



ONE PAGER EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES – AGRI-HUBS as on 6 November 2015

Agri-Hubs Identified by the Province





LIMPOPO PROVINCE

27 PRIORITY DISTRICTS		
PROVINCE	DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY	PROPOSED AGRI-HUB
Limpopo	Vhembe	Nwanedi
	Mopani	Tzaneen
	Sekhukhune	Groblersdal
	Capricorn	Ga-Poopedi
	Waterberg	Modimolle



Municipality (CDM) include utilising the high agricultural potential land along rivers (especially along the Natse, Nokayamantala, Matlala, Sand, Diepriver, and Olifants). CDM is home to one of the largest citrus estates in the country, namely Zebediela Citrus Estate measuring 13,785 hectares, located in the south-east of the area in Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality. The District also has thriving livestock farming. The LEGDP identified potential for a red and white meat cluster in the District. The Capricorn District is home to one of the largest citrus estates in the country, namely, Zebediela Citrus Estate which is located in the Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality. The District also has thriving livestock farming. The LGDS identified potential for a red and white meat cluster in the District. The CDM SDF (2008) identifies the high agricultural potential, especially around settlements in the District. High agricultural potential in the district also exists along the following rivers:

- Natse River in the Blouberg and Aganang LM.
- Nokayamantala and Matlala River in Aganang LM
- Sand River in Molemole LM
- Diepriver in Polokwane LM
- Olifants River in Lepelle-Nkumpi LM

Aganang LM has a low potential for agriculture. There are patches in the LM that has more agricultural potential this is due to the rivers traversing the LM. Along the Nokayamantala and Matlala rivers, as well as the Natse River and Houtriver, one can find agricultural land with low to moderate capability. The rivers also ensure water for irrigation purposes. The land cover in the LM is mostly vegetated. According to the Department of Agriculture, approximately 10,000 ha suitable for cultivation is currently not under any form of cultivation.

Almost 60% of the land in Blouberg LM has low to moderate agriculture capability. The rivers and the Glen Alpine Dam in the LM ensure water for irrigation purposes. The area is highly vegetated 392,136 ha of the Blouberg LM are under some form of vegetation. Agriculture activities in the municipality are mostly subsistence farming. According to the Department of Agriculture, 106,000 ha are suitable for irrigated agriculture. According to the Local Economic Development Plan (LED) of the LM, the most important factor limiting agricultural production and development in municipality is the availability of water. A large part of the municipality's available agriculture, 165,000 ha are suitable for agriculture, but vegetated. Only 1,300 ha are suitable and available for agriculture, while 34,000 ha are already cultivated.

More than 90% of Molemole municipality's land has low to moderate agricultural potential. Approximately 7% of land has moderate to high potential. The land with the highest agricultural potential can be found on the eastern part of the LM. According to the Department of Agriculture, the LM has 140,000 ha suitable for agriculture. Approximately 6,000 ha of land in Molemole have high agricultural potential.

The land in the Polokwane LM has low agricultural potential. The Department of Agriculture indicated that the availability of water for irrigation purposes in the LM is a constraint to agriculture



Total Area: 20 011km². Mopani District Municipality is a Category C municipality located within the north-eastern quadrant of the Limpopo province. It consists of five local municipalities: Ba-Phalaborwa, Greater Giyani, Greater Letaba, Greater Tzaneen and Maruleng, and the District Management Area. It is bordered in the east by Mozambique, in the north by Zimbabwe and Vhembe District Municipality, in the south by the Mpumalanga province through Ehlanzeni District Municipality, in the west by Capricorn and Vhembe District Municipalities, and in the south-west by Sekhukhune District Municipality. The seat of Mopani is Giyani, and the district is part of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park. Cities/Towns: Giyani, Gravelotte, Haenertsburg, Hoedspruit, Leydsdorp, Modjadjiskloof, Tzaneen. Main Economic Sectors: Mining (30.1%), community services (22.6%), trade (14.6%), finance (14.6%), transport (8.2%), agriculture (3.2%), electricity (2.8%), construction (2%). Tzaneen is the main town in this district which is part of the original 24 priority districts. The district contains the first CRDP pilot site, Muyexe village to the north east of Giyani town. There are at least 4 major CRDP sites in this district, located to the south of Gravelotte town, to around Givani town. All of these CRDP sites have been completed to date. RID has commissioned some infrastructure projects around Giyani town, and near or in the CRDP sites. There are however many Letsema agricultural projects scattered across the entire district. It must be remembered that the far eastern part of the district is underlain by the Kruger National Park. There are a few Disaster Mitigation social relief workers that are deployed in Thulamela local municipality. There are 3 SDFs that have been commissioned by the Branch SPLUM, namely Maruleng, Thulamela and Greater Giyani local municipalities. There are a few CASP projects located across the district, near Giyani town and in the far northern and southern parts. The whole district is only suitable for beef cattle enterprise, as the rainfall is too inconsistent for cultivation.

Agriculture

Agriculture and forestry is dependent on natural and or ecological resources and as a result agriculture and forestry should be aligned to the principles of sustainable development so as to ensure that the Agricultural and forestry related activities do not impact adversely of the natural environment. There are several forestry plantations in Mopani District around Tzaneen and Greater Letaba local Municipality that are dominated by exotic plants species such as Pines. Eucalyptus and Mahoganies. The foot hill zones of the mountainous ranges contain tea estates. The Tzaneen and Letsitele regions of the Letaba catchments areas support Citrus, mangoes and bananas. The Klein Letaba, Molototsi and Nsama river catchments are dominated by rural population with cattle, goats and subsistence farming. Mopani District municipality is a Major producer of Tomatoes produce in Limpopo and South Africa and this is produced in an area known as Mooketsie which falls under Letaba Local Municipality.

Mopani District Municipality is one of Limpopo's richest agricultural areas. Agriculture is one of the prevailing economic activities in terms of employment and land use in the region. Abundant orchards of The district has 1 092 507 people and the total number of households is 296320 with an average household size of 3.8 (Census 2011). The unemployment rate is at 39.4% and 50.9% of all households are headed by females. 60.5% of the total population is in the age group 15 to 64 years. Out of the entire district population, 81% reside in rural areas, 14% in urban areas and 5% stay on farms. The population densities vary from municipality to another, but the average is 23 people/ hectare. The average ratio male to female in Mopani District Municipality as a whole is 46% to 54% and the tendencies and trends are still prevalent. The age and gender structure is by and large influenced by levels of fertility, mortality and migration. Further

analysis of the demographics indicates that 49,4% of the residents are still at a young age (0-19 years). Population numbers decrease with age increase, i.e.the older generation is less than the young one. This implies that programmes geared at developing all people with special emphasis to women and youth will impact much to Mopani DM. It is also notable that population size of Mopani has grown steadily by 3% since the year 2000 to 2011.

Analysis

Based on Province's analysis, Tzaneen is identified as district gateway town because of high value commodities like maize, red meat, biofuel and sorghum within the Mopani District. Based on the information from data and geographic analysis, an Agri-hub should be developed in the town of Tzaneen in Greater Tzaneen Local Municipality due to the following facts:

• Greater Tzaneen has the largest number of villages with 108 926 households. It has the following supportive infrastructure; two SAGIS Agri-processors, ten sawmills one grain silo, one miller, one poultry abattoirs, and maize processors

There is sufficient water available with the Tzaneen dam to the north of the town

· Enterprise commodity is beef cattle

 Already there are sector programmes for support; ten recapitalization project parcels, 23 implemented project parcels, 22 PLAS project parcels equating to 5784 ha PLAS project parcels and many llima/Letsema land parcels

• There is a high proportion of fertile land (high land capability) around Tzaneen town

There is sufficient road connectivity

subtropical fruit and nuts form the basis of a thriving agri-industrial sector. Large scale commercial agriculture exists mainly in citrus, mangoes and vegetables for the export market. In rural settlements, agriculture remains largely at subsistence or small scale food production level. Agriculture and forestry also plays an important role for economic growth in Mopani District Municipality. There are pockets of land in the district with soil conducive for agricultural production. Agriculture and forestry is dependent on natural and or ecological resources and as a result agriculture and forestry should be aligned to the principles of sustainable development so as to ensure that the agricultural and forestry related activities do not impact adversely of the natural environment. There are several forestry plantations in Mopani District around Tzaneen and Greater Letaba Local Municipality that are dominated by exotic plants species such as pines, eucalyptus and mahoganies. The foot hill zones of the mountainous ranges contain tea estates. The Tzaneen and Letsitele regions of the Letaba catchments areas support citrus, mangoes and bananas. The Klein Letaba, Molototsi and Nsami River catchments are dominated by rural population with cattle, goats and subsistence farming. Mopani DM is a major producer of tomatoes produce in Limpopo and South Africa. Agriculture is the fourth largest economic sector after mining, government and community services and wholesale and retail.

There are 3 CASP 15-16 projects to the east of the proposed location

There are at least 2 SPAR foodstores and many Restitution claims surrounding the proposed location

• The Road connectivity may be poor due to actual road surface conditions

Tzaneen town is an EDD district gateway



District Context

Agriculture

Proposed Agri-Hub: Groblersdal

Demographics

Total Area: 13 528km². Sekhukhune District Municipality is a Category C municipality and is located in the Limpopo province, the northernmost part of South Africa. The district lies in the south-eastern part of the province and is comprised of five local municipalities: Elias Motsoaledi, Ephraim Mogale, Fetakgomo, Makhuduthamaga and Greater Tubatse. The area's towns and villages are serviced by its major river – the Olifants. Cities/Towns: Burgersfort, Groblersdal, Marble Hall, Ohrigstad, Roossenekal, Schuinsdraai Nature Reserve, Steelpoort. Main Economic Sectors: Community services, mining (15-20%), trade (17%), financial and business services (10-12%), agriculture (9.7%).

Originally one of the 24 (now 27) priority districts, this district has many spatial planning problems due to mountainous terrain almost encircling the area in the east. The Jane Furse CRDP site is located in this district, which has been completed in 2011-12. There are 2 SDFs planned for this district: Fetakgomo and Greater Tubatse local municipalities. The Makhuduthamaga local municipality SDF has been completed during the 2011-12 financial year. There are a few Disaster Mitigation Social Relief workers that have been deployed in Fetakgomo local municipality. There is a new CRDP site to the east of Jane Furse which has been completed 2013-14 financial year. There are at least 300 NARYSEC youth workers deployed in the district, scattered across the district. There are some RID projects to the south of Jane Furse, and there are Letsema agricultural projects to the north of Groblersdal and in the far northern part of the district. Maize production in the Limpopo province amounts to 302 000 tons annually. The N11 between Polokwane and Middleburg is the major route.

193 settlements. The district has 1 076 840 people and the total number of households is 263802 with an average household size of 4.1 (Census 2011). 57.3% of the population is in the 15 to 64 years age group, 52.9% of all households are headed by females. The unemployment rate is 50.9%, which is one of the highest unemployment levels in the country. There are 740 villages Sekhukhune District Municipality. 32% (233) of the villages are found in Greater Tubatse Local Municipality; 26% (189) in Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality; 20% (151) in Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality: 13% (98) in Fetakgomo Local Municipality and finally 9 %(69) are found in Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality. Greater Tubatse Local Municipality has the highest number of villages and Ephraim Mogale being the lowest. The population of Sekhukhune District Municipality has been growing at an average of 1, 1% per annum from 1996 to 2011. A striking characteristic of the Sekhukhune population is the high levels of male absenteeism in the District. This is the result of most males being forced to seek work outside Sekhukhune.

If the Agri-park is developed it would assist 83 199 households across

Analysis

Agriculture in the Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) is a mixture of both commercial and subsistence farming. The south-western corner of the District (Ephraim Mogale and Elias Motsoaledi LMs) specifically, contains one of the largest clusters of commercial agricultural production in South Africa. However, in spite of being an important contributor to employment within the District, agriculture remains a relatively marginal contributor (approximately 9, 7%) to the aggregate GGP of the District. Water scarcity, and the uncertainty created by land claims are unfortunately discouraging the expansion of commercial agricultural activities.

Essentially, commercial agriculture in the SDM is concentrated in two main areas:

•The South-Western part of the District (near Groblersdal and Marble Hall) (the Loskop Scheme); and

•The Eastern section of the District (near Burgersfort and Ohrigstad) (the Ohrigstad Scheme)

Subsistence farming predominates in the ex-homeland areas of the north and western sides of the Sekhukhune District. These areas are dependent on dry land farming. The agricultural activities within these ex-homeland areas are however of a less-intensive nature and largely focused on subsistence farming. The towns of Groblersdal and Marble Hall are found within the Loskop Valley. The commercial The Province identified Groblersdal as the location for the Agri-hub due to the following:

- Groblersdal is an EDD district gateway
- There is potential vacant state land to the east of the location
- There are at least 2 SPAR food stores in Groblersdal town
- Good road connectivity with the N11
- Land suitability is poor to moderate
- Proximity to 2 CRDP sites to the proposed location
- There are CASP projects to the north west of the location
- There is a Small Holder irrigation scheme at Groblersdal town
- There are Land Restitution Claims to the west of the location

 $\ensuremath{\cdot}$ Ther are also Ilima Letsema and CASP Projects to the west of the location

• Poorest wards border on Groblersdal town (PIMD)

There are a few CASP 15-16 projects surrounding the proposed location

AGRICULTURE AND AGRO PROCESSING STRATEGY PROPOSALS:	
Substantial investment in irrigation infrastructure, including water	
storage, distribution and reticulation throughout the country where	
the natural resource base allows, as well as in water saving	
technology. A 50 percent increase in land under irrigation	
would cost R40 billion in off farm infrastructure over a 10 year period.	
Policy measures to increase intake of fruits and vegetables, and	
reduce intake of saturated fats, sugar and salt, as	
recommended in the South African food dietary guidelines, to	
accompany strategies to increase vegetable and fruit production.	
Farmers will only invest in these areas if they believe that their	
income streams from agriculture are secure. Tenure security will	
secure incomes for existing farmers at all scales, for new entrants into	
agriculture, and for the investment required to grow incomes.	



Main Economic Sectors: Mining, community services, finance.

Also part of the original 24 (now 27) priority districts, this district has Musina as its main economic hub. The Branch SPLUM has commissioned a district SDF for Vhembe, and local municipal SDFs for Makhado and Musina local municipalities in the 2013-14 financial year. The whole district is suitable for beef cattle only, based on poor rainfall and high evaporation levels. There are 2 RID projects between Makhado and Musina. There are many restitution claims in this district, concentrated mainly in the south east and eastern parts of the district in large clusters. The N1 national road is the transport corridor between South Africa and Zimbabwe through the Beit Bridge border post. The are 3 millers in this district, with 2 of them located in Makhado town, and the other located in a small town north west of Makhado town. There are 2 CASP projects from agriculture in the district, located in the far eastern part of the district. Agriculture

Vhembe district's land is primarily used for grazing. Cultivated Land is concentrated in South western and Eastern boarders of the Vhembe District. There is also a small area of cultivated land in the North eastern part of the Vhembe District along the border with Zimbabwe. The district has got a total area of 2,140,708 hectares of which 249,757 hectares declared arable land, 1,227,079 hectares declared marginal land and 661.859 hectares declared non arable land. The agricultural system is divided into two types i.e. Large scale commercial farming and small scale farming. 174,830 hectors arable land which is 70% is owned by white commercial farmers while small scale farmers which are black dominated own 74927 hectors (30% arable land). There are two existing Agricultural hubs in the district: Levubu and Nwanedi valleys while the third hub which is Nandoni hub is still at planning stage. Commodity groups and committees have been established for each commodity (citrus, avocado. macadamia, mango, banana, litchi, garlic,). Information days, symposiums & farmers days are held to provide technical knowledge and advice to farmers. Partnership with farmers Subtrop Tzaneen, ARC and LDA support emerging farmers through the fruit tree model. Vhembe District is ideally positioned for easy access to African markets, its proximity to Zimbabwe,

Analysis

Based on the available information and analysis done by the Province an Agri-Park in Vhembe District should be based in the location of Nwanedi 40km away from Musina for the following reasons:

- Nwanedi is not an EDD District nor a Regional Gateway
- · Close proximity to state land to the north of Nwanedi
- There is poor road connectivity (new roads needs to be built)
- Fair access to surface water (dam and river) in the area
- · Proximity to Ilima Letsema projects to the north

Smallholder irrigation and a Ilima Letsema project at the Nwanedi location

- CASP Projects and AVMP Farms to the north of the location
- · Restitution claims to the north of the location
- · Land capability is not suitable for cultivation
- Enterprise is Beef Cattle only due to inconsistent rainfall
- Evaporation exceeds rainfall in this area

• There is a dam to the west of the proposed location which could be a valuable water source

Road connectivity may be poor due to actual road surface conditions
There a few CASP 15-16 projects to the south and north of the proposed location

There are a few Restitution claims to the north of the proposed location

Mozambique and Botswana provides the investor with a powerful platform from which to access the South African region and to contribute as well as benefit the New Partnership for Africa's Development. The trade sector has been the fastest growing. This reflects the existence of a strong demand for goods and services and the growth of the tourism industry. If well supported, the agricultural sector can help a lot in absorbing new entrants in the labour market. This is because by its own nature agriculture is labour intensive.

The biggest constraint in expanding production is the availability of irrigation water, suitable land and an investor-friendly environment, impacting on the growth potential in the agricultural sector. High input cost forces the agricultural industry to constantly increase its efforts to reduce production costs without compromising yield and quality or increase yield through improved technologies. Vhembe District Municipality cannot afford to neglect maintaining and improving infrastructure (roads, electricity supply and networks, water supply, etc.) Neglecting this critical issue will lead to further logistical problems and a reduction in competitiveness in the agricultural sector. There is a lack of agricultural business experience by communities and young emerging farmers in the district. The district has 42 Irrigation schemes covering the total area of 6363 hectares whereby 544 hectares are under furrow Irrigation while 5819 hectares are under sprinkler and drip Irrigation. There are 4914 Registered Orchards farmers. The average orchard size hectors per farmer is at 3 hectors whereby 7659 hectors are fully developed while 6493 are still under developed. And 3183 are under irrigation while 10969 are under dry land. There are 68 Agricultural cooperatives in the District. 29 are

crop related, 15 Livestock and 24 are for multi purposes and 4914 Registered Orchards farmers. The average orchard size hectors per farmer is at 3 hectors. 7659 hectares are fully developed while 6493 hectares are still under developed. 3183 hectares are under Irrigation while 10969 hectares are under dry land.

Goats do well in Vhembe district especially in Makhado, Mutale and Musina municipalities, and there is an estimated number of 77516 Goats in the District with the total monetary value of R47 million (R600/Goat). Majority of poor rural households are keeping goats in the homesteads for socio economic reasons. Sheep are mainly reared by commercial farmers in Makhado and Musina municipalities with an estimated number of 17477 Sheep. The total monetary value of sheep is R14 million (R800/Sheep). The estimated total number of Pigs in the District is 21818 with the total monetary value of R21,8 million (R1000/Pig). There are 204 poultry farms with estimated weekly production of 51719 broilers with the total Poultry monetary value of R107,6 million per year. The estimated total number of cattle is 180673 with the total monetary value of R722.7 million (R4000/Cattle). Stock theft, High feeds cost, diseases, lack of day old chick supply, lack of proper marketing channels and use of poor quality rams/buck are the major challenges for small stock farming in the district. Large stock farming however is mostly endangered by stock theft, drought, lack of water supply in the camps, shortage of grazing camps and vandalism of fences. Nonetheless, there are 42 grazing camps with the total area of 9362 hectares in the District.

New road infrastructure may have to be constructed to support the Agri-hub

• The porposed location lies within the 150 poorest wards (PIMD)



District Context

Agriculture

Waterberg District covers an area of approximately 4 951 882 ha and it consists mainly of commercial farms, game farming, rural settlements and small towns. The Waterberg District Municipality is geographically, the largest municipality in the Limpopo Province but has the smallest population compared to the other districts. It is located on the Western part of the Province. Total Area: 44 913km². Waterberg District Municipality is a Category C municipality located in the western part of the Limpopo province. The municipality shares its five-border control point with Botswana, namely Groblersbrug, Stockpoort, Derdepoort, Zanzibar and Platjan. It is strategically located in sharing its borders with Capricorn District Municipality in the north and Sekhukhune District Municipality in the east. The south-western boundary abuts the North West, while the Gauteng province lies on the south-eastern side. The Waterberg District Municipality is comprised of six local Modimolle, municipalities, namely Bela-Bela, Lephalale, Mogalakwena, Mookgophong and Thabazimbi. This district, with its great variety of wildlife, birds and scenic splendour, is one of South Africa's prime ecotourism destinations. The region, as we know it today, is more than three million years old. Cities/Towns: Amandelbult Mine Town, Bela-Bela, Lephalale, Modimolle, Mokopane (previously Mookgophong Naboomspruit). Potgietersrus), (previously Pienaarsrivier, Thabazimbi, Vaalwater. Main Economic Sectors: Mining, agriculture, tourism.

This district is now part of the 27 priority districts. In fact, the whole province is covered by priority districts.. There are many millers in the district, located in Mokopane, and in smaller towns across the district. The N1 connects Mokopane with Polokwane in the north and Pretoria in south. There is a CRDP site to the east of Lephalale (Ellisras) town completed in 2011-12 financial year. RID has one infrastructure project near the CRDP site. The fact that the N1 bypasses the main urban centres, excludes the municipal area from fully benefiting from passing traffic although it remains the key national and regional links to the eastern part of the district area. The N11 passes only through Mokopane and provides an important link with the north western part of the province and Botswana.

The district is covered by agricultural enterprise Cattle, maize, wheat, tobacco, peanuts, cotton and citrus in the southern part of the district, with beef cattle only in the northern part. This is due to the low and inconsistent rainfall pattern in the province. Annually 302 000 tons of maize is produced in Limpopo province, the maize farms located to the south where rainfall is higher.

As a general trend the potential for dry land cropping decreases with the rainfall distribution from south to north and west to east. Soil factors do play a role in that shallow, sandy and very high clay content soils also lead to a slight reduction in potential due to decreased water storage / plant water supply capacity. Threats to this aspect of the land include erratic rainfall and high input costs. This is evident in the number of fields that have been cleared of bush but are only covered in grass or currently, encroaching bush. increased urban and mining development and foreign land ownership. The bottom line is that with

Analysis

(2.82%).

The town of Modimolle is proposed by the Province as the Agri-hub location for the following reasons:

The district has 679 336 people and the total number of households is

179886 with an average household size of 3.8 (Census 2011).

Unemployment rate is low at 28.1% with 42.7% of all households that

are headed by females. 64.3% of the total population is in the 15 to 64

year age group. The majority of the Waterberg District population

reside within the Mogalakwena LM (55.47%), followed by Lephalale LM

(13.44%), Thabazimbi LM (10.07%), and Bela Bela LM (9.37%). The

two Local Municipalities with the smallest percentages of the Waterberg

District population are Modimolle LM (8.82%) and Mookgophong LM

Modimolle is not an EDD District Gateway

· Good Rail and road connectivity (N1)

Land Capability is moderate for cultivation

· Many CASP and Ilima-Letsema Projects in the area

· There are Land Reform implemented projects to the north west of the location

· Potential vacant state land near Bela-Bela and near Modimolle town

There are PLAS Projects to the north of the location

• There is a Ginner, SPAR Food store, and a grain silo at Modimolle town

 There are 2 CASP 15-16 projects to the west of the proposed location • There are a few Retsitution claims to the north east of the proposed location

• There is a SPAR foodstore, Grain silo, and a miller at the proposed

 increased costs (costs of inputs, cost of land, etc.) and environmental risks (erratic rainfall, soil degradation, bush encroachment) economically viable crop production options are diminishing. There is a potential to expand the sector by introducing new technology such as organic farming, bio-technology, hydroponics and water harvesting. The technological ventures could also create linkages with other sectors such as manufacturing (agro-processing) which are vital for diversification and growth of the local economy. Some of the potential ventures identified in this sector include: Organic food and vegetarian niche products. Essential oil extraction from herbal and indigenous plants. Organic drought tolerant crops. Growing of crops and herbs through hydroponics. Expansion of the meat and exotic meat markets for local/export. Goat farming: goats are hardy and therefore ideally suited for local circumstances. 	• There is a land care project to the east of Modimolle town
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