

# **EMALAHLENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**



**DRAFT**

## **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

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## **ACCRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

ABET: ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

AIDS: ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME

AU: AFRICAN UNION

DPLG: DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

ELM: EMALAHLENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

LED: LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LDAC: LOCAL DRUG ACTION COMMITTEE

HIV: HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS

IYDS: INTEGRATED YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

M&E: MONITORING AND EVALUATION

NDP: NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

NYDA: NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

NYDPF: NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK

NYC: NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION

NYP: NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY

## **EMALAHLENI YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT UNIT**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 STRATEGIC OVERVIEW**

Emalahleni Youth Development Strategy (YDS) articulates the use of an all-inclusive societal approach that encourages partnerships with civic organisations, private and public sector, together with the community at large to create an environment that enables all young people to thrive through their inclusion in taking advantage and benefiting from all available opportunities.

Youth development is one of the most pressing socio-economic challenges that is faced by South Africa as a nation. The insistently high levels of youth unemployment, pose a threat to our prospects of economic growth which therefore limits our ability to make inroads in tackling poverty and widespread inequality. Despite all the efforts that have been made in relation to youth development, not enough progress has been made as the youth continues to bear the burden of unemployment, and designated groups whom are youth in particular, are in the main and are unable to access employment and entrepreneurial opportunities, due to the systemic nature of economic exclusion. The pace of technological advancements has overtaken human development but the youth and their issues are not stagnant, the youth development environment is a dynamic and forever changing environment that is constantly evolving.

Council prioritized the institutionalisation of youth development by establishing the Youth Development Unit and have realised that holistic development of any society relies heavily on the potential of its youth. The youth plays a pivotal role in progressive development or decline of any community; therefore; in order to ensure that the matters that affect the youth are taken into consideration during strategic planning and implementation of municipal programmes. Since its establishment, it has not been adequately staffed due to municipal financial constraints, but a new structure was adopted and further reviewed in 2016/17 FY, considering the development needs and the spatial dispensation of the youth.

#### **1.2 PURPOSE OF THE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (YDS)**

The purpose of the strategy is to guide the mainstreaming of youth development in all policies, programmes and plans within Emalahleni Local Municipality in particular, and of other sectors within eMalahleni that provide services to and for the local youth community. The creation of viable opportunities and services for all young people allows them to better engage with their environment, both internally and externally in order for them to have a successful transition into responsible, independent productive and stable adults.

### **1.3 GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF EMALAHLENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

The Emalahleni Municipal area, which means the “place of coal”, consists inter alia of the towns of eMalahleni, Ga-Nala and Ogies. The town of eMalahleni was established in 1903. It was named after a ridge of white rock located near the present railway station. In the early years, this ridge was a halting place for transport wagons and a trading post. eMalahleni has a large collection of heritage assets, which is currently under threat from rapid development. Emalahleni is probably the most industrialised municipal area in Nkangala District and its landscape features mainly underground and opencast coalmines. This area has the largest concentration of power stations in the country. Its mining and industrial history is reflected in the area’s heritage places. This includes elements of industrial history, military history, architectural/engineering and graves which should be protected and conserved.

Emalahleni Local Municipality is located within the Mpumalanga Province and is situated in the jurisdictional area of the Nkangala District. The district is located to the North-West of the province and is the smallest district in land mass (21%) and has the second largest population concentration (35%) in the province. It covers an area of about 2677.67 km<sup>2</sup>.

The Emalahleni Municipality area of jurisdiction consists of the main following towns/settlements, ranked according to population:

- Emalahleni;
- Ogies and Phola;
- Ga-Nala and Thubelihle;
- Rietspruit;

- Van Dyksdrift; and
- Wilge.

## **2 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPERATIVES INFORMING THE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (YDS).**

### **National Legislative and Policy Imperatives:**

#### **2.1 The National Youth Commission Act 19 of 1996:**

The objective of the National Youth Commission will be to “promote a uniformity of approach by all organs of state in all three spheres to matters relating to or involving the youth”.

#### **2.2 The NYC Policy 2000:**

The National Youth Commission (NYC) policy which was established in 1997 provides a general approach on the role of local government as part of the institutions and agencies for youth development this policy also states that, The NYC Policy seeks to ensure a coordinated and holistic response by all stakeholders involved in youth development programmes and activities to the major issues that are faced by the youth. This will involve the three spheres of government as well as the wide range of non-government institutions that are available. Local government is the most direct level of government affecting the youth which has a provision for essential services along with mechanisms that can be used to promote leadership, policy planning and development efforts. These mechanisms should be designed for the creation of youth services and facilities at a local level and the various roles that local government can play in identifying youth needs and development opportunities, designing youth development services and working with local youth organisations.

#### **2.3 The National Youth Development Policy Framework (NYDPF: 2002 – 2007):**

This policy framework was approved by cabinet with the object of outlining the mainstreaming of youth development as an integral part of the broader transformation project and challenges in South Africa, provides that part of the institutional environment is that all three spheres of government

(national/provincial/ and local) should be centrally involved in their areas of influence.

#### **2.4 The Municipal Structures Act (Act No. 117 of 1998):**

The Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, 1998 clarifies the status of municipalities and provides the framework for the establishment of municipalities in accordance with the requirements and criteria relating to categories and types of municipalities. It further determines the appropriate division of powers and functions between district and local municipalities and regulates governance structures and electoral systems for newly demarcated municipalities.

#### **2.5 The Municipal Systems Act (Act No. 32 of 2000):**

The Municipal Systems Act defines the legal nature of municipalities as part of a system of cooperative Government. It also clarifies the rights and duties of the municipal council, local communities, and the municipal administration. Clarifying the rights and obligations of different parties is an important step towards strengthening the democratic contract at the local level. Section 105(1) of this act mandates the MEC for Local Government to establish mechanisms, processes and procedures to:

- (i) Monitor municipalities in managing their own affairs;
- (ii) Monitor the development of local Government capacity and
- (iii) Assess the support needed by municipalities to strengthen their capacity to manage their own affairs.

Municipalities are encouraged to create conditions for local communities to participate in their affairs. This would include participation in the preparation, organisation and review of Integrated Development Plans (IDP). To promote youth development, young people must be involved in IDP processes. With the youth of South Africa constituting the majority of the population and having been disadvantaged by the policies of the past and challenges that are faced by South African youth in general, local government as the sphere that is closest to the communities should commit to promoting youth development.

#### **2.6 Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act (Act No. 13 of 2005)**



This act facilitates the coordination and the implementation of policy and legislation between national Government, provincial Government and Local Government, and all the other organs of state within those governments. Coordination usually takes place through formal intergovernmental meetings linked to specific sectors and the budget process. It promotes coherent Government, effective provision of services, monitoring implementation of policy and legislation and realisation of national priorities. The NYP 2015-2020 is meant to increase the levels of integration in developing youth in South Africa. It is therefore not located on its own, but responds to and interacts with a number of pieces of legislation and policy, some more influential than others in an integrated manner.

(Local government Youth Development Framework 2015 – 2020)

## **2.7 National Development Plan (NDP) 2012**

The NDP provides an aspirational vision of South Africa in the year 2030 and provides the context with which all youth orientated programmes should be located. The NDP's focus with regards to youth development is on the critical crisis areas of education and economic inclusion. According to the NDP, "having a relatively young population can be advantageous, provided that the majority of working age individuals are gainfully employed. A large workforce with fewer children to support creates a window of opportunity to increase economic output and invest in technology, education and skills to create the wealth needed to cope with the future aging of the population. Some economists call this window of opportunity the "demographic dividend". The window eventually closes when the workforce ages and there are relatively fewer workers to support increasing numbers of older people, but the dividend can last for several decades" (NDP: 2030)

## **2.8 Integrated Development Program 2022-2027.**

The IDP sets out a commitment to youth development, including awareness raising, providing life and work skills for 'at risk youth' and building the capacity of youth structures. The provisions of this Policy will facilitate the IDP's programmatic

goals. Furthermore, the development of young people is central to the building of Emalahleni Local Municipality that is caring, safe, well-run,

## **2.9 Youth Enterprise Development Strategy (YEDS) 2013- 2023**

Through this strategy the DTI' s mission is to mainstream the YEDS within the DTI and its agencies and all strategies and programmes geared for enterprise development at national, provincial and municipal levels. The objectives of the YEDS are to strengthen and unleash the potential of the participation of youth in the economy by raising the value and the profile of youth-owned and - managed enterprises and designing support programmes suitable to this end; and to foster human capital development with a special focus on youth entrepreneurship, business management and technical skills.

## **2.10 Basic Conditions of Employment Act, No. 75 of 1997**

The Act provides for the minimum conditions of employment that employers must comply with. Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act, No. 53 of 2003 The Act provides for the promotion of black economic empowerment in how the state awards contracts to suppliers and service providers.

## **2.11 Child Justice Act, No. 75 of 2008**

This Act created a new procedural framework for dealing with children that find themselves in conflict with the law. It promotes a rights-based approach to children accused of crimes, but also seeks to ensure accountability and respect for the fundamental freedoms of others. It also aims to create special mechanisms, processes or procedures for dealing with children who are in conflict with the law and to prevent crime and promote public safety through the use of diversion, alternative sentencing and restorative justice.

## **2.12 Employment Equity Act, No. 55 of 1998**

The Act provides for the measures that must be put in place in the workplace to eliminate discrimination and promote affirmative action.

### **2.13 Labour Relations Act, No. 66 of 1995**

The Act includes several provisions that specifically prohibit discriminatory treatment of employees and job applicants.

### **2.14 White paper on developmental local government 1998**

Section B (1) of the white paper on developmental local government states that a “developmental local government is working with citizens and groups within the community to find sustainable ways to meet their social, economic and material needs and improve their quality of life”. These groups include women, youth, people living with disabilities and children.

### **2.15 Municipal Youth Guidelines 2004 (YDG4LG2004)**

A national conference of youth development at local government level was held in 2002 in response to the need for intervention and guidance for youth development at a local level. The objectives of the YDG4LG2004 conference were to promote guidance for; the Department of Local Government (DPLG) to ensure compliance and evaluate municipal performance as part of the IDP accountability framework. Provincial MEC's responsible for local government and metropolitan, District Municipalities and local municipalities to set policy, oversight of the strategy, public consultations and evaluate performance as part of the IDP.

The portfolio committees of the councils at the three spheres of government need to provide a conducive environment, consult on and provide oversight and foresight for youth development. The Youth Units within the Municipalities need to assist in planning, setting targets, resourcing, mainstreaming of youth development, lobbying and evaluating performance. Youth Councils, civil society and youth organisations need to lobby and hold the municipality accountable for youth development in their constituency.

### **2.16 Nkangala District Municipality – IYDS 2014**

The Nkangala-IYDS is based on the following guiding values and principles:

- **Strengths-based:** Young women and young men have gifts and talents that should be identified, and they should be provided with opportunities to exercise and enhance these gifts and talents.
- **Human rights:** Youth development must promote non-discrimination, adhere to democracy and good governance and protect human rights.
- **Partnership:** Young women and young men are active partners and beneficiaries in their own development; therefore, young women and young men should be provided with opportunities for leadership during the course of the programme.
- **Diversity:** Young women and young men are a heterogeneous group: e.g. Women; rural based with a disability; HIV and AIDS infected and affected; and may have particular needs that should be catered for.
- **Holistic:** Young women and young men have a broad range of interrelated needs; therefore, youth development should address young people's needs holistically in an integrated manner.
- **Empowerment:** Young women and young men need opportunities to engage in skills development, education and sustainable livelihoods.
- **Dignity and respect:** Youth development should instil a sense of worth, purpose and direction.
- **Transformation:** Youth development is a dynamic process that transforms individuals, communities and society.
- **Relevance:** Youth development should be located in relevant contexts: family, community and work place sectors.
- **Participation:** Youth development should assist young people to become active and contributing citizens.
- **Equity:** Young people should have equal access to developmental opportunities. Youth development should promote equal redistribution of societal, political, and economic power and should strengthen young people's power to utilize such resources to meet their needs.
- **Effectiveness:** Youth development should meet the needs of young people and produce desired results and outcomes.
- **Sustainability:** Youth development should meet the needs of the current and future generations through social advancement, environmental

protection, and economic prosperity. Sustainability must be reflected in strategic and business plans, and budgets. It must inform planning and decision making.

- **Accountability:** Everyone who renders youth development services should be held accountable for the delivery of appropriate and quality services. Youth development initiatives should instil accountability and responsibility in young people.

#### International Perspectives:

##### **2.17 African Youth Charter 2006**

This document gives direction to youth empowerment and development. The charter is in line with the efforts of the African Union (AU) that seeks to provide an avenue for effective youth development. The African Youth Charter is consistent with the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and the provisions that have been listed are in line with the socio-economic programmes that are being implemented or envisaged.

Intergovernmental relations are necessary for national priorities to be implemented and monitored. Some of these priorities are economic growth, capacity building, systems support, poverty alleviation, job creation and enhanced service delivery. Cooperative governance is particularly important where there are economic national and or provincial programmes that may not be easily implemented without the participation of local municipalities and traditional leadership.

##### **2.18 Sustainable Development Goals**

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are goals which all 191 UN member states have agreed to achieve by the year 2020. The United Nations Millennium Declaration, signed in September 2000, commits world leaders to combating poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and discrimination against women. The SDGs are derived from this Declaration and specific targets and indicators have been allocated to each Goal.

##### **2.19 World Programme of Action on Youth 2000 and beyond**

The World Programme of Action on Youth for the year 2000 and beyond was adopted by the United Nations' ministers responsible for youth. The 10 (ten) year plan seeks to actively address the challenges faced by youth across the world in a practical way. It also contains concrete proposals on how countries should improve the well-being and livelihoods of young people in their respective countries. This policy framework seeks to deliver opportunities that would enhance young people's participation in society and provide practical guidelines for youth development support by national and international institutions.

## **2.20 United Nations World Programme of Action on Youth 2000 and beyond**

The UN World Programme of Action provides a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the Policy instrument Description situation of young people. The Programme of Action focuses in particular on measures to strengthen national capacity in the field of youth and to increase the quality and quantity of opportunities available to young people for full, effective and constructive participation in society.

## **2.21 Commonwealth Youth Charter 2005**

The Commonwealth Youth Charter provides the parameters for the development of youth policies in all Commonwealth countries. It is focused on creating societies wherein youth are empowered to develop their creativity, skills and potential as productive and dynamic members of society.

## **2.22 Youth Employment Accord 2013 and the Skills Accord 2011**

The Youth Employment Accord and the Skills Accord have been acknowledged and ratified by all critical sectors of society such as government, business, labour, civil society and NGO's. They aim to improve the skills of the youth and the sensitization of the economy at large to the employment needs of the youth.

# **3 INTEGRATED YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

## **3.1 Vision**

"Integrated, holistic and sustainable youth development practice, conscious of the historical imbalances and current imbalances and current realities, to build

a non-sexist, non-racist, democratic South Africa in which young people and their organisations not only enjoy and contribute to their full potential in the social, economic and political spheres of life but also recognise and develop their responsibilities to build a better life for all' (NYDP framework 2002; 8)

### **3.2 Mission**

“To facilitate, co-ordinate, lobby and monitor the implementation of youth development programmes and policies, as well as initiate, and implement strategic projects”. (IYDS-NYDA; 2011)

### **3.3 Objectives**

**3.3.1** The provision of further educational opportunities i.e. bursaries, learnerships and training opportunities, for the members of the youth within our community.

**3.3.2** Nurture and support youth development within the community.

**3.3.3** Facilitate the youth's entry into the job market through engagements with stakeholders relevant to the local economy which will be a mechanism that will assist with the reduction of youth unemployment, provide support and skills training.

**3.3.4** Provide economic opportunities to businesses owned by young people through the LED office.

**3.3.5** Build partnerships and networks to render support to youth at risk in a coordinated manner by collaborating with departments and other spheres of government and civil society i.e. awareness campaigns etc

**3.3.6** Increase the involvement of members of the youth by ensuring that they become agents in their own development and make a meaningful contribution within their communities.

**3.3.7** To ensure that the objectives set out in the youth summit resolution documents which are implemented.

**3.3.8** To ensure that the Local Drug Addict Committee is functional and serves its purpose.

### **3.4 Guiding Principles**

Youth development is rooted on the Batho Pele principles and the six (6) core values of the Emalahleni Local Municipality which form part of the principles that the office will operate in line with. The principles are listed below:

- **Consultation:** All stakeholders should be consulted on the nature, quantity and quality of services to be provided in order to determine the needs and expectations of the end users. Citizens or ordinary members of the youth can be consulted through surveys, campaigns, Izimbizo and or workshops.
- **Service Standards:** citizens should be aware of the level and quality of services that they will receive so that they are aware of what to expect.
- **Responsiveness:** all services must respond to the needs, challenges and concerns of the youth and act in their best interest at all times.
- **Courtesy:** citizens should be treated with courtesy and consideration there needs to be tools, measurements and systems that are put in place to ensure politeness and considerate behaviour towards everyone that seeks help from the office.
- **Access:** All citizens should have equal access to the services to which they are entitled.
- **Participation and inclusion:** The development of policies, programmes and plans for youth must include members of the youth.
- **Integration:** co-ordination amongst role-players to maximize impact of services provided to youth.



- **Holistic:** All services that are offered must encompass all physical; psychological, social, economic and spiritual aspects of youth and facilitate a smooth transition into adult life.
- **Diversity:** services and initiatives must recognize and acknowledge diverse backgrounds of youth.
- **Non-discriminatory:** services must not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, sexual orientation, disability or any other form of discrimination.
- **Information:** Citizens should be given full, accurate information about the public services they are entitled to receive.
- **Openness & Transparency:** Citizens should be told how departments are run and the various reporting structures.
- **Redress:** Establish a mechanism for recording any public dissatisfaction, e.g. suggestion boxes and customer satisfaction questionnaires and a complaint handling system needs to be put in place.
- **Sustainable development:** The assets, capabilities, potential and capacities of youth must be developed without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- **Social cohesion:** Youth must be included as a significant part of societal structures and activities.

### 3.5 Youth Defined

For the purpose of the YDS, youth is defined as everyone within the age range of eighteen (18) to thirty-five (35). The National Youth Policy (2009-2014) inclusively refers to young people as those falling within the age groups of fourteen (14) to thirty-five (35) years which is primarily based on the mandate of the National Youth Commission Act of 1996 and the National Youth Policy of 2000. This inclusive approach considers both historical and present-day conditions. The motivation for thirty-five (35) years as the upper age limit of the youth has remained the same over the years as historical imbalances in the country are yet to be addressed fully.

### **3.6 Target groups**

#### **3.6.1 This Strategy applies to:**

- All public service employees, officials and departments within EMalahleni
- All private sector institutions within EMalahleni that, through their corporate social investment programmes or other such programmes ensure that services to the people of EMalahleni are delivered.
- All organised youth structures and organisations operating in EMalahleni.
- All other community based, faith-based, non-government organisations (NGO's) and other such organisations of civil society;
- All other interested parties, volunteers and stakeholders who participate in the delivery of services to people within EMalahleni.
- All persons involved actively or indirectly in delivering socio-economic services.

#### **3.6.2 Beneficiaries of the Strategy**

All young people falling within the age bracket of 14 to 35 years; that reside in EMalahleni including the following categories:

- All organized youth structures and organisations operating within EMalahleni;
- Young women;
- Young men;
- Youth in secondary school;
- Youth in tertiary institutions;
- School-aged, out-of-school youth;
- Unemployed youth;
- Youth in the workplace;
- Youth from poor households;
- Youth from different racial groups;
- Youth who have been or are at risk of being abused;
- Orphaned youth;
- Youth with disabilities;

- Youth living with HIV/AIDS;
- Youth in conflict with the law;
- Youth abusing dependency-creating substances;
- Youth in townships and
- Youth in informal settlements.

#### **4. EDUCATION, ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

There is a need to change the economic status of the youth by ensuring that members of the youth are empowered to participate in mainstream economic development activities which are aimed at eradicating poverty and meeting the economic needs of the youth. All these interventions will focus on promoting employment, raising incomes, removing barriers that constrain youth participation in the labour market and attain other 'youth-centred' economic development outcomes.

The participation of young people in the economy should be enhanced through integrated programmes and support for social enterprises that focus on job development and placement which may also come in the form of income generating activities. This involves the improvement of accessibility of information with regards to employment opportunities, business advisory services, youth related activities and programmes as well as funding opportunities that are available to young people.

The creation of an enabling environment which consist of an increased localised beneficiation of mineral resources through the involvement of youth in the value chain of extraction and beneficiation of minerals. Quotas need to be put in place in order to allow young people to participate fully in economic activities without any restrictions.

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa mandates that local government should promote social and economic development as well as to structure and manage its administration and budgetary and planning processes to give priority to the basic needs of the community, and to promote the social

and economic development of the community. LED should focus on supporting job creation through the improvement of the business environment in our municipality through the support of LED, enterprise development and the establishing of partnerships with government agencies and donors to strengthen our local economic sector. The implementation of improved action plans and the involvement and beneficiation of young people in LED units through the accelerated participation of young people in LED programmes.

Actions that may be taken to increase youth participation will include the following:

Increasing youth employment:

Linking youth to national and provincial government projects that are currently being implemented and to also Collaborate with business through the hosting of career expos.

Private Sector Collaboration:

Through assisting private sector institutions operating within eMalahleni to set and meet youth employment targets and indicators, Develop and implement a project that will require all businesses that procure business from eMalahleni to employ a minimum of one (1) student and/or volunteer, for the duration of their contractual obligation.

Supporting Youth owned and led SMMEs:

Identify their areas of business, areas where they require support and link them to existing SMME support programmes. Encourage engagements with the local NYDA office.

Bursaries:

Establish a bursary strategy for undergraduates that is responsive to the human resource development needs of eMalahleni needs to be developed and implemented along with a system for tracking the progress and sustainability of youth that have benefited from bursaries that were awarded to them.

Learnerships, Apprenticeships and work integrated learning:

Source learnership programmes and link member of the youth to these programmes. Young women and people living with disabilities should also be encouraged to participate in learnership or apprenticeship programmes. Identify employers who will be willing to give students work-based training. Graduates should also be considered for post graduate programmes and also assist in identifying and linking the youth with opportunities.

Signing MOU with Educational Institutions:

Formalising Memorandum of Understanding with training and capacity building service providers to develop soft and hard skills amongst youth needs to be developed.

## **5. HEALTH**

The health and well-being of young people needs to be improved in order to allow them to lead fulfilling socio-economic lives. Enable young people to become agents of change in the health and wellbeing of their respective communities, the reduction of the impact of HIV / AIDS infections amongst young people, the improvement of access to youth friendly health related programmes and services and, the facilitation of multi-sectoral responses to health and wellbeing issues that affect young people.

## **6. SPORTS AND RECREATION**

There is a need to ensure the promotion of sports, arts and culture amongst young people and emphasise the economic value within this fraternity. The mainstreaming of sports, arts and culture participation amongst youth living with disabilities and young women needs to be lobbied. Sports, arts and culture facilities need to be kept in conditions that are conducive for these activities.

## **7. INTEGRATED YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES**

The Emalahleni Youth Development Unit will need to establish integrated skills development programmes that will have the following components:

- Developing and maintaining a skills profile of the youth within the municipality;
- Producing and implementing a municipal youth skills development plan annually, which shall be reviewed quarterly;
- Provision of an Adult Basic Education and Training (ABET) service to illiterate youth;
- Facilitate back to School Programmes for High School Dropouts;
- Facilitate training relevant to the economic trends of the municipal economy;
- Facilitate mentorship, internship and learnership opportunities for unemployed youth within the municipality;
- Through the office of the Executive Mayor, facilitate financial support for marginalized youth seeking participation in higher education by engaging external stakeholders within the private sector to assist in increasing funds for our existing Mayoral Bursary;
- Strive towards the development of a procurement policy that ensures that 30% of capital and or operational budgets benefit youth owned entities in all Municipal procurement and or supply chain processes. The ELM Youth Development will also need to ensure that these processes benefit young people within our Municipality;
- The Development and facilitation of Entrepreneurial workshops that will benefit young entrepreneurs;
- Encourage the participation of youth formations in IDP, LED, and budget processes and Council activities;
- Develop a credible database that lists young people according to their various sectors of interest;
- Develop ELM Youth Development Facebook and Twitter pages to increase our communication platforms with the youth of ELM;
- Identification of areas within our Municipal jurisdiction that can be used as WIFI-hotspots to ensure that access information is easily accessible to young people;

- Ensuring that drug and substance abuse campaigns are held on a quarterly basis in conjunction with the Municipality's Transversal Unit and the Local Drug Action Committee (LDAC);
- The Youth Development and Management Unit will monitor the employment of young people within the Municipality through the assistance of the Directorate: Corporate Services;
- Facilitate the establishment of sports councils and
- Facilitation of the involvement of young people in Environmental projects and programmes.

There needs to be an integrated delivery of these components, with annual reporting by the municipality. It is important that opportunities are created for young people to enable them to deal with challenges such as poverty, inequality and unemployment which can be achieved through partnerships with other spheres of government and non- governmental institutions to ensure the availability of all the necessary and relevant interventions. There is a need for greater co-ordination and integration amongst role-players and a multi-sectorial approach to address all the needs and concerns of the youth of eMalahleni where a special focus is placed on disadvantaged and marginalized youth. Particular attention also needs to be placed on prioritized youth target groups such as young women, youth with disabilities, unemployed youth, school-age out of school youth and youth at risk which would include youth heading households, youth that are in conflict with the law, dependent on drugs and those that are subjected to various forms of abuse.

## **8. FUNCTIONS & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EMALAHLENI YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT UNIT**

### **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANDATE:**

- Develop and manage youth development strategies and programmes daily in Emalahleni as per Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Ch 7 152-153);

- Manage and monitor the implementation of life skills development and empowerment daily as per the Youth Development Policy;
- Conduct research on Youth Development in Emalahleni as per the Youth Development Policy;
- To Manage and monitor the coordination of procedural requirements pertaining to specific functional activities and development initiatives;
- To facilitate the collaboration with external departments or agencies i.e. sport federations, Government departments etc. to obtain synergy between planned external and internal initiatives relating to social empowerment and youth development;
- To Interact with all community-based structures in order to facilitate the alignment of the needs and priorities of the youth, creating awareness, encouraging participation and attending to arrangements in respect of specific events or programmes;
- To facilitate the effective and efficient execution of actions and to monitor the delivery of programmes that are associated with youth development;
- To Plan and organise programmes that are in line with youth development and
- To Monitor and evaluate short- and long-term objectives and current developments, problems and constraints.

## **9. STAKEHOLDERS AND ROLE-PLAYERS**

The Emalahleni Youth Development will be responsible for the implementation of this IYDS and all Internal and External stakeholders that are listed below will be responsible for the oversight of project implementation. The stakeholders and role players listed below will also be consulted in all matters pertaining to Youth Development in Emalahleni.

### **9.1 Internal role players and stakeholders:**

- ELM Council;
- ELM Mayoral Committee;
- ELM Office of the Municipal Manager;
- ELM Executive Directors;



- ELM LED Unit;
- ELM IDP Unit;
- ELM Transversal Unit;
- ELM Public Participation Unit and
- ELM Communication Unit.

## **9.2 External role players and stakeholders**

- National Treasury;
- Provincial Treasury;
- Office of the Premier;
- GOGTA;
- Nkangala District Municipality;
- South African Youth Council (SAYC);
- Youth led organisations i.e. NGO's, Political Parties etc.;
- The National Youth Development Agency;
- The Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and recreation;
- The Department of Basic Education;
- The Department of Higher Education and Training;
- Department of Trade and Industry;
- Department of Social Development;
- South African Police Services;
- Department of Correctional Services;
- Small Enterprise Development Agency;
- South African Association for Youth Development Practitioners and
- Southern African Association of Youth Clubs.

## **10. CHALLENGES OF THE YOUTH**

### **10.1. Lack of Employment and Business Opportunities**

The youth unemployment rate, measuring job-seekers within the youth bracket fell further to an over two-year low of 59.6% in the third quarter of 2022, from 61.4% in the previous period. Poor education impacts greatly as it produces low skills levels and skills mismatch amongst the youth. The solution to this is to find ways to assist school

leavers who did not do well in their exams to gain practical skills that are in line with current and future trends and that will prevent them from being excluded from participating in the economy. Moreover, Youth with Disabilities are being discriminated against and side-lined and mostly do not have access to basic education. The country has to come up with ways to break the intergenerational transmission of poverty and also break the unemployment chains.

### **10.2. Lack of Access to Higher Education**

It all needs to start with improving the quality of education, the quality of education for most black children is poor that then denies many learners access to higher education and training that would have enabled them to fulfil their potential. The performance of existing institutions ranges from world-class to mediocre, increasing participation and graduation rates with the option of a four-year university degree, combined with bridging courses and more support for universities to help black students from disadvantaged backgrounds is likely to yield higher returns.

2020 51% Higher Education, Tvet college sector completion rates for N3, N6 and National certificate (Vocational) NC(V) level 4 46.2%.

(Department of Higher Education and Training, Annual Performance Plan 2022/23)

<https://www.dhet.gov.za> accessed 12/12/2022

### **10.3. Lack of Youth Initiatives Funding**

To research youth challenges, engaging the youth on possible solutions and designing targeted strategies to mitigate the risks and encourage development impact. Youth empowerment has long been identified as a catalytic tool for tackling youth unemployment and other youth challenges, however many factors hinder the expansion of youth empowerment to reach its intended goal. Following the basic principles of youth empowerment can improve its success rate. The youth become empowered when:

10.3.1. They have effective policies to protect and drive their initiatives;

10.3.2. They are included in decision-making processes;

10.3.3. Their voices are heard and honoured;

- 10.3.4. Their opinions and ideas are implemented;
- 10.3.5. They are given the opportunity to design solutions to their problems;
- 10.3.6. They are given the opportunity to take ownership of the programmes;
- 10.3.7. Provide with tools and resources to participate in such programmes;
- 10.3.8. Communication is done in a language they easily understand and
- 10.3.9. A diverse pool of peers is participating in these programmes.

<https://www.dbsa.org> accessed 12/12/2022

#### **10.4. Low Entrepreneurial Activities**

Sub-Saharan Africa's population is projected to double by the year 2050 pushing even more youth into poverty as unemployment numbers continue to climb. In South Africa alone, the unemployment rate is alarmingly high for youth at around 66%. To create enough employment for all young people, South Africa would need to create more than 220,000 jobs every single day. However, bringing corporates into partnerships to encourage youth entrepreneurship could change this trajectory and create meaningful solutions for unemployment. The youth unemployment crisis is not something the government can address alone, but it calls on the private sector to play an active role.

<http://www.dsbd.gov.za> accessed 12/12/2022

#### **10.5. Poor Mental and Physical Health Outcomes**

Unhealthy young individuals are likely to be unproductive and thus will not be able to contribute to the economy. This is due to challenges with communicable diseases such as TB, HIV/AIDS and Covid 19. More educational awareness on such diseases should be conducted and the youth should be made aware of the consequences of being exposed and what preventative measures can be taken to avoid exposure from such communicable diseases. Furthermore, excessive use and or abuse of substances such as drugs, alcohol and tobacco also contribute to poor mental and physical health outcomes and interventions by the Local Drug Action Committee should be conducted so that we may reduce dependency on substances.

#### **10.6. High School Drop Out Rate and low transition from school to work**

Lack of access to educational programmes contributes highly to poverty and unemployment and one other factor is that a lot of pupils drop out of school from grade 9 going up to grade 12. Another problem is the quality of education in South Africa which is causing low take up and pass rate in science and mathematics subjects leading up to a low number of people taking STEM at higher education. Solutions to the numerous challenges that cause school dropout should include, learners being exposed to other possible career paths that they can venture into such as arts and culture, tourism, agriculture and carpentry. Providing financial support for middle income households and also supporting schools so that they can offer a conducive place for learners could also increase the number of learners that continue to higher learning institutions post grade 12. Introduction of learning in their first language, sign language for disabled pupils could also make a significant impact on the dropout rate.

#### **10.7. Inadequate Resources for Youth Development and poorly coordinated services**

One of the main challenges affecting Youth Development work is inadequate resources that are being allocated to the youth development as well not having a clear distinction between the political and administrative parts of youth development work. Sufficient budgets should be made available and accessible to its beneficiaries in order to implement proposed sustainable programmes.

### **11. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

The Emalahleni Local Municipality's Youth Development as the custodian of this YDS will hold the responsibility of monitoring and evaluation through the implementation of the YDS and the impact of improving the lives of young people in Emalahleni. The YDS will be reviewed and updated when deemed necessary.

Monitoring will be done through strategic decision making, ensuring compliance with municipal objectives, data collection and analysis and internal and external audit outcomes related to youth development. Evaluation will be done through quarterly reviews through the Service Delivery Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) and the facilitation of quarterly reviews and insights.