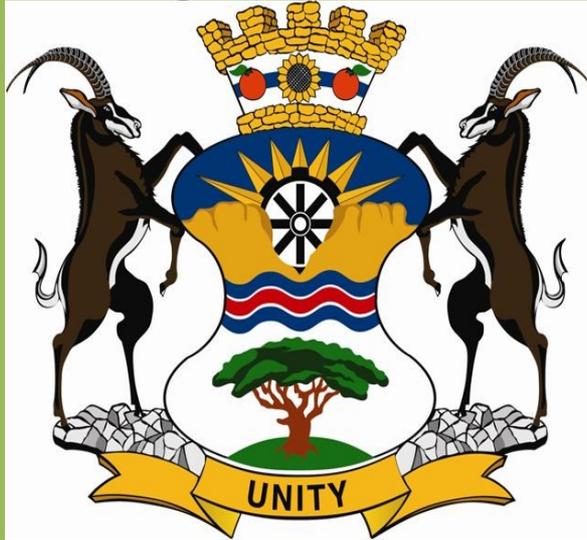


Rustenburg Local Municipality



INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT

PLAN REVIEW

2014 – 2015

Approved per item 122 of

30 May 2014

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

E.1. Background and Location of Rustenburg Local Municipality (RLM)

This Executive Summary provides a brief outline of the context, content, process outcomes and impact of the RLM's IDP.

The Rustenburg Local Municipality is a category B municipal council consisting of 38 wards. It is located in the eastern parts of the North West Province and is accessible to a number of major South African urban centres. These centres include Johannesburg and Tshwane, which are located approximately 120km from Rustenburg. Smaller centres surrounding Rustenburg are Madibeng, Mogale City and Zeerust in the Ramotshere Moilwa Local Municipality. Rustenburg is linked to the above urban centres through an extensive regional road network. The most notable of these are the N4 Freeway or Platinum Corridor, which links Rustenburg to Tshwane in the east and Zeerust to the west. The R24 links Rustenburg to Johannesburg in the south and the Pilanesberg to the north.

Rustenburg Local Municipality (RLM) is one of the five municipalities within the Bojanala District Municipality in the North West Province and is divided into 38 wards, with a total population of 475 232 people comprising of 54% males and 46% females. The municipality is reputed to be one of South Africa's fastest growing urban areas with an annual compound economic growth rate of 6% between 1996 and 2002. This significant growth is largely attributed to the impact of the world's four largest mines in the immediate vicinity of the town, namely, Anglo Platinum, Impala Platinum, Xstrata and Lonmin. Approximately 97% of the total platinum production occurs in Rustenburg, with the mining sector providing around 50% of all formal employment.

E.2 RLM Key Challenges and Opportunities

The strikes surrounding the mining industry has caused uncertainty in investors. Most of the mining employees are faced with retrenchments and this mean a loss of income that brings with a lot of repacations. According to the Rustenburg Local Economic Development (LED) Strategy the local stakeholders of the RLM provided valuable inputs on the existing conditions facing the local municipality during the stakeholder workshop held in March 2011. During the workshop the local stakeholders indicated their view on the local strengths, weaknesses/limitations, and threats (SWOT) within the local municipality. The response given is indicated in Table 1 below.

From Table 1 it is observed that the strengths identified within the local municipality include its locational advantage (relative proximity to Pretoria and Johannesburg), high concentration of mining activities and the level of skills of some residents within the local municipality. On the other hand, a number of weaknesses and risks were identified for the municipality. These include a lack of availability to land, insufficient quality and quantity of water and electricity, a declining agricultural sector, the general level of education of most of the locals and a lack of interest (in participating to further develop the local economy) from the private sector.

Executive Summary Table 1: Analysis of the local municipality according to local stakeholders

Strengths	Weakness and Risks
Labour availability	Availability of industrial land
Geographic position (in close proximity to cities)	Quantity and quality of water
Existing infrastructure provides other opportunities	Influx of people (uncontrolled, affects crime)
Mining	Vulnerable economy (dependent on the mining industry)
Road infrastructure (generally pretty good)	Declining agriculture (affected by the cost of labour and crime (farm attacks))
Existing schools and health facilities	Lack of development in retail sector
Relatively stable political climate	Individual/pressure groups obstructing development
A number of persons with skills	Land availability is a big challenge within the LM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land is concentrated in a few hands only Mining rights on land prevents the development of other business activities on that particular land
	Electricity supply not granted and thus prevents expansion of businesses
	Education levels of locals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a lack of universities within the Local municipality a lack of English medium schools
	A lack of markets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> this was elaborated by indicating that some people travel really far in order to obtain tomatoes
	Lack of maximisation opportunities from the mining activities
	Lack of rehabilitation of mining activities
	Corruption
	Lack of interest from participation from the private sector
	Political risks and unrests
	Environmental risks which specifically includes the quality of air due to mining activities.

Source: Rustenburg LED, 2011

The inputs provided by the local stakeholders are of critical importance as they provide an overview of the local municipality from a local point of view. These inputs guide the identification of opportunities that will further develop the existing strengths and mitigate the identified weaknesses and risks.