)	

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Figure 9.2: Government And Municipal Services



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

GOVERNMENT AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Rural Settlement
- Cadastral (Erven, Farm, Parent Farms)
- Regional Roads
- National Road
- Railway Line
- Government / Municipal Offices
- Court
- Community Hall / Centre
- Post Office



Fetakgomo-Tubatse	Govern / Municipal Offices (14) Community Hall/ Centre (13) Court (3) Post Office (5)
Makhuduthamaga	Govern / Municipal Offices (12) Community Hall/ Centre (3) Court (1) Post Office (7)
Elias Motsoaledi	Govern / Municipal Offices (20) Community Hall/ Centre (1) Court (1) Post Office (7)
Ephraim Mogale	Govern / Municipal Offices (7) Community Hall/ Centre (6) Court (0) Post Office (4)

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LM. An estimate of 5 post offices are located in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM and 4 in the Ephraim Mogale LM. Figure 9.2 shows that a lot of these facilities are located in and around major towns such as Groblersdal, Marbel Hall, Burgersfort, and Jane Furse. It also shows that rural settlements are not far from these services, especially community centres, post offices, and SASSA offices.

2.4.2.3. Health Care Services

Figure 9.3 reflects the distribution of medical facilities in the district. A higher number of hospitals and clinics can be seen in the municipalities of Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM and Makhuduthamaga LM, subsequently, these two municipalities hold the highest population size according to the 2022 census data. The Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM has 4 hospitals and 34 clinics, while Makhuduthamaga has 3 hospitals and a total of 12 clinics.

The other municipalities, namely Elias Motsoaledi LM and Ephraim Mogale LM, both equally have 1 hospital and 11 clinics each. As shown, these facilities are well provided within the respective rural settlement fabric. Additionally, areas with the highest settlement configuration comprise more medical facilities than areas with the least settlement formation. It can be seen that these services are provided in and around areas of rural settlements, making accessibility relatively easy. There are also some rural settlements located further away, meaning that they have to travel long distances to access these services. However, there are other factors that can hinder this accessibility, such as road conditions and bad mobile service reception in times of emergencies.

2.4.2.4. Safety and Security

The safety of the people living in the district is ensured through the use of facilities such as police and fire stations, see **Figure 9.4**. The district has a total of 22 police stations and 2 fire stations. Fetakgomo-Tubatse and Elias Motsoaledi each have 7 police stations, while Makhuduthamaga and Ephraim Mogale each have 4. The two

fire stations are located in the town of Burgersfort in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM, and Elias Motsoaledi LM specifically in the Groblersdal town.

Although police stations are distributed across the district, in and around major towns and rural settlements. The response in terms of emergencies is a serious concern with puts the safety and security of communities at risk, especially with the high crime in South Africa. The available fire stations are insufficient to service the entire district, particularly given the hot climates in these areas, which can sometimes lead to wildfires. These facilities become particularly important, especially considering that the region has a limited water supply and is heavily reliant on boreholes and tankers. In the event of a fire, people are at risk of losing their possessions.

3.5. ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

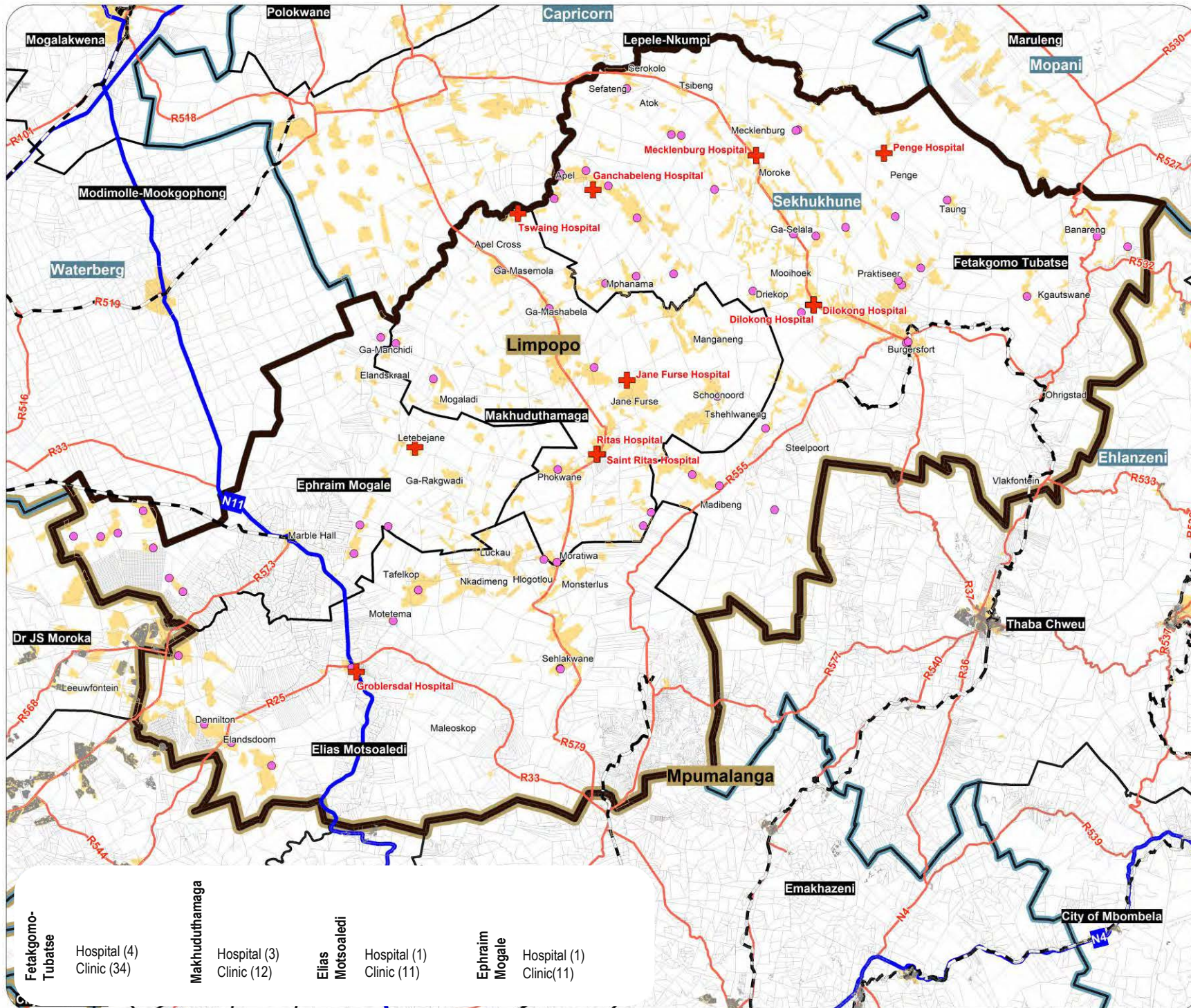
3.5.1. Mining Activity

As shown on **Figure 10**, mining activity in the district municipality cuts across the north-eastern part of the Bushveld Complex, an immense geological structure that contains the largest reserves of platinum group metals (PGM) in the world, of which the platinum group is a family of six (6) metals namely, platinum, palladium, rhodium, iridium, osmium, and ruthenium. This sector is most dominant in the Sekhukhune District Municipality, particularly within the Dilokong Corridor. Minerals such as chromite and platinum are the primary minerals mined, making a significant contribution to both the local and national economies.

The bulk of mining activity takes place in the Burgersfort area, where the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality is located. With some mining prospects in Elias Motsoaledi and Ephraim Mogale local municipalities. Mining is the economic



Figure 9.3: Health Care Facilities

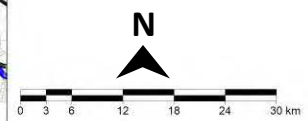


REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Rural Settlement
- Cadastral
- Regional Roads
- National Road
- Hospital
- Clinic

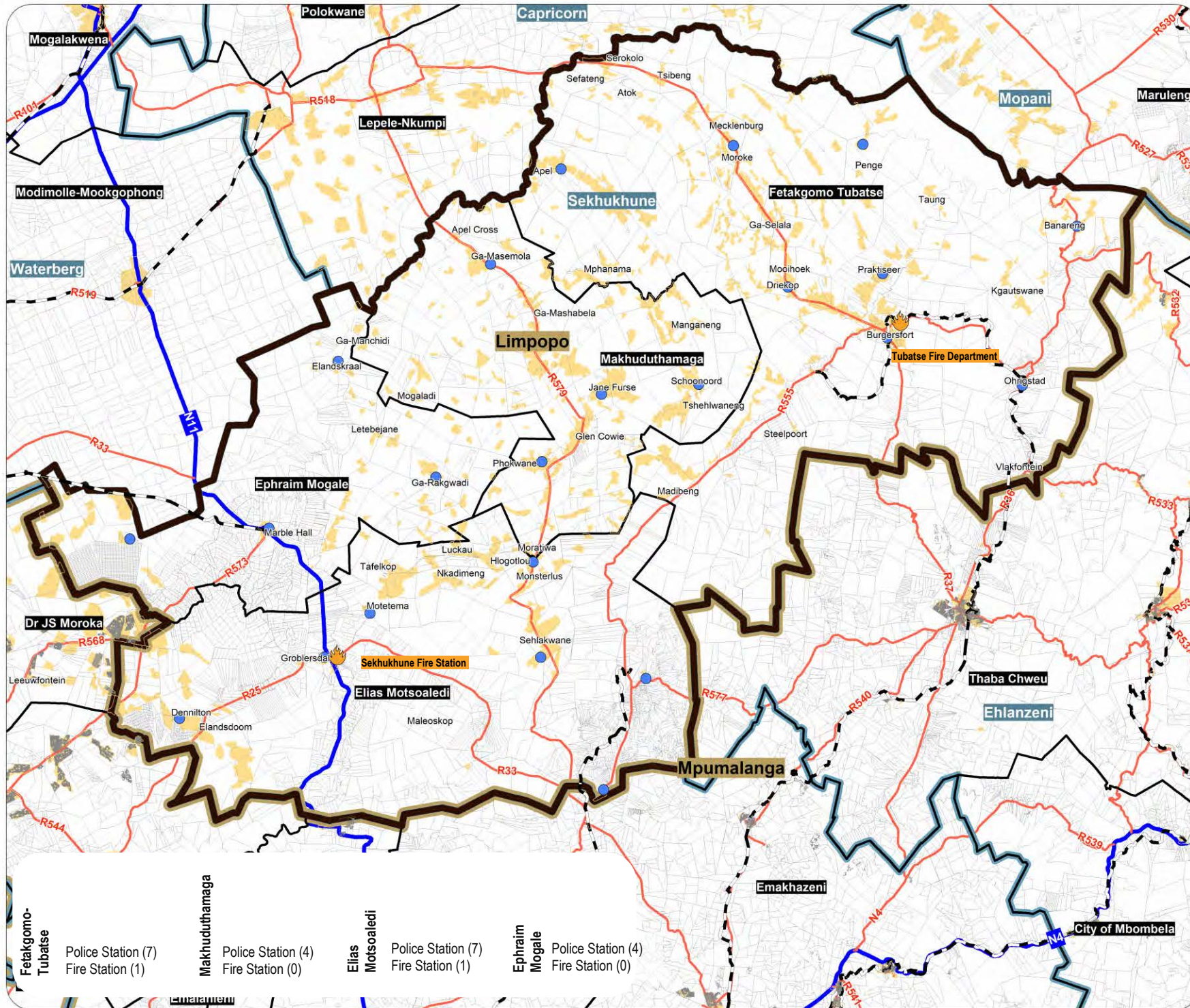


Fetakgomo-Tubatse	Hospital (4) Clinic (34)	Makhuduthamaga	Hospital (3) Clinic (12)	Elias Motsoaledi	Hospital (1) Clinic (11)	Ephraim Mogale	Hospital (1) Clinic (11)
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Figure 9.4: Safety And Security Services

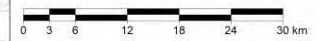


REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

SAFETY AND SECURITY SERVICES

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Rural Settlement
- Cadastral (Erven, Farm, Parent Farm)
- Police Station
- Fire Station



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Fetakgomo-Tubatse	Police Station (7) Fire Station (1)	Makhuduthamaga	Police Station (4) Fire Station (0)	Elias Motsoaledi	Police Station (7) Fire Station (1)	Ephraim Mogale	Police Station (4) Fire Station (0)
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REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

lifeblood of the area as the sector accounts for 34.5% of the municipality's total GVA, and 55% of the municipality's total labour force is traced to the mining sector. In the Ephraim Mogale municipality, limestone/dolomite is mined in the area, of which limestone and dolomite products are used in five principal industries in South Africa, particularly cement manufacturing, metallurgy (steel refining), agriculture (fertilisers, fungicides, and animal feed), aggregate and lime manufacture. With mining operations gradually explored and developed within the Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi LMs. Notably, if mining is widely developed in the two municipalities, this could lead to land use conflicts between mining activities and existing agricultural land. Furthermore, new mining activities may result in increasing pressure being placed on environmentally sensitive areas found within the north-eastern and south-eastern extents of the district.

The mining value chain encompasses primarily exploration, extraction, mining, processing, refining, fabrication, and production stages. Within the district itself, mining participants primarily engage in the extraction stage, with very limited processing operations. Minerals and potential jobs are exported for beneficiation to overseas companies, with very little beneficiation occurring in the district and in South Africa as a whole. In order to benefit sustainably from its mineral resources, the district will need to develop its industrial capabilities in the value-creation stages of its core mineral endowments.

In terms of operational mines, the district holds approximately 27 operational mines with 47 licences issued. It is recorded that there are several non-operational mines (an estimate of eighteen (18) mines) as a result of the unavailability of water, and a lack of off-take agreements for their commodities. Of the listed non-operational mines, an estimate of thirteen (7) pending applications.



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

The list below outlines the mines within the district, including both currently operational and non-operational sites.

Table 2: List of Mines in the District Municipality

NAME OF MINE	TYPE OF ORE	TOWN / VILLAGE	STATUS
FETAKGOMO-TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY			
SAMANCOR Chrome Ltd (Lanex)	Chrome	Burgersfort	Operating
SAMANCOR Chrome Ltd (Doornbosch)	Chrome	Burgersfort	Operating
Spitzkop Platinum Ltd	Platinum	Burgersfort	Operating
SAMANCOR Chrome Ltd (Tweefontein)	Chrome	Burgersfort	Operating
Blackchrome Mine	Chrome, PGM's	Burgersfort	Operating
Rustenburg Platinum Mines Ltd (De Brochen)	Platinum, all minerals	Burgersfort	Operating
Zavel Investments (Pty) Ltd	Dimension Stone	Burgersfort	Operating
SAMANCOR Chrome Ltd	Chrome	Burgersfort	Operating
Impala Platinum (Pty) Ltd	Platinum	Burgersfort	Operating
Impala Platinum (Pty) Ltd	Platinum	Burgersfort	Operating
Rhino Minerals (Pty) Ltd	Andalusite	Burgersfort	Operating
SAMANCOR Chrome Ltd (Spitzkop)	Chrome	Burgersfort	Operating
Rustenburg Platinum Mines Ltd (Modikwa Mine)	Platinum	Burgersfort	Operating
Attaclay (Pty) Ltd	Attapulgit, Bentonite	Burgersfort	Operating
Saringa Slate	Slate	Burgersfort	Operating
Xstrata South Africa (Pty) Ltd (Glencore)	Platinum & Chrome	Burgersfort	Operating
Two Rivers Platinum (Pty) Ltd	Platinum	Burgersfort	Operating
Assmang Ltd	Chrome	Burgersfort	Operating
Micawber 278 (Pty) Ltd (Northam Boosendal)	PGM's, Copper, Cobalt, Chrome	Burgersfort	Operating
Sefateng Chrome Mine (Pty) Ltd	Chrome	Burgersfort	Operating
Vanadium Resources (Pty) Ltd	Vanadium, Iron, Titanium	Burgersfort	Operating
Bauba A Hlabirwa Mining Investments (Pty) Ltd	Platinum	Burgersfort	Operating
BCR Minerals (Pty) Ltd	Chrome	Burgersfort	Operating
De Grooteboom (Pty)Ltd	Chrome, PGM's, Gold	Burgersfort	Operating
Phokathaba Platinum (Pty) Ltd	Platinum	Burgersfort	Non-operational
Nkwe Platinum	Platinum	Burgersfort	Non-operational
Mintirho Mining Ltd	All minerals	Burgersfort	Non-operational
Bokoni Platinum Mines (Pty) Ltd	Platinum	Burgersfort	Non-operational
Rustenburg Platinum Mines Ltd (Twickenham Mine)	Platinum	Burgersfort	Non-operational
Dilokong Chrome Mine	Chrome	Burgersfort	Non-operational



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

Bokoni Platinum Mines (Pty) Ltd	Platinum	Burgersfort	Non-operational
Lion's Head Platinum (Pty) Ltd	PGM's, Copper, Nickel, excluding Chrome	Burgersfort	Non-operational
Chromex Chrome	Chrome	Burgersfort	Non-operational
SAMANCOR Chrome Mines (Jagdlust)	Chrome	Burgersfort	Non-operational
SAMANCOR Chrome Mines (Scheiding)	Chrome	Burgersfort	Non-operational
Tjate Platinum Corporation (Pty) Ltd	Titaneferous, magnetite	Burgersfort	Non-operational
Rakhoma Mining (Pty) Ltd		Burgersfort	Non-operational
Lesego Platinum (Pty)	Platinum	Burgersfort	Non-operational
Bokoni Platinum Mines (Pty) Ltd	Platinum	Burgersfort	Non-operational
SAMANCOR Chrome Mines (Jagdlust)	Chrome	Burgersfort	Non-operational
ELIAS MOTSOLEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY			
Braggite Resources (Pty) Ltd (Blue Ridge)	Platinum	Groblersdal	Non-Operational
Machero Quarries	Granite, Sand & Stone	Groblersdal	Operating
Evrax Highveld Steel and Vanadium Ltd (Mapochus Mine)	Vanadium	Groblersdal	Non-operational
Oppermann Kinders CC	Dimension Stone	Groblersdal	Operating
EPHRAIM MOGALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY			
Lime Chem Mine	Lime	Marble Hall	Operating
Lyttelton Marble Hall Mine	Dolomite	Marble Hall	Operating

3.5.2. Agriculture

Figure 11.1 illustrates the extent of agricultural activity in the form of crop farming across the district. As shown, extensive areas in the southern and far north-eastern regions are dominated by commercial-scale crop production. The local municipalities of Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi exhibit significant crop production, with commercial activities concentrated between the Loskop Dam and Flag Boshielo Dam, particularly along the Elands and Olifants tributaries. Additional sections of commercial crop production are evident in the far south-eastern areas of the district, notably south of Roosenekal. In the north-eastern part, commercial farming is mainly concentrated along the Steelpoort River within the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality. Crop production in the Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi municipalities primarily includes maize, tobacco, grapes, citrus, and soya beans, while cotton is predominantly cultivated within the Ephraim Mogale Local

Municipality. Accordingly, only the towns of Groblersdal and Marble Hall have grain milling infrastructure. The Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM mainly produces maize, wheat, vegetation production, and soya beans along water sources.

The central and northern regions of the district are primarily utilised for subsistence agriculture, which coincides with the concentration of rural settlements in these areas. The main subsistence crops cultivated include maize, vegetables, and wheat. This form of farming is primarily aimed at household consumption, with limited surplus sold as small-scale commodities. Although the district has a substantial amount of arable land, the extremely hot and dry weather conditions make it challenging for agricultural growth, as this requires significant investment in production, including large amounts of money and machinery. In contrast, the peripheral areas along the eastern and southern boundaries of the district are characterised by commercial agricultural activity due to the water sources found in the outer parts of the district.



Figure 11.1: Agriculture – Crop Farming

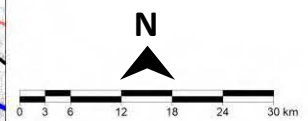
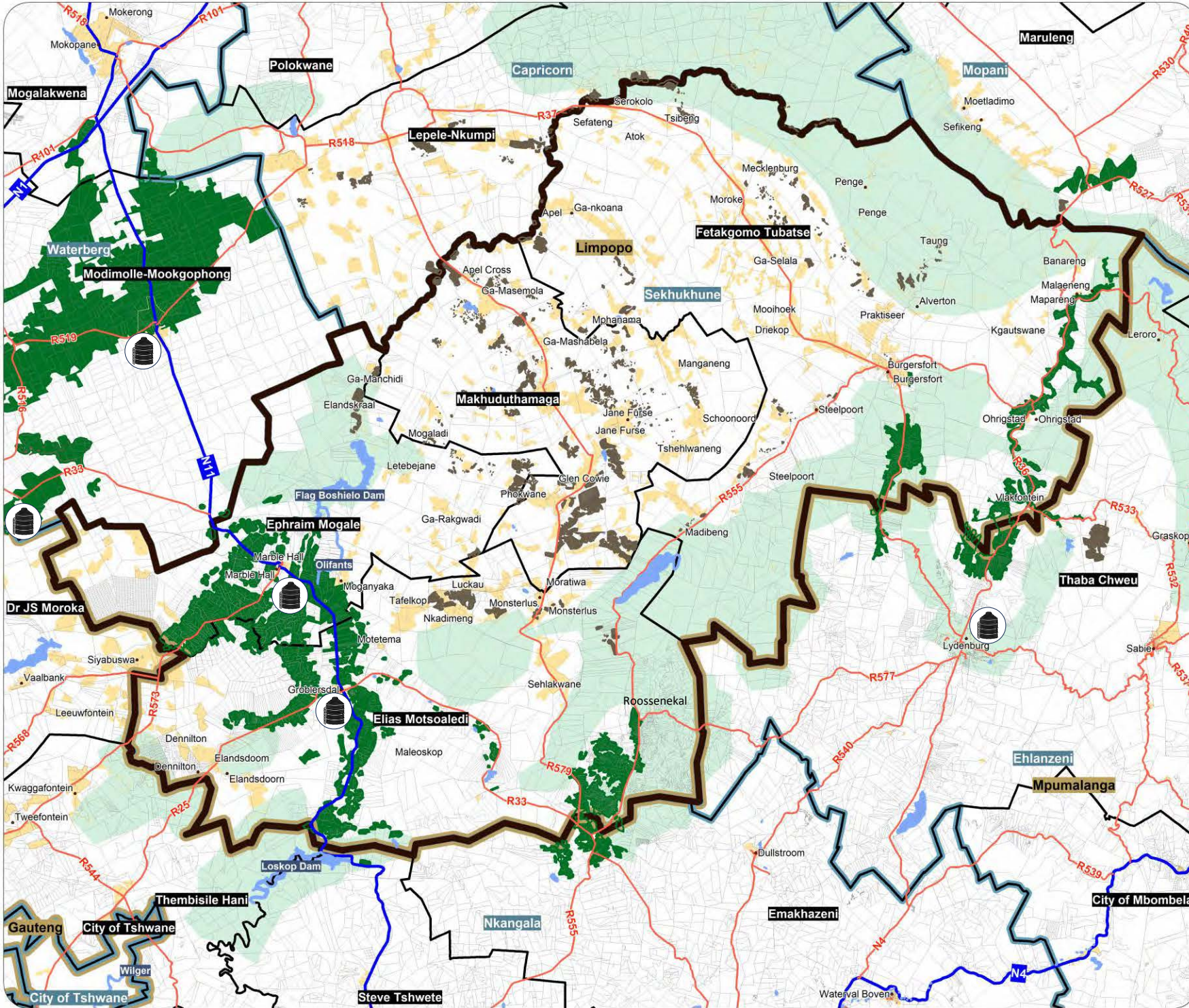


REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

AGRICULTURAL – CROP FARMING

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Cadastral (Erven, Farm, Parent Farm)
- Rural Settlement
- Commercial Crop Farming
- Subsistence Crop Farming
- Silos
- Regional Roads
- National Road
- Railway Line



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The majority of disadvantaged farmers within the district are not part of the mainstream agriculture sector but rather conduct farming activities on communal land or within their yards on a small-scale level in the rural parts of the municipality. This type of farming is characterised by low production, limited access to land, inadequate access to inputs, and, most importantly, restricted access to credit.

To assist local subsistence farmers, investments in irrigation infrastructure should be advocated for to ensure a reliable water supply in the rural settlements. This becomes particularly important as the district faces issues of unreliable rainfall and the threat of drought, which affect crop yields and food security. Efforts are currently underway to support farmers and enhance their farming practices. This includes the establishment of vegetable and fruit markets and nurseries to equip farmers with necessary inputs, as well as considering alternative commodities.

Livestock Farming

Subsistence-scale livestock farming is widespread across the district, with the Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality accounting for the largest share at 60% of total subsistence livestock production, as shown in **Figure 11.2**. This is followed by the Ephraim Mogale and Marble Hall Local Municipalities, each contributing 17%, and the Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, which contributes 13%. The Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality records the lowest number of livestock in the district. Livestock farming is primarily focused on the production of chickens, cattle, and goats.

The district operates three abattoirs, located in Groblersdal, Marble Hall, and Kgautswane.

Diagram 11: Commodities produced within the district

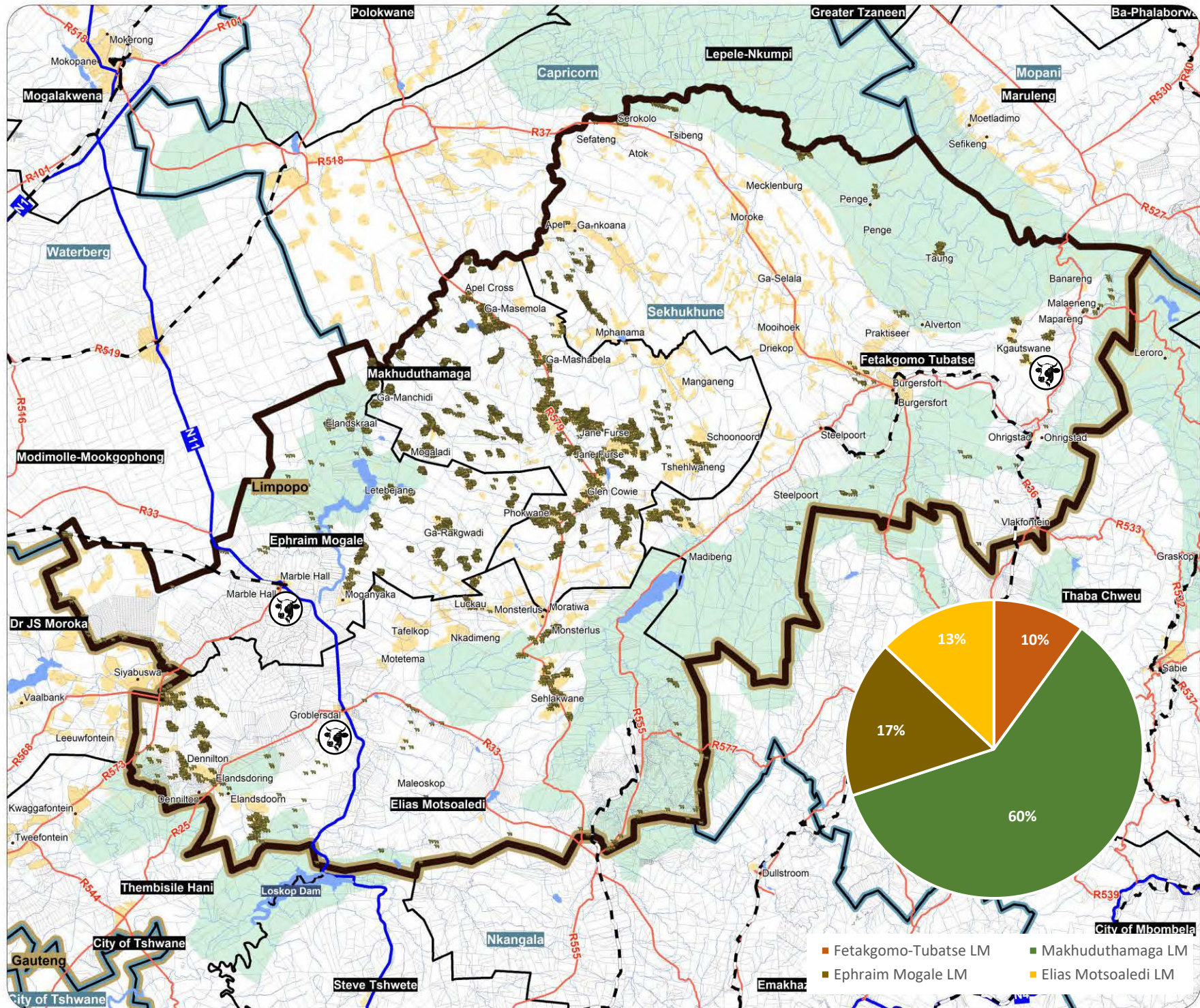


Source: National Development Plan (NDP)

According to the above diagram, Sekhukhune District is suitable for the production of Maize, Sorghum, Dry Beans, Cotton, Citrus, Table grapes, Vegetables (Tomatoes), Poultry, and Livestock. Commodities that have high value and are labour-intensive, as stipulated in Quadrant 2, are vegetables, citrus, table grapes, and cotton. These commodities offer significant potential for job creation due to their labour-intensive making them critical for addressing unemployment in the district.

Cattle and poultry, as indicated in quadrant 1, have high growth but are non-labour-intensive. Livestock in the District is primarily raised under extensive conditions in communal areas; consequently, overgrazing occurs due to farmers' overstocking. Cattle also face a risk of disease outbreak and theft as they are not kept in designated camps.

Figure 11.2: Agriculture – Livestock Farming

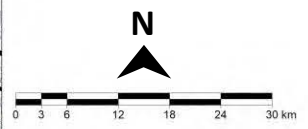


REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

AGRICULTURAL – LIVESTOCK FARMING

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Cadastral (Erven, Farm, Parent Farm)
- Rural Settlement
- Livestock Farming
- Abattoir
- Ecological Network
- Dams
- Rivers
- Regional Roads
- National Road
- Railway Line



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There is also a risk of inbreeding, which affects the quality of the breed and leads to low production. Livestock farmers sell their stock informally in the community during weddings, funerals, and traditional ceremonies. Many farmers are unable to access formal markets such as abattoirs or auctions, often due to poor livestock quality and the sale of aged animals, which reduces market value.

Drought also negatively affects cattle farmers, as many of them lose their stock during these periods. As a means to provide support, the Limpopo Department of Agriculture provides animal health advice and infrastructure support to livestock farmers within the district through vaccinations, dipping, and monitoring the movement of livestock to control diseases.

Small-scale poultry farmers also sell their live chickens informally to community members. Approximately large-scale broiler producers (owning approximately 40,000 capacity houses) are currently contracted to Kroons abattoir in Pretoria, as there is no operational abattoir in the district or nearby. The Department will continue to support smallholders with poultry houses to improve their production capacity and quality.

Maize and sorghum, as indicated in quadrant 4, are low-growth and non-labour-intensive crops, primarily produced for food security. The Sekhukhune district is endowed with good soil and water, which have great potential to strengthen the agricultural sector. The nature of agricultural activities by smallholder farmers indicates a diverse range of production, primarily focused on livestock, with significant cropping of tobacco, wheat, cotton, soybeans, citrus, paprika, pumpkin, peas, vegetables, grains, table grapes, dry beans, watermelons, and Lucerne. The agricultural capability of the district is highly dependent on the availability and consistency of water supply.

Citrus production stands out as a key contributor to the district's economy, predominantly driven by commercial farmers. The Department of Agriculture is actively supporting smallholder farmers interested in citrus through technical guidance and partnerships. The Citrus Growers Association also contributes by offering capacity-building initiatives and assisting in the development of business plans. Given the high costs associated with orchard establishment, additional funding is being sought from various stakeholders to support emerging farmers. A notable initiative includes the development of a citrus orchard for small-scale producers in the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality.

3.5.3. Tourism

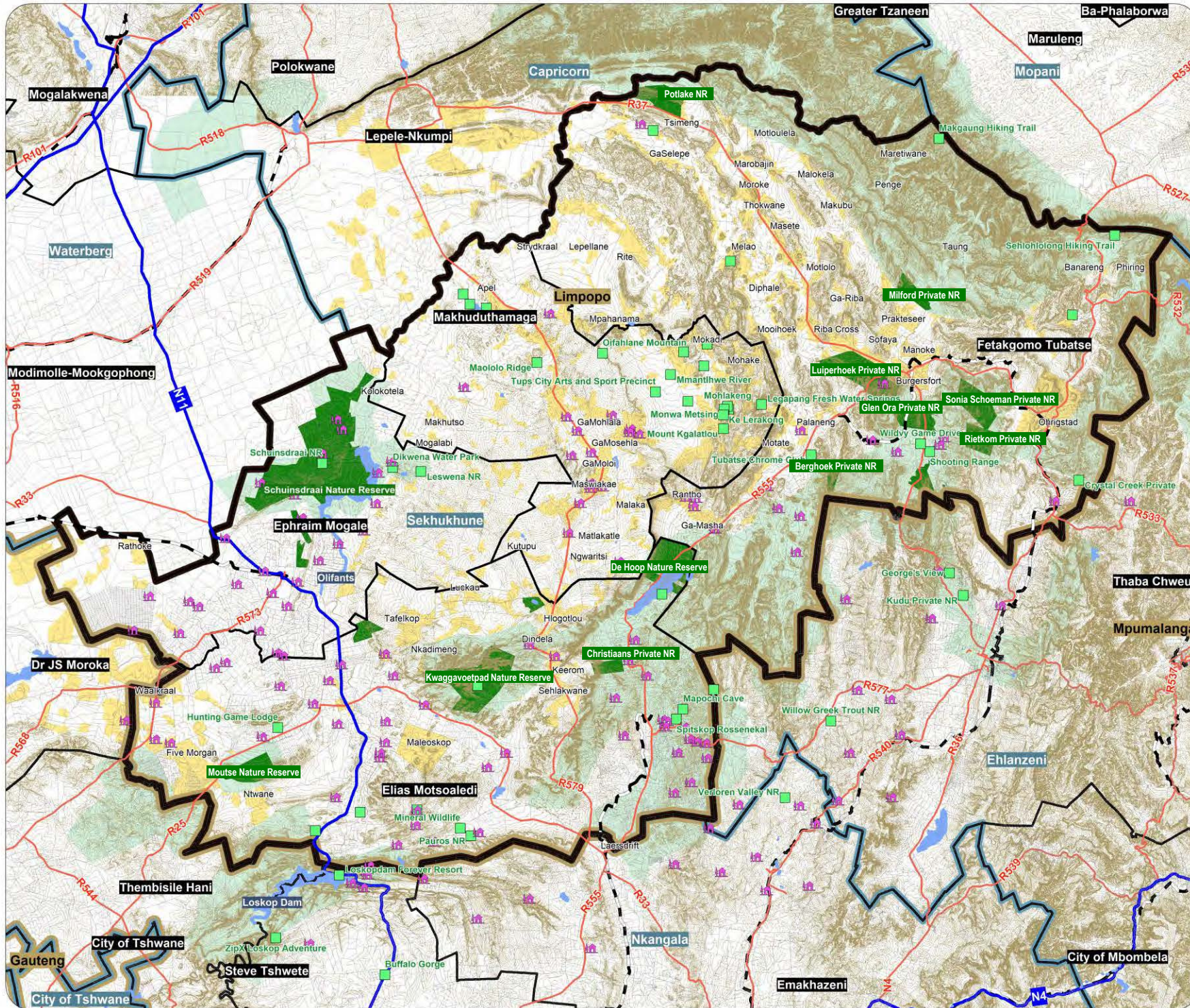
The Sekhukhune District is quietly distinguished by its rich natural beauty, cultural heritage, and agricultural landscape. Nestled within this setting are scenic destinations such as Flag Boshielo Dam, Schuinsdraai and Potlake Nature Reserves, and the Maleoskop Resort, offering opportunities for nature-based and cultural tourism, see **Figure 12.1**. While many of these attractions remain under-promoted, they continue to draw visitors who are drawn to the district's unique ecotourism experiences and unspoiled character. It is mentioned that the district recently established the Kamoka Open Africa Route, which could potentially be linked with the existing African Ivory and Cultural Heartland routes and the planned Great Limpopo Route.

Tourism in the district municipality presents a quietly emerging opportunity rooted in the area's rich natural landscapes, cultural heritage, and unique rural, agricultural landscape. Although not extensively marketed, the district's scenic settings, nature reserves, and cultural landmarks hint at a broader potential for ecotourism and heritage-based experiences, continuing to attract many visitors in the area.

As reflected in the district's growing tourism profile, beyond its established nature reserves, a variety of attractions ranging from hiking trails and natural springs to



Figure 12.1: Tourism



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

TOURISM ACTIVITY

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Cadastral (Erven, Farm, Parent Farm)
- Rural Settlement
- Overnight Accommodation
- Site Attraction / Activities
- Protected Areas
- Ecological Network
- Regional Roads
- National Road
- Railway Line



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REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

cultural villages, shooting ranges, and game drive experiences add depth to its tourism offering. These diverse activities have, in turn, contributed to a vast increase in overnight accommodation prevalent in the southern and central regions of the district.

Despite existing tourism attractions and facilities, and although tourism has been identified as one of the significant growth sectors in the SDM, the district lacks a major product to draw a significant volume of holiday tourists to the area. A major drawback could, however, firmly place Sekhukhune on established tourist routes to the Blyde River Canyon and Kruger National Park.

3.5.4. District-wide Economic Profile

The following section discusses the viability of economic sectors in the district, particularly the Gross Value Added (GVA), which measures the value of goods and services produced in a region, which in part aids governments and businesses in assessing their level of efficiency in their production, which ultimately contributes to employment and improved wages when there is increased growth in the GVA.

3.5.4.1. GVA Growth Analysis

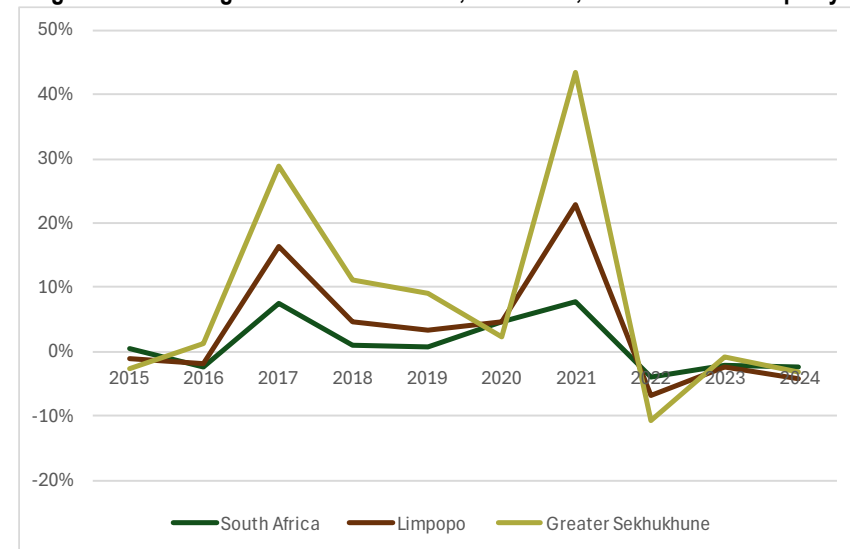
The section below will analyse sectoral contributions to Gross Value Added (GVA) and associated growth trends, as well as an employment profile by sector. Additional indicators such as the food poverty line, Gini coefficient, and location quotient will be used to understand income inequality, poverty levels, and economic concentration within the district. This report aims to build a clearer picture of the socio-economic dynamics in the region by highlighting key structural and spatial characteristics of the local economy.

The accompanying **Diagram 12.1** highlights annual GVA growth trends for South Africa, the Limpopo Province, and the Sekhukhune District from 2015 to 2024. The province itself contributed approximately 7.5% to South Africa's total Gross Value

Added (GVA) in 2022. Within the province, the Greater Sekhukhune District Municipality accounted for around 13.9% of Limpopo's total GVA.

The District's GVA growth shows significant volatility, with sharp increases observed in 2017 and 2021, followed by a notable decline in 2022 and sustained low growth thereafter. This instability reflects the district's economic vulnerability, particularly its dependence on sectors such as mining and agriculture, which are sensitive to fluctuations and unstable weather patterns that affect agricultural output.

Diagram 12.1: GVA growth for the National, Provincial, and District Municipality



Source: Quantec EasyData.

In terms of GVA per local municipality, an analysis of Gross Value Added (GVA) across the local municipalities in the district, as shown in **Diagram 12.2**, reveals varied sector performance trends over the years. Between 2016 and 2017, the dominant economic sectors in Ephraim Mogale, Elias Motsoaledi, and Fetakgomo-Tubatse local municipalities showed steady growth. However, this was followed by

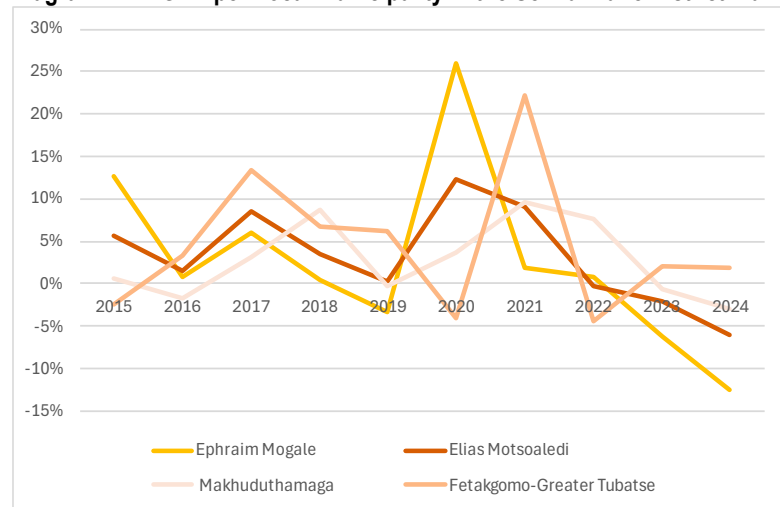
REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

a decline in 2019 across all three municipalities. Among them, Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM experienced a less severe downturn, indicating a relatively more resilient economic base.

At the peak of the COVID-19 period (2019–2020), Ephraim Mogale LM recorded a steady incline and a significant 26% growth trend. Amongst the other three municipalities, Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM tracked with a sharp performance in 2021 (23%), showing strong post-pandemic resilience.

In contrast, Elias Motsoaledi LM experienced a decline in 2020, and likewise Makhuduthamaga LM experienced a similar pattern of a 10% decrease in its GVA in 2021. Considering the recent trends (2023–2024), Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM continues to show steady growth, whereas the other three municipalities are experiencing a gradual decline in GVA, highlighting disparities in economic recovery and sectoral performance across the district.

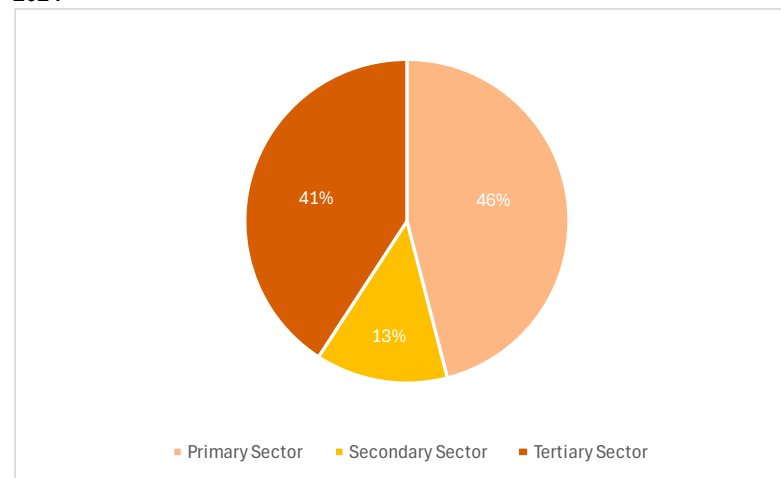
Diagram 12.2: GVA per Local Municipality in the Sekhukhune District Municipality



Source: Quantec EasyData.

The diagram below illustrates the contribution of each sector to the Gross Value Added (GVA) of the Greater Sekhukhune District Municipality in 2024. These are all ten economic sectors in the country, grouped under the primary, secondary, and tertiary categories.

Diagram 12.3: Sekhukhune District Municipality's Sectoral Contribution to GVA in 2024



Source: Quantec EasyData, 2024.

The Primary Sector is classified as one which requires the extraction and harvesting of natural resources. This includes activities that rely directly on natural resources, such as Agriculture (crop and livestock production), Forestry, Fishing, Mining and Quarrying. Whereas, the secondary sector involves manufacturing and industrial production, where raw materials from the primary sector are processed or transformed into finished or semi-finished products, such as manufacturing, construction, etc. Lastly, the tertiary sector involves services rather than goods. It includes all intangible economic activities that support production, distribution, and consumption.

REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

Based on the above-mentioned diagram, it is noted that the Tertiary Sector contributes approximately 41% towards Gross Value Added (GVA) in the year 2024.

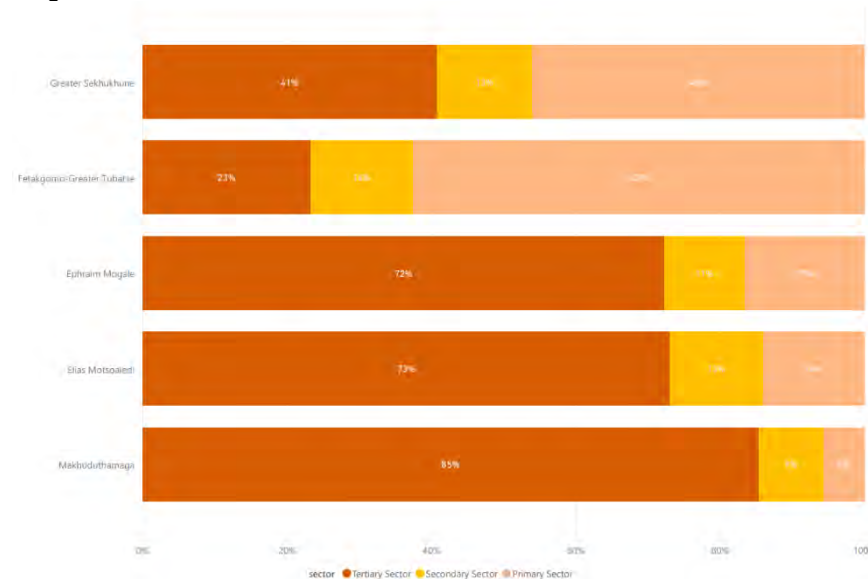
The following diagram illustrates the broad economic sector share of the District Municipality within the Limpopo Province. **Diagram 12.4** illustrates the dominant economic sectors contributing to Gross Value Added (GVA) across Limpopo Province, the Sekhukhune District Municipality, and its four local municipalities, categorised into the primary, secondary, and tertiary sectors.

At the district level, Mining and Quarrying account for 43% of Sekhukhune's total GVA. Notably higher than the provincial average of 26%. The sector's dominance is most pronounced in Fetakgomo–Tubatse Local Municipality, where mining alone contributes a substantial 61% of local GVA, largely due to extensive platinum mining operations in the area.

In contrast, the Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi municipalities reflect more diversified economies, with key contributions from Community, Social and Personal Services (21% and 22% respectively), alongside significant roles played by the General Government and Wholesale and Retail Trade sectors.

The Makhuduthamaga LM exhibits a strong dependence on the tertiary sector, particularly Community, Social and Personal Services, which make up 35% of its GVA, indicating a predominantly service-oriented local economy.

Diagram 12.4: Broad Sectoral Contribution to GVA in 2024



Source: Quantec EasyData, 2024.

The diagram below illustrates the key economic sectors that contribute to Gross Value Added (GVA) in Limpopo Province, specifically in the Greater Sekhukhune District Municipality and its four local municipalities. In Sekhukhune District, Mining and Quarrying emerges as the dominant sector, accounting for 43% of the district's total GVA, substantially higher than the provincial average of 26%. This dominance is most pronounced in Fetakgomo–Tubatse Local Municipality, where mining contributes an impressive 61% of the local GVA, as a result of the extensive mining activity linked to the platinum belt that runs through the area. Consequently, linked to the mining in the municipality is manufacturing at 12% and is also foremost in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse municipality.

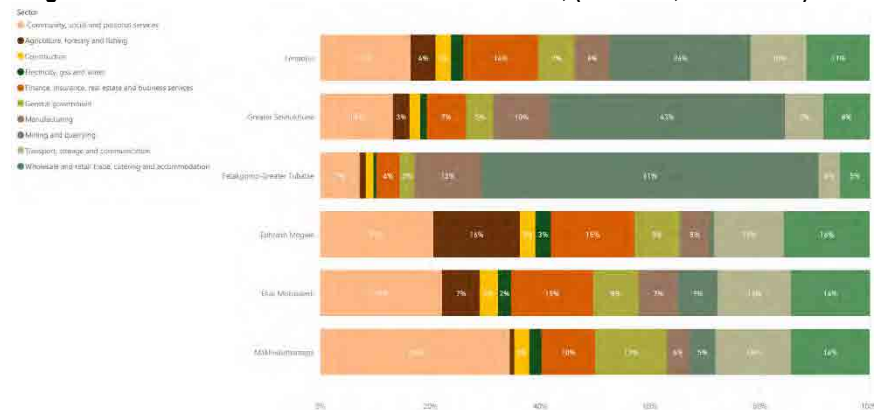
In contrast, the municipalities of Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi display more diversified economies. In both areas, Community, Social, and Personal Services



lead, contributing 21% and 22%, respectively, alongside significant input from the General Government and Wholesale and Retail Trade sectors. The Makhuduthamaga LM exhibits a clear dependence on the service sector, with Community, Social, and Personal Services accounting for 35% of its GVA, underscoring a predominantly service-oriented local economy. The agricultural sector is the smallest contributor to GVA in the district, accounting for just 7%. However, within the municipalities of Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi, agriculture contributes a notable 15%, which is significantly higher than both the district and provincial averages.

As shown, the Tertiary Sector is the strongest contributing sector in most local municipalities in 2024. The following diagram illustrates the broad economic sector share of the Local Municipalities within the Greater Sekhukhune District Municipality during 2024.

Diagram 12.5: Broad Economic Share of GVA in 2024, (Province, DM and LM)



Source: Quantec EasyData, 2024.

3.5.4.2. Employment Sector Contribution per Local Municipality

The following section outlines the employment profile across each local municipality, offering insight into labour market dynamics and the distribution of economic participation within the district.

As depicted, the Greater Sekhukhune's economy is service-driven, with Community, Social and Personal Services (27%) and Wholesale and Retail Trade (20%) being the dominant sectors. The local government and education sectors are key employers, while smaller contributions from finance (9%) and government (7%) indicate a moderate level of administrative and economic services.

I. Fetakgomo– Tubatse Local Municipality

This municipality reflects a more diversified economy. While Wholesale and Retail Trade (18%) and Mining and Quarrying (22%) are leading sectors, the area also features notable contributions from Community Services (22%) and Construction (10%). This mixed economic profile points to both primary sector activity and expanding urban service functions, especially around Burgersfort.

II. Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality

Ephraim Mogale LM has a strong public-sector presence, with Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services (31%) and Community Services (24%) leading the economic structure. Wholesale and trade also contribute 18%, suggesting this municipality is a key administrative and commercial node in the district, likely centred around Marbel Hall.

III. Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality

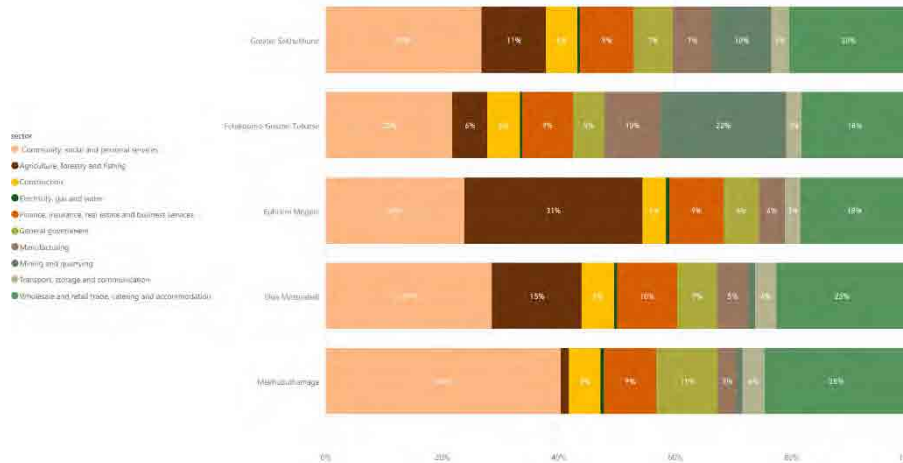
The municipality's economy is broadly balanced, with significant shares in Community Services (29%), Wholesale and Retail Trade (23%), and Electricity, Gas and Water (10%). The area shows strong government presence and essential

services, pointing to regional service delivery infrastructure and commercial support functions.

IV. Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality

The Makhuduthamaga LM is the most service-reliant municipality, with Community Services (40%) and Wholesale and Retail Trade (25%) making up two-thirds of the local economy. This suggests a dependency on public employment and basic retail trade, with a limited presence from higher-value sectors such as finance or manufacturing.

Diagram 12.6: Employment per Sector



Source: Quantec EasyData, 2024.

3.5.4.3. Labour Market

The section below highlights the employment status rates in the district. between 1996, when South Africa became an independent state, and 2022. Although there is still a high number of people unemployed since 1996, this trend is expected to continue through 2024.

With business operations increasingly shifting from human-driven interaction and production to technology- and machine-based systems, unemployment has continued at a relatively steady rate. This trend reflects the district's ongoing efforts to stabilise employment levels and support job creation. In 1996, unemployment was recorded at approximately 65%, and it increased slightly to 70% in 2001, representing a 5% increase in the number of people unemployed. With the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which emerged in 2020, the number of unemployed individuals decreased to 59%, which was slightly higher in the past 10 years (2011) at 61%.

In 2024, the district experienced a 5% increase in the number of unemployed people between 2022 and 2024. This could be a result of many businesses experiencing the aftershock of the pandemic, which led to some closures and others reducing their workforce.

Diagram 12.7: District Employment and Unemployment (%)

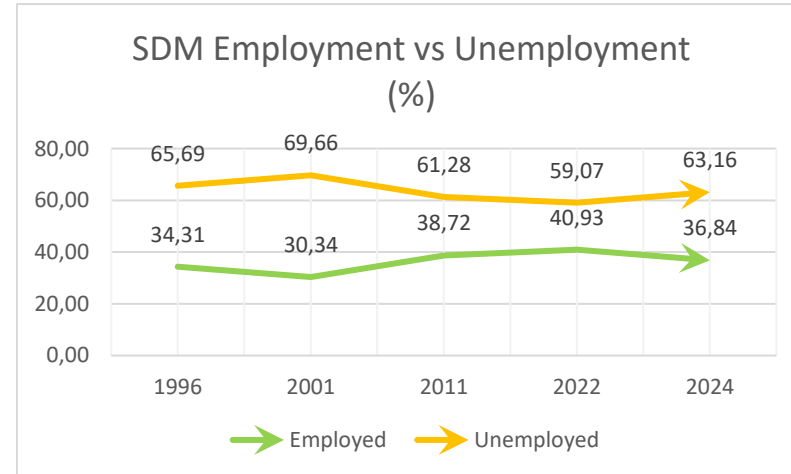


Diagram 12.8: District Employment and Unemployment - Population

Employment Status	1996	2001	2011	2022	2024
Employed	63152	70620	128794	106000	110428
Unemployed	120891	162120	203842	153000	189292
Total	184043	232740	332636	259000	299719

Source: Stats SA, 2011 & Quantec EasyData, 2024

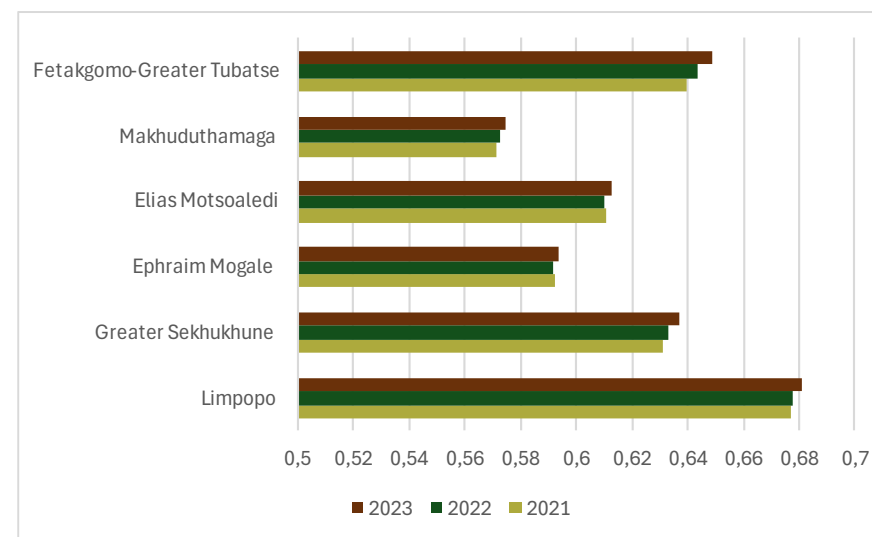
3.5.4.4. Affordability Level

The Gini Coefficient is a statistical tool that evaluates income inequality within a population, with values ranging from 0 (perfect equality) to 1 (extreme inequality). As per Quantec EasyData (2024), these coefficients were derived using per capita income and poverty headcount data.

The diagram below presents Gini Coefficient trends for Limpopo Province, the Greater Sekhukhune District Municipality, and its four local municipalities from 2021 to 2023. The province records the highest level of inequality, with a Gini coefficient of 0.68. A large portion of the population resides in areas distant from economic opportunities and continues to experience inadequate access to basic services. Although the Fetakgomo–Tubatse LM encompassed a lot of mining operations and industrial development, the municipality, however, holds the highest levels of inequality in the entire district, with a Gini coefficient of slightly above 0,64. Subsequently, Makhuduthamaga had the lowest Gini coefficient, indicating relatively lower income inequality.

While disparities persist, the overall Gini coefficients across the district remained fairly stable over the three years, subtly pointing to structural patterns in income distribution that may require long-term policy attention.

Diagram 12.8: Gini Coefficient for the Greater Sekhukhune District Municipality

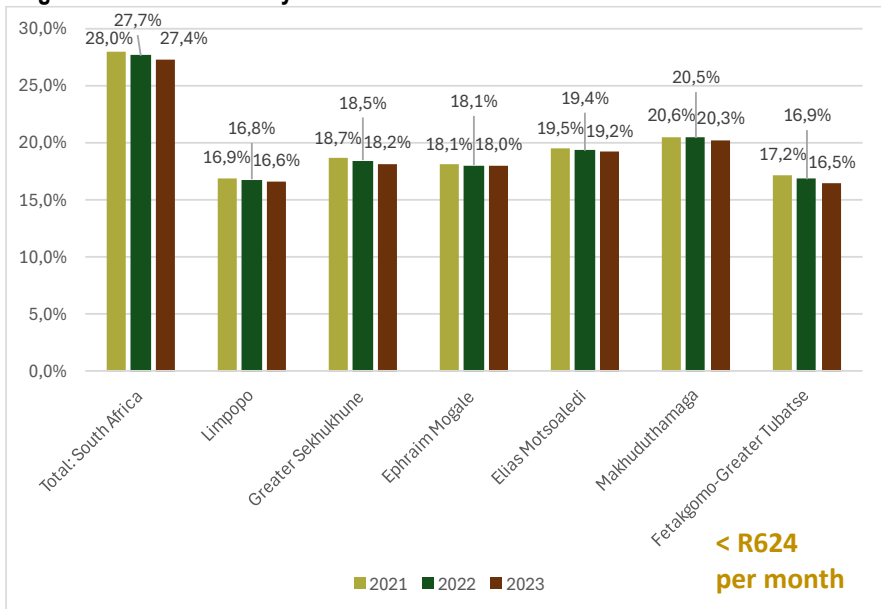


Source: Quantec EasyData, 2024

According to the 2024 data, the “Food Poverty Line” is R624 per person per month, which refers to the amount of money required to afford the minimum daily energy intake mentioned above. The diagram below illustrates the percentage of the population living below the food poverty line across South Africa, Limpopo, and the municipalities within the Greater Sekhukhune District from 2021 to 2023. While the national average declined slightly from 28.0% in 2021 to 27.4% in 2023, all local municipalities in Sekhukhune recorded lower food poverty rates than the national figure. The Makhuduthamaga LM consistently had the highest rate in the district, averaging around 20%, while Fetakgomo–Tubatse and Limpopo Province had the lowest, dropping to 16.5% and 16.6% respectively in 2023.



Diagram 12.9: Food Poverty Line



Source: Quantec EasyData, 2024

3.5.4.3. District-wide Economic Distribution

The following section examines the economic distribution of goods and services produced within the district municipality, along with the transport routes utilised to access both domestic and export markets.

1. Mining Logistics and Channels

Mining products are transported from the district to export and logistics hubs using rail and road transportation. The R37 serves as a key corridor for transporting mining goods from Steelpoort and Burgersfort to Polokwane and Lydenburg. From there, road transportation moves these goods to freight terminals in Polokwane and Middelburg, continuing towards Maputo Port. To the south, the road connects with the N4 (Maputo Corridor), which heads west towards Gauteng for rail hubs and

eastward towards Mozambique, where goods are shipped internationally to China, India, Europe, and the USA.

To the north, the road links to the N1 (North-South Corridor), heading east towards Zimbabwe via the Polokwane–Musina–Beitbridge border post, primarily used for exports to Zimbabwe, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), and other neighbouring countries. The R555 route is utilised to transport mining goods from Steelpoort to Middelburg and connects to the N11, leading towards Richards Bay.

2. Agricultural Logistics and Channels

Agricultural goods from Jane Furse are primarily transported along the R579 route, connecting to the R33 and R25, and eventually joining the N11 and N4 towards export hubs. The N11 passes through Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi, with agricultural goods from these regions mainly transported along this route. The N11 connects southwards with the N4, facilitating transportation of goods east to Mozambique and west toward Gauteng.

3. Freight Rail Routes

The Steelpoort rail link feeds into the Maputo Corridor rail and the Richards Bay export railway via Lydenburg and Belfast. The Richards Bay Coal Line, running from Ermelo to Richards Bay, serves as a rail-road intermodal hub for bulk goods from Waterburg and Sekhukhune in Middelburg. The Maputo Corridor Rail is a vital export rail line, providing cost-effective mineral transportation from Limpopo and Mpumalanga to Asia and Europe

3.6. ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES

The following section provides a critical component of spatial planning, highlighting the ecological characteristics, natural systems, and environmental constraints of the District Municipality that influence land use and development within the SDM. The analysis will assess the current state of the environment, including elements such as climate, topography, water resources, soil conditions, biodiversity, and environmental sensitivities.

3.6.1. TOPOGRAPHY AND HYDROLOGY

Figure 13.1 depicts the topography of the Sekhukhune District, which consists of strongly undulating plains, that transition into the Springbok Flats of the Waterberg District to the west. Dominating the north-eastern and eastern areas is the Klein Drakensberg Mountain range, a prominent physical feature that significantly shapes the district's spatial structure. This range acts as a natural barrier, particularly limiting east-west movement in the central and northern areas, impacting connectivity between key towns such as Burgersfort, Jane Furse, Groblersdal, and Marble Hall.

The Olifants, Moses, and Elands Rivers enter the district from the southwest and converge to form the Olifants River, which flows north-northeast along the district's boundary. The Tubatse (Steelpoort) and Ngwaritsi (Spekboom) Rivers traverse the eastern and central parts of the district, eventually joining the Olifants River further north.

Key dams fed by these rivers include the Rooikraal, Piet Gouws, and Flag Boshielo Dams within the Olifants River system, as well as the recently constructed De Hoop Dam on the Tubatse River. These watercourses are vital to the Loskop and Ohrigstad Irrigation Schemes, supporting both commercial and subsistence agriculture in the region.

The district municipality experiences a semi-arid climate, typical of the Olifants River Valley, characterised by hot and dry conditions. Summer temperatures average around 23°C, while winters are cooler, with an average of 13.5°C. Rainfall is unevenly distributed, with the southern and southeastern parts of the district receiving the highest levels (approximately 600–800 mm per year). These areas also support the majority of the district's commercial agriculture.

In terms of annual rainfall, the northern and central-northern extents of the area are not well suited to intensive commercial agriculture. There is considerable variability in terms of rainfall intensity, duration, and frequency. This exacerbates the water shortage problem, which is a key developmental constraint in the district. Furthermore, increasingly sparse rainfall and a high evaporation rate are currently limiting subsistence farming in the district, a situation that has contributed to food insecurity.

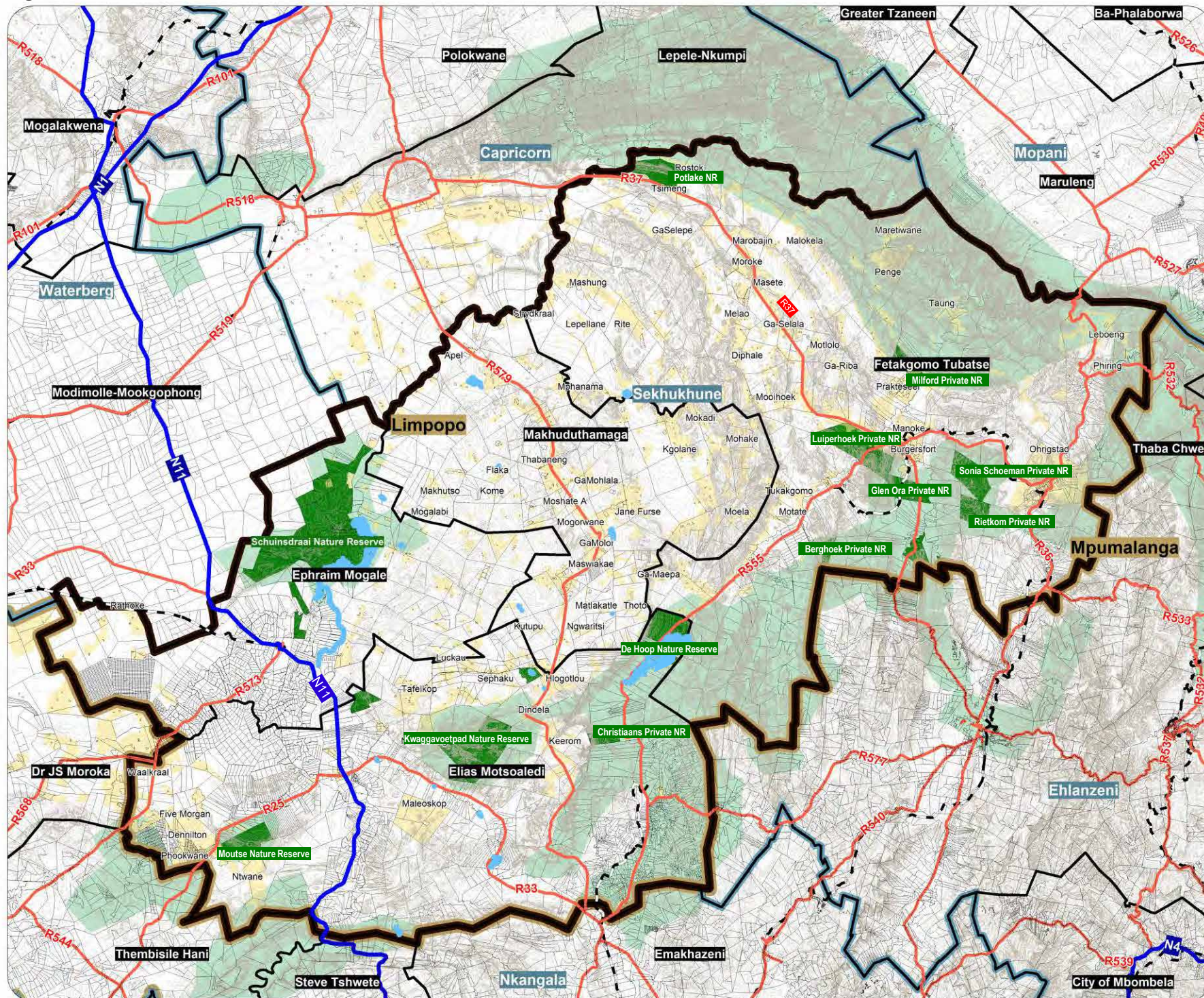
3.6.2. GEOLOGY

Figure 13.2 Sekhukhune district is home to one of the largest reserves of platinum Group Metals (PGMs) in the world. The famous Bushveld Complex that forms part of the Merensky Reef is found in the north and north-eastern parts of the district municipality (The western limb is found in the area between Rustenburg and Northam in North West Province). Sekhukhune has a highly complex geological structure, characterised by a diverse range of rocks and soils. It consists of the eastern Bushveld and Springbok Flats region, located along the western boundary of the district.

The figure depicts that the areas have layers of bronzite, claystone, pockets of dolomite, indicating higher development expenses in such areas, feldspathic arenite, and gabbro, which is mainly found in areas with platinum deposits. Although the district features a variety of rock formations, the overall geology is classified as Gabbro, Anorthosite band, Clinopyroxenite and Arenite. This means that the district



Figure 13.1: Natural Features: Protected Areas & Nature Reserves



SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW

TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL FEATURES

Legend

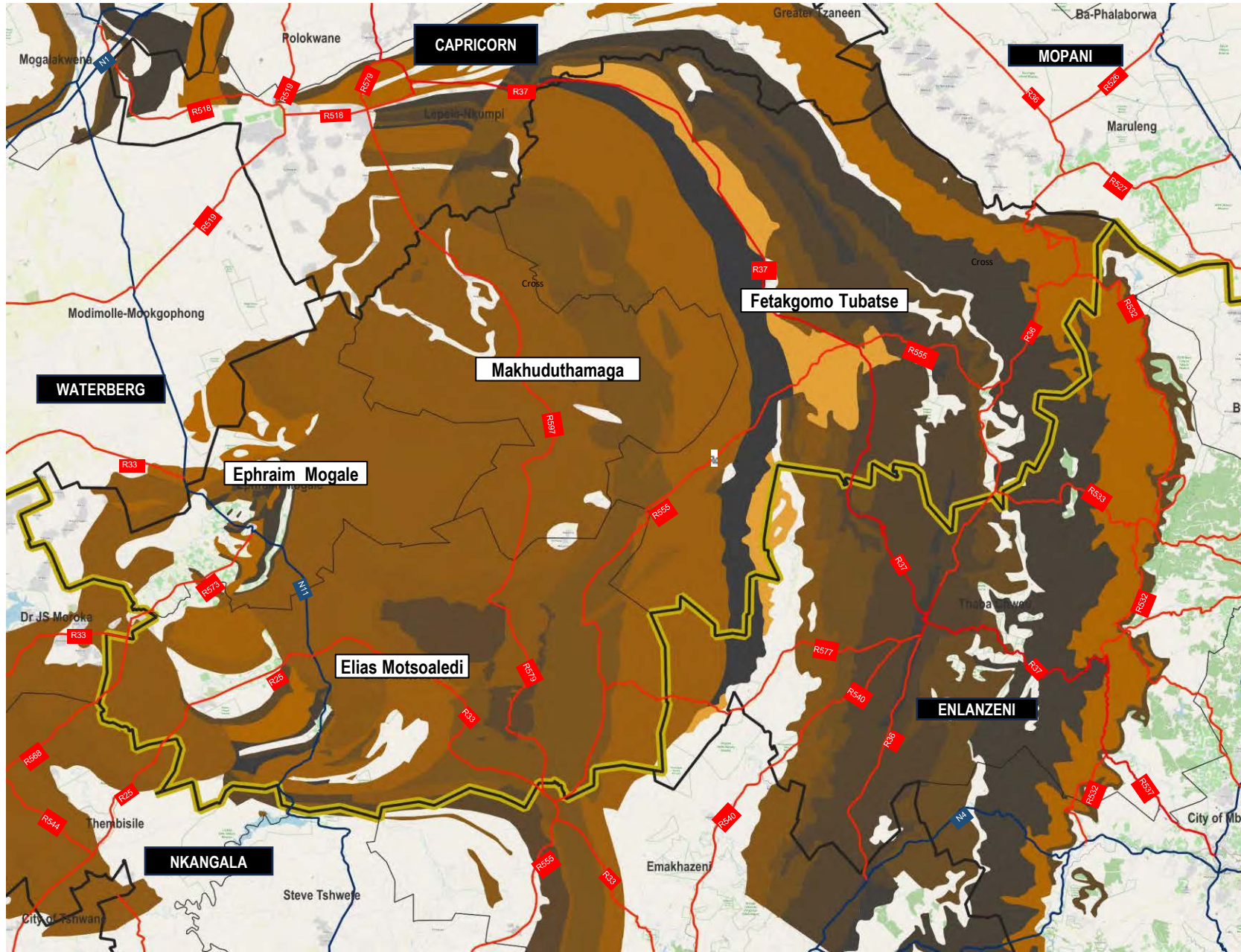
- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Rural Settlement
- Nature Reserves
- Protected Areas
- Regional Roads
- National Road
- Railway line



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Figure 13.2: Geology

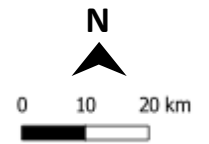


SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW

GEOLOGY

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Rural Settlement
- Cadastral (Erven, Farms, Parent Farm)
- Regional Roads
- National Road
- Bronzite
- Claystone, Siltstone
- Dolomite
- Feldspathic Arenite
- Fine-to-Very Coarse grained
- Gabbro
- Gneiss
- Granite
- Homogenous granophyre
- Metamorphosed Mudstone
- Olivine diorite
- Pebbly quartzite
- Minor shale
- Siltstone
- Quartzite
- Rhyolite
- Minor limestone
- Basalt
- Conglomerate
- Tuff and agglomerate overlain by pillow basalt



is an advantageous place for construction, industrial use and mining activities. The district also consists of heavy metal soils derived from predominantly pyroxenite, norite, and anorthosite formations, resulting in very limited agricultural potential. Areas with the highest soil sensitivity are located along the eastern escarpment, which hosts a significant amount of commercial and subsistence farming.

This area is also characterised by foothills and Drakensberg mountains, which have a significant influence on the real estate sector within the area.

3.6.3. CLIMATE CHANGE

South Africa has been experiencing an increase in temperatures in recent years, which has a significant impact on its environmental, economic, and social sectors. This raises a serious concern for planning in South Africa, a country already plagued by numerous socio-economic and environmental issues. The CSIR reported that in 2015, the country experienced the largest El Niño event in its history, with temperatures in the region increasing by an average of 5°C in its monthly climatological temperature report.

This continued to be the case for several years (more specifically, 2017), where parts of the country experienced an all-time low in rainfall, and dams dropped to critical low levels. This led to a critical water shortage and significant losses in the agricultural sector, forcing farmers to sell their land and livestock in an effort to recover financially.

Therefore, this section discusses the current and projected climate conditions in the Sekhukhune District Municipality and the development conditions in the region, as well as the necessary actions to address/mitigate, and adapt to the issues outlined in the following subsections.

3.6.3.1. Current Drought Levels

In terms of drought, **Figure 13.3** illustrates the risk levels of drought over 10-year periods for the period from 1995 to 2024. This illustrates that the north-eastern parts of the district (specifically the eastern regions of Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM) experienced a low risk of drought. This suggests that the region has no major temperature increases and experiences good rainfall. The central parts of the district, particularly the Makhuduthamaga LM, experienced the region's highest level of drought, which is detrimental to community well-being due to extreme dry conditions and the agricultural sector in that area. The remaining parts of the district, mainly the municipalities of Ephraim Mogale LM, Elias Motsoaledi LM, and the far western part of the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM, are at intermediate risk of drought, as evidenced by medium levels of drought, indicating relatively dry weather conditions.

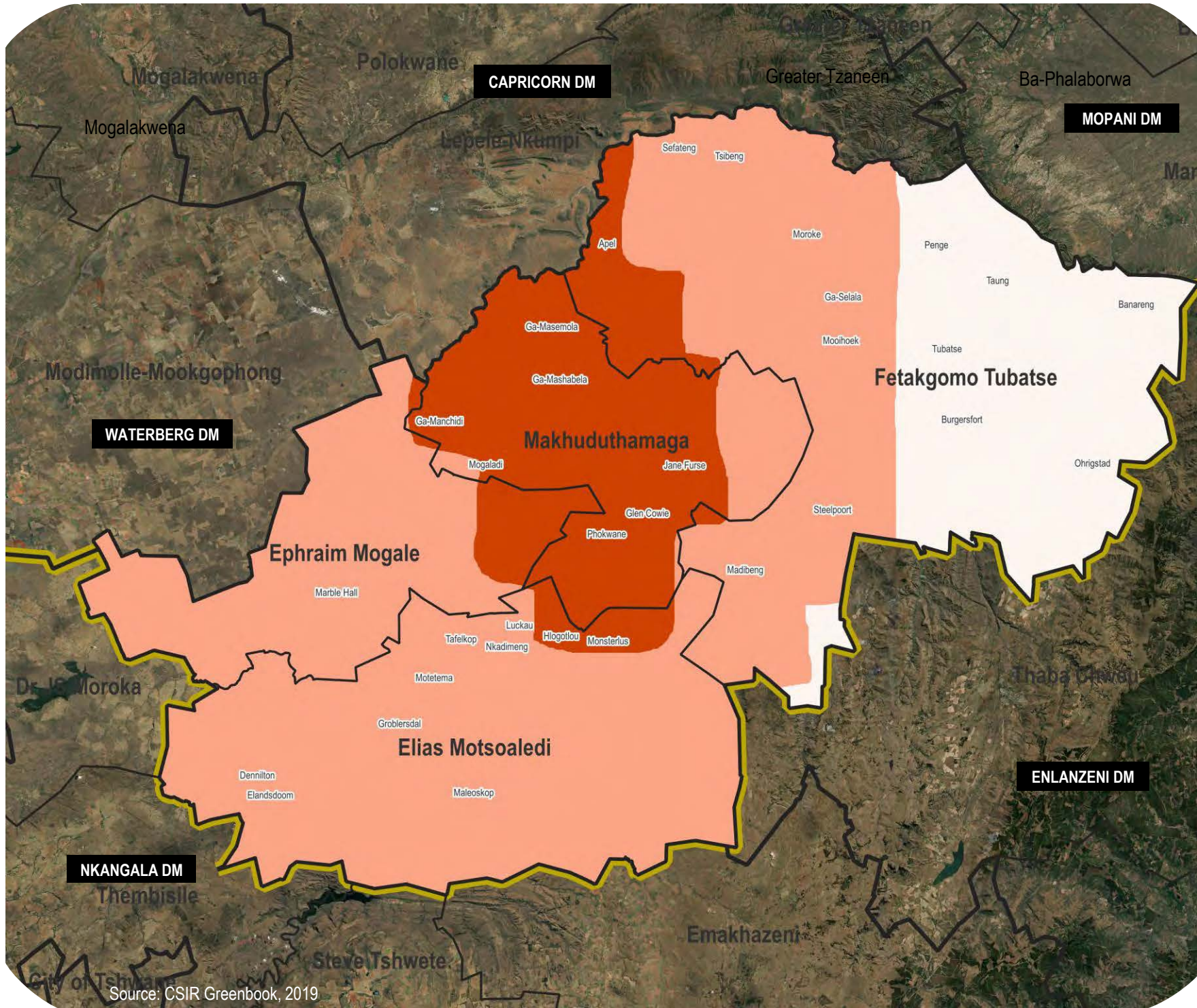
3.6.3.2. Projected Drought Risk Level

This section provides an in-depth examination of the various climate projections for the Sekhukhune district municipality, as outlined in the Green Book, and discusses their implications for regional development. The focus will be on projected temperatures and rainfall for each local municipality.

In terms of Drought, as shown in **Figure 13.4**, the drought risk levels are depicted between 2035 and 2064. As shown, the eastern part of the region is at high risk of severe drought, indicating that the region will likely experience significant temperature increases, leading to extreme dry weather conditions. Limpopo SDF states that the temperature change is 3° Celsius. Regarding rainfall, the map indicates that the area is expected to experience a decrease in rainfall. This drastic change can be attributed to the mining activities in Steelpoort. This will result in areas such as Jane Furse being affected. This will make it hard for farmers to continue agricultural activities. The drought map also shows that the area southwest of the region where large-scale commercial is taking place will not be that affected









Figure 13.3: Drought Risk Levels (1995 – 2024)

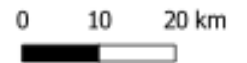


SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW

DROUGHT RISK LEVELS (1995-2024)

Legend

-  Provincial Boundary
-  District Boundary
-  Municipal Boundary
- Drought Risk Levels**
-  Low
-  Medium
-  High

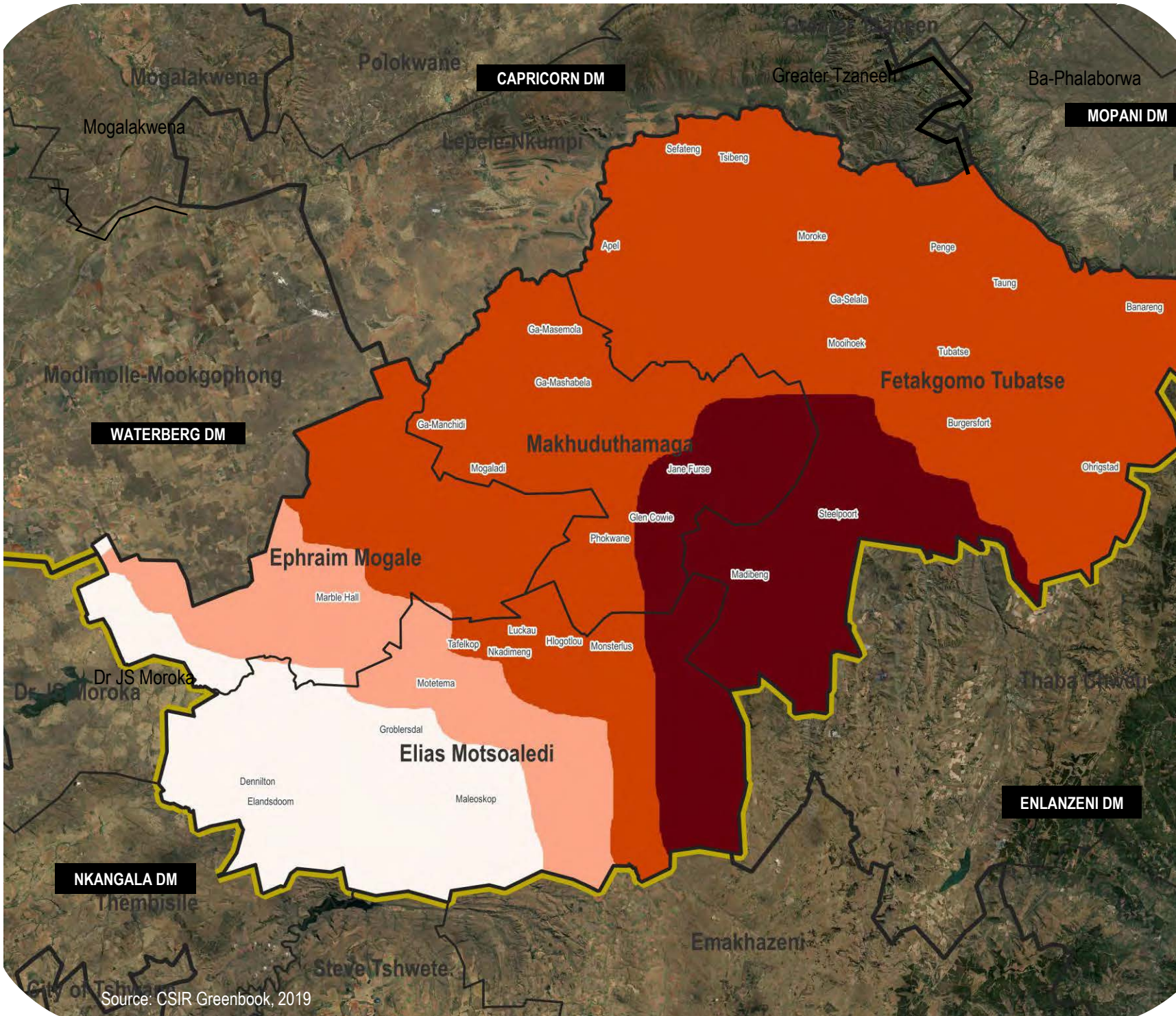


Client Contact:
 Sekhukhune District Municipality
 3 Wes Street
 Groblersdal
 0470

Tel: 013 262 7300

Source: CSIR Greenbook, 2019

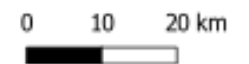
Figure 13.4: Drought Risk Levels (2035 – 2065)



SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW
DROUGHT RISK LEVEL (2035-2065)

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Local Municipal Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Drought Risk Levels**
- Low
- Medium
- High
- Extremely High Drought Risk



Client Contact:
 Sekhukhune District Municipality
 3 Wes Street
 Groblersdal
 0470

Tel: 013 262 7300

Source: CSIR Greenbook, 2019

by drought, however rain is projected to decrease drastically, which will have a severe impact on agricultural activities, which could threaten the food security of the area and the economic sector as agriculture is the largest contributing industry in the region.

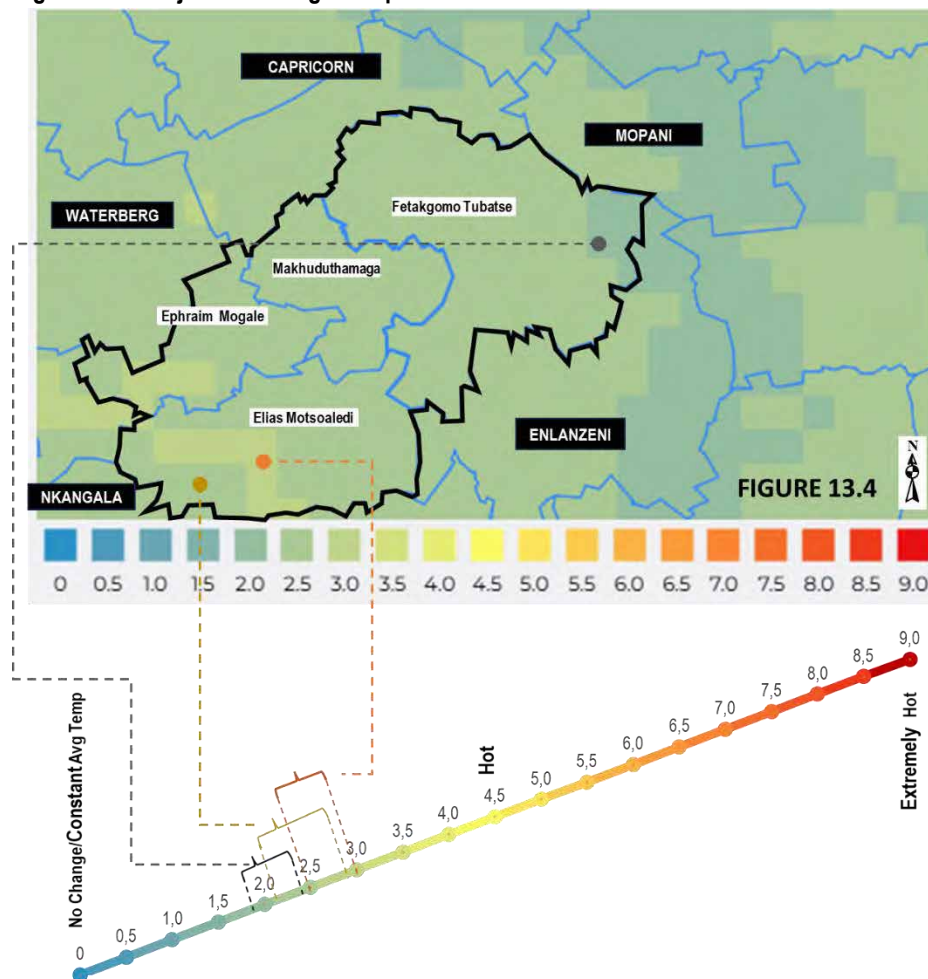
Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality

The LM is projected to experience the least amount of hot weather conditions, with average temperatures projected to change between 2.27 and 2.72 degrees Celsius, meaning less extreme hot days, see **Figure 13.5**. The local municipality is expected to experience hot climate conditions for between 2 and 42 days. However, the projections for rainfall suggest that the area will experience several rainy days, with average rainfall projections expected to change between -12.08mm and 39.64 mm. According to the GreenBook, anything around 20mm is considered a worst-case scenario, where rain is expected to accompany severe thunderstorms and lightning, especially in areas such as Groblersdal.

Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality

Average temperatures in the Ephraim Mogale LM are expected to range between 2.34 and 2.77 degrees Celsius, indicating cool weather conditions. The entire municipality is expected to receive an average rainfall of approximately 1.05 mm to 9.13 mm, while the northern part of the municipality is expected to experience significant rainfall, lasting more than 2 days. The central area is likely to experience moderate rainfall lasting less than a day, while the southern part will see the least amount of rain. This suggests that agricultural activities and initiatives should be concentrated in the northern part of the municipality.

Figure 13.5: Projected Average Temperatures



Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality

Temperatures in the Makhuduthamaga LM are expected to change on average by 2.22 to 2.66 degrees Celsius annually. Extreme changes are expected to be between 2.65 to 2.93 degrees Celsius, meaning that the municipality will experience a lot of extremely hot days. On average, the municipality might experience 8 to 54 days of extreme hot weather, especially in areas around Jane Furse. Other areas north west of the municipality might experience more with between 10 to 63 days of hot weather in a year. With regards to rain, the area is expected to and 9.97mm of rainfall, meaning the area will experience at most 2 days of extreme rainfall.

Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality

Out of the four municipalities, the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM is expected to experience the largest increase in average temperatures, with changes ranging between 2.09 to 2.66 degrees. In the worst-case scenario, temperatures could rise alarmingly between 2.52 and 2.99 degrees Celsius. This indicates that if the area is already hot, temperatures could worsen by 2.52 to 2.99 degrees, with such extreme conditions occurring an average of 2 to 56 days annually. Areas most at risk are Burgersfort and the northern regions of the municipality. Rainfall projections show very little rainfall for the municipal area, with rain falling anywhere between - 16.48mm and 38.21mm, mostly confined to small areas like Praktiseer and Ohrigstad.

Projections indicate that by 2050, most of the district's land will experience severe drought, especially in areas near mining operations. This has a negative impact on the environment, society, and the local economy. These effects include increased soil dryness, leading to low soil moisture that hampers agriculture and often results in wildfires. Such wildfires severely threaten food security and the livelihoods of subsistence farmers. Rising temperatures also endanger local flora and fauna, risking their mortality. This threat extends to people as well, with heat-related health issues, such as skin cancer and other serious conditions, which can be fatal,

especially for the elderly. Additionally, higher temperatures cause more evaporation, drying up dams and leading to water shortages for animals, livestock, and residents.

These issues not only harm the agricultural economy but also drive businesses and investments out of the region, increasing socio-economic pressures. Therefore, proactive measures and strategies must be implemented to prepare the region for these scenarios and enable adaptation. One possible approach is to enhance food security through targeted agricultural investments, particularly in areas most likely to avoid drought risks. Investing in initiatives such as smart irrigation systems can help maximise the productivity of limited farmland. Despite low rainfall levels, heavy rain is expected in the northeast of the district, such as in Leboeng, which traditionally receives less rain.

3.6.4. VEGETATION, NATURE RESERVES AND PROTECTED AREAS

Sekhukhune's vegetation is mostly tropical bush and savannah. More specifically, the dominant vegetation type (also classified as sensitive) is Sourish Mixed Bushveld, which contains the false grassveld types. Several nature reserves, conservation areas and private nature reserves are found throughout the district. These include the Schuinsdraai Nature Reserve at Flag Boshielo Dam, the Potlake Nature Reserve to the north, the Kwaggavoetpad Nature Reserve, centrally located in Elias Motsoaledi, the Moutse and Loskop Dam Nature Reserves to the south, and Blyderivierspoort Nature Reserve at the north-eastern end of the district.

There are also several small clusters of Private Nature Reserves along the Olifants River in the eastern parts of Ephraim Mogale, a cluster in the south-western extents of Elias Motsoaledi (forming part of a larger cluster located in the Nkangala District (Loskop Dam to Rust de Winter), around the new De Hoop Dam along the Steelpoort/ Tubatse River in the east, and another cluster around Burgersfort/ Tubatse.

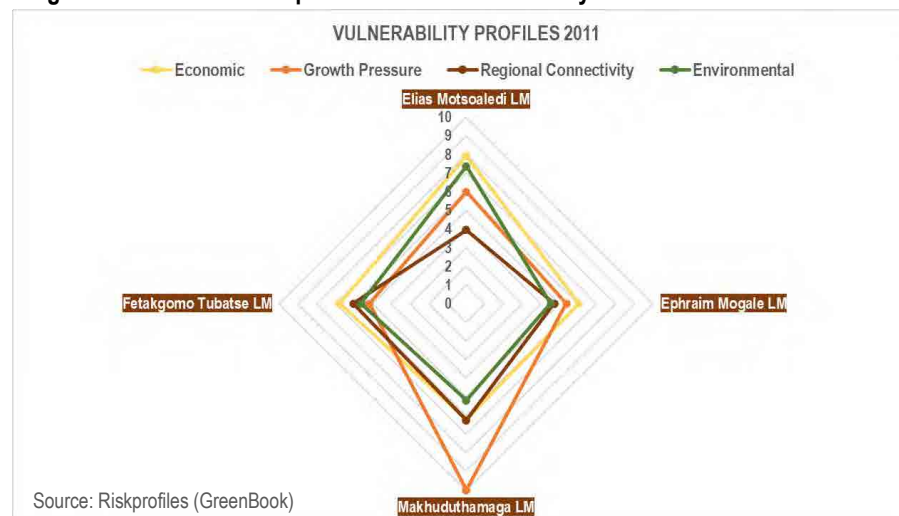


3.7. SETTLEMENT VULNERABILITY

The section below presents settlement vulnerability information derived from analysis by the CSIR's Greenbook dated 2019 illustrating the spatial settlement pattern within the four local municipalities possessing economic and settlement growth pressures, limited regional connectivity, and mismanagement of the environment. The diagrams illustrates the vulnerability ratings of each municipality, with each LM rated on a scale from 1 to 10, where 10 represents the highest level of vulnerability and 0 indicates no vulnerability.

Notably, the profiles of the various municipalities may have shifted in the past 5 years, either improving or deteriorating, particularly in relation to environmental and economic pressure. However, this information is useful as it assists in identifying areas that are most at risk and thus require some form of mitigation to reduce further regression, especially considering global trends such as rapid population growth, urbanisation, climate change, and possible global hostilities.

Diagram 13.1: Local Municipal--Settlement Vulnerability Level



In terms of settlement growth pressures, the Makhuduthamaga LM experienced the highest vulnerability growth pressure, rated at the maximum of 10. This is because the municipality experiences significant rural settlement sprawl, while infrastructure services cannot keep pace with the demand of the growth in areas such as Hlogotlou, Jane Furse, Glen Cowie, and the traditional areas, all of which have a growth pressure rating of 10. The Makhuduthamaga LM ranked second in population change, just behind the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM. It's reasonable to conclude that these areas experienced the most growth over the past 11 years.

The diagram also reveals an interesting and concerning change: that the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM, which had a lower growth pressure than Makhuduthamaga LM with a vulnerability rating of 5, encompassed the highest population change, ranking first in 2022 (according to Census 2022). The Steelpoort area was identified as the primary area contributing to the economy of the LM, hence the population surge, as it was the only area with a growth pressure rating of 10. Notably, the impact

REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

of mining activity in the area places not only the Steelpoort area but the entire municipality in a predicament should industrialisation not be further explored in the region.

In terms of economic vulnerability, the Elias Motsoaledi LM had the highest rating at 8, followed by the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM at 6.78 and the Makhuduthamaga at 6.21. Ephraim Mogale LM had the lowest vulnerability with a rate of 6.04. This is due to the Elias Motsoaledi LM's economy, which is largely founded on agriculture and is thus vulnerable to unpredictable weather patterns and reliant on exports, making it sensitive to global markets. Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM on the mining and exporting of raw minerals.

In terms of economic vulnerability, the Ephraim Mogale LM continued to show economic resilience, with recent data indicating growth between 2016 and 2017, though this was followed by sharp declines in subsequent years. During the 2019-2020 COVID-19 pandemic, Ephraim Mogale's economy grew by 26%, followed by Fetakgomo-Tubatse at 23%. Meanwhile, the Elias Motsoaledi LM and Makhuduthamaga LM experienced economic declines. This pattern has persisted over the past nine years, with these two municipalities remaining the most vulnerable to economic pressures, as also seen during the pandemic.

The 2023-2024 data show that all municipalities except Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM experienced sharp economic declines, with their gross value added (GVA) dropping below zero. This indicates ongoing economic vulnerability across the district. The most at-risk areas include Laerdrift, Marapong, Sehlakwane, Kgobokwane, and the traditional areas of Elias Motsoaledi LM, where 70% of the population lives rating between 9 and 10. In Makhuduthamaga LM, Hlogotlou was the only area with a rating of 10, while in Ephraim Mogale LM, Leeuwfontein held the highest rating of 10.

These areas are dispersed, located far from economic centres, and have very limited regional connectivity. To address these issues, the district municipality should prioritise initiatives aimed at strengthening the economy and ensuring sustainability, especially in the Elias Motsoaledi LM, Ephraim Mogale LM, and Makhuduthamaga LM, where agriculture remains the main economic driver.

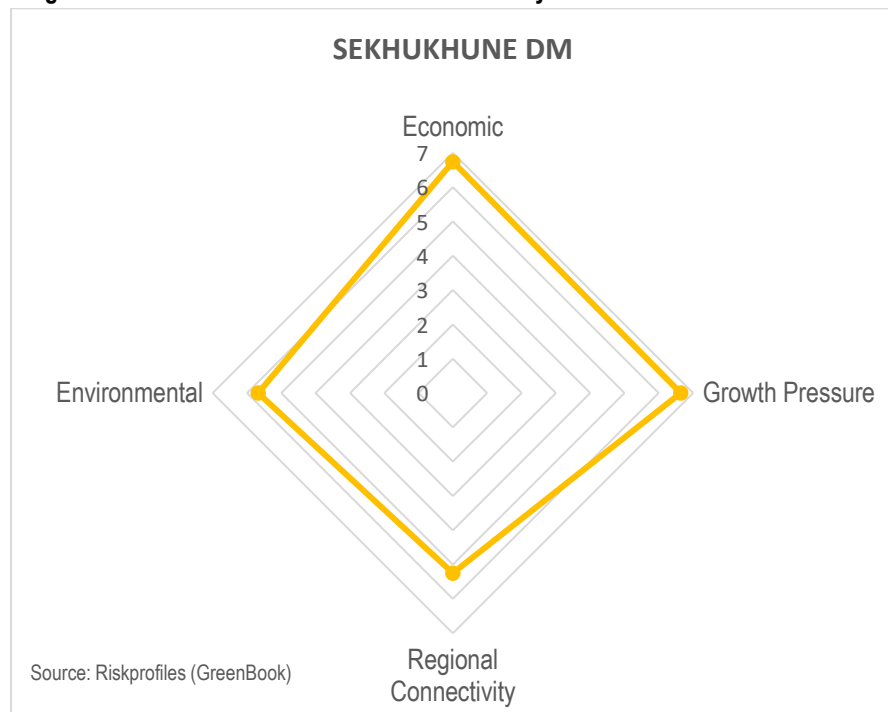
The Elias Motsoaledi LM has consistently shown the highest environmental vulnerability, with an average rating of 7.35 based on both old and recent data. The district must take measures to reduce these pressures and secure these areas, particularly in relation to agriculture. During that period, all settlements in the municipality had vulnerability ratings above 5, which is the second-lowest among the identified areas. Other areas showed ratings above 7, with Dennilton at 10, followed by Sehlakwane at 9.7, Monsterlus at 9.6, and Malaeneng at 9.5. Fetakgomo Tubatse ranked second for environmental vulnerability, with an average of 5.47. Within this municipality, Fetakgomo-Tubatse scored the highest with a rating of 10, followed by Mashung and Morohe at 8.9 and 9.5, respectively.

The municipalities of Ephraim Mogale and Makhuduthamaga have the lowest vulnerability ratings at 5.3 and 5.2, although areas like Matlerekeng and Ga-Mosetla were rated 10. Improving regional connectivity in Makhuduthamaga should be a priority to help boost and sustain the local economy by enabling better access to markets outside the district. The only settlements with good regional connectivity are Groblersdal, Marble Hall, Ohrigstad, Motetema, Hlogotlou, Aquavile, Leeuwfontein, and Waalkraal. Some of these are regional economic centres, which explains their connectivity advantage, while others, such as Hlogotlou, benefit mainly from their location but are not necessarily doing well economically.





Diagram 13.2: District-wide Settlement Vulnerability Level



At the district scale, settlement growth pressure and economic vulnerability rates are the highest compared to the other two significant components. From a growth pressure perspective, the district is largely framed by fragmented settlement patterns, which are challenging to plan and provide bulk infrastructure services for, and due to the majority of the population residing on tribal authority land, planning to develop these areas can be complex. Moreover, the mountainous terrain prevalent in the district, particularly in the northern, eastern and southern regions, restricts development expansion in most parts of the district.

In terms of economic vulnerability, although the district comprises several economic bases, the mining industry, which is predominantly in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM (FTLM), is short-lived and on its own without exploring the industrial value chain, from extracting raw minerals, processing, manufacturing, to end-user products. The FTLM economy is prone to collapse should the mining and industrial sector fail to diversify into processing and manufacturing activities. Within the agricultural sector, climate change poses significant threats, with reduced and minimal production now occurring due to delayed rainy seasons and extended periods of extreme heat. Additionally, subsistence farming suffers from inadequate access to water supply support.

The environmental vulnerability in the district is a result of several factors, including the mismanagement of the environment from human settlements, farming, and mining perspectives. In terms of farming, most subsistence farmers in the region tend to overgraze, particularly in communal areas with open access, which depletes vegetation cover, and human settlements in traditional authority areas tend to be unplanned and encroach on sensitive areas. Both events compromise the natural environment and living organisms. The intensity of mining activity in the regions encroaches on high-potential agricultural land, reducing available farming areas, undermining food production capacity, and threatening the long-term effects on the agricultural sector.

Regional Connectivity vulnerability stems from the reality that although the district is fairly well-connected in terms of road infrastructure, it is also encompassed by some constraints. Road connectivity is well-established mainly in the far northern, eastern and southern parts. Whereas, the central parts of the district have limited regional access (road and rail infrastructure), which restricts lucrative economic activity in the inner regions and adequate linkage through the district to prominent external economic hubs, as well as enforcing the spatial integration of the rural settlement areas.

3.8. KEY CHALLENGES AND ISSUES

The section below outlines the key challenges and issues faced in the Sekhukhune District Municipality; these are detailed per local municipality as well as those affecting the entire district.

3.8.1. LOCAL MUNICIPAL KEY CHALLENGES AND ISSUES

The summary below presents a SWOT analysis, highlighting the Strengths, Weaknesses, Threats, and Opportunities for each local municipality.





STRENGTHS



- National and regional road connectivity through the municipal area
- Well-located, central to markets (hampered by poor road conditions)
- Groblersdal is an established economic node
- Established commercial agriculture sector with irrigation schemes
- The De Hoop dam supplies the community and mining industry with water
- Planned Agri-hub in Groblersdal to aid farmers' in value-added production

WEAKNESS



- Low-level access to water and sanitation, especially in rural areas
- Weak on adhering to the principle of spatial justice – land reform process lagging largely due to lack of communal land and tenure legislation
- Weak on adhering to the principle of spatial efficiency – scattered rural settlements are difficult to service, not conducive to economic development
- Weak on adhering to the principle of spatial sustainability – sprawling settlements in high-quality agricultural land, few nature reserves, and the potential impact of mining is not managed.
- Tourism potential is not being fully explored.
- Population distribution in EMLM: A large percentage of the poor live in scattered rural villages
- High unemployment and high dependency ratio
- Poor road conditions hamper regional accessibility

OPPORTUNITIES



- High-quality agricultural land in northern traditional areas – potential for higher output farming and food security
- High-potential grazing land in most of EMLM
- Groblersdal identified as Agri Hub by DRDLR
- Points can be identified in rural settlements where densities can be increased and local service nodes created.
- High tourism potential – can be better utilised
- Large are of natural beauty and sensitive ecosystems, e.g. mountainous areas near De Hoop Dam – potential for more nature reserves as associated economic development
- Unknown degree of mining potential (balanced with threat to natural environment)
- Part of the multi-nodal east-west District corridor passes through EMLM
- Strategic public land available for development adjacent to existing nodes

THREATS



- Lack of land reform threatens long-term security of tenure and economic development
- High level of reliance on intergovernmental cooperation, as many functions such as service provision, roads, district tribunal, etc. performed by other spheres of government
- Large environmentally sensitive areas that could be negatively impacted by mining
- Illegal land occupation, partly driven by housing shortage
- Relatively high population growth for rural areas – more pressure on services, housing provision and sprawl of settlements
- Infrastructure maintenance challenges





STRENGTHS



- Large-scale commercial agriculture
- N11 links municipality to Botswana and Durban, and R573 links to Gauteng and Moloto Corridor
- Railway line and Station in Marble Hall
- High-Potential Agricultural land within Crop Farming Zone that can be utilised to secure food security and extract more value from the agricultural sector.
- Marble Hall is identified as a functional region in the SDM Rural Development Plan.
- Freight Corridor (Railway line crossing the N11 up to the R573 intersection) can be explored as an alternative mode of transport for local exports.
- The industrial corridor (intersection between N11 and R573) opens the door for logistics and industrial investments.

WEAKNESS



- Low supply of water and sanitation services which hampers development growth.
- Backlog in terms of service provision in rural settlements, exacerbating social inequities
- Lack of an LED strategy to drive development within the region
- Shortage of personnel in planning and finance, which allows for uncontrolled development and misallocation of funds for development.
- Poor road and stormwater infrastructure make accessibility harder for pedestrians.
- Poor environmental management allows for illegal dumping and polluting of key development areas.
- High crime rate raises safety concerns for locals and potential investors.
- Limited public transportation and facilities limit accessibility and mobility for locals.
- Shortage of community/social facilities exacerbate social pressures
- Shortage of land for development, especially for residential development exacerbating housing backlog.
- Skilled personnel shortage: there is a shortage of skills for key technical services.
- Poor maintenance of bulk infrastructure: potholes, sewerage blocks etc.
- Slow development growth in Marble Hall
- Uncontrolled/unregistered solid waste disposal at towns and larger settlements
- Vandalism and theft of electrical equipment
- Majority of the roads are gravel (968.0km)

OPPORTUNITIES

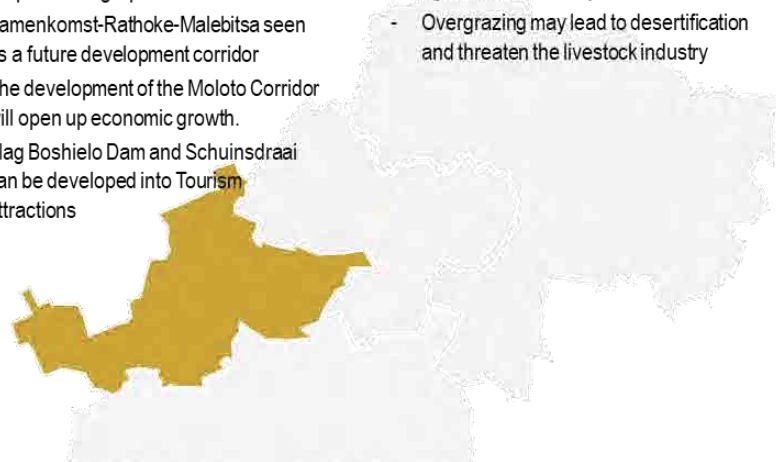


- Eco-tourism and outdoor recreation can be explored in Flag Boshielo Dam, Makotwana and Lola Montes Dams.
- Mining zone east of Marble Hall can be exploited to add to boost local economic development.
- Rural Development Areas, Future Development Areas and Incremental Upgrading Areas in growth points allows for effective population concentration and compactness,
- Underused industrial land in Marble Hall
- Land claim processes in progress
- There are proposals for a fish processing plant at Tompi Seleka
- Proposed freight precinct
- Zamenkomst-Rathoke-Malebitsa seen as a future development corridor
- The development of the Moloto Corridor will open up economic growth.
- Flag Boshielo Dam and Schuinsdraai can be developed into Tourism attractions

THREATS



- Drought threatens water availability and the agricultural sector
- Land Degradation will bring about irreversible modifications to land, which could limit future development.
- Wildfires
- An increase in the crime rate leads to safety and security concerns.
- Pollution of water bodies affects ground and underground water reserves.
- Unresolved and competing land claims threaten future development
- Unplanned and Proclaimed land limit growth potential.
- Climate change threatens the local agricultural economy
- Overgrazing may lead to desertification and threaten the livestock industry





STRENGTHS



- Rich in Biodiversity (Rich in ultramafic-induced endemic plant species found in the Leolo mountains), which can contribute to tourism.
- Jane Furse is a retail and SMME development hub
- Agricultural Potential can address food security concerns
- Cultural Heritage (can contribute to tourism through educational tourism etc)
- Human Capital (will supply the demand for the labour that comes with new investments).
- Solar potential (hot temperatures make it attractive for solar renewable energy)

WEAKNESS



- Limited economic base reliant on public employment and retail.
- High Unemployment (66.7%) leads to a high dependency ratio and poverty levels.
- Poor Coordination between the Municipality and TA is inhibiting local development.
- 83% (176,393 ha) of land under the custodianship of TA constrains development potential.
- Lack of environmental management (reports of environmental pollution and uncontrolled wildfires).
- Poor enforcement of municipal by-laws
- Unplanned developments, competing land uses, and sprawl affect the prospects of sustainable development.
- Inadequate water supply limits development investments.
- Irrigation schemes along the Oliphant's river are currently not operational
- Illegal occupation of municipal land in Jane Furse CBD and Jane Furse and Moji integrated human settlements.
- Poor regional connectivity (accessible only via the R579)

OPPORTUNITIES



- High-potential arable land in Leolo and villages along the Nebo maize belt can be exploited for food security and economic development.
- There is an opportunity for a local produce market.
- Sorghum production in Schoonoord, Ga-Masemola, Diphagane, Phaahla towards Mamone, Madibong, Moretsele, and Makgane can be capitalized upon to strengthen the local economy.
- Supporting subsistence farmers in accessing markets.
- Good market for retail investment
- Upgrading of arterial roads (D4280, D4379, D4250, D4200 & D2219) will increase accessibility and connectivity.

THREATS



- Loss of irreplaceable land due to competing land uses that will bring about irreversible modifications
- The consumer-driven economy will lead to trade imbalances such as chronic trade deficits.
- Increase in unemployment
- Increased crime rate
- Drought will affect subsistence farmers, further exacerbating poverty.
- The agricultural economy, which is the largest source of income for the self-employed individuals not employed in public or retail, is at the mercy of climate change



MAKHUDUTHAMAGA LM



STRENGTHS



- Mining Region/Region's Ming Hub, with vast and rich deposits of platinum ore, which are linked to the international value chain
- Minerals extracted at competitive cost
- Functional governance framework and system
- Community-driven business support programmes
- Vibrant SMME and Cooperative business development model
- Solid financing partnerships with the government and lucrative private sector partnerships
- Willingness of community leaders to boost economic growth
- Several rivers which can be used for water purification
- Land availability for further development
- Recent upgrading of the R37 provincial road
- Close to the Olifants River (water supply)
- Situated on the Dilokong Corridor, close to the smelter
- Favourable climate conditions

WEAKNESS



- Economy dependent on Mining and Retail
- Water Shortage and Poor Sanitation Services
- Poor Waste Management
- Vulnerable Labour force: Weak to pandemics
- High Unemployment, Poverty and crime rate.
- Little to no mining skills within the municipality
- There is a shortage of skills
- Uncoordinated presidential node status and fragmented planning
- Limited access to telecommunication infrastructure
- Local priorities are not linked effectively to District and Provincial priorities
- Opportunities related to mine are not being utilised
- Uncertainty around land availability for expansion and housing
- Inability to anticipate and manage community development expectations.
- Opportunities to diversify the mining economy have not been fully explored.
- Little investment due to uncertainty and the scale of production in the agricultural sector is not fully being explored due to the risks associated with periods of drought
- High transportation costs (residents spend a lot of money on transportation)
- No proper research has been done on the type of crop potential for the area
- Ineffective technical support to farmers
- Poor Land Use Management: The municipality is not monitoring and regulating how land is being utilized.

OPPORTUNITIES



- Plans for the refurbishment of the Steelpoort sewerage plant
- There are planned sewerage works downstream for Steelpoort and Winterveldt.
- Upgrading of existing sewage plants
- Industrial potential
- Youthful population: highly active labour force.
- The government's willingness to support economic development initiatives.
- The tourism sector has the potential to grow
- there are SMME-friendly policies and support mechanisms in place for emerging entrepreneurs.
- Economy showing signs of recovery
- The process to address the land ownership issue is already underway
- Existing underutilised irrigation scheme
- Long seasons for production.
- Existing skills
- Markets for livestock
- Potential for commercialisation

THREATS



- Soil and underground water pollution due to pit toilets.
- Overloading of waste treatment due to chemical and septic tank discharge.
- Mining is not a sustainable economic sector (the region may face economic decline should mining end)
- Increase in unemployment, Demographics, and rate.
- Economic activities are not benefiting the local communities.
- Environmental degradation (CBA, ESA & PA) will continue if poor land use management continues.
- Illegal dumping, which could lead to soil and water pollution
- Backlog in basic infrastructure due to increased population numbers
- Subsistence-level farming persists
- Limited access to constant demand markets
- Limited access to suppliers
- Limited access to market information
- Uneconomical scale of production
- Lack of expertise, experience/skills training
- Poor networking and partnerships



3.9. DISTRICT-WIDE KEY CHALLENGES AND ISSUES

The key challenges and issues of the district municipality are summarised below.

3.9.1. SPATIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- The spatial structure is characterised by dispersed and fragmented settlement patterns (disintegration).
- Unresolved land claims deter future development and discourage potential investors from participating and contributing effectively to the local economy.
- There is uncertainty with regard to the status of land ownership, particularly when distinguishing between state-owned land and tribal authority land.
- Housing expansion as a result of sprawling and mining activity is impeding the high-potential agricultural land.
- The occurrences of competing land uses (mining and housing) hinder the agricultural sector, which suggests that there is a lack of environmental conservation.
- There are high levels of poverty as a result of the lack of education, particularly in higher educational levels.
- There is an increasing number of informal settlements in areas close to mining and commercial agricultural activity.
- The Gross Value Added (GVA) of the agriculture sector in 2022 was 1.2% and 15.2% in the district and Limpopo Province, respectively. This sector, being an essential foundation for economic growth and employment in the district, indicates a setback in achieving the district's economic growth and job creation.
- Global decline in the demand of mineral resources threatens the district economy and its potential to be significant in the national economy.
- Commercial agriculture is under immense pressure as a result of water scarcity, low commodity pricing and external competition.
- The tourism sector is ineffectively established due to the lack of infrastructure, funding and adequate marketing strategy.
- There is a need for the district to align their tourism plans and marketing strategies with those of their neighbouring districts, in order to create a comprehensive tourism plan and ensure synergised tourism development in the province.
- There is a need to support subsistence farmers to become commercial farmers.
- There is a rise in illegal mining, particularly for platinum and chrome, is a growing concern. With several residents resorting to illicit mining as a result of unsuccessful applications for mining applications, approval rights and licenses.
- The mining sector has not translated into broad-based socio-economic upliftment, as it operates in rural environments. Focusing more on mineral extractions and minimal local beneficiation or industrial development.
- There is a lack of skills development and low levels of higher education among residents, which restricts their ability to access skilled positions within the mining value chain. As a result, the majority of locals remain unemployed while skilled workers are brought in from outside the district, deepening inequality and social tension in mining-affected communities.
- Severe environmental degradation as result of mines encroaching in sensitive areas / ecological network.
- Conflicting economic activities between mining, agricultural and tourism activities, over the use of land. This results in the loss of valuable agricultural

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land, which often features high biodiversity and/or eco-tourism and conservation potential.

- The rural settlements situated within the dispersed parts of the region are isolated from the local markets of Groblersdal, Burgersfort, Jane Furse and Marble Hall due to poor road conditions and the lack of effective public transport services.

3.9.2. ROADS AND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

- The road infrastructure incurs deterioration as a result of frequent use by heavy haul vehicles.
- There is a notable absence of a north-south road link through the central areas of the district, limiting accessibility and connectivity within this core region.
- Local roads extending to the village areas are unpaved and in poor condition, which limits the rural communities' access to areas of opportunity.
- There is a lack of designated truck stops in the area.
- The lack of railway infrastructure throughout the district area limits existing and future economic activity, particularly for the mining and agricultural sectors.
- There are limited transport systems, such as air and rail services, available in the district to help alleviate pressure from the roads to transport commercial goods.

3.9.3. ENGINEERING

- Water scarcity in the municipality threatens current and future development.
- Water-related infrastructure, such as reticulation systems and stormwater runoff systems, requires regular monitoring and maintenance.

- The majority of the village areas do not have access to waste removal services, and this results in spillage in river systems and waste pollution along the roads.
- Existing landfill sites are unmaintained. Additional landfill sites need to be identified.
- There is a need to educate communities residing in the village areas on appropriate and sustainable waste management practices, and also as a means of job creation.

3.9.4. COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- There is a need to establish urban and rural nodes to promote targeted investment in the district.
- Existing sports and recreational facilities are poorly maintained.
- There are insufficient arts and cultural centres available throughout the district municipality. These are also not linked to the tourism industry.
- There is a shortage of tertiary educational institutions within the district municipality, as a result, learners migrate to other areas to advance their education.
- Community-based recycling projects often fail due to the lack of basic infrastructure, continued support and vandalism at recycling facilities.





SEKHUKHUNE

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



SECTION FOUR

SPATIAL PROPOSALS

4. SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The vision statement for the Sekhukhune District Municipality
“An innovative leader in integrated economic development and sustainable service delivery”.

Mission Statement

The district aims to improve the quality of life for all communities through:

- provision of a democratic and accountable government;
- promotion of inclusive and egalitarian economic transformation;
- promotion of a safe and healthy environment;
- fostering of community involvement and stakeholder engagement; and
- Strengthening institutional capacity.
- Promotion of social cohesion

SPATIAL VISION:

The District Spatial Vision aims to address the challenges faced by the district, particularly the high unemployment rate amongst the young, and capitalise on its mining activities, while leveraging its unique geographical and socio-economic characteristics. The SDF review aims to achieve the following;

- Consolidating government investment (spatial targeting) around a number of prioritised urban and rural nodes.
- Linking into the commercial opportunities offered by the tourism industry bordering the district to the north, east and south.
- Becoming a commercial agricultural hub of choice in the southern extents of the district and focusing on agrarian transformation in the central parts.

- Maximising the economic benefits to be derived from the Dilokong platinum Belt and consolidating mining beneficiation industries around the Steelport and Burgersfort nodal point.
- A developed platinum city for a sustainable human settlement around Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM.
- Promoting integrated economic growth and sustainable development across all four local municipalities
- Enhance inter- and intra-district transport linkages.

4.1. DISTRICT SPATIAL CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The following section illustrates the spatial concept for the District Municipality, which provides a spatial representation for the municipality's future development of both the urban and rural environments. Depicting the spatial vision of the municipality that anticipates future development, and potential zones that can be further utilised to realise economic growth, attract investment, and address the community's needs and aspirations. Subsequent to the spatial concept are development objectives outlining the desired outcomes, pertaining to natural resource management, economic and development expansion area, infrastructure and transportation planning. These development objectives will be embodied in the Spatial Development Framework plan and stimulate detailed development proposals that are measurable based on the projected population and required infrastructural plans.

As shown in **Figure 14**, the conceptualised plan displays the prominent key development components prevalent within the DM and their interrelation with one another across the broader municipal area.



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

In terms of significant transport and corridors developments. The N11, identified as a National Transport Corridor traversing the southern extents, serves as the leading freight and logistics corridor linking the Mpumalanga Province, especially the Steve Tshwete Local Municipality, which houses several mining and manufacturing industries. The route traverses Polokwane in the north (the Provincial Growth Point), which also holds manufacturing industries, trade and logistics, as well as agro-processing industries.

Three Provincial Freight Corridors are proposed within the District area, namely

- The R579 route moves through the central parts of the District in a north-south direction. The R579 connects the Lebowakgomo CBD to the growing economic and administrative node of Jane Furse, and further south to Belfast and Middleburg.
- The R25 route which connects the District to the Gauteng Province conveys goods and services to the Limpopo Province, through Groblersdal to various regions. It is recommended that the frames a continuous network which connects Groblersdal - Jane Furse and further north to Burgersfort.
- Route R37 is the third Provincial Freight Corridor, supports key industries such as mining, and the growth of local nodes between Burgersfort to Lebowakgomo and Polokwane in the north, and Lydenburg in the southern extents.
- The R37 route from Lebowakgomo to Burgersfort, and Burgersfort through Steelpoort area is identified as a Platinum Stream is a critical road in the DM from which the majority of mining companies operate in the region, and the transferring of the respective raw minerals extracted.

In terms of economic and production hubs, the region;

- Burgersfort especially along the mining belt framed along the R37. The area is identified as a Spatial Development Initiative zone (SDI), which stimulates much of the region's economic wealth, and over time, has attracted new industries such as manufacturing and industrial investments. The extent of

mining activity in the areas, is the driving force of the area's economic growth, providing employment opportunities, boosting local business and spatial transformation. As such, Burgersfort is earmarked as the district's manufacturing and industrial hub.

- Linked to the SDI area within the Burgersfort/ Steelpoort vicinity, a Special Economic Zone is proposed in the region to help stimulate economic growth for both local and international investors, and enable a more diverse economy from an economy that depended on mining activity. The envisioned intent of the Tubatse SEZ is to solidify the manufacturing, construction, logistics, and industrial sectors as part of the region's economy.

The section below highlights agricultural-based spatial elements anticipated in the District Municipality;

- As a means to support and advance surrounding farmers, a Sekhukhune Agri-park is envisioned in the Groblersdal region. The purpose of the Agri-park will be to support local and emerging farmers through information sharing, training, providing access to regional markets, machinery for value-added products, storage and logistics. To strengthen the rural economy, particularly of the agricultural sector, and bridge the gap of high unemployment, illiteracy and skilled workers.
- With the significant population growth in the Jane Furse area, the strategically positioned node in the central part of the district is designated as an Administrative and Service Hub to serve the dispersed surrounding rural population.
- It is recommended that the spatial transformation be promoted within the broader rural communities in the local municipalities of Makhuduthamaga, Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi local Municipalities. This will be achieved by way of advocating for well-connected routes linking rural settlements; infill development, and ensuring socio-economic initiatives are met to serve the daily needs of communities. Furthermore, due to the majority of the population residing in the region, the National Spatial Development



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

Framework suggested the area as a Natural Resource Production Region to improve the livelihoods of communities by administering land management practices, sustainably utilising natural resources and conducting agricultural activities where feasible.

- The northern part of the district east of Burgersfort, especially the area of Ohrigstad, is an active farming community, which is to be supported and conserved.

Furthermore, it is proposed that the existing Nature Reserves, namely, Besveld and Kwaggavoetpad, be conserved and promoted for eco-tourism. Intensive development relating to rural settlement expansion, business, and industry should be prohibited in order to maintain the ecological footprint of the environment and species. Similarly, the area in close proximity to the Blyderivierspoort and De Hoop

Dams is to be preserved and accommodate tourist opportunities such as boating, fishing, hiking, low-density resorts and accommodation.

4.2. DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

The following section will outline the Development Objectives of the District Spatial Development Framework, highlighting the strategic goals and priorities that guide sustainable growth, land use, infrastructure development, and socio-economic progress within the district.



Diagram 14: Spatial Development Objectives





4.2.1. DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 1: PRESERVATION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECOLOGICAL NETWORK

The ecological network within the Sekhukhune District Municipality serves as the fundamental backbone of the region's natural environment, playing a crucial role in sustaining both human life and the District economy, which is broadly overlaid by the Provincial-wide economy. The preservation of natural resources is not only vital for maintaining the ecological balance but also for supporting industries such as agriculture, tourism, and mining, which are central to the district's economic activity. It is therefore imperative that sustainable strategies are developed and implemented to protect natural resources, ensuring their continued availability for future generations. This section will explore spatial strategies and development guidelines aimed at preserving the region's ecological infrastructure, with a focus on identifying key areas that require protection from unsustainable development practices.

A core aspect of the conservation effort is the identification of areas prohibiting intensive development, housing expansion and mining activity. As such, developments will degrade sensitive areas, resulting in species decline due to loss of habitat, and fewer opportunities available in the agricultural sectors. As a result, areas characterised by high ecological sensitivity are to be preserved as they are essential to the District's environmental health; economically, minimising the effects of climate change, and human and ecological well-being.

The session below highlights the importance of the Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) identified through the Limpopo Conservation Plan, which serves as an integrated

biodiversity sector input layer to guide multi-sectoral decision-making. The identification of CBAs ensures that areas crucial for biodiversity conservation are prioritised in decision-making processes across various sectors. The three biodiversity categories essential for protection to maintain ecological integrity and support sustainable development goals are also referred to below:

1. Critically Endangered Ecosystems: These are ecosystems that are severely threatened, often facing irreversible degradation. Protecting them is critical to prevent species extinction and maintain vital ecological functions. Consequently, further distinctions within the CBA classification per category are highlighted.
2. Irreplaceable Areas: These are regions where biodiversity cannot be replaced or restored if lost. These areas are often unique in their species composition or ecological role, and their conservation is essential for long-term biodiversity preservation.
3. Ecologically Sensitive Areas: These areas are particularly vulnerable to disturbances or changes in environmental conditions. They often support key ecosystem services, such as water filtration and carbon sequestration, and their preservation is critical to maintaining environmental health and resilience.

Table 3 highlights land use guidelines in the broader land-use planning and administrative efforts for areas within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA), refer also to **Figure 15.1**. It is recommended that the CBA guidelines be used in conjunction with existing municipal Land Use Management Schemes (LUMS) as a baseline for environmental inputs in any strategic planning or land-use decisions within the district. This approach ensures that environmental considerations, particularly the protection of sensitive biodiversity areas, are taken into account in all planning processes, promoting sustainable development that aligns with conservation goals, ensuring the preservation of these sensitive environmental areas.



Table 3: General Description of CBA Map Classifications and Land Use Management Guidelines

CBA MAP CATEGORIES	DESCRIPTION	DESIRED ECOLOGICAL STATE	COMPATIBLE LAND USES	INCOMPATIBLE LAND USES
PROTECTED AREAS	Areas formally protected in terms of legislation. Each protected area has a management plan.	Maintain in a natural state with limited intervention and ensure no biodiversity loss.	Conservation and associated activities (e.g. eco-tourism operations), and required support infrastructure.	All other land-uses.
		Rehabilitate degraded areas to a natural or near natural state, and manage for no further degradation.		
		Development subject to Protected Area objectives and zoning in a NEMPAA compliant and approved management plan.		
CRITICAL BIODIVERSITY AREA 1 (CBA 1)	Areas irreplaceable for meeting biodiversity targets. No other options for conserving the ecosystems, species or ecological processes in these areas.	Maintain in natural state with limited and ensure no biodiversity loss.	Conservation and associated activities. Extensive game farming and eco-tourism with strict control on environmental impacts and carrying capacities, where the overall net biodiversity is not lost. Continuous Urban Open Space System.	Urban land-uses including Residential (including golf estates, rural residential, resorts), Business, Mining and Industrial; Infrastructure (roads, power lines, pipelines).
		Rehabilitate degraded areas to a natural or near natural state, and manage for no further degradation.	Extensive livestock Production with strict control of environmental impacts and carrying capabilities.	Intensive Animal Production (all types including dairy farming associated with confinement, imported foodstuffs, and improved/ irrigated pastures).
			Required support infrastructure for the above activities.	Arable Agriculture (forestry, dry land and irrigated cropping).
CRITICAL BIODIVERSITY AREA 2 (CBA 2)	Areas that are the best option for meeting biodiversity targets, while avoiding conflict with other land uses.	Maintain in natural state with limited and ensure no biodiversity loss. Maintain current agricultural activities.	Current agricultural practices including arable agriculture, intensive and extensive animal production, and game and ecotourism operations, so long as these are managed to ensure populations of threatened species are maintained and the ecological process that supports them are not impacted. Highlighted activities compatible with CBA 1.	Urban land-uses including Residential (including golf estates, rural residential, resorts), Business, Mining and Industrial; infrastructure (roads, power lines, pipelines).

REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025



CBA MAP CATEGORIES	DESCRIPTION	DESIRED ECOLOGICAL STATE	COMPATIBLE LAND USES	INCOMPATIBLE LAND USES
PROTECTED AREAS	Areas formally protected in terms of legislation. Each protected area has a management plan.	<p>Maintain in natural state with limited and ensure no biodiversity loss.</p> <p>Rehabilitate degraded areas to a natural or near natural state, and manage for no further degradation.</p> <p>Development subject to Protected Area objectives and zoning in a NEMPAA compliant and approved management plan.</p>	Conservation and associated activities (e.g. eco-tourism operations), and required support infrastructure.	All other land-uses.
CRITICAL BIODIVERSITY AREA 1 (CBA 1)	Areas irreplaceable for meeting biodiversity targets. No other options for conserving the ecosystems, species or ecological processes in these areas.	<p>Maintain in natural state with limited and ensure no biodiversity loss.</p> <p>Rehabilitate degraded areas to a natural or near natural state, and manage for no further degradation.</p>	<p>Conservation and associated activities. Extensive game farming and eco-tourism with strict control on environmental impacts and carrying capacities, where the overall net biodiversity is not lost. Continuous Urban Open Space System.</p> <p>Extensive livestock Production with strict control of environmental impacts and carrying capabilities.</p> <p>Required support infrastructure for the above activities.</p>	<p>Urban land-uses including Residential (including golf estates, rural residential, resorts), Business, Mining and Industrial; Infrastructure (roads, power lines, pipelines).</p> <p>Intensive Animal Production (all types including dairy farming associated with confinement, imported foodstuffs, and improved/ irrigated pastures).</p>
CRITICAL BIODIVERSITY AREA 2 (CBA 2)	Areas that are the best option for meeting biodiversity targets, while avoiding conflict with other land uses.	Maintain in natural state with limited and ensure no biodiversity loss. Maintain current agricultural activities.	Current agricultural practices including arable agriculture, intensive and extensive animal production, and game and ecotourism operations, so long as these are managed to ensure populations of threatened species are maintained and the ecological process that supports them are not impacted. Highlighted activities compatible with CBA 1.	Urban land-uses including Residential (including golf estates, rural residential, resorts), Business, Mining and Industrial; infrastructure (roads, power lines, pipelines).

The district encompasses two centres of endemism, namely the Sekhukhuneland Centre of Endemism, located in the central and eastern parts of the district, and the Wolkberg Centre of Endemism in the northern extents, which are unique biodiversity hotspots recognised for their extensive plant variety and animal species. The Sekhukhuneland Centre of Endemism encompasses diverse habitats, including grasslands, savannas, and mountain ecosystems. The Wolkberg Centre of Endemism, which forms part of the northern Drakensberg escarpment, is renowned for its exceptional levels of plant and animal endemism. Furthermore contributes to water catchment for surrounding areas, feeding several river systems that sustain both rural communities and agricultural production downstream.

The rich biodiversity of these centres, along with their ecological significance, is a priority for conservation, as they present opportunities for research, eco-tourism (associated with scenic landscapes, overnight accommodation, hiking trails, etc.), and natural resource provision. However, socio-economic occurrences such as mining operations, mine dumps, population growth and sprawling, overgrazing and alien species invasions contribute to the disturbance and gradual extinction of these centres of endemism.

Contributing to the natural environment are essential water sources and tributaries, such as the De Hoop Dam and Flag Boshelo Dam, which support both agriculture and wildlife. These ecosystems provide essential services, such as water purification, flood control, and capturing CO² emissions, which are crucial for maintaining the health of the environment and the well-being of local communities. Furthermore, with the ecological belt traversing the eastern edge of the district boundary, emerging from the Loskop Dam within the Mpumalanga Province, through the Kwaggavoetpad Nature Reserve to the De Hoop Protected Nature Reserve, and further towards the Blyderiviersport Nature Reserve. The second ecological belt is framed by the Vlakfontein Private Nature Reserve, Letole Private Nature Reserve and D J Dercksen. These form part of the broader ecological footprint of the district, and where local settlements are deeply embedded.

In order to ensure the longevity of the natural environment and water systems, it is proposed that the existence of both the natural environment and human settlements be harnessed to ensure a balance between ecological preservation and socio-economic development. In **Diagram 15** below, highlight key strategies to be implemented in order to ensure the conservation of the natural environment and the ecological network.

Diagram 15: Environmental Preservation Strategies





1) ECOSYSTEM PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION

It is recommended that sensitive areas be protected by way of establishing conservation zones according to the Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) at the local level, to enforce stricter land-use regulations, to ensure long-term environmental preservation, and for law enforcement to take effect where procedures are not adhered. As limiting intense development in sensitive area, will ensure that natural ecosystems remain intact and continue to serve both animal and human life. Where necessary, restoration of degraded ecosystems be carried out through the planting of trees, and natural waterbody networks should remain untouched to preserve the natural flow of water.

The Sekhukhune District is one of the country's main food resource areas. It suggested that an in-depth climate and environment assessment be conducted, highlighting vulnerable areas most in need of protection, and agricultural zones, both those endangered (both human and mining activity; harsh climate conditions over time), to ensure the continuity of food security and its longevity and livelihood.

2) DEMARCATION OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT ZONES (UDZ)

The need to define Urban Development Zones in the District is one of the critical steps to ensuring protection of the environment and avoiding further land degradation. The rapid settlement development, inclusive of industrial and mining activity, causes strain for natural resources such as land, food security, water, and a healthy ecological system that mitigates against climate change. By ensuring the demarcation of development zones, settlement planning can foster an integrated spatial development, concentrate the provision of services for efficient utilisation, and stimulate economic opportunities and growth in strategic areas and close proximity to communities. Furthermore, by protecting environmentally sensitive areas through zoning, it also supports eco-tourism and agricultural activities (such as crop rotation, applicable irrigation systems) that evidently provide jobs and a source of income to local communities.

3) STIMULATE ENVIRONMENTAL-AWARENESS

Creating environmental awareness among Municipalities and Local Communities is an effective way to change mindsets, harnessing the environment in a way that will continue to meet our needs while preserving it. This can be achieved through interactive workshops and training, as a means to educate on critical environmental issues such as waste management, water conservation, wood-cutting for a source of energy, and sustainable farming practices. While also introducing effective solutions to meet communities' needs and improve their way of life. This would empower communities to take ownership of their local environment, providing them with the necessary tools to develop a healthier living environment and build a solid community structure.

With that, it is recommended that an Environmental Management Committee be established to oversee the promotion of information and education, create public awareness about the management and use of the environment at a local level, and facilitate collaboration between the community, municipalities, and government departments.

4) ADOPT CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTIVE AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Outlined below are the climate change adaptation and mitigation tools recommended for implementation in the district municipality, aimed at reducing exposure to climate shocks while fostering resilient communities, safeguarding the environment, and sustaining local economies.

➤ Temperature Increase Mitigation through Land Use Planning and Urban Spaces

To cope with the increase in temperatures, municipalities need to plan and design their urban areas in a way that alleviates the effects of urban heat island (UHI). This means moving away from surfaces that trap heat and allow for the flow of wind to bring about cooling, especially in places like Steelpoort and Burgersfort, where

mining activities are happening. Compactness and densification should be encouraged. Concentrating people in urban areas enables higher development, reduces sprawl, and allows for buildings to be designed in a way that provides shade to pedestrian sidewalks. Permeable surfaces should be encouraged as much as possible on sidewalks, boulevards and courtyards. Mixed-use developments that offer a range of services within walking distance or a short commute should be encouraged to minimise exposure to the sun.

➤ **Temperature Increase Mitigation through Urban Greening And Infrastructure**

Municipalities should look into promoting green infrastructure and vegetation increase within their local municipalities. Establishing campaign programmes focused on tree planting and water-resistant evergreen trees along public routes (mainly local) where there are large pedestrian activities and traffic, such as sidewalks. Municipalities should include bylaws which require private development to include green infrastructure in their development to further decrease temperatures.

Public open and private spaces can act as cooling systems for urban spaces; therefore, efforts to construct public open spaces and ensure that they receive proper management and aren't misused by the public, especially in spaces where water features are integrated. When designing public open spaces, ample trees need to be planted to provide cooling and where water features are included, they should be designed in a way where evaporation is limited, therefore buildings and trees should provide enough shade to shield these features. Wetlands and waterbodies should be strictly protected from any and all development. Green roofing and greening facades should also be promoted and designed in a way that is aesthetic and enhances the public realm.

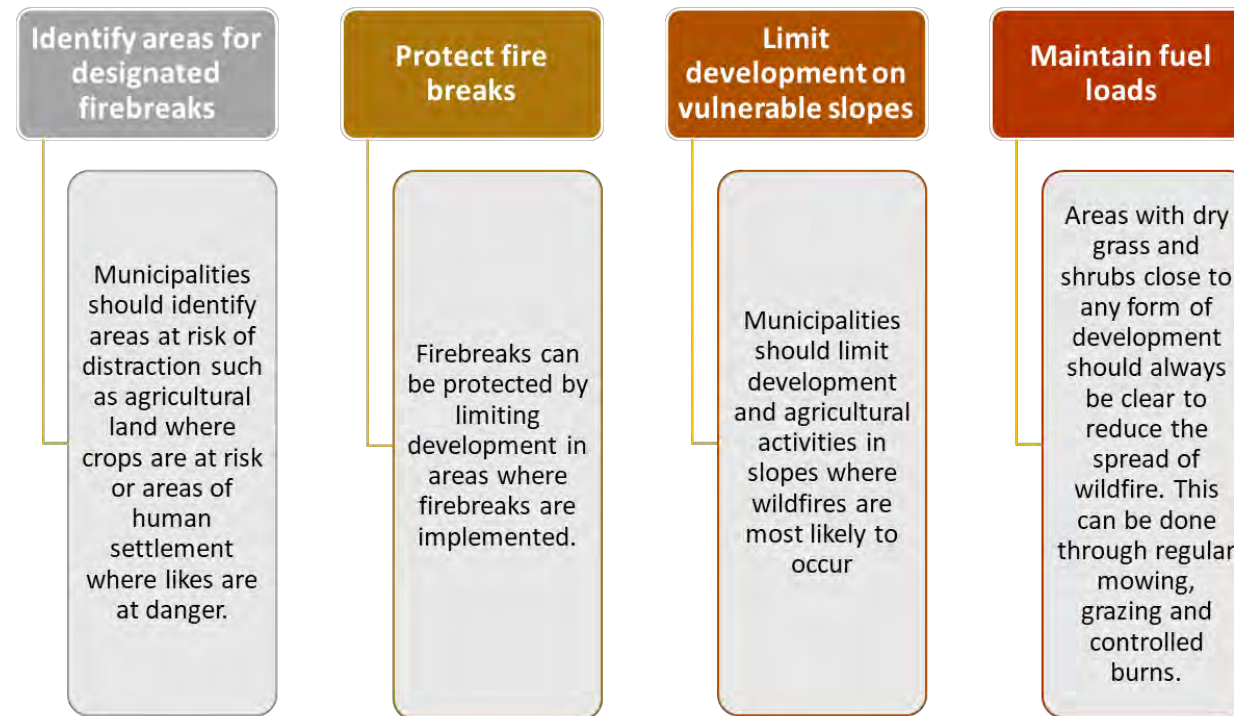
➤ **Wildfires Mitigation**

The figure below examines climate change mitigation measures in the context of extreme heat and strong winds, conditions that heighten the risk of fire outbreaks and highlights proactive strategies.





Diagram 16.1: Wildfire Mitigation

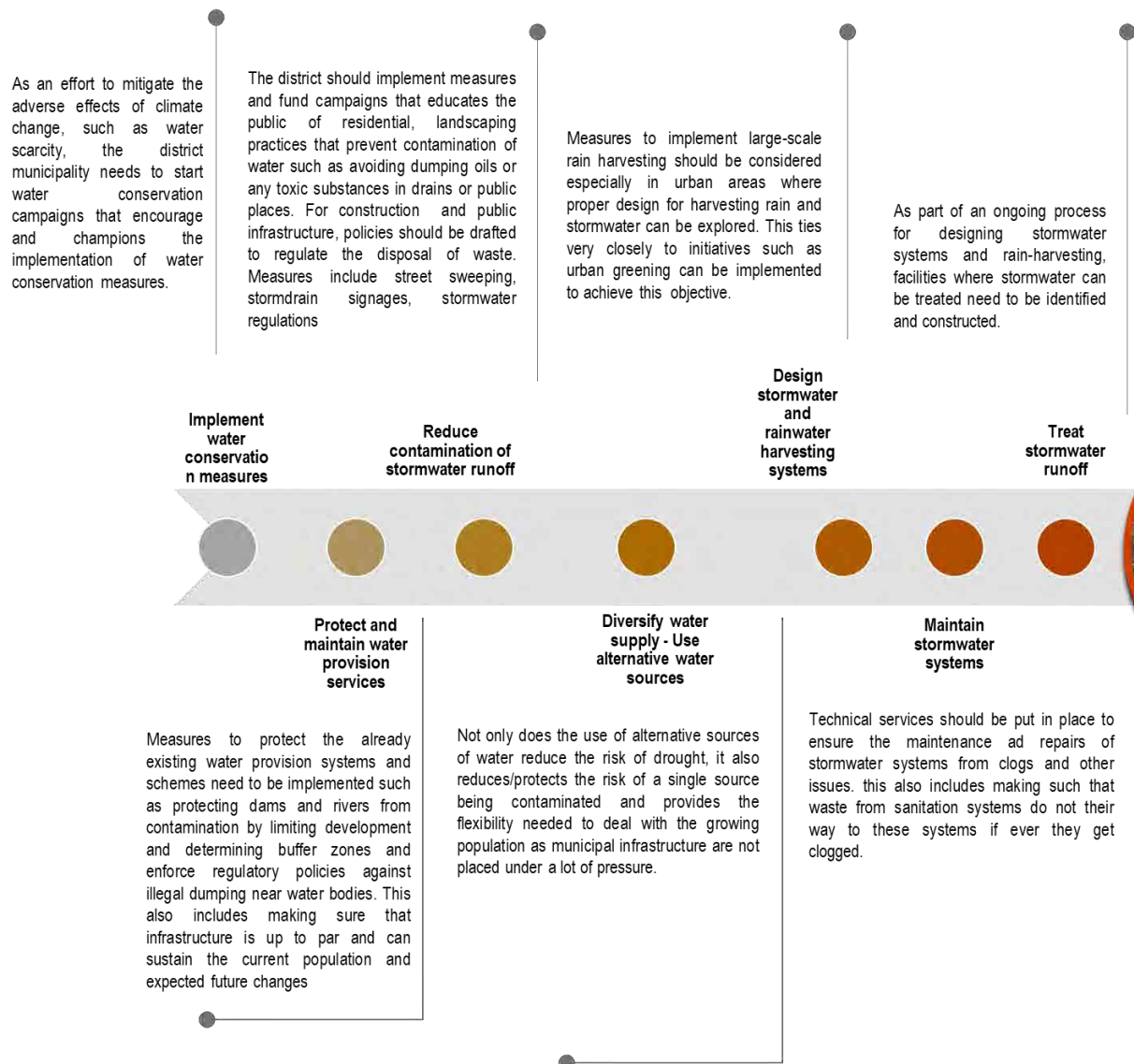


WILDFIRES

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION & MITIGATION

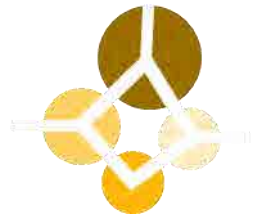


Diagram 16.2: Drought Mitigation



CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION & MITIGATION
DROUGHT





4.2.2. DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 2: DEFINE NODAL HIERARCHY AND PROMOTE SPATIAL INTEGRATION

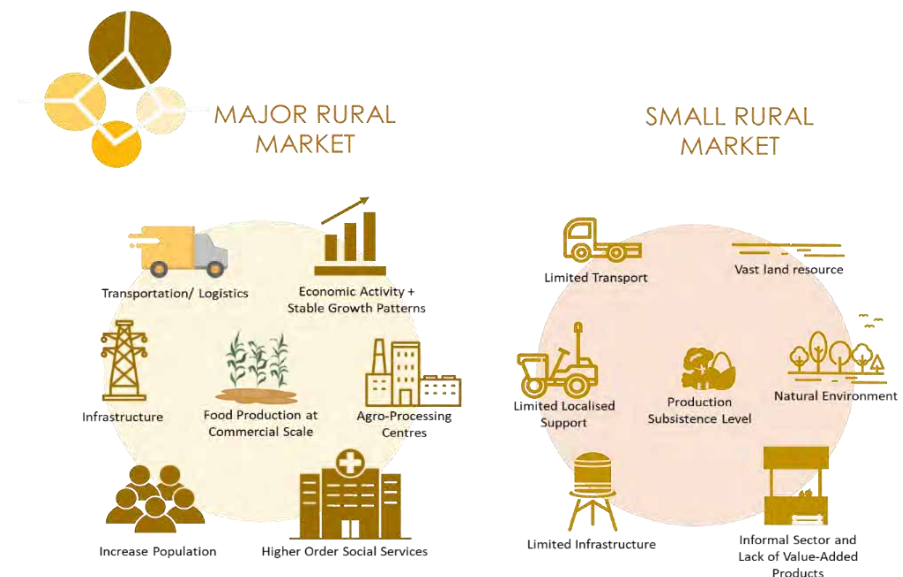
Nodal area refers to unique areas within human settlement areas where economic activities and public transport congregate and thus become spaces that serve people daily. As a result, defining nodal development becomes critical to target infrastructure provision, proper land use management to attract further investment, and productivity and accessibility to drive economic growth. When nodal points are defined, then the integration of the node with other surrounding economic areas becomes key, enabling an integrated network of distinct nodal points that support each other and enable a well-balanced regional development.

In order to ensure the effectiveness of nodal development, the following building blocks must be advocated for solidifying the development concept. It is recommended that human settlements be concentrated around nodes to ensure optimal use of land, infrastructure, and services, reducing the sprawling of housing and bulk infrastructure networks.

By concentrating development in close proximity to nodal development minimises duplication of services, transport costs, and prevents spatial disintegration. Notably, in recent years, technological advancement has gained momentum in society for various reasons. The establishment of nodes has become innovative, enabling spaces within nodes where information and knowledge are shared, and business trading thrives beyond physical presence.

Notably, the National Spatial Development Framework advocates for the concept of nodal development in order to create support between nodal hierarchies to ensure socio-economic support, so lower-order nodes or rural economic markets continue to flourish. **Diagram 17.1** below shows the Conceptual Urban-Rural Market Linkages and Rural-Rural Market Linkages connected via the National Urban System's "strategic movement corridor" binding these distinct nodes/ markets. The concept illustrates the interconnected relationship and reliance between these different nodes, in which higher-order nodes, such as Burgersfort, generally hold increased population densities, greater spending power, intensive economic development and logistics services than the town of Groblersdal. Subsequently, Groblersdal encompasses more services and investment than the surrounding rural service nodes/markets.

Diagram 17.1: Relationship between Major Rural Market and Small Rural Market









Additionally, recognises the significance of Rural Marketplace offer resources, labour force and urban areas. This makes the relationship between Urban and Rural markets symbiotic, with rural markets serving as the backbone of production and urban markets driving demand. With the enviable population increase in urban areas, rural areas suffer from the pressure of production, and more so, the need to introduce innovative agricultural practices that will ensure output, improve efficiency, and deliver products.

In terms of nodal development in the District, **Figure 16.1** shows the spatial distribution of the proposed nodal hierarchy based on the current economic landscape. The primary focus is on having the nodal points within walking distance of the majority of the surrounding communities. Table 4 highlights the district nodal hierarchy.

Table 4: District Nodal Hierarchy

DISTRICT NODAL HIERARCHY					
Map Representation	Nodal Classification	Local Municipality			
		Elias Motsoaledi	Ephraim Mogale	Makhuduthamaga	Fetakomo-Tubatse
1. 	Provincial Urban Node				Burgersfort
2. 	Regional Development Anchors	Groblersdal		Jane Furse	
3. 	Local Service Centre	Monsterlus Motetema	Marble Hall	Glen Cowie	Atok Serokolo Mecklenburg Steelpoort Ohrigstad
4. 	Rural Node	Elandsdoring Sehlakwane Hlogotlou Rossennekal	Leeuwfontein Ga-Rakwadi Letebejane Elandskraal	Moratwa Vlakfontein Tshehlwaneng Schoonoord Manganeng Apel Cross	Driekop Mphanama Apel Atok Praktiseer Kgautswana

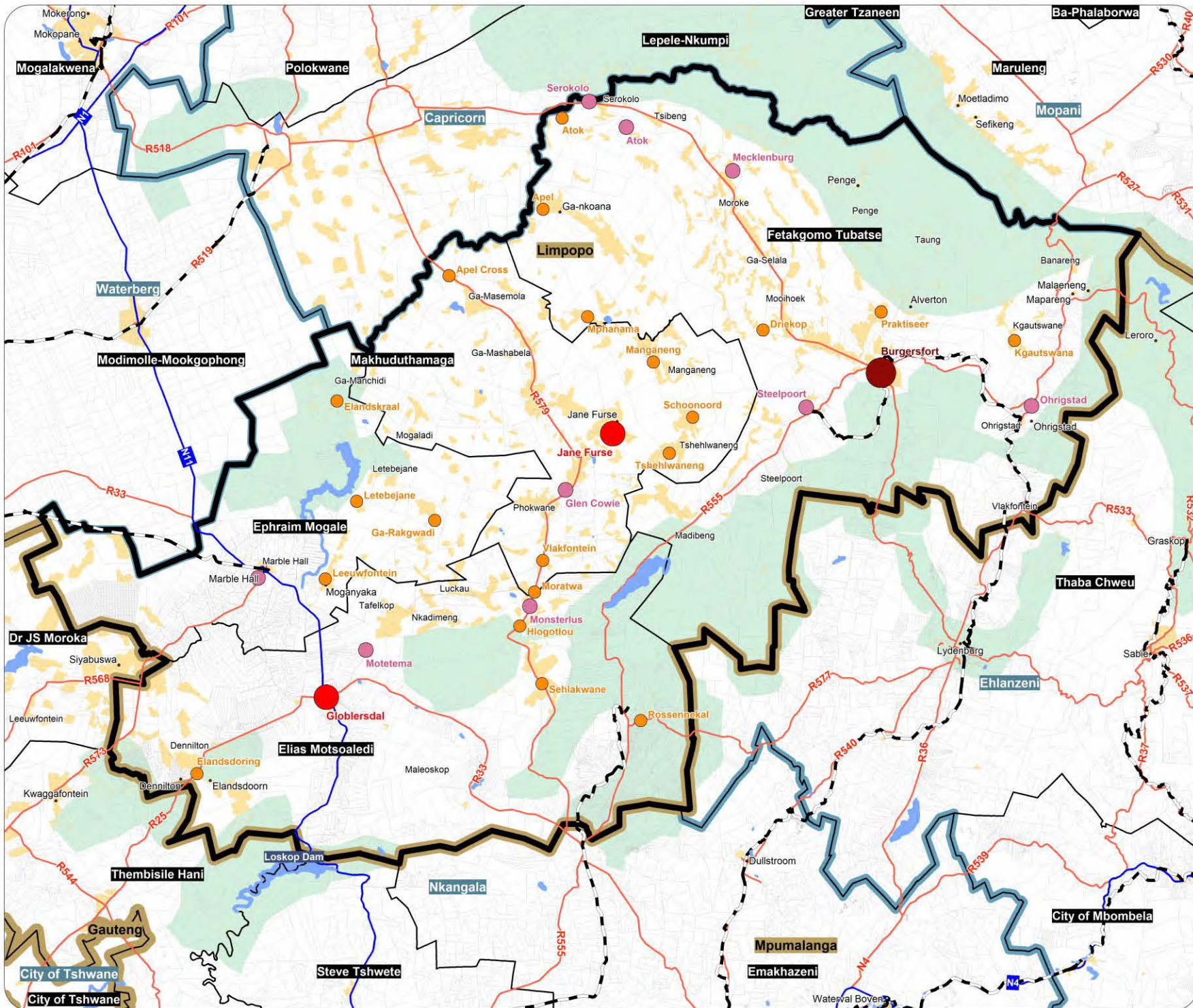
As rural nodes develop, it is recommended that the provision of community facilities be considered and clustered within these nodes to enhance access and convenience for local communities, particularly where the majority generally rely on foot travel to access municipal and government services. Accordingly, this can be achieved by developing a Thusong Centre that offers a range of services and social facilities within a centralised location for the convenience of local communities. Refer to **Diagram 17.2** for a visual representation of the concept.

Thusong Centre aligned with Nodal Development

The nature of the Thusong Service Centre is a one-stop centre where government and municipal services are clustered within a single building, or government services in separate buildings close to each other. It is intended to be a multipurpose facility that provides essential government and support services to communities in a more convenient location, especially those in underserved and rural regions. In the context of the nodal area, Thusong Centres play a critical role in consolidating services within accessible, strategically located nodes to serve dispersed populations, many of whom rely primarily on walking and public transport as their primary mode of transportation.

Additionally, the Thusong centre is conveniently located near business activities, public transport, and public spaces, providing easy access and reducing travel costs and time. Situated within a designated development node, the Thusong Centre provides a central point for access to home affairs and municipal services (e.g. community halls, public libraries, ICT, healthcare services, etc. Making the concept of a Thusong Centre a key development approach that supports spatial justice and transformation, particularly in remote rural areas. Acknowledging the realities of distorted spatial structure, limited public transport services in most remote areas, and a lack of access to social services

Figure 16.1: Development Objective 2 Nodal Hierarchy

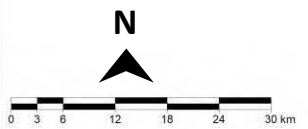


SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 2 NODAL HIERARCHY

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Local Municipal Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Cadastral (Erven, Farms)
- Rural Settlement
- Regional Road
- National Road
- Railway Line
- Provincial Growth Point
- Regional development Anchor
- Local Service Centre
- Rural Service Centre



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CONCEPT OF A THUSONG CENTRE

DIAGRAM 17.2





Notably, the CSIR suggested that clusters of community facilities represented as a Thusong Center be allocated within a maximum of 15km radius to ensure easy access throughout the region.

CSIR GUIDELINES ON THE PROVISION OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES
Social Facilities Required for a Region (Catchment Size: > 1 000 000)

Table 5: CSIR Guidelines for Community Facilities

District Population Catchment calculations based on population size of : 1 336 805

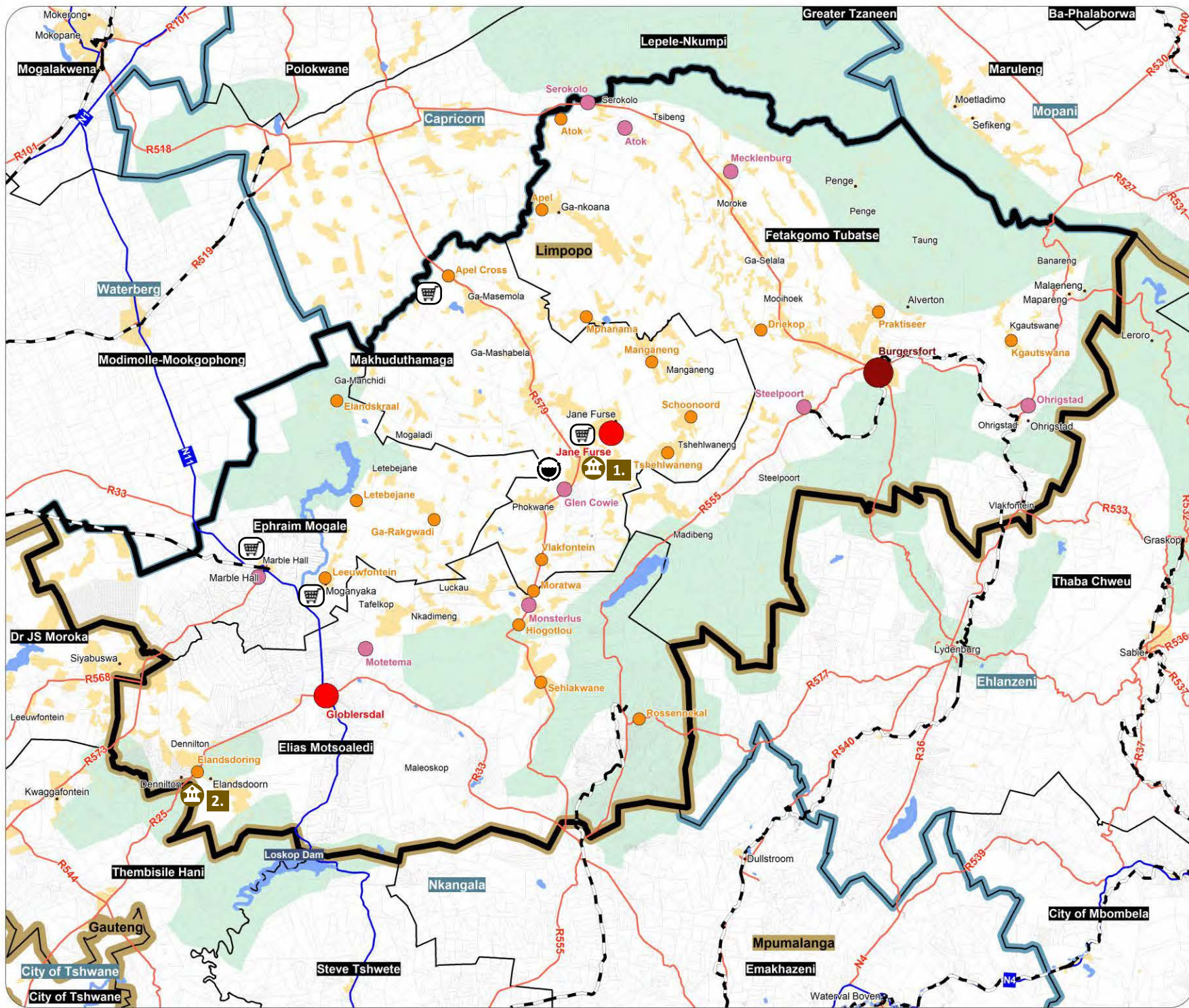
Community Facilities	Average Population	Acceptable Travel Distance	Provision Criteria	Existing No. of Facilities	Required No. of Facilities	Outstanding No. of Facilities
Community Halls	60 000	10km	C	27	22	0
Libraries	20 000 -70 000	8km - 10km	C	22	19	0
Postal Services	10 000 -20 000	5 km - 10km	C	3	5	1
Sports Stadiums	200 000 - 300 000	15km	C	0	1	1
Thusong Service Centres	1 centre per municipality	15km; maximum of 25km	C	2	4	2
Primary School	12500	5km	C	14	21	7
Secondary School	7 000	10km	C	8	9	1
Hospitals	300 000 - 900000	30km	C	7	4	0
Local Clinics and Health Centres	24000 - 7000	5km	C	81	19	0

Source: CSIR Guideline for the Provision of Social Facilities in South African Settlements

Based on the CSIR guidelines referenced in the table above, several key social and community facilities are required within the district. This includes the establishment of Thusong Service Centres to address the needs of local communities, particularly in relation to municipal services. With that, a Government/Civic Precinct is proposed within the Jane Furse nodal area, adjacent to the existing hospital, as shown in **Figure 16.2**.

Accordingly, the proposed development aligns with the desired purpose of the node to serve as an Administrative and Services Hub, given that it is centrally positioned in the district and strategically located between Burgersfort, Steelpoort, Lebowaqomo, and Groblersdal. An additional Thusong Centre is recommended for the Marble Hall Node. This facility should include services such as the Department of Agriculture, a Youth Development Centre, a Community Hall, and other essential government services.

Figure 16.2: Development Objective 2 Nodal Hierarchy and Proposed Regional Community Services

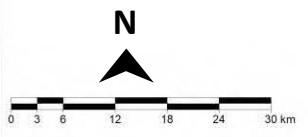


SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 2 COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Local Municipal Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Cadastral (Erven, Farms)
- Rural Settlement
- Ecological Network
- Dam
- Regional Road
- National Road
- Railway Line
- Provincial Growth Point
- Regional development Anchor
- Local Service Centre
- Rural Service Centre
- Proposed Regional Community Facilities**
- Government Precinct
- Planned / Proposed Project Shopping Centre
- Waste Water Treatment Plan



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The district also faces social services shortfalls, including seven (7) additional primary schools and one secondary school, a postal service, and a sports stadium to accommodate recreational and community events. Additionally, maintaining and performing minor upgrades on existing sports fields is necessary to ensure their continued use.

In terms of special needs education, there are currently three (3) special education schools within the Greater Sekhukhune area. However, there is a notable shortage of TVET colleges and post-matric education and skills development centres. The establishment of a higher education institution with a specialised focus on renewable energy and agriculture would provide significant long-term benefits to the region.

Furthermore, there is a need for well-equipped cultural centres to promote and exploit tourism and cultural heritage and advance local economic development in the district.

In terms of planned projects, three additional shopping centres are in the pipeline. These are planned in the Jane Furse, Leeuwfontein and Marble Hall.

A bulk infrastructure project is planned for the development of a wastewater treatment plant in the Jane Furse area to serve the local community and the broader population, which relies on the area to enhance water and sanitation infrastructure in the region. The project is in its initial stages, with the design of the plant nearing completion. The project, as shown below, is part of the region's broader initiative to enhance supply and sanitation services.

Diagram 17.3: Planned Jane Furse Wastewater Treatment Plant



Informal Trading in Nodal Points

The establishment of informal trading is an essential part of the country's economic fabric, particularly in remote rural areas, as it provides a lucrative source of income to maintain household affordability levels. For a relatively few, there is an opportunity to upscale the informal trade to formalised businesses and, at times, diversify into other business prospects. Within the region itself, numerous informal traders are established in the towns of Burgersfort, Groblersdal, Marble Hall, Jane Furse, and others, where most people generally frequent for retail and social services, as well as the routes linking prominent economic areas. Understandably, informal traders are often drawn to high-traffic areas where they can offer their services daily. However, few places in the District offer a strategy that enables traders to tap into and expand their operations within the formal economy.

The concept below outlines the process of formalising the informal sector, as shown in **Diagram 17.4**, with prospects of scaling to permanent, sizable trading structures. Depicting the process from a hawker trading operating their business along the roadside to working with the public sector towards formalising the informal traders and establishing a forum to ensure the collaborative effort and participation to empower the informal economy while improving the public environment.

As a means to empower and provide necessary aid to informal traders. It is proposed that a database be created for informal traders to capture information that will enable municipalities to be aware of the number of traders in and around the municipality, as well as the type of commodities being traded, to provide suitable stalls for their business operations. Depending on the type of stall and the services provided, an agreement is to be made in which traders contribute on a monthly basis to ensure the provision of these services.

The engagements with traders involve negotiating the allocated space, stall design and the trader's and public sector obligations. To ensure collaboration and coordination, an informal trading forum will be established, where traders' needs and the municipality's requirements will be expressed, and terms will be agreed upon. The forum could also serve as a space to combat crime in public environments. By working together with municipalities and the police, traders can help ensure public safety and support their businesses by maintaining high pedestrian traffic in public areas.



Diagram 17.4: Informal Trading and Formalisation Strategy





4.2.3. DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 3: ENHANCE THE MOVEMENT NETWORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE TO ENSURE EFFICIENT TRADE, AND URBAN AND RURAL CONNECTIVITY

Transport networks, both road and rail, are the lifeline to the development of a region, as they facilitate the movement of goods, services, and people, stimulate economic growth, and enhance connectivity between urban and rural areas, thus fostering trade and creating opportunities for social and industrial development. The section below refers to the district-wide priority movement network, which is crucial for stimulating economic vitality, connecting urban nodes, and promoting spatial integration. Improving these priority routes is crucial to the further advancement of the economy, particularly the disconnected and fragmented spatial form between urban and local markets prevalent in the district municipality.

Figure 17.1 illustrates the proposed Priority Transport Movement Network in the Sekhukhune District, highlighting significant routes that require focused attention for upgrading and maintenance due to their pivotal relevance to the economy and the communities they link. These include the following priority routes;

NATIONAL CORRIDOR

The N11 is the district's main transport corridor, supporting interprovincial trade between Mpumalanga and Limpopo, while also providing vital local connectivity for businesses and farming activities around Groblersdal and Marble Hall.

It is proposed that the upgrading of the N11 be prioritised, as parts of the road are a single-carriageway, particularly between Groblersdal and Marble Hall. The section of the road should be upgraded to a dual-carriageway to accommodate the increasing traffic volumes. With the road currently facing significant strain due to high traffic volume, the construction of the road may be insufficient. Consequently, the road requires resurfacing in the town of Marble Hall.

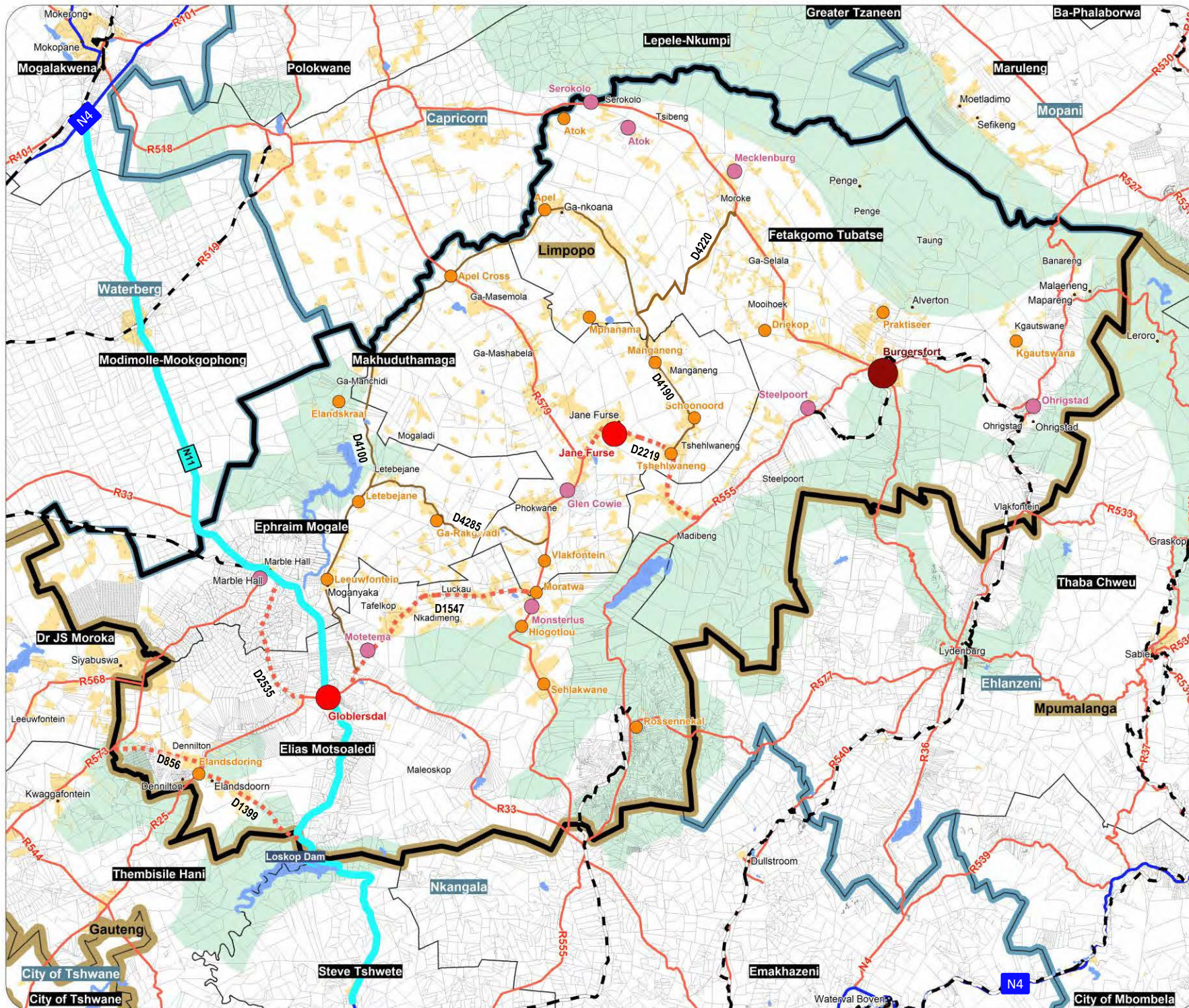
PROVINCIAL CORRIDORS

Below highlights six (6) Provincial Corridors identified in the District Municipality;

- **R37 Route** traversing through the northern parts of the District Municipality, and connects Polokwane and Lebowakgomo, and traverses through the District to Lydenburg where the route terminates. The town of Lydenburg is recognised as a tourism destination, with a focus on agriculture and mining. Due to the road's functionality, traversing the Platinum Belt facilitates the movement of goods and services, resources unearthed in the region, and people. The road, formerly a single-carriage way, was in recent years upgraded to a two-carriage way.
- **Route R579** – The R37 is another prominent route that traverses north-south through the central part of the district, and also links the Mpumalanga Province to the Limpopo Province. Within the District itself, the road connects several local communities and nodes to another, and directs traffic to the Lebowakgomo CBD and Polokwane CBD, which are interlinked with the N1 National Road.
- **Route R555** – Recognised as a provincial road and links the Mpumalanga Province through Middleburg, connects the Limpopo Province via Roosenekal-Steelpoort-Tubatse and Ohrigstad, connects to the R36 and further leads to the Maruleng LM (enriched with tourism-related activities).



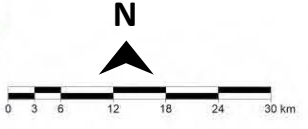
Figure 17.1: Development Objective 3 Priority Corridors And Strategic Linkages



SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW
DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 3
PRIORITY CORRIDORS AND STRATEGIC LINKS

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Local Municipal Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Cadastral (Erven, Farms)
- Rural Settlement
- Ecological Network
- Dam
- Provincial Growth Point
- Regional development Anchor
- Local Service Centre
- Rural Service Centre
- Railway Line
- Priority Corridors**
- National Corridor
- Provincial Corridor
- Provincial Corridor Link
- Strategic Links**
- Strategic Secondary Road



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- **R25 Route** serves a Provincial function that connects the Gauteng Province to the Limpopo Province. This route is key to both hauling trucks, long-short public transport services, conveying people to the region for tourism and agricultural prospects, and linking regional markets (in the Gauteng Province) to local markets in the region. Due to the effects of heavy rains, most roads around Elandsdoring have deteriorated, with numerous potholes, and thus require resurfacing. Sections requiring upgrading are predominantly from Verena in the Mpumalanga Province, right through Elandsdoring and the route D2535 towards Groblersdal.
- **R573 Route**, also referred to as the Moloto Corridor– The road is a key transportation route that connects the provinces of Gauteng, Mpumalanga, and Limpopo. This road serves as an important link for the movement of goods and people between these provinces, facilitating trade, commerce, and access between the City of Tshwane Metropolitan City in the Gauteng Province and Groblersdal through Elandsdoring/ Dennilton. Due to the high volume of traffic, particularly from public transportation, the corridor plays a crucial role in the regional economy and mobility.
- **R33 Route** is a regional road that connects the Sekhukhune District, specifically the town of Groblersdal, where it terminates, to the province of Mpumalanga, passing through the Loskop Dam. This road plays a vital role in linking farming communities in the Groblersdal region with larger urban centres and key commercial hubs in Middleburg CBD, in the Mpumalanga Province.

While the current road network provides the district with strong north-south regional connectivity, it is essential to note that a direct regional east-west route is required to link the local communities in the district's central parts and economic nodes. As a result, upgrading of third-order roads is necessary to strengthen access between several Rural Service Nodes.

It is therefore suggested that the following secondary routes be upgraded as regional roads to harness an efficient, well-connected spatial structure between towns and rural settlements:

- **Route D1547** (Mohlala Road) – Linking Groblersdal CBD and Morwaneng / Monsterlus
- **Route D856** – Linking Regional Routes R573 with the R25 (through Dennilton to Elandsdoring)
- **Route D2219** – Linking the regional routes, R579 and R555 and traversing passed the Jane Furse business node.

Due to the spatial character of the district incurs spatial disintegration, particularly in areas where it most critical for integration via a connected network that ensures the strengthening of nodal development. With that, it is proposed that the upgrading of strategic secondary roads should also be prioritised to ensure connectivity between urban and rural areas, thereby nurturing the local economic growth and increasing access to these nodal points. This includes prioritising the Strategic Secondary Roads for upgrading and adequate maintenance.

- **Route D4100** 'King Mohlala Road' and Route D4250 which both connect to route D1547 and R579 routes, linking several Rural Service Nodes
- **Route D2535** "Nkahloleng Road", which connects the two towns of Groblersdal and Marble Hall
- **Route D4285** connecting R579 and Route D4100 at the Letebejane Rural Service Node
- **Route D4190** which links the R555 with the D4250
- **Route D220** linking Route D37 and route DD4190

Rail infrastructure in the district is limited to the southwestern region, terminating at Marble Hall, and in the north-eastern parts, serving Ohrigstad and Burgersfort, as well as the last rail link in the south-western region. The central part of the district, where the majority of the population resides, is not served by rail. Although rail

infrastructure exists in parts of the district, it requires adequate maintenance to ensure reliability to support the district's economy, particularly in maintaining logistical value in the mining, industrial, and agro-processing industries.

With the intention to expand the rail network and efficiently maximise the distribution of goods and services to key economic centres in the county and export in the SADC and globally. **Figure 17.2** depicts the proposed railway link expansion through the district. This forms part of the proposed Moloto Corridor initiative, designed to strengthen distribution links between the Gauteng Province and the district, while also improving safety and increasing passenger ridership. Partial studies have been conducted to investigate the feasibility of the proposed passenger rail network, which includes;

- **Railway Link A** from the City of Tshwane-Mamelodi-KwaMhlanga towards Groblersdal, the proposed new railway link is part of the planned Moloto Corridor, anticipated to run parallel to the R573 route. Investigations for the link have already been investigation, with its intention to alleviate traffic and ensure commuter safety from the Moloto road (R573);
- **Railway link B** to traverse from Groblersdal-Jane Furse and connect to the Burgersfort, this will open the central parts of the district and increase connectivity for commuters to other areas of opportunity.
- **Railway Link C** via Lebowakgomo to Jane Furse Regional Rail Corridor. This line has the potential to connect to the Moloto Corridor service, which connects the City of Tshwane MM with the Greater Sekhukhune area.
- **Railway Link D** is proposed from Burgersfort to link to Lebowakgomo and Zebediela, with possible expansion to Polokwane.
- **Railway link E** highlights a recommendation of the railway line between Pienaarsrivier and Marble Hall to be refurbished and reinstated to support the agricultural sector in the Sekhukhune District and the Bela Bela LM, which will improve efficiency and reduce distribution services from national

and regional roads, specifically along routes R33, R516 and R576. In addition to upgrading the Marble Hall railway link, it is proposed that a feasibility study and the construction of a new railway line between Marble Hall and Groblersdal be conducted.



Figure 17.2: Development Objective 3 Proposed Passenger Rail Network



SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW
DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 3 PROPOSED PASSENGER RAIL NETWORK

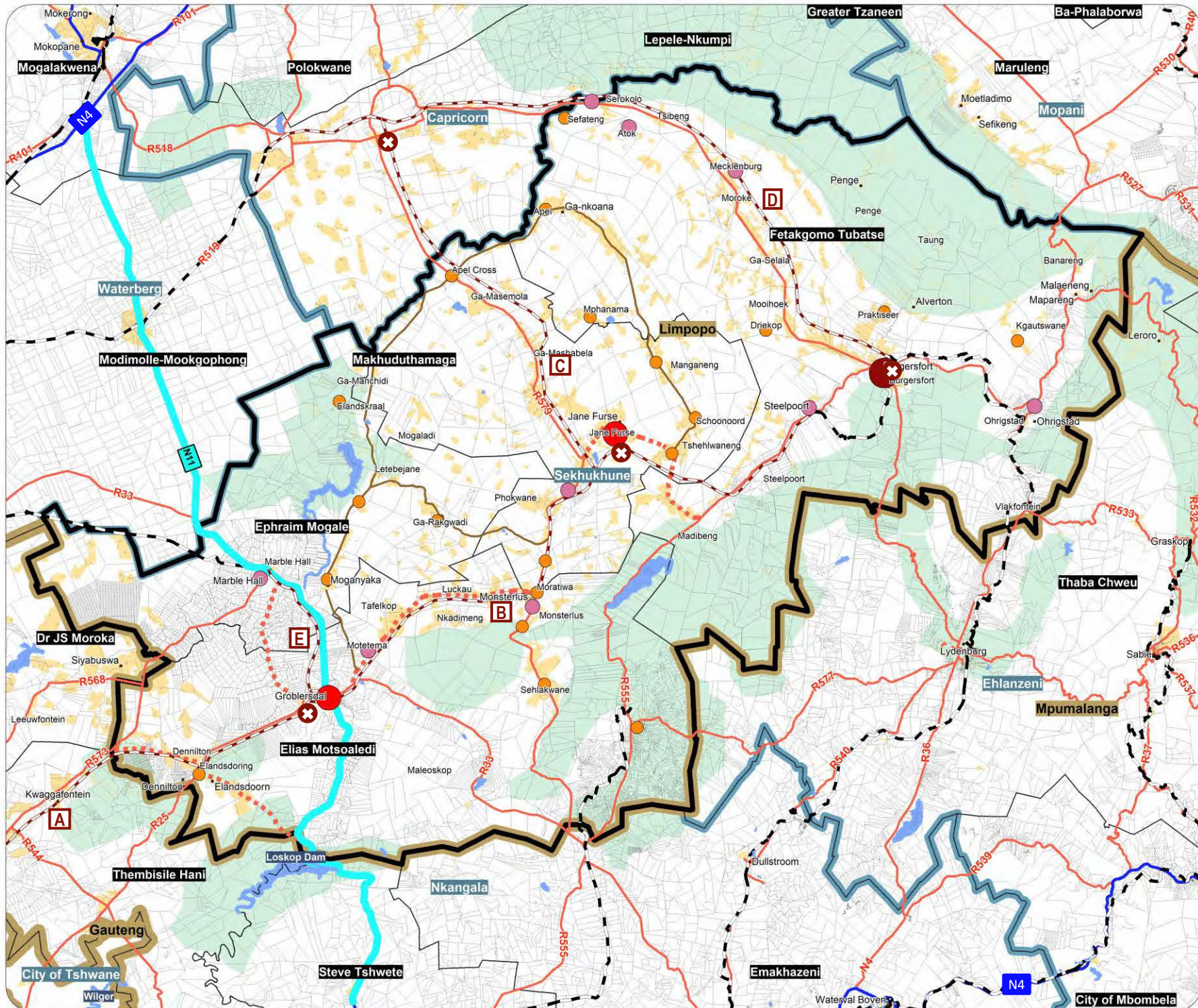
Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Local Municipal Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Cadastral (Erven, Farms)
- Rural Settlement
- Ecological Network
- Dam
- Provincial Growth Point
- Regional development Anchor
- Local Service Centre
- Rural Service Centre
- National Corridor
- Provincial Corridor
- Provincial Corridor Link
- Strategic Secondary Road
- Railway Line
- Proposed Railway Line
- Railway Terminals



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4.2.4. DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 4: DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCTIVE REGIONS

PROMOTE THE ADVANCEMENT OF TOURISM

The Sekhukhune District Municipality is profoundly influenced by agriculture, which not only shapes its economic landscape but also serves as the foundation for the communal livelihood. The municipality is exceptionally well-positioned to capitalise on targeted agricultural initiatives to stimulate economic development, given its substantial arable land and long-standing agricultural heritage. These initiatives have the potential to generate substantial employment opportunities for local residents by adopting modern farming practices, enhancing agricultural infrastructure, and implementing supportive policies.

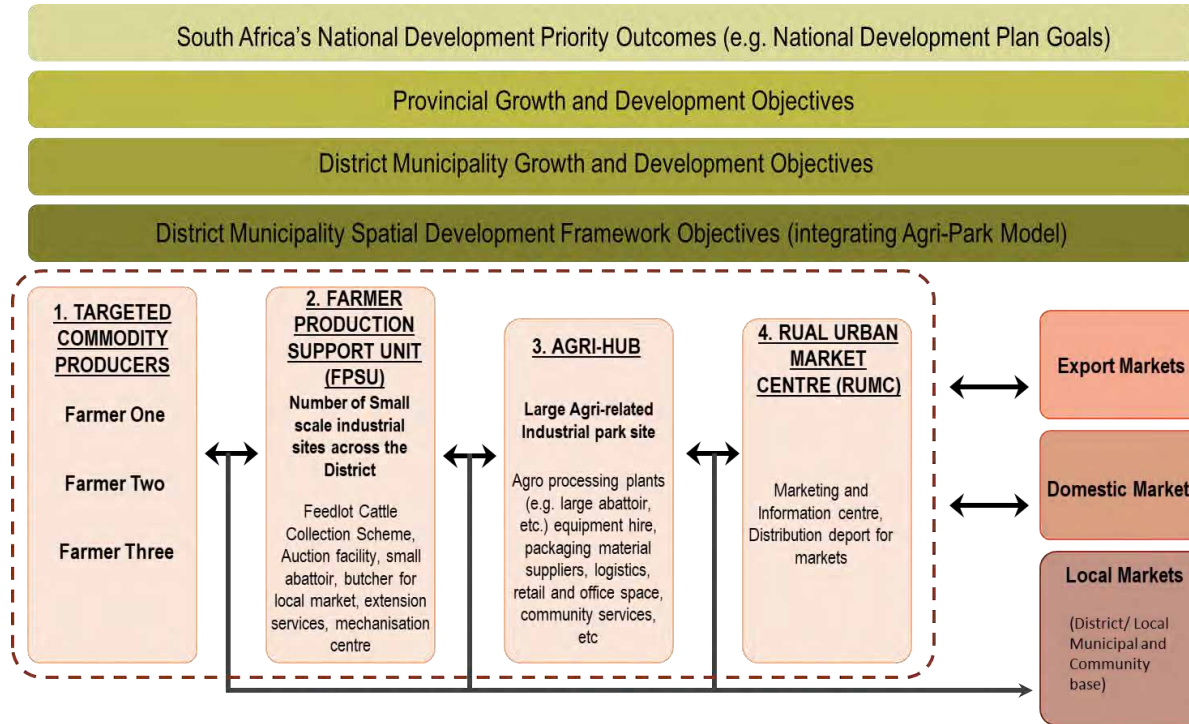
This emphasis on agriculture not only improves the local economy but also significantly contributes to poverty alleviation by ensuring food security and establishing sustainable income streams. Ultimately, the development of agriculture in Sekhukhune presents a promising trajectory for enhancing living standards and establishing long-term socio-economic resilience among its inhabitants. With that, the following agricultural proposals for the district are outlined below.

The concept of Agri-Parks and Farmer Production Support Units (FPSU), as shown in the following diagrams, has been well advocated throughout the country. This is due to the fact that the initiative is fundamental to boosting agricultural productivity and promoting rural economic development. The Agri-Parks strategy is envisioned as a networked innovation system that involves agro-production, processing, logistics, marketing, training, and extension services within a district municipality. This market-driven system incorporates a range of agricultural activities and rural transformation services. Three primary components represent the Agri-Park:

- **Farmer Production Support Unit (FPSU):** The FPSU connects with farmers and markets, serving as a rural outreach and capacity-building unit. It offers extension services, including mechanisation support, and administers primary collection, limited storage, and minor processing for local markets.
- **Agri-Hub (AH):** This entity serves as a central hub for agro-processing activities in the district, covering production, equipment rental, processing, packaging, logistics, innovation, and training.
- **Rural Urban Market Centre (RUMC):** The RUMC has three primary functions: providing market intelligence and information feedback to the Agri-Hub and FPSU using the latest information and communication technologies, acting as a holding facility to release produce to urban markets based on seasonal trends, and linking and contracting rural, urban, and international markets. The concept of an Agri-Park and FPSU is illustrated below, as well as their interlinked relationship.



Diagram 18.1: Adapted Agri-Park Model



Source: Department of Rural Development and Land Reform

As illustrated in **Diagram 18.1** above, the Agri-Park initiative is designed to serve as an administrative unit within a district municipality, focusing on high-level production, machinery, distribution, and logistics to regional markets. Whereas the Agri-Hub's inclusion is intended to offer local producers essential services that improve the value of their produce, increase market access, and encourage sustainable farming practices. In terms of agricultural initiatives proposed within the district. As shown in **Figure 18**, the development of an Agri-Hub is proposed near

Groblersdal, where commercial farms coexist with subsistence farming, and the proposed initiative in close proximity to the town has the potential to offer essential assistance to the region-wide agricultural community. Moreover, the N11 functions as a crucial national corridor, efficiently channelling goods and services from the Agri Hub to key markets in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces. **Diagram 18.2** illustrates the concept of the Agri-Hub, and its functionality within the Agri-Park model.

Figure 18: Development Objective 4 Agricultural Initiatives



SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW
DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 4 AGRICULTURAL INITIATIVES

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Local Municipal Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Cadastral (Erven, Farms)
- Settlement Pattern
- Ecological Network
- Crop Farming
- Subsistent Livestock Farming
- Dam
- National Corridor
- Railway Line
- Provincial Corridor
- Provincial Corridor Link
- Strategic Secondary Road
- Agricultural Proposals
- Sekhukhune Agri-Park
- FPSU
- Abattoir
- Agricultural Gateway



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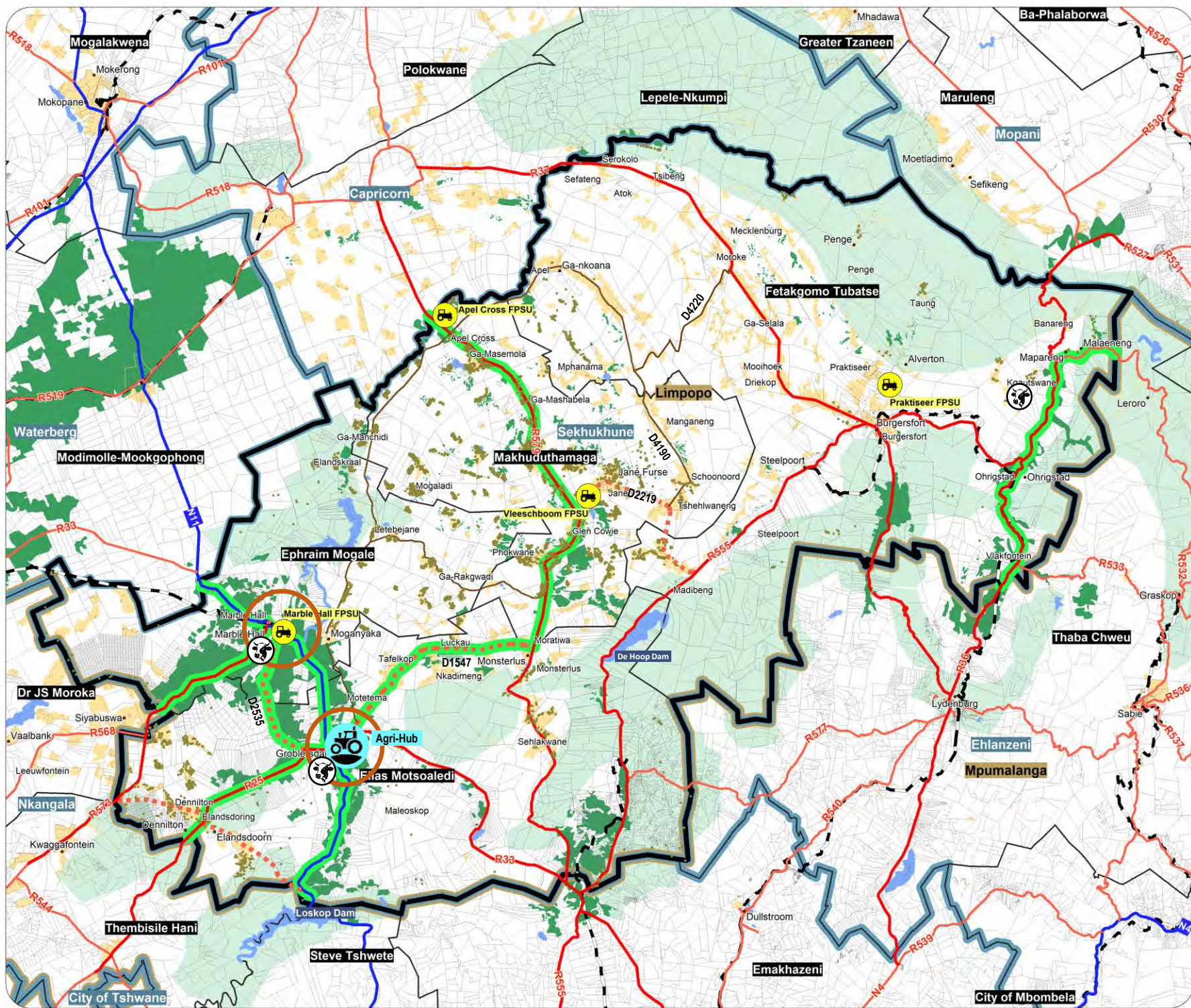


Diagram 18.2: Agri-Hub Model



Source: Department of Rural Development and Land Reform

Additionally, the development of a Farmers Production Support Unit (FPSU) is proposed in Marble Hall, where the Sekhukhune Agri-Hub would aggregate produce from the FPSU further to facilitate processing, packaging, and distribution to markets. Moreover, to those previously approved by the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, three more FPSU sites have been identified in the region to enhance reach and utilisation within the District Municipality. These sites include Vleeschboom, Praktiseer, and Apel Gross, with the Vleeschboom FPSU currently under construction.



REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

As shown in **Diagram 18.3**, a FPSU serves as a rural outreach and capacity-building units that provide primary collection, storage, minor processing, and extension services to smallholder farmers. Essentially, this builds a continuous agricultural production network, from raw production of commodities to value-added produce that is efficiently packaged and stored to be delivered to regional markets for trade and further processing (agro-producing of other consumable food goods)

As depicted in **Figure 18**, the town of Groblersdal holds an abattoir which is crucial in supporting the local agricultural economy, servicing livestock farmers and ensuring a steady supply of meat products to the region.

Diagram 18.3: Conceptual Design of Farmers' Production Support Units



Additionally, Groblersdal has been designated as an Economic Development District (EDD) and an Agricultural Gateway, which is key to facilitating the region's economic growth and agricultural development. The purpose of EDD initiatives is to focus

infrastructure investments and opportunities at strategic points within the region. In order to stimulate job creation, boost the region's economy, and identify opportunities for economic diversification that ensure the region maintains a competitive advantage. Groblersdal's designation as an EDD gateway suggests that the town serves as a hub for investment, infrastructure development, and market access, particularly in the agricultural sector. This designation of an EDD, coinciding with the development of an Agri Hub, positions Groblersdal as a pivotal driver of regional economic growth and agricultural innovation.

Given the strategic importance of specific routes, shown on figure 84 in linking key agricultural initiatives and improving access to commercial and subsistence farming activities, these routes are proposed to be designated as the district's Agricultural Corridors, namely; N11 national road, R25, R573, route 2535, route 1547, route D4100 and the R579.

By categorising these routes as such, these should be prioritised for infrastructure upgrades to facilitate the efficient movement of agricultural goods from production sites to markets. Additionally, clear signage and targeted marketing of agricultural initiatives, agro-processing industries, and farm names should be placed along these routes to further promote the adjoining agricultural establishments. To further support local farming businesses, it is recommended that the establishment of farm stalls and fresh produce markets along these routes be encouraged, as well as promoting local businesses and showcasing locally produced goods.

The Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) is an initiative that aims to revitalise rural areas by addressing infrastructure deficits, stimulating economic development, and empowering local communities. The objective of this initiative is to ensure secure land tenure, improve the quality of life in rural areas through effective service delivery, and ensure stable livelihoods and food security.

Groblersdal is notable for its agricultural activities and thus has smallholder irrigation schemes. These schemes are crucial for enhancing agricultural productivity, ensuring food security, and improving the livelihoods of local farmers. The town of Groblersdal benefits from several smallholder irrigation schemes, enabling farmers to cultivate a variety of crops throughout the year. The Loskop Dam located within the Olifants River just south of Groblersdal, is the key water source for the smallholder irrigation schemes in the area. Through an extensive canal network, the dam supports approximately 19,000 hectares of farmland.

Despite some level of infrastructure being available in Groblersdal, local farmers encounter various obstacles that require additional support. This includes the following

- Access to water is the most critical; emerging farmers face challenges in obtaining reliable irrigation water. Regulations and current water allocations make it challenging for emerging farmers to effectively utilise the available water resources;
- Limited financial resources prevent farmers from investing in essential infrastructure, such as irrigation equipment and sustainable water delivery systems. Financial constraints lead to underutilised or ineffective farming techniques;
- High electricity costs hinder water pump operation. Farmers sometimes use diesel generators, which are expensive and unsustainable;
- Insufficient commercial farming expertise and limited information to knowledge about farming, particularly in light of climate change.

The following presents agricultural-based proposals to enhance the effectiveness of farmers in the region, this include;

- Prioritise access to water for farming activity, and simplify the process to obtain a water license; The region tends to incur frequent water cuts, which hamper production, and at times, the cuts take as long as 2 weeks. This should be addressed as the majority of the farmers in the region, do not

have large water storage facilities. The process of applying for a water licence can take 3 to 6 months to process and reach approval, depending on the complexity of the application, which includes emerging farmers having access to irrigated water.

- Financial Support to provide targeted financial assistance to assist in agricultural infrastructure and equipment, the types of financial support could be through grants, incentive programs and upskilling local communities, schools, or subsidies. As this will assist farmers to have adequate irrigation, enhanced automation (depending on the size of their production area, and most importantly, large water storage to ensure continuous water availability. Alternatively, efficient watering techniques such as rainwater harvesting and storage solutions, which are cost-effective, may not be feasible for large crop fields.
- Introduce alternative and educate farmers on sustainable energy solutions. By implementing sustainable and cost-effective energy alternatives, which include bioenergy, off-grid solar, and wind energy systems, to mitigate dependence on expensive diesel generators and electricity. This may result in the agricultural sector being sustainable in the long term while also increasing productivity and reducing operational costs for emerging producers.
- Equipping emerging farmers with the necessary skills and knowledge in commercial farming practices, irrigation management, and sustainable agricultural techniques through targeted training programs that promote capacity building for farmers. By offering farmers practical learning experiences and expert guidance, they can improve farm management, promote environmentally sustainable practices, and increase productivity, thereby facilitating their transition to successful and competitive agricultural enterprises.

Consequently, the potential for agricultural productivity in Groblersdal can be fully realised by addressing these challenges through coordinated efforts from the



farming community, non-governmental organisations, and government agencies. This will result in the region's socio-economic development and increased agricultural productivity.

- **Promote the Growth of Small-Scale Farming in the Region**

Promoting small-scale farming in the region is essential for driving economic growth, reducing poverty, and decreasing dependence on social grants. By supporting local farmers, we foster a self-sufficient community, enhance food security, and stimulate the local economy.

As such it is recommended that new agricultural commodities be introduced and invested in, particularly those that appeal to local producers, in addition to the current agricultural commodities produced in the district. These commodities are cost-effective, do not require extensive infrastructure, and are not affected by climate change. The value chains highlighted in **Diagrams 19.1–19.3** illustrate the proposed agricultural initiatives, which aim to facilitate the expansion of farming opportunities for local, emerging, or subsistence farmers and their entry into commercial markets. These value chains highlight commodities, namely, aloe vera, snail and mushroom farming.

- **Aloe vera farming and product formulation**

Aloe Vera plants are native to the Sekhukhune District Municipality, where they thrive in the region's hot, dry climate. Known for its wide range of uses in the health and beauty industries. Aloe vera cultivation and sustainable harvesting could stimulate local economies by creating jobs, supporting small-scale farming, and providing communities with opportunities to engage in sustainable agricultural practices while utilising local natural resources. Refer to **Diagram 19.1**, which illustrates the aloe vera value chain.

It is recommended that emerging farmers in the District Municipality establish Aloe Vera farms as part of a cooperative to enhance local production capacity. Aloe Vera

farming can create job opportunities, from harvesting to product manufacturing, packaging, distribution, and propagation, in order to ensure the sustainability of the plants in the region. Such activities would support local businesses and establish a sustainable value chain that benefits the entire community.

- **Snail Farming**

The initiative of introducing snail farming to emerging farmers in the region is a lucrative venture due to its cost-effectiveness and high profit potential. With minimal investment in terms of infrastructure, food sources (which are vegetables and plants) and secure pens, see the value chain in **Diagram 19.2**. Snail farming appeals to small-scale farmers seeking a viable industry that is resilient to climate change and offers a low-investment start-up with higher returns.

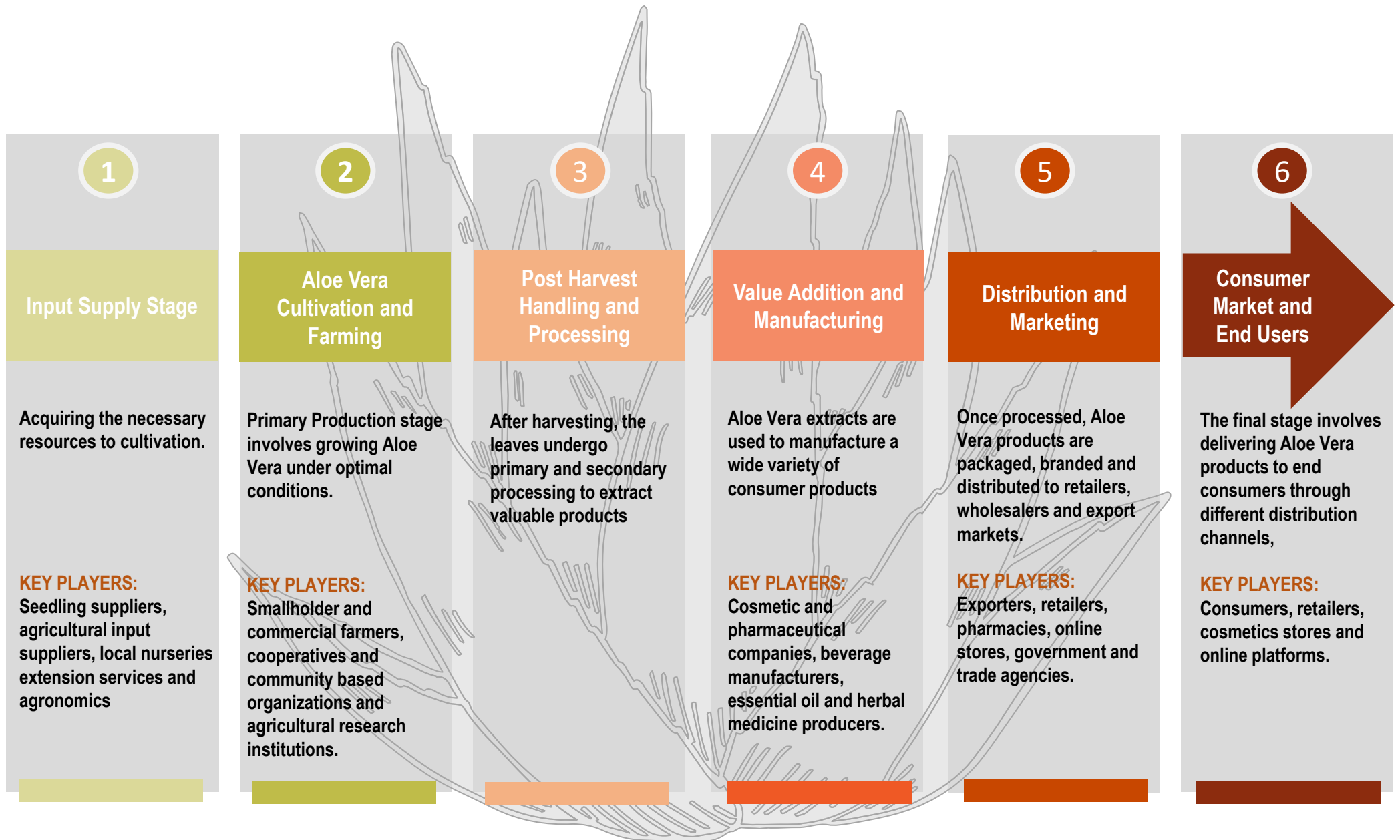
- **Mushroom Farming**

Mushroom farming is becoming increasingly popular among emerging farmers due to its relatively low start-up costs and fast-growing cycle, refer to **Diagram 19.3**. Mushrooms require little space, making them ideal for small-scale and large-scale farming operations. The growing demand for fresh mushrooms, as well as other methods of processing and packaging, such as dried mushrooms and mushroom-based sauces, has created a lucrative market. The farming practice is grown year-round, producing a high yield in relatively small areas, making it an attractive and profitable opportunity for emerging farmers.



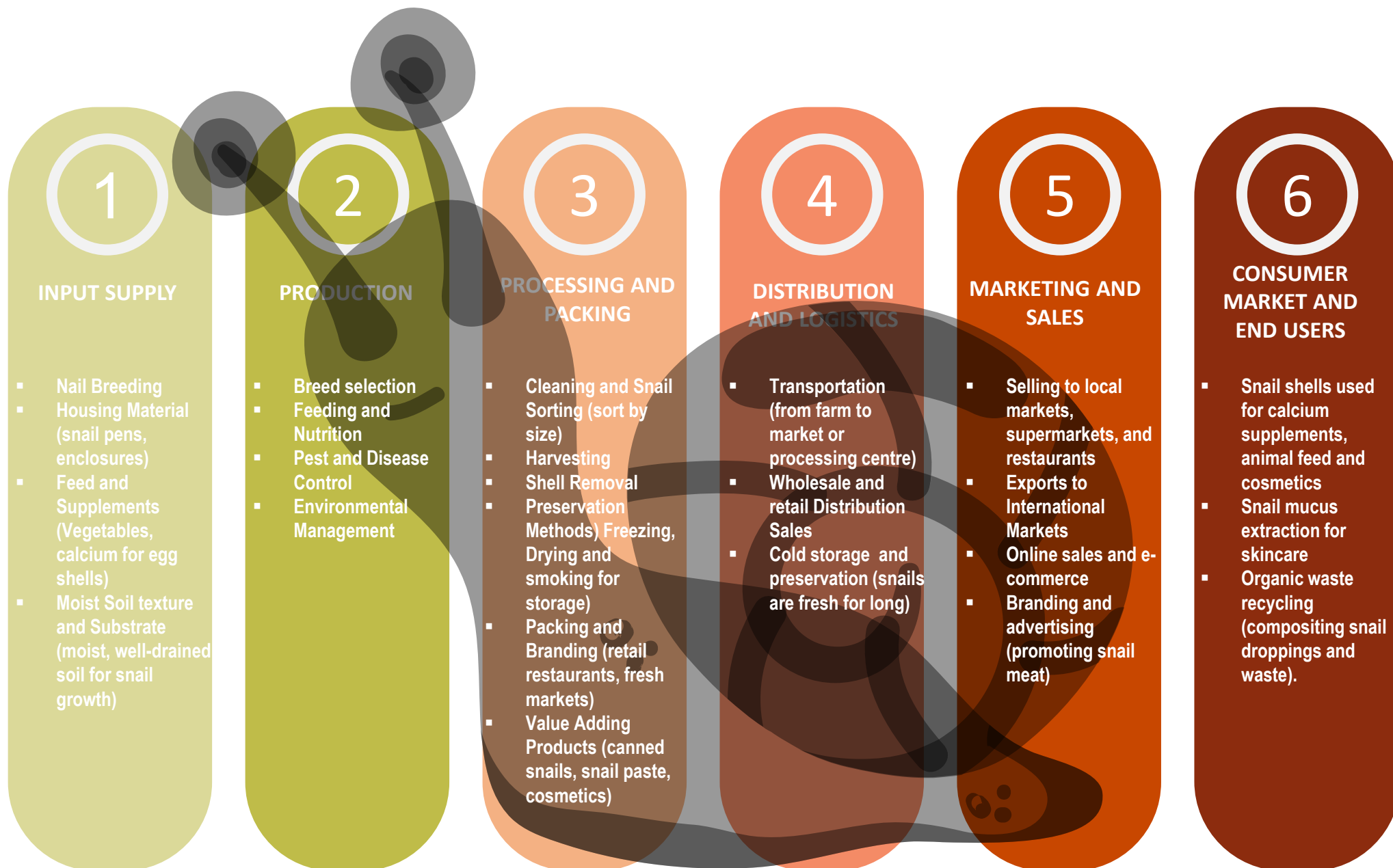
ALOE VERA VALUE CHAIN

DIAGRAM 19.1



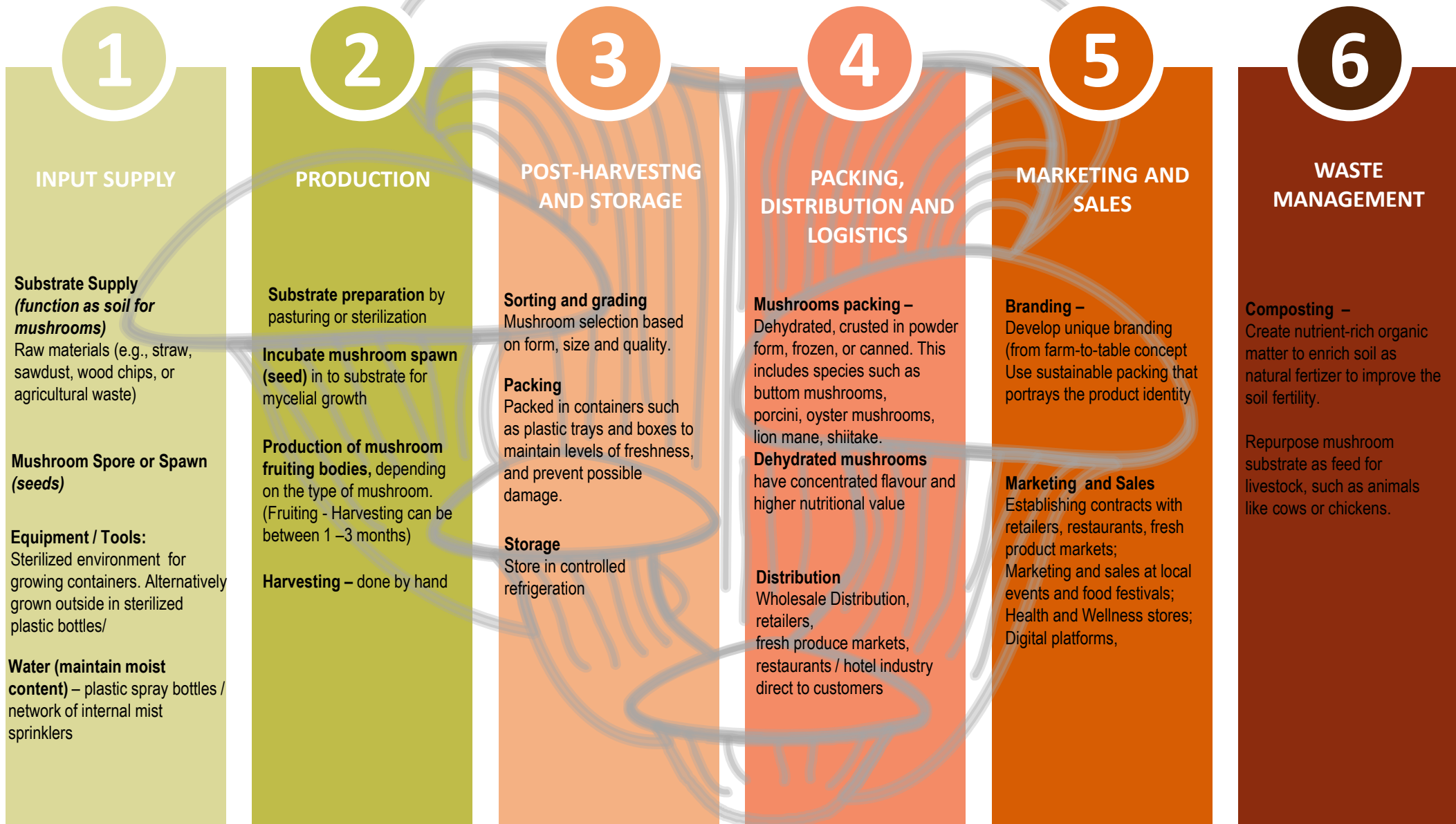
SNAIL FARMING VALUE CHAIN

DIAGRAM 19.2



MUSHROOM FARMING VALUE CHAIN

DIAGRAM 19.3



PROMOTE THE ADVANCEMENT OF TOURISM

The District Municipality possesses immense tourism potential that, if properly developed, can transform the local economy. By enhancing nature reserves, establishing tourism corridors, and improving infrastructure, the region can attract both domestic and international tourists, thereby increasing revenue and creating new employment opportunities. Strategic investment and sustainable tourism development will be key in positioning Sekhukhune as a leading tourism destination.

Figure 19 illustrates the three prominent Tourism Corridors within the District, notably linked to prominent tourism anchors and associated tourist destinations. They include the following tourism routes;

DISTRICT-WIDE TOURISM CORRIDORS;

- **Mafulo a Matala Route;** traverses along the N11 from Middelburg and the R25 from Pretoria, reaching the Schuinsdraai Nature Reserve and the Flag Boshielo Dam
- **The Marota Route;** The tourism route traverses the central region of the District Municipality. Passing through areas such as Ga-Motodi and Marota A, and connects to towns like Burgersfort. Another link runs through Apel, Manganeng, and Schoonoord via route D4190 and through route R579, linking the Apel Cross, Glen Cowie, and Jane Furse and joining the R555 route.
- **Platinum Stream Route; the Platinum Stream route** traverses along routes R555 and the R37, in the northern extents of the district and eastern borders.

The following section provides a comprehensive overview of the tourism corridors, along with the necessary development initiatives that aim to unlock their full potential. These proposed efforts are designed to maximise the appeal and

functionality of the corridors, ensuring they attract and accommodate more visitors while enhancing the overall tourism experience.

The Mafulo a Matala Route – Along Loskop Dam - Flag Boshielo Dam - Olifants River Valley

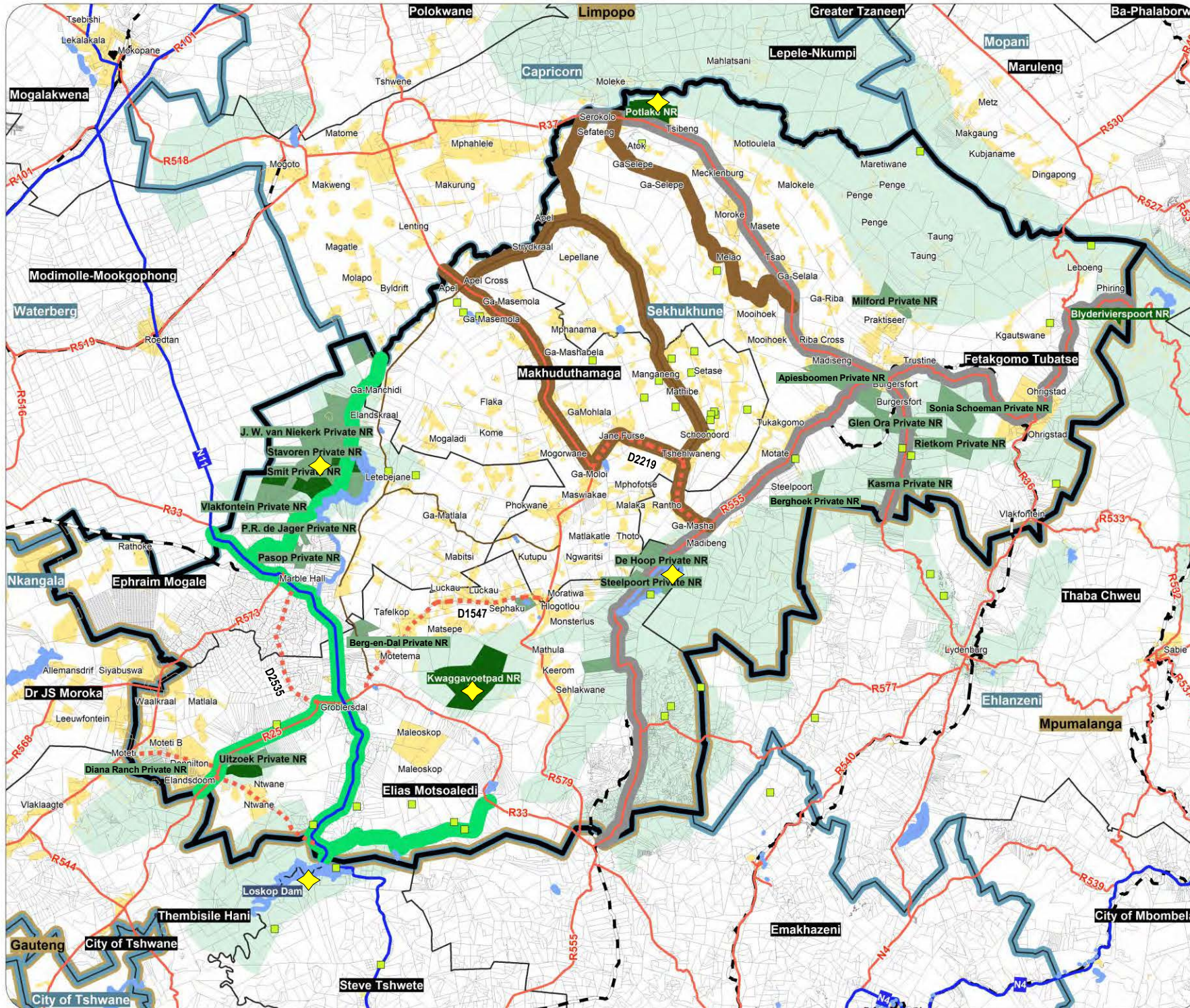
Meaning "animals grazing on green land," displays Sekhukhune's ecological splendour. The route features the region's magnificent sights and adventurous thrills. The Flag Boshielo Dam and Schuinsdraai Nature Reserve are prominent water recreation hotspots along the route featuring fishing activity, several lodges, and game farms. The route encompasses mountain views, valleys, and winding rivers framed by wildlife. Recreational activities established encompass wilderness hikes, game drives, and water-based sports.

In order to enhance and develop the tourism route further, to create a more enriching experience for visitors while showcasing the best of the region's natural beauty and cultural heritage. It is recommended that development associated with the development of localised accommodation and hotels with conference facilities, the restaurant industry, be considered along the route. Additionally, holds potential for water-related activities such as kayaking tours, floating restaurants, and picnic areas

In terms of critical infrastructure upgrades, route D1547, which leads from Marble Hall to the Schuinsdraai and the Flag Boshielo Dam, requires upgrading, including signage placement of surrounding tourist establishments. Subsequently, upgrading of bulk infrastructure, such as water, sanitation, and electrification, is required. These upgrades will ensure this tourism route functions more efficiently, providing a better experience for tourists and supporting the development.



Figure 19: Development Objective 4 Agricultural Initiatives

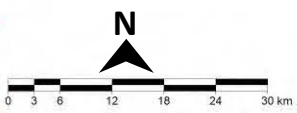


SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 4 TOURISM INITIATIVES

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Local Municipal Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Cadastral (Erven, Farms)
- Settlement Pattern
- Ecological Network
- Private Nature Reserve
- Proclaimed Nature Reserve
- Tourism Activities
- Dam
- National Corridor
- Railway Line
- Provincial Corridor
- Provincial Corridor Link
- Strategic Secondary Road
- Tourism Proposals**
- Platinum Stream Tourism Route
- Mafulo a Matala Tourism Route
- Marota Tourism Route
- Tourism Anchors



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The Marota Route – Along Apel - Manganeng - Jane Furse - Drakensberg Escarpment

The Marota Route enables tourists to discover the district's rich cultural heritage, which encompasses the remnants of ancient civilisations preserved only through archaeological evidence. Located in sites such as the Hlako Heritage Site and Matjeding Fortress in Ga-Marishane, as well as the Hlako Mountain, where much of the Khoi San rock art can be viewed. Notably, the route requires improvement, which includes enhancing historic and cultural sites, as well as associated facilities and tourism markets that exhibit arts and crafts. Ensuring a well-rounded supply of tourist activities to increase the offering of tourist products, the involvement of the private sector and the local communities is required. Tourist products offered along the route include overnight accommodation, nature reserves, and guided tours. The route has the potential to include traditional dances and performances, local crafts markets, a display of indigenous games, and African storytelling.

Pertaining to recommended upgrades for the tourism corridor, it is proposed that SMME opportunities be identified and supported along the route in order to advance the local economy, increase the effectiveness of the route, increase job opportunities, and advance visitor experience. It is proposed that the respective culture and heritage sites be upgraded and continuously maintained to be effective. Notably, some cultural and heritage sites have commenced upgrading, including the Tjale Heritage Site.

Several roads leading to key heritage and cultural sites need upgrading, including the D4170, which connects the Potlake Nature Reserve to Driekop at the intersection of Route R37. It is recommended that adequate signage be installed along the corridor to highlight key tourist attractions and points of interest. As this will enhance the route's functionality and raise awareness of the region's distinctive offerings, it will ensure that visitors maximise their stay and appreciate the region's rich cultural heritage. Equally important is the

upgrade of service infrastructure; such as water, sanitation, electricity, and the installation of telecommunications at the heritage and cultural sites. These improvements are crucial to enhance the appeal and boost the visitor experience.

Platinum Stream Route – route along Potlake NR – Tubatse – Steelpoort - Roossenekal

The mining route offers the opportunity to visit the oldest mine in the region, where ancient mine workings can be explored and knowledge is shared pertaining to historical mining-related facts. The corridor leads to several mines within the area that will provide tourists with mining information and experience. The Marula Merensky Mine, owned by Implants and the Lebowa Platinum Mine are among the oldest mines in the region, both of which hold potential to become intriguing tourist sites. While the Lebowa Platinum Mine remains an active commercial operation and is generally inaccessible to the public, special permission may be granted for those interested in an educational or industrial visit. These mines offer a unique opportunity to explore the region's mining heritage, and with the right access, they could provide valuable insights into the industry's history and progression over time.

With the tourism corridor such as the Mafulo a Matala Route connecting prominent neighbouring tourist anchors; Loskop Dam and the Mabuza Nature Reserve, which border the district. It is essential that the network of tourism corridors be effectively upgraded where necessary to ensure seamless access and connectivity that interlinks across regions.

The following discussion highlights the prominent nature reserves in the district, focusing on their current challenges and exploring their potential for growth and development as key attractions. By promoting an interconnected network of tourism corridors that link the key tourism anchors across the region, it will play a pivotal role in positioning the district as a leading eco-tourism destination.



This interconnected network will not only attract investment but also foster regional development, stimulating the local economy. Below, outline the nature and offerings of the district's primary tourism anchors, which include:

- i. **Schuinsdraai Nature Reserve and Flag Boshielo Dam**
- ii. **De Hoop Dam and Nature Reserve**
- iii. **Kwaggavoetgat Nature Reserve**
- iv. **Potlake Nature Reserve**

Each of these sites offers unique experiences, from wildlife viewing and outdoor activities to cultural exploration, and together they form a compelling attraction for eco-tourism.

i. THE SCHUINSDRAAI NATURE RESERVE AND FLAG BOSHELIO DAM

The Schuinsdraai Nature Reserve, in conjunction with the Flag Boshielo Dam situated in the Ephraim-Mogale Local Municipality on the western borders is a key tourism hub in the district, highlighting one of the region's most significant water resources. The reserve is a beloved destination for water-based recreation, attracting families and anglers who enjoy activities along the shores of Flag Boshielo Dam. With its stunning natural beauty and abundant wildlife, the area holds immense potential for expanding water-focused tourism ventures.

It is envisioned that the nature reserve will be developed as a prime destination and will necessitate the establishment of luxury housing options, including time-share or fully owned properties, a prestigious golf estate, a resort, and a hotel with conference facilities. Additionally, the eastern end of the dam is envisioned as the perfect site for a resort, thus offering a unique

tourism experience. The vision for the Schuinsdraai Nature Reserve is one with harmonious integration of eco-friendly water and green ecological activities throughout the reserve.

It is suggested that nature reserve and dam, encompass the initiative of a smart city, so as to create a balance between eco-tourism developments and the environment, and ensure the preservation of natural resources. This would entail the development of eco-friendly buildings, green infrastructure, and systems that prioritise smart water usage and waste management. These initiatives are intended to create a destination that is both sustainable and environmentally conscious, thereby fostering a positive relationship with the environment and attracting tourists.

ii. DE HOOP NATURE RESERVE AND DAM

The De Hoop Nature Reserve is located within the far northern parts of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality. The nature reserve is a significant natural landmark contributing to the region's ecological and tourism appeal. This reserve is part of the broader conservation efforts within the district, offering a blend of natural beauty, diverse wildlife, and opportunities for sustainable tourism. As one of the key ecological areas within the Sekhukhune District, De Hoop Nature Reserve plays a vital role in preserving the region's unique flora and fauna, while also attracting visitors interested in eco-tourism, wildlife viewing, and outdoor activities. Its strategic location within the Sekhukhune District positions it as an important asset for both local conservation efforts and economic development through tourism.

The proposal is to establish a variety of lodging alternatives within the nature reserve. To efficiently utilise the nature reserve and promote low-impact lodging, this



encompasses eco-friendly lodges, tented camps, and luxury eco-tourism facilities. Similarly, the proposed initiatives for the Flag Boshielo Dam and the Schuinsdraai Nature Reserve. De Hoop Nature Reserve is also recommended to integrate smart city solutions to support the preservation of the area's ecological footprint. With that, it is suggested that the design of lodging be integrated with green infrastructure to support low-density accommodations, thereby maximising the utilisation of natural resources and enhancing the overall visitor experience. Furthermore, it is proposed that the use of electric vehicle (EV) transit services be implemented in order to mitigate the carbon footprint.

Additionally, improvement involves the construction of well-designed signage throughout the reserve, the upgrading of access roads, and the provision of visitor parking areas. Water-based activities, such as kayaking and canoeing, as well as social activities like bird-watching and trekking, should be encouraged.

iii. KWAGGAVOETPAT NATURE RESERVE

As shown in the figure, the Kwaggavoetgat Nature Reserve is situated in the Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, in a more secluded area within the LM. The reserve is located in a region encompassing historical significance, a landscape framed by deep valleys and numerous mountainous areas, and filled with extensive grasslands, bushveld, and riverine environments. Although the region is less well-known than other renowned reserves, it is of significant ecological significance and has the potential to support conservation and ecological research opportunities.

In addition, the nature reserve has the potential to become an eco-tourism destination, providing a variety of outdoor activities that enable visitors to interact with nature while also contributing to the local economy. These include the exploration of unique flora, wildlife viewing, bird observing, hiking, nature trails, and photography.

With the nature reserve remaining undeveloped. The area is largely inaccessible and lacks infrastructure. Consequently, it will be paramount to improve the safety and accessibility of visitors by enhancing the reserve's infrastructure, which includes roads, signage, and facilities. By promoting eco-friendly accommodations, such as lodges, campsites, or self-catering units, that appeal to tourists seeking a nature-based experience, the reserve's tourism potential could be further developed.

iv. POTLAKE NATURE RESERVE

The Nature Reserve is located in the far northern parts of the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality and is served by the Platinum Stream tourism corridor (specifically along the R37), making it relatively accessible via the regional road. The reserve is located in close proximity to the town of Driekop. The reserve's geography is defined by a combination of open savannah, wooded areas, and small wetlands, offering diverse habitats for both plant and animal species. The area's rich diversity of flora and fauna is representative of the Limpopo Province's natural ecosystems. Although the reserve is not as large in area, it still plays a crucial role in preserving local biodiversity.

The nature reserve is characterised by natural beauty, diverse wildlife, and recreational opportunities. The reserve holds the potential to become a key eco-tourism destination. The reserve is an ideal location for visitors seeking tranquillity, nature walks, and opportunities to connect with the surrounding landscape. Activities provided include game viewing, bird watching, hiking, exploring natural beauty, and photography.

The following holds opportunities that will ensure the long-term success of the nature reserve. Infrastructure upgrading is important to accommodate more visitors, including improved roads, signage, and visitor facilities. This would help to enhance accessibility and improve the visitor experience.



The development of tourism infrastructure, including accommodation options like overnight lodges within proximity to the district's nature reserves, will encourage longer stays, allowing visitors to explore cultural heritage offerings and social activities throughout the district.

PROMOTE THE EXPANSION AND DIVERSIFICATION OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

In the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality, industrial development is vital for the enhancement of the overall quality of life, the creation of employment opportunities, and the expansion of the economy. The municipality has the potential to significantly alter its economic landscape by leveraging industrialisation, given its abundance of mineral resources. The local economy can be diversified by expanding mining, manufacturing, and related industries, which will reduce reliance on basic material exports and promote value-added production.

As a means to diversify the stringent mining economy in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality. Refer to **Figure 20**. The development of the Tubatse Special Economic Zone (SEZ) is proposed near Steelpoort along the R555. The proposed SEZ measures approximately 1220 ha and is intended to attract investment into the area, both local and international investors.

Diagram 20.1: Tubatse SEZ Conceptual Design



In order to expand economic offerings in the district, advance the economy, alleviate poverty through job creation, capitalise on industries and resources in the region and promote value-adding products from minerals extracted in the region. The conceptual design of the Tubatse SEZ is illustrated in **Diagram 20.1** and **Diagram 20.2**, which depicts the FTSEZ Layout Plan.

The proposed development aims to expand existing mining and manufacturing activities while promoting mineral beneficiation to increase revenue from mineral resources. This initiative seeks to reduce reliance on raw material exports and diversify the local municipality's economic activities. The development will include manufacturing and production operations, such as a platinum refinery, automotive component manufacturing and assembly, warehousing and storage facilities, and processing plants for timber, coal, and pharmaceuticals. Additionally, logistics and distribution services will be integrated to support these industries.

Figure 20: Development Objective 4 Industrial Initiatives

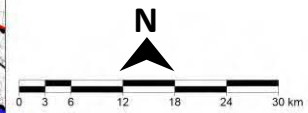


SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 4 INDUSTRIAL INITIATIVES

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Local Municipal Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Cadastral (Erven, Farms)
- Settlement Pattern
- Ecological Network
- Private Nature Reserve
- Proclaimed Nature Reserve
- Dam
- National Corridor
- Railway Line
- Provincial Corridor
- Provincial Corridor Link
- Strategic Secondary Road
- Industrial Proposals
- Mining Activities
- Tubatse SEZ
- Service / Light Industrial Hub



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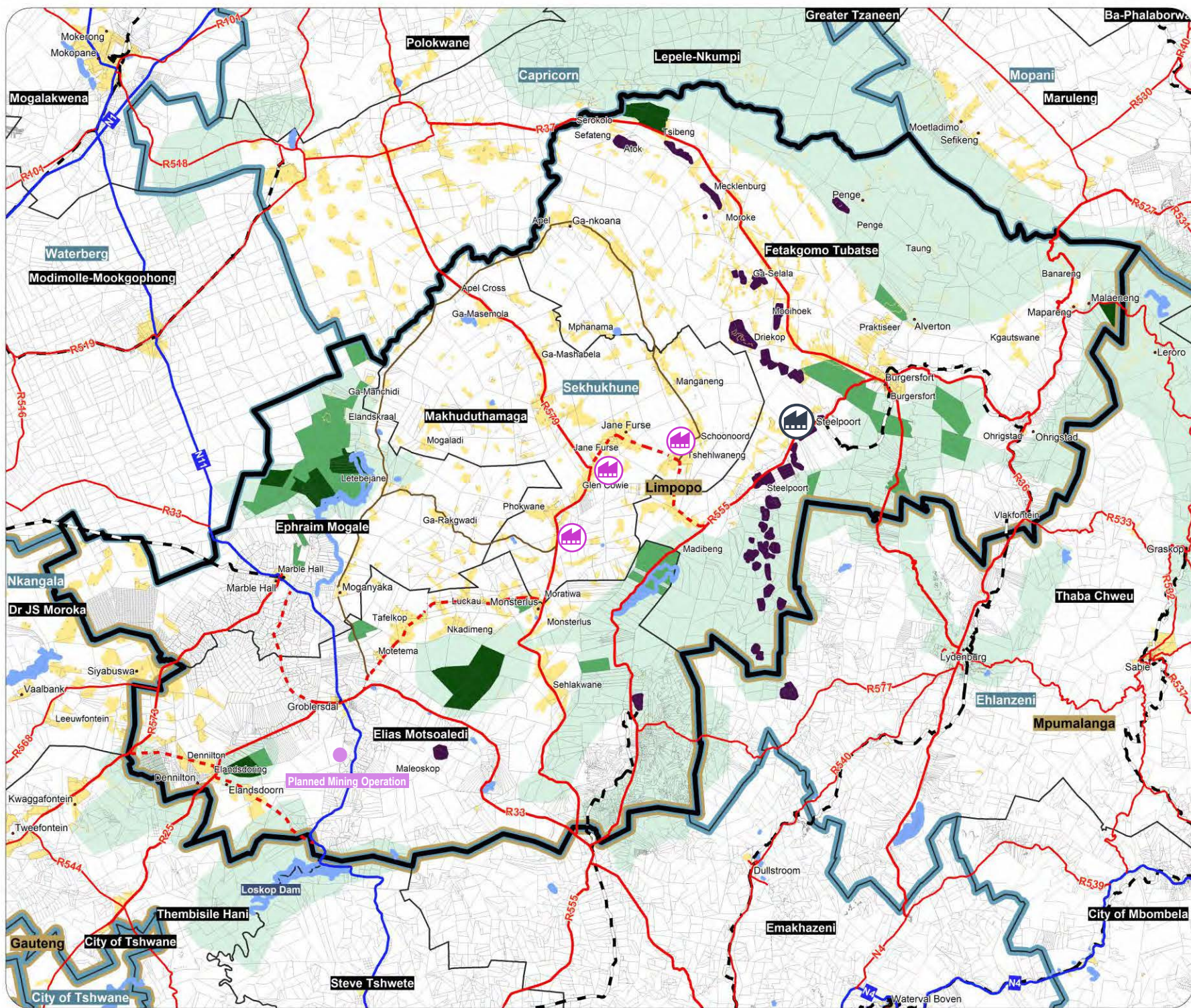


Diagram 20.2: Proposed Tubatse SEZ Layout Plan



**PROPOSED TOWNSHIP
STEELPOORT EXTENSION 24**

SITUATED ON PORTIONS 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 21, 22, 23, 29
AND PORTIONS OF PORTIONS 15, 16, 17, 18 AND 28
OF THE FARM SPITSKOP 333-KT

FETAKGOMG-TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY
LIMPOPO PROVINCE

LOCALITY PLAN 1:300 000



USE TABLE

SYMBOL	LAND USE	EXT NO	ACT/EX STANDARD	SECTION	AREA (ha)	% OF TOWNSHIP
[Orange]	Residential	1	1	1	100	100%
[Purple]	Commercial	2	2	2	100	100%
[Green]	Agricultural	3	3	3	100	100%
[Pink]	Industrial	4	4	4	100	100%
[Light Green]	Open Space	5	5	5	100	100%
[Blue]	Water	6	6	6	100	100%
[Grey]	Other	7	7	7	100	100%
TOTAL						100%

GENERAL NOTES

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METERS UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.
2. THE TOWNSHIP SHALL BE BOUNDARY BY THE FARM SPITSKOP 333-KT.
3. THE TOWNSHIP SHALL BE BOUNDARY BY THE FARM SPITSKOP 333-KT.
4. THE TOWNSHIP SHALL BE BOUNDARY BY THE FARM SPITSKOP 333-KT.
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10. THE TOWNSHIP SHALL BE BOUNDARY BY THE FARM SPITSKOP 333-KT.

CONTOURS
Contours are in accordance with the requirements in Schedule 9 of the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality Land Use Management By-Law, 2018.
Signed: _____
Company: _____
Date: _____

FLOODLINE
This is to certify that in terms of the provisions of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998), the land area on which the proposed Steelport Extension 24 Township is to be established is subject to flooding which may occur with a frequency of once every 100 years, as indicated on the layout plan.
Signed: _____
Company: _____
Date: _____

GEOLOGICAL
It is hereby certified that the layout of the township complies with the recommendations and requirements set out in the geotechnical report prepared by Delta (P22106/08/2022) dated October, 2022.
Signed: _____
Company: _____
Date: _____

GEO TECHNICAL SOIL ZONES
R: Shallow and deep, brown, clay, moderate to high, natural or shallow bedrock. Areas where agricultural production is likely to occur, subject to soil, Developmental Feasibility.
M: Shallow, clayey, brownish, areas of low water content, Developmental Feasibility.

CLIENT	DESIGNED	EMENDO (PTY) LTD
	DRAWN	EMENDO (PTY) LTD
	APPROVED	
	SCALE	1:8 000 A0
	DRAWING No	STEELPOORT EXT 24-8



404 Anderson Street
Menlo Park
Pretoria
0081

To enhance sustainability and self-sufficiency, the site will incorporate renewable energy solutions, including solar and biomass energy, to power operations within the SEZ.

The following actions towards the establishment of the Fetakgomo-Tubatse SEZ have been achieved;

- Land acquired measuring 1 220ha, and fencing and security personnel have been in place around the perimeter.
- Development of bulk infrastructure, water and sewer treatment plants and reticulation systems.
- An interim board and CEO have been appointed
- An Environmental Impact Application has been granted.
- The municipal tribunal has conditionally approved a township establishment application.
- Skills training and SMME capacitation plans are in place (Supplier activation programmes)
- A quadripartite agreement has already been signed between DTIC, Limpopo, Sekhukhune district, and Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM.

- An Environmental Impact Assessment process is currently underway;
- The application for a Record of Decision (RoD) process has commenced;
- Completion of the SEZ Master Plan (Development Framework) and layout plan. This is inclusive of bulk infrastructure designs and implementation costs;
- Letters of intent from 16 companies to operate within the SEZ;
- Four companies have shown a readiness to commence operation in the SEZ in the short term.

From an investor's perspective, industries establishing operations within the SEZ in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality will benefit from four key advantages that

maximise returns on investment in the region. These include tax incentives, world-class infrastructure, regulatory flexibility, and investment promotion.

I. Tax Incentives

Investors will benefit from a range of tax incentives, including reduced corporate tax, VAT reliefs, and accelerated depreciation. The reduced corporate tax ensures that companies operating within the SEZ are exempt from paying the full 27% corporate rate, thereby shortening the period required to achieve a return on investment. VAT reliefs provide additional benefits by offering exemptions or near-zero rates on specific imports, thereby reducing operational costs and improving cash flow. Furthermore, accelerated depreciation allows investors to write off assets more quickly and claim higher tax deductions, enabling faster recovery of their initial capital investment.

II. World-Class Infrastructure

World-class infrastructure serves as a major attraction for investors, as it enhances operational efficiency and business performance. Transport infrastructure extends beyond connectivity—it ensures seamless access to key facilities such as ports, airports, and cargo handling centres. A dependable supply of essential utilities, including electricity, water, sewerage, and waste management services, guarantees uninterrupted operations and consistent service delivery.

Additionally, advanced digital connectivity and smart technologies enable investors to operate more efficiently while maintaining strong connections with both local and global markets. The availability of ready-to-use industrial facilities such as factories, serviced land, warehouses, and shared amenities like laboratories, testing centres, and packaging facilities further reduces operational costs by minimising the need for additional investment or outsourcing.

III. Regulatory Flexibility



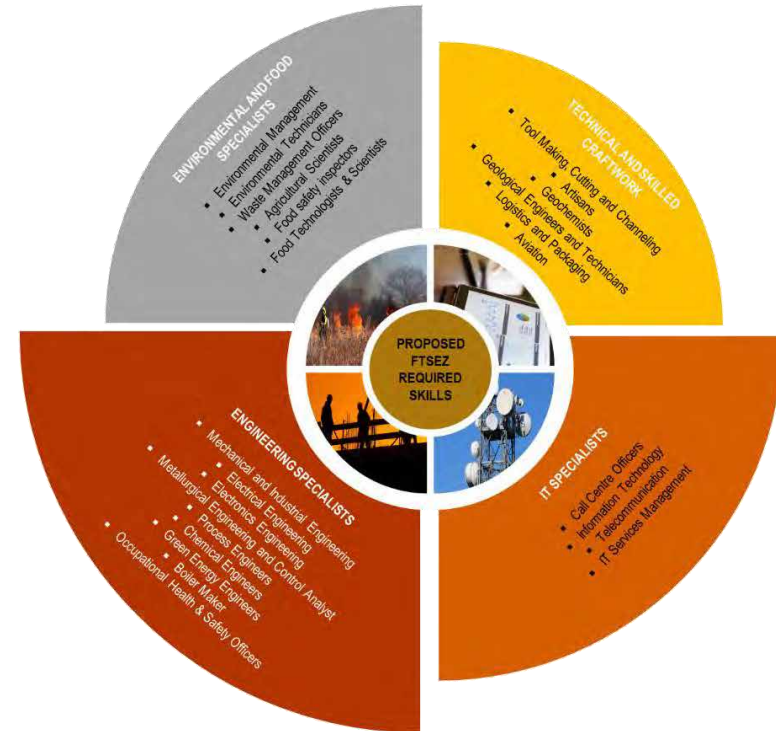
Distinct from traditional industrial parks, investors in the SEZ benefit from efficient administrative processes, including faster licensing approvals and simplified customs clearance at borders and ports. This efficiency extends to project or facility expansions, ensuring that investors can begin operations or scale up with minimal delays.

IV. Investment Promotion

Investors will benefit from free marketing and advertising on both the local and global levels when the government promotes the SEZ at international trade fairs, expos, and trade-related gatherings. This increases investor credibility and recognition. Investors also benefit from government support in terms of tax breaks, networking opportunities, and expanded operations, as the government opens channels for investors to network with local suppliers, SMMEs, and other institutions.

In accordance with the proposed Fetakgomo-Tubatse SEZ development and the distinct industrialisation model planned linked to the mining industry, the following skill sets are expected to be required for the operation and servicing of the zone, as illustrated in **Diagram 20.3**.

Diagram 20.3: Proposed Required Skills in the FTSEZ



Source: Limpopo Development Plan, 2025-2023

In addition to supporting economic diversification and driving economic development in the region, nodal precinct plans have earmarked strategic sites for commercial and industrial development in Jane Furse, Phokwane, and Schoonoord. These locations are designed to cater to the growing population in the central part of the district, with the goal of stimulating employment and economic growth through the development of well-planned, integrated commercial and industrial zones.



4.2.5. DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 5: HUMAN SETTLEMENT AND SPATIAL TRANSFORMATION

The District Municipality is primarily characterised by numerous rural communities or low-density settlement areas that are widely scattered across vast distances, making them difficult to reach and connect. The lack of spatial integration in the region presents significant challenges in terms of developing cohesive infrastructure and providing basic services.

The dispersed nature of these communities necessitates effective settlement planning that considers the geographical challenges and diverse needs of each area. With that, the fundamental objective is that human settlement development in the region fosters spatial integration and transformation, promotes adequate provision of social services, and ensures an efficient transport network connecting rural settlements with the expectation of drawing in public transport services. As illustrated in **Figure 21**, the areas identified as Strategic Development Areas (SDAs) are intended to integrate communities in proximity to key economic nodes and along main roads to advance region-wide spatially integrated human settlements.

The following highlights essential strategies to enhance human settlements, focusing on creating sustainable, integrated communities with improved living conditions and access to critical services and opportunities.

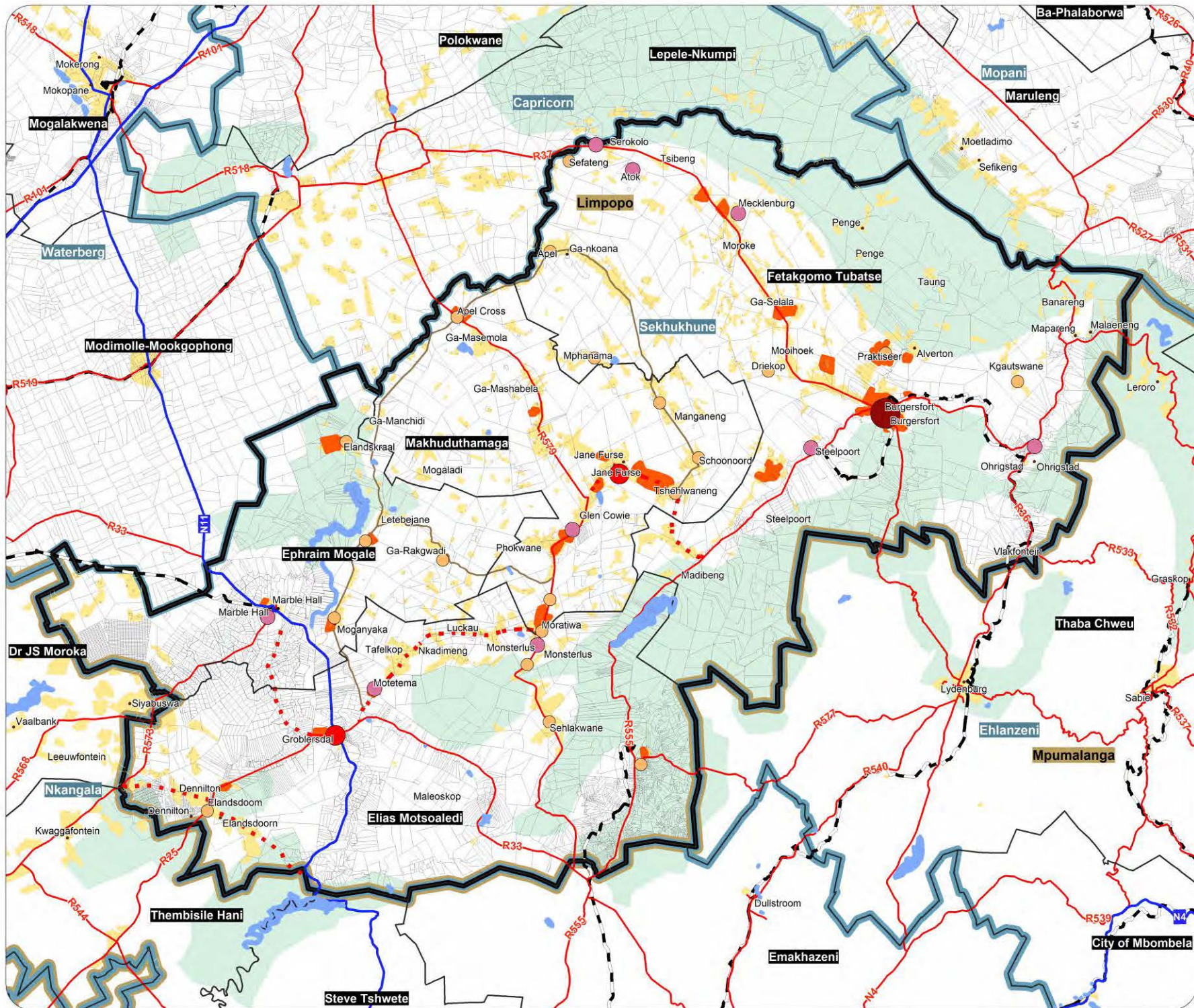
Encourage the development of integrated human settlements, ensuring that well-planned, interconnected communities promote long-term economic, social, and environmental benefits.

- Develop comprehensive strategic planning frameworks that address housing, infrastructure, services, and environmental considerations simultaneously. This ensures that all aspects of the community are well-integrated and that there is no delay or segregation of essential services.
- Engage various stakeholders, including various spheres of government departments and local municipalities, traditional authorities, and local communities in the planning process. This collaborative approach ensures that development is aligned with the needs of the people and the region's broader objectives.
- By providing access to essential services like healthcare, education, and social amenities, integrated settlements enhance the overall quality of life for residents.
- Compact, well-planned communities reduce urban sprawl, with services and job opportunities being more accessible.
- Discourage the establishment of fragmented towns that rely completely on local industries such as mining, energy, manufacturing, construction, and agriculture without long-term economic alternatives.

Promote infill development and the identification of Strategic Development Areas (SDAs) for human settlement

- Infill development and identifying strategic SDA areas foster well-connected neighbourhoods, thus reducing the need for extensive new land developments;

Figure 21: Development Objective 5 Human Settlement

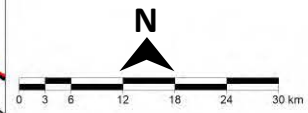


SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 5 HUMAN SETTLEMENT

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Local Municipal Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Cadastral (Erven, Farms)
- Settlement Pattern
- Strategic Development Areas (SDA)
- Provincial Growth Point
- Regional development Anchor
- Local Service Centre
- Rural Service Centre
- Ecological Network
- Dam
- National Corridor
- Provincial Corridor
- Provincial Corridor Link
- Provincial Secondary Road
- Railway Line



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REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

- Leverages on existing road infrastructure, and bulk infrastructure, reducing the need for costly new infrastructure, reducing the need for costly new infrastructure;
- The impact of infill development helps revitalise underdeveloped neighbourhoods, thus reinjecting economic growth in settlement areas, improving property values and maximising the land that was allocated for development.

Enhance rural tenure security and facilitate title restoration through lease agreements, the Permission to Occupy Certificate

- Advocating for secure land tenure encourages communities to invest in their land, leading to better agricultural practices, improved infrastructure, and overall economic development in rural areas;
- Fosters a sense of security and social cohesion, as it empowers marginalised groups;
- Secure land tenure encourages long-term land stewardship, where emerging farmers are more likely to invest in farming techniques and long-term crops, leading to more stable food production and improved food security;

- Housing developments in the District should offer diverse tenure alternatives to ensure equal access and enable all income groups to dwell inside them;
- Safeguard culturally significant lands, ensuring that communities retain control over ancestral territories and maintain traditional practices, customs, and values associated with the land.

Informal settlements can be found in various areas of the region, notably in Burgersfort and Groblersdal, primarily on the outskirts of these towns.

In terms of significant human settlement expansion, Phokwane and Jane Furse incur significant growth patterns. Phokwane, in particular, has been recognised at the national level as one of the key human settlement catalytic projects, with additional provincial housing initiatives planned for the area.

The table below outlines housing projects earmarked within the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality. Notably, several projects are only partially implemented, while others remain unimplemented due to the need for bulk infrastructure upgrades.




Table 6.1: Fetakgomo_Tubatse Planned Housing Projects

Local Municipality	Township Name	Residential 2	Residential 2	Residential 3	Business	Industrial	Educational/ Institutional	Open Space
Fetakgomo-Tubatse LM	Steelpoort Ext 13	133 Units	-	503 Units	Business 1 (3 Shopping Centres)	-	1 Educational + 1 Hospital	6 Private Open Spaces
	Steelpoort Ext 15	404 Units	1248 Units	-	-	-	-	4 Private Open Spaces
	Steelpoort Ext 16	224 Units	-	-	Resort	-	-	3 Private Open Spaces
	Burgersfort Ext 95	-	-	-	Business 1 (21 Spaces)	Industrial 1 (11 spaces)	-	2 Private Open spaces
	Steelpoortdrift 296 KT	1620 Units	-	16 Units	Business 1 (6 Spaces)	-	2 Educational	13 Public Open Spaces
	Steelpoort Ext 24	-	-	-	Business 3 (52 Spaces)	Industrial 1 (91Spaces) Industrial (31 Spaces)	-	11 Public Open Spaces
	Burgersfort Ext 61	157 Units	2 Units	-	Business 2 (15 Spaces)	Industrial 2 (3)	-	6 Public Open Spaces & 1 Private
	Tubatse Ext 1	1032 Units	-	13 Units	Business 1 (3 Retail/Shops)	-	2 Primary Schools	3 Public Open Spaces
	Tubatse B Ext 1	1057 Units	-	13 Units	Business 1 (3 Spaces)	-	2 Educational	2 Public Open Spaces
	Apies Townships	2 988 Units						
	Tubatse B Ext 2	288 Units	-	3 Units	Business 1 (4 Spaces)	-	-	1 Public Open Spaces
	Tubatse B Ext 3	280 Units	-	6 Units	Business 1 (10 Retail/Shops)	-	1 Combined School	-
	Tubatse B Ext 4	452 Units	-	2 Units	-	-	1 Creche	1 Public Open Space
	Tubatse B Ext 5	467 Units	-	62 Units	Business 1 (6 Retail/Shops)	-	1 Creche	-
	Tubatse B Ext 6	12 Units	-	-	Business 1 (6 Retail/Shops)	-	1 Community Facility	-
Tubatse B Ext 7	1028 Units	-	18 Units	Business 1 (11 Retail/Shops)	-	2 Primary School	-	
Tubatse B Ext 8	854 Units	-	22 Units	Business 1 (11 Retail/Shops)	-	2 Creche	1 Public Open Space	

REVIEW OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK, 2025

In Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, several new housing settlements have been approved (refer to the table below), with most intended as expansion areas of adjacent rural settlement areas. However, many of these planned residential expansions remain undeveloped. This lack of implementation is largely attributed to insufficient bulk infrastructure capacity, which restricts the delivery of adequate living conditions for the affected communities.

Table 6.2: Makhuduthamaga LM Planned Housing Projects

Local Municipality	Township Name	Residential 1	Residential 2	Residential 3
Makhuduthamaga LM	Thabampshe North	189 Units		
	Ga-Masemola	509 Units		
	Moji	1 030 Units		
	Mamatsekele	208 Units		
	Sehuswane	198 Units		
	Hopefield-Sehuswane	266 Units		
	Hopefield-Semahlakole	+297 Units		
	Ga-Mampane	331 Units		
	Kome Village	297 Units		
	Mathapisa	269 Units		
	Ga-Maboke	238 Units		
	Kgaruthuthu Ext 1	329 Units		
	Diphagane	+394 Units		
	Jane Furse Ext 1	Large Vacant		
	Mohlwarekoma	+299 Units		
	Thoto	240 Units		
	Ntoane	280 Units		
Maila Segolo	365 Units			
Gamaila-Segolo	167 Units			

Within the Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, the Human Development Agency (HDA), in collaboration with the Limpopo Department of Cooperative Governance, is supporting the municipality in demarcating sites for human settlements. This includes Portion 14 of the Farm Welverdiend 24 JS. Furthermore, the municipality, with the assistance of HDA, is planning to formalise the informal settlement on Erf 677 Motetema A, as referred to in **Table 6.3** below.

Table 6.3: Elias Motsoaledi LM Planned Housing Projects

Local Municipality	Township Name	Residential 1	Residential 2	Residential 3
Elias Motsoaledi LM	Erf 677 Motetema A	Unknown		
	Wolverdiend 24 JS	Unknown		
	Walkraal Ext 1	Unknown		
	Walkraal Ext 3	Unknown		



SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



SECTION FIVE

IMPLEMENTATION

5. IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

The following section presents the implementation plan, highlighting the Capital Investment Framework, district-wide projects, the associated prioritisation phase, and the estimated project costs.

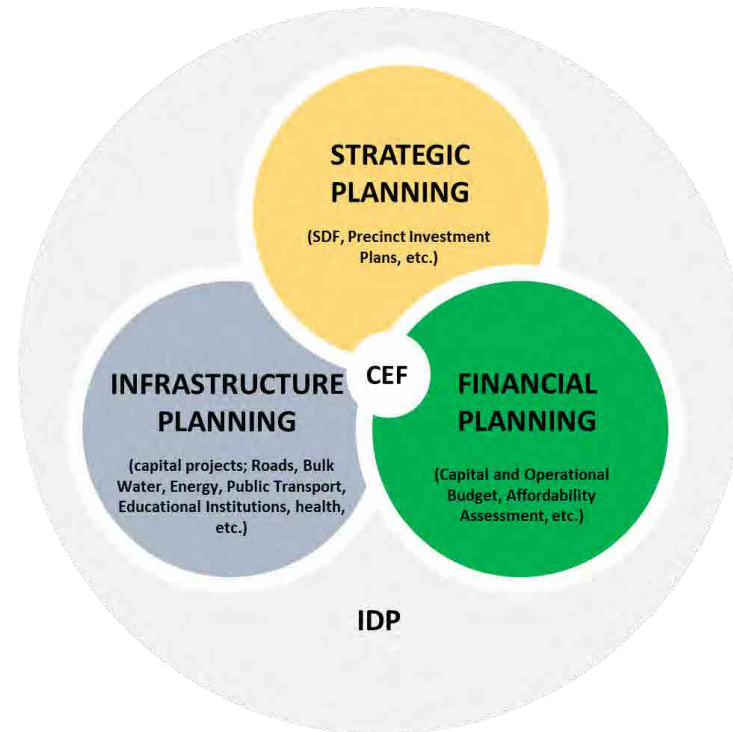
The Capital Expenditure Framework aims to spatially link the Municipality's development strategies with its budget, based on existing and future infrastructure backlogs, demands, and the affordability envelope outlined in the Long-Term Financial Plan.

5.1. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:

The Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act 16 of 2013 requires that municipal spatial development frameworks determine a capital expenditure framework (CEF) for the municipality's development programmes, depicted spatially. SPLUMA does not elaborate on the content or purpose of a capital expenditure framework or distinguish between the focus of such a CEF in district versus local municipal SDFs. With that, the 'Capital Expenditure Framework' is introduced in the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act of 2013 (SPLUMA) in section 21, where it states that a Capital Expenditure Framework is to be devised for the municipality's development programmes. **Diagram 21** indicates three critical foundations upon which the CEF is framed.

Furthermore, the Local Government: Municipal Planning and Performance Management Regulations (2001) require that an SDF set out a Capital Investment Framework for the municipality's development program.

Diagram 21: Inter-relationship of Capital Expenditure Framework (CEF)





5.2. INSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

SDM’s Integrated Development Plan, Local Economic Development and Development Planning will have to work closely together with other municipal departments, such as technical and engineering infrastructure services, social facilities and housing, as they will be responsible for the facilitation and monitoring of the implementation of the SDF proposals.

5.2.1. ALIGNMENT OF SECTORAL PLANS

The SDF is a medium-term transversal planning and coordination tool, which spatially coordinates and implements the Sekhukhune District Municipality IDP’s vision. While the SDF is informed by Sector Plans, strategically and spatially, the Sector Plans should be led by the SDF. Therefore, once the SDF has been adopted, the SDF must be a key consideration during the revision of the sectoral plans to establish alignment, where required. When reviewing District Sector Plans, the SDF must be a key consideration or framework to ensure alignment and enable the sector plans to realise their full potential as SDF implementation tools.

Table 7 below provides an overview of the Sekhukhune District’s sectoral plans, including their respective review dates and status regarding applicability or the need for revision.

Table 7: Sector Plan, their status and SDF Implications

SECTOR PLAN	STATUS	IMPLICATION AND RECOMMENDATION
Integrated Development Plan	Approved 2024/2025	The reviewed IDP would need to include the current SDF proposals and CEF informants.
Integrated Waste Management Plan	Due for Review	An informant to the SDF.

Sanitation Master Plan	Due for Review	An informant to the SDF. A review should be framed within the proposal for a district medium-term integrated infrastructure investment framework as proposed above, and should seek to ensure that human settlement planning is aligned with existing infrastructure capacities, and a robust audit of “backlogs” should be undertaken to verify data and need prior to planning.
Water Safety Plan	Due for Review	An informant to the SDF.
Integrated Waste Management Plan	Due for Review	An informant to the SDF.
District Integrated Environmental Management Plan (DIEMP)	Due for Review	An informant to the SDF. The SDF is also an implementation tool for this plan through spatializing the strategic intent and establishing spatial policies aligned to the plan. At the same time, a review of this plan should be informed by the balanced approach of the SDF.
Air Quality Management Plan	Due for Review	An informant to the SDF.
Disaster Management Plan	Approved 2021/2022	An informant to the SDF.
LED Strategy	Approved 2024/2025	The reviewed strategy should be framed by the spatial context and strategies set out in the SDF, where relevant. Economic potential in space should be optimised and coordinated with human settlement development planning.
Budget Policy	Approved 2023/2024	The next revision of the Municipal Budget would need to include prioritised, project-ready projects and programmes that are identified in the SDF/IDP.
Integrated Transport Plan	Unavailable	An Integrated Transport Plan needs to be compiled in order to assist the long-term planning and implementation of the SDF proposals.



5.2.2. CAPITAL REVENUE

The following represents the capital revenue and expenditure tables listed are extracted from the Sekhukhune District Municipality’s Medium-Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework. The MTREF provides the estimated ‘affordability envelope’ per year for the 3-year period. According to the MTREF, the total available Capital expenditure (affordability envelope) for the period 2025-2028.

Table 8: SDM revenue sources for a single year

FUNDING SOURCE	VALUE	PERCENTAGE
Equitable Share	1.2 Billion	12
Expanded Public Works Grant	8.4 Billion	83
Municipal Infrastructure Grant	425 Million	4
Financing Management Grant	2.5 Million	1
Total	R 10.225 Billion	100

Source: SDM MTREF, 2025/2026

5.2.2.1 SDM’s MEDIUM-TERM REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK

The total service costs for the 3-year period are approximately R 3 725 038 709.93 billion. Water and sanitation services are the largest provided service at 88.5%, followed by Institutional development at 5%. Services such as Community services, Local Economic development, social facilities, Spatial Rationale, and Capital replacement are the lowest at 2% or less.

Table 9: Cost of SDM’s required revenue for Medium Term Infrastructure Services

TYPE OF INFRASTRUCTURE	VALUE	PERCENTAGE
Water and Sanitation Services	R 3 299 711 117.73	88.5
Community Services	R 36 318 228.70	1
Local Economic Development	R 66 922 285.00	2
Social Facilities	R 41 144 462.50	1
Institutional Development	R 201 106 791.00	5
Spatial Rationale	R 14 835 825.00	0.5
Capital replacement (Refurbishment)	R 65 000 000.00	2
Total:	R 3 725 038 709.93	100

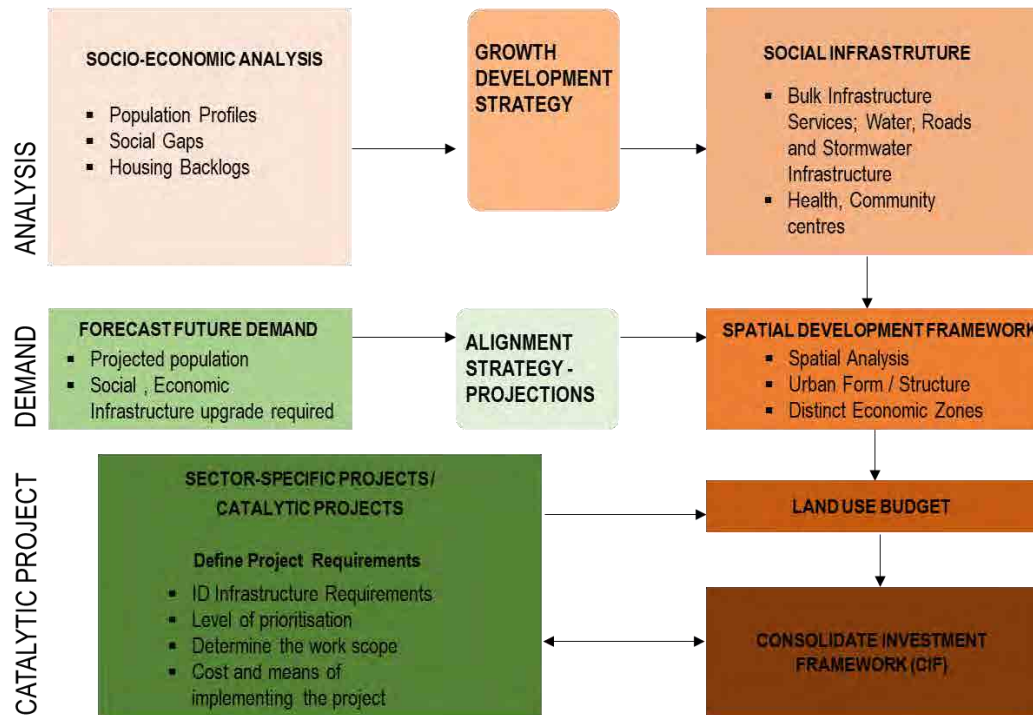
Source: SDM IDP review, 2025/2026

5.2.3. SPATIAL ALIGNMENT TO CAPITAL INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK

The investment framework supports this Spatial Development Framework (SDF) on two interrelated components. First, it proposes a foundation for a Capital Investment Framework intended to guide and align infrastructure spending with the district's spatial vision. Complementing the implementation agenda to become strategic, actionable projects. In outlining key interventions across policy, institutional, and identified projects. Each action is briefly described, linked to a responsible agency,

assigned an indicative timeframe, and associated with preliminary budget estimates. Together, these elements provide a pathway for moving from planning to execution, ensuring coordinated and practical implementation efforts support the district's spatial ambitions.

Diagram 22: Spatial Alignment with CIF



The following outlines the stages required when compiling a CIF which is aligned to spatial development. The identification and definition of infrastructure requirements form a critical foundation of the Capital Investment Framework (CIF). These requirements serve as strategic enablers of spatial development, enhance service delivery, and support sustainable economic growth. This section outlines the methodology and approach used to determine infrastructure needs within the district, laying the groundwork for targeted and coordinated investment planning.

▪ **CONDUCT ANALYSIS**

The process of identifying infrastructure needs began with a comprehensive assessment of the existing infrastructure base across the district. This assessment focused on:

- Reviewing the current infrastructure's capacity to influence societal well-being and stimulate economic activity.
- Determining infrastructure performance levels, identifying capacity constraints, and establishing requirements for maintenance or upgrading.
- Highlighting gaps, especially in underserved rural communities and informal settlements, where access to basic services remains limited

▪ **ALIGNMENT WITH SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES**

Infrastructure requirements were aligned with the spatial vision and development priorities outlined in the approved Spatial Development Framework (SDF). Key focus areas include:

- Areas identified for concentrated growth and investment.
- Locations earmarked for population growth, housing delivery, and economic activities such as mining, agriculture, and tourism.
- Areas requiring spatial transformation to redress historical inequalities and promote inclusive development.

▪ **FORECASTING FUTURE DEMAND**

This is to inform long-term planning, future infrastructure demands were projected based on various growth and development trends, to ensure adequate capacity of the infrastructure is calculated and considered in the financial plan. They include aspects such as population growth, migration patterns, planned housing, and social and economic developments.

These projections enable the identification of “trigger points” that signal when infrastructure upgrades or expansions will become necessary to support growth.

▪ **SECTOR-SPECIFIC INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS**

Infrastructure needs have been categorised by sector, with key priorities identified as follows:

- Identify the type of project
- Project capacity/extent
- Level of prioritisation

▪ **CATALYTIC AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS**

Several infrastructure projects have been identified for their potential to act as catalysts for development, unlocking broader spatial and economic opportunities.

These include:

- Strategic Regional Road Infrastructure that will unblock further development;
- Water Infrastructure project, such as irrigation, agricultural productivity, and rural livelihoods;
- Energy Infrastructure project that will facilitate industrial development and unlock growth in mining and related sectors.

These investments are expected to play a pivotal role in stimulating local economic activity, attracting further investment, and improving the quality of life across the district.





5.2.4. DISTRICT SDF PROJECT LIST

The table depicts a list of projects for the District Municipality to improve infrastructure provision and drive economic growth, thereby ensuring long-term viability. The District Implementation Framework sets out the key actions and interventions required across all government institutions to achieve the spatial objectives and realise the envisioned spatial patterns outlined in the District Spatial Development Framework (SDF). It serves as a guiding tool to ensure that strategic

planning, budgeting, and public-sector infrastructure investments are aligned with the district’s spatial development priorities. Effective implementation depends on coordinated efforts across all spheres of government, fostering integrated development and long-term spatial transformation. These projects are further categorised by priority, ranging from high to least priority, based on their potential to stimulate economic growth and improve community livelihoods.

Table 10.1: Project List

	PROJECT NAME	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY			Prioritisation	Project Cost
			Short-Term	Medium-Term	Long-Term		
1.	DO 1: PRESERVATION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGICAL NETWORK						
1.1	Implement CBA Guidelines in all land use applications	SDM / Local Municipalities				Medium	In House
1.2	Establishment of District Environmental Management Unit/ Office	SDM				Low	In House
1.3	Compilation of a Detailed District Environmental Management Framework (EMF) and Plan (EMP) incorporating District SDF proposals	SDM				Medium	R800 000,00
1.4	Coordination between the District and Province to ensure that existing Critical Biodiversity Areas, Reserves and Conservancies are consolidated and protected	SDM				Low	In House / Operational
1.5	Delineate and identify high-potential agricultural land in the Sekhukhune Environmental Management Framework to ensure the protection thereof	SDM				Medium	In House
1.6	Environmental Awareness Campaigns to Local Communities on Water and Environmental Conservation	SDM / Local Municipalities				Medium	In House
1.7.	Conduct a detailed Feasibility and Implementation of Climate-Change Mitigation and Adaptation Measures					High	To Be Determined



Table 10.2: Project List

	PROJECT NAME	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY			Prioritisation	Project Cost
			Short-Term	Medium-Term	Long-Term		
2.	DO 2: NODAL HIERARCHY AND ENSURING SPATIAL INTEGRATION						
2.1	Development of the Nodal Precinct Plans for Groblersdal, Marble Hall, and Burgersfort CBD-Steelpoort (per precinct)	SDM / Local Municipalities				Medium	R500 000,00
2.2	Implementation of ICT Infrastructure in Thusong Centres	SDM / Local Municipalities				Medium	To Be Determined
2.3	Development of the Jane Furse Hospital	Provincial Dept. of Health				-	R200 000,00
2.4	Design and Construct the Jane Furse Government Precinct	Dept. of Public Works				High	To Be Determined
2.5	Development of the Jane Furse Waste Water Treatment Plant	National and Provincial Dept of Water and Sanitation				High	R100 000 000,00
2.6	Revitalisation Tompi Seleka College of Agriculture	Dept of Higher Education and Training				=	To Be Determined
2.7	Develop a Database for Informal Traders in the SDM	SDM / Local Municipalities				Medium	In House
2.8	Formalise Informal Traders (in nodal areas)	SDM / Local Municipalities				Medium	To Be Determined
3.	DO 3: ENHANCING MOVEMENT NETWORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE						
3.1	Upgrade and ensure maintenance of the N11 into a dual-carriage way (approx. 68km).	SANRAL				Medium	R413 000 000,00
3.2	Pot-hole and resurface maintenance of route R25 between Elandsdoring and route D2535 (approx. 26km).	National Road Agency/ Provincial Department of Roads and Transport				High	R50 000 000,00
3.3	Pot-hole and resurface maintenance of route D2535 (approx. 23,9km).	Provincial Department of Roads and Transport/ SDM/ Local Municipalities				Medium	R47 800 000,00
3.4	Widening and maintenance of route D1547 between the intersection of R33 and D1547 to Moratwa (approx. 38,7km).	Provincial Department of Roads and Transport / SDM / Local Municipalities				High	R139 320 000,00
3.5	Intrusive road maintenance along route R555 between the intersection R37 and R555, and convergence of R33 and R555 (approx. 108,8km).	Provincial Department of Roads and Transport/ SDM / Mining Houses				High	R218 600 000,00
3.6	Rail Upgrades and maintenance of the rail line through Steelpoort, Burgersfort and Ohgristad.	Transnet				Medium	To Be Determined
3.7	Operationalise Pienaarspoort-Marble Hall rail line (and possibly extension to Groblersdal)	Transnet				Medium	To Be Determined
3.8	Feasibility Assessment and construction of the Motolo Corridor Rail through Sekhukhune District Municipality; Railway Link A - City of Tshwane MM-Groblersdal-Jane Furse-Burgersfort Railway Link B - Groblersdal-Jane Furse-Burgersfort Railway Link C - Jane Furse-Lebowakgomo/Zebediele Railway Link D - Burgersfort-Lebowakgomo/Zebediele	Transnet				Low	To Be Determined



Table 10.3: Project List

	PROJECT NAME	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY			Prioritisation	Project Cost
			Short-Term	Medium-Term	Long-Term		
4.	DO 4: DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCTIVE REGIONS						
4.1	Establish the two Agricultural Gateways; Groblersdal and Marble Hall Agri Gateways	Provincial Department of Agriculture / SDM / Local Municipality				Low	To Be Determined
4.2	Design and Establishment of the Sekhukhune Agri-Park, in Groblersdal	Provincial Department of Agriculture / SDM				High	R150 000 000,00
4.3	Design and Establishment of the Farmers Production Support Units (FPSU); sites in Marble Hall, Vleeschbloom/ Glen Cower, Apel Cross and Praktiseer	Provincial Department of Agriculture / SDM				Medium	R50 000 000,00
4.4	Agricultural Corridors; Upgrade and maintain agricultural corridors along the following routes; N11, R25, R573, R579 route D2535, route D4100 and route D154	Provincial Department of Agriculture / SDM				Low	To Be Determined
4.5	Africonnect / Digital Smart Farming; Development of an online application that enables local farmers to trade on a central digital platform, within a specific radius	SDM / Local Municipalities LM/ Private Sector				Medium	To Be Determined
4.6	Feasibility Studies and Financial Assessment of Value-Chains: Snail Production, Aloe Vera and Mushroom Farming	SDM / Local Municipalities				Low	R5 000 000,00
4.7	Development of a District-wide Tourist Marketing Strategy	Provincial, District and Local - Dept of Tourism				Medium	R2 500 000,00
4.8	Establishment of Tourism Offices in Marble Hall and Groblersdal (per office)	Limpopo Dept of Tourism				Low	R12 000 000,00
4.9	Branding and Road Upgrading of 3 three Tourism Routes through signage:	Tourism Agency, Dep. of Tourism, Limpopo Dep of Transport				Low	
4.9.1	Mafulo a Matala Route					Medium	To Be Determined
4.9.2	The Marota Route					Medium	To Be Determined
4.9.3	The Platinum Stream Route					Medium	To Be Determined
4.10	Facilitate the development of the Fetakgomo-Tubatse SEZ	Provincial, District and Local - Dept. of Local Economic Development (LED)				High	To Be Determined
4.11	Development of a District-wide Rural Development Strategy	Provincial Department of Agriculture / SDM				High	R1 200 000,00
5.	DO 5: HUMAN SETTLEMENT AND SPATIAL TRANSFORMATION						
5.1	Demarcate Urban Development Boundaries (UDB) to safeguard settlements from sprawling into agricultural potential land	Local Municipalities				Low	In House
5.2	Alignment of mine housing and living conditions plans with the municipal spatial development framework and housing sector plans	Dept of Human Settlement / SDM/ Mining				Low	To Be Determined

Figure 22.2: Productive Areas- Projects



SEKHUKHUNE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REVIEW

PRODUCTIVE AREAS- PROJECTS

Legend

- Provincial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Local Municipal Boundary
- Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Cadastral (Erven, Farms)
- Settlement Pattern
- Towns
- National Corridor
- Provincial Corridor
- Provincial Corridor Link
- Strategic Secondary Road
- Railway Line
- Proposed Railway Line

District-Wide Projects

- 4.5
- 4.6
- 4.7
- 4.11
- 5.1
- 5.2



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