



INTRODUCTION

The Gauteng Provincial Government has made significant strides in improving the socio-economic conditions of people over the past fifteen years. Education, health, housing, water, sanitation, electricity and other social services are now more accessible to the majority of people who were denied access to these services under the apartheid regime.

Based on the issues that people raised during the election campaign, government identified the following critical focus areas that call for urgent action:

- creating decent work and building a growing, inclusive economy
- promoting quality education and skills development
- prioritising better health care for all
- stimulating rural development and food security
- intensifying the fight against crime and corruption
- building cohesive and sustainable communities
- strengthening the developmental state and good governance

The Medium Term Strategic Focus (MTSF)

The ANC obtained a fresh popular mandate in the 2009 elections which requires that we do things differently.

The 2009-2014 Gauteng Programme of Action focuses on improving the conditions of life of the people of Gauteng and contributing to building a better South Africa.

In line with the creation of decent work and sustainable livelihoods are at the centre of our policies and programmes. A further strategic emphasis is the development and implementation of a social compact to improve performance and outcomes in both the economy and the social sector. This includes consulting with civil society stakeholders and the people of Gauteng in general in developing a common long-

term vision for Gauteng in 2055, which will mark the centenary of the Freedom Charter which laid the foundation for South Africa's democracy.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND PROGRAMMES

The seven strategic priorities for Gauteng, as well as the key programmes and projects to give effect to these priorities, are elaborated below.

Creating decent work and building a growing, inclusive economy

Over the next five years we shall:

- prioritise the creation of decent work
- invest in public infrastructure
- implement an appropriate response to the economic crisis
- improve the functioning of economic development entities and agencies
- review and implement the reviewed Gauteng Growth and Development Strategy
- develop and maintain our road networks and transportation system
- facilitate, manage and oversee initiatives that contribute to economic growth and creation of employment opportunities
- create an enabling environment for infrastructure improvement.

Programmes

1. Developing and implementing a new Gauteng trade and industrial policy to support productive, labor absorbing sectors of the provincial economy, with the aim of creating more decent work opportunities, particularly among those who have historically been

excluded from reaping the benefits of economic growth.

2. Undertaking massive public investment in social and economic infrastructure in both urban and rural areas and implementing phase 2 of the Expanded Public Works Programme which will target women, youth and people with disabilities, and link social grants recipients to the programme.
3. Promoting the sustainable use of energy, including utilising clean and renewable resources, and supporting sectors that create green jobs as a means to mitigate the impact of climate change.
4. Intensifying investment in the knowledge-based economy (R&D and ICT) and enhancing the capabilities of knowledge-based firms and start-ups through the promotion of innovation, research and development.
5. Investing in enhancing sustainable and competitive entrepreneurship and cooperatives to facilitate access to economic activity by marginalised sectors, and providing and facilitating SMMEs with access to expertise, capital, equipment and technology, support for learning and innovation, and the development and provision of markets for goods and services produced by SMMEs.
6. Providing technical support to municipalities in developing and implementing local economic development (LED) strategies and enhancing inter-governmental planning, budgeting and implementation systems in relation to LED.
7. Identifying targeted interventions required to mitigate the effects of job losses, and engaging with the private sector and organised labor on mutual commitments to minimise job losses.
8. Creating decent work through the development of social and economic infrastructure, and developing an annual and a five-year Gauteng public infrastructure delivery plan.
9. Undertaking initiatives to develop and maintain transport infrastructure by promoting an integrated transport system to serve the social and economic needs of the province, including



the integration of trains, buses, taxis and private transport through intermodal facilities and an integrated ticketing system.

Promoting quality education and skills development

The aim is to eliminate disparities in access to quality education and skills development and to invest in building well-educated, skilled and productive people. A holistic approach to human development and improving people's quality of life will be adopted.

Programmes

1. Providing quality public schooling and improving the efficiency of the public education system, and developing a comprehensive school strategy and plan to make schools centers of excellence.
2. Implementing integrated Early Childhood Development programmes to ensure that children from birth to nine years grow and thrive, and in the next five years, prioritising foundation phase literacy and numeracy, and introducing the national new curriculum up to Grade 12.
3. Broadening access to learning to allow the poorest and most vulnerable to benefit from skills and education and enable them to escape the poverty trap, expanding the number of no fee schools and learners in "no fee" schools, providing free uniforms, nutrition and transport for poor learners, expanding the provision of free school nutrition to deserving secondary schools and extending the Child Support Grants to 18 year olds in a phased manner and linked to compulsory school attendance.
4. Promoting skills for economic growth and poverty reduction by ensuring a proper fit between education outputs, skills programmes and the needs and opportunities presented to grow the provincial economy, fast-tracking the creation of pipelines in scarce skill areas and improving the school to work transition.
5. Striving to build a social compact for quality learning through societal mobilisation and responsibility to learning, and embarking on an awareness campaign on school governing bodies.

Prioritising better healthcare for all

Despite the progress made by the Gauteng government over the past 15 years, there are a number of challenges that need to be addressed. The priority is promoting equity and universal access to quality public health care, including services for the poorest and most vulnerable. This requires that we step up the fight against HIV/Aids, TB and other diseases, improve our human resources and support better regulation of the private health sector.

Programmes

1. Taking special care of the young to help build a generation of healthy young people in the province, increasing the number of learners benefiting from the school nutrition programme and undertaking health promotion initiatives focusing on HIV and



AIDS, nutrition, safety, and substance abuse.

2. Improving access to health care and the performance of the public health system to enable Gauteng to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and developing, revitalising and upgrading health facilities, focusing on Chris Hani Baragwanath, Mamelodi, Jabulani and Natalspruit hospitals.
3. Providing a minimum package of health care services and levels of service across the province, aimed at reducing patient waiting times and increasing the utilisation of PHC services, and working with communities, community health workers, CBOs and NGOs and Private-Public-Partnerships to improve the quality of health services.
4. Promoting healthy lifestyles and healthy communities through campaigns to prevent and manage non communicable diseases and illnesses caused by poverty, lifestyle, injuries, trauma, violence and psycho-social factors, and prevention and treatment programmes directed against the causes of ill health and death such as violence, road accidents, stress, HIV and AIDS, poor lifestyles and alcohol abuse.
5. Expanding the comprehensive HIV and AIDS programme including prevention, care and treatment through the effective implementation of the National Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS in Gauteng, with the target of reducing the rate of new infections by 50% and expanding access to treatment, care and support to 80% of all HIV positive people by 2011.
6. Supporting the introduction and implementation of the National Health Insurance System including through reopening Kempton Park Hospital and establishing a new Fostateng Hospital.
7. Improving quality standards for both the public and private sectors, with specific targets for providing adequate numbers of workers at all levels of the health care system, through recruitment, training, filling vacant posts, improvements in working conditions and provision of decent wages for health workers.



Stimulating rural development and food security

A key priority is to undertake equitable regional development to improve access to infrastructure and services in the rural areas of Gauteng. The emphasis will be on promoting rural development, maximising the agricultural sector's contribution to economic development and growth to improve the lives of the rural poor, and universal access to basic services, water and sanitation.

Programmes

1. Developing an integrated rural development strategy and implementing socio-economic infrastructure projects including roads, water, sanitation, provision of electricity, and the building of schools and clinics, revitalising the rail infrastructure in rural areas as a source of job creation and providing support for skills development and financial assistance to cooperatives and small enterprises.
2. Maximising agricultural sector growth and jobs by protecting existing arable land, promoting agricultural co-operatives, agribusiness and the agro-processing sector, effectively utilising agricultural hubs and reviving agricultural Expos, implementing the biotechnology strategy and developing a Bio-science Park.
3. Ensuring food security by implementing the Gauteng Integrated Food Security Programme, providing emergency food relief and assistance to the poorest, and expanding food production through the food for all programme, the Letsema/Ilima initiatives, the Homestead Food Gardens Project and empowerment projects in communities hardest hit by poverty using school land.
4. Protecting and encouraging the sustainable use and management of our natural resources and environment by developing a Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy and reviewing the Gauteng Strategy for Sustainable Development, by implementing a revised Bontle ke Botho campaign and holding Izimbizo educating communities on the



impact of litter on the environment and health of communities.

5. Developing an integrated provincial land management and land use strategy and short to long term plan.

Intensifying the fight against crime and corruption

Whilst significant progress has been made in the fight against crime and corruption in the last three years, our efforts need to be stepped up. Our strategic priorities in the next five years include developing a Gauteng-wide perspective on policing priorities, strengthening the criminal justice system and mobilising communities in the fight against crime.

Programmes

1. Establishing provincial policing needs and priorities through public engagements such as Izimbizo, campaigns and roadshows.
2. Improving police performance by optimising the role of the provincial government in strengthening policing and ensuring high standards of service delivery and ethical conduct, and improving communities' trust and relationships with the police.
3. Addressing social crime prevention through supporting and further strengthening the social movement against crime, including community policing forums and support services to victims of violent crime and sexual abuse, and strengthening crime prevention in rural areas by increasing visibility.
4. Tackling fraud and corruption by ensuring that the provincial ethics and anti-corruption strategies are implemented and necessary infrastructure put in place, including the capacity of municipalities to develop anti-corruption strategies and fraud prevention plans, and imposition of maximum penalties for corrupt practices.
5. A process of multi agency collaboration at strategic and operational levels to ensure that all policing and law

enforcement agencies in the province work in a coordinated manner to maximise their impact and capacity to prevent crime.

6. Implementing road safety strategies by assisting traffic management authorities throughout Gauteng to identify hazardous locations, reducing road fatalities by removing unroadworthy vehicles and unlicensed drivers from our roads, educating road users to ensure that they know the rules of the road, and managing inter-provincial conflicts between bus and taxi operators.

Building cohesive and sustainable communities

Our priorities are reducing social infrastructure deprivation, poverty and underdevelopment, building socially integrated and sustainable human settlements to better the lives of the poor, urban renewal, building social cohesion and national unity and social development.

Programmes

1. A key intervention is improving integrated spatial and regional planning to direct social and economic infrastructure investment to urban and rural areas, with strategic and spatial development planning being centralised to bring about better alignment and prioritisation, including through the establishment of a Gauteng Planning and Development Commission.
2. Ensuring integrated infrastructure investment planning and investment by improving provincial and local government capacity to plan and maintain infrastructure, finalising the Gauteng Infrastructural Renewal and Investment Plan, and consolidating infrastructure budgets to better leverage private sector investment in provincial infrastructure.
3. Pursuing integrated sustainable human settlement planning to deracialise settlement patterns and tackle asset and infrastructure poverty, to effectively utilise and manage available land, medium to long-term planning on new integrated human

- settlements and fast-tracking the formalisation and eradication of informal settlements, including hostels.
4. Supporting sports and related activities and civic bodies to promote social stability and cohesion, creating and fostering a common national identity, pride and nation building, and implementing the National Siyadlala Recreation Strategic Plan and the Integrated Mass Participation Programme.
 5. Pursuing social development by investing in social infrastructure, including ECD centres, old age homes and rehabilitation centres, providing home and community based care services and training, social relief programmes for people in distress, profiling and support to the poorest households. and expanding the Bana Pele programme.

Strengthening the developmental state and good governance

At the heart of the strategic priorities in the period to 2014, is strengthening the developmental state to more effectively serve the needs of the people and act as a driving force for socio-economic transformation. Over the medium term the priorities are service delivery renewal, cooperative governance and building an activist local government.

Programmes

1. The renewal and reorganisation of the state based on the new mandate of government and delivery priorities.
2. Improving the technical capacity of the state, including integrated strategic and centralised planning, monitoring and evaluation through the establishment of the Gauteng Planning Commission, and undertaking a major public participation drive to consult Gauteng's residents on their vision for Gauteng in 2055.



3. Establishing partnerships with all sectors of our society to build a social compact on a common programme and vision in a systematic and organised manner.
4. Undertaking service delivery renewal to build government's integrity and unblock service delivery by removing middle men and deploying public servants to service sites where they shall provide services in a professional, courteous and efficient manner.
5. Fostering cooperative governance to ensure a greater degree of cooperation, integration and collective effort between and across the spheres of the Gauteng government and its institutions, and ensuring effective oversight by the legislature.
6. Supporting an activist local government which tackles municipal debt in a systematic manner, pursuing municipal by-law enforcement supported by municipal courts, and establishing and strengthening municipal SCOPAs to provide effective oversight.
7. Building a strategic, developmental, activist treasury & GSSC that have effective controls, discipline and compliance, and providing Municipal Financial Management support through the deployment of qualified accountants in all municipalities and ensuring that all municipalities with negative audit opinions are supported through the implementation of operation clean audit.
8. Undertaking International Relations to promote regional integration and economic and governance relations in Africa, reviewing our sisterhood agreements to give effect to our objectives and working with the National Department of International Relations to build targeted relations on the continent.
9. In all our programmes mainstreaming the needs of youth, women and people with disabilities so as to bring about economic empowerment and access to quality services.
10. Realising our main objective of participatory democracy to ensure that the people of the province are directly involved in their own governance and empowerment.

CONCLUSION

Through the "Kuyasheshwa! Gauteng Working Better!" the strategic programmes outlined above, the Gauteng Provincial Government, working hand in hand with local government and all stakeholders, intends to deliver on the mandate given to it by the people of Gauteng.



GAUTENG PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAMME OF ACTION 2009-2014

Summary of the framework outlining the strategic priorities and programmes for government to give effect to the electoral mandate in Gauteng in the period 2009-2014



**Working together
to build a better
future for all**

Kuyasheshwa! Gauteng Working Better