

**External Communications Unit  
Press / Media Release**

To : All media  
Attention : News Editors & Journalists  
Date : 10 April 2012

***For the attention of all media houses***

**The Sedibeng announces draft Second Growth & Development Strategy and the Integrated Development Plan for public comments**

The Sedibeng District Municipality together with its locals, the Emfuleni, Midvaal & Lesedi host a successful Second Generation Growth & Development Summit on the 30<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011, at the Emerald Conference Centre, Vanderbijlpark.

The purpose of the Sedibeng GDS Summit was threefold: to reflect on international best practices; to seek advice from local and international experts in rural, township, urban development and lastly, to obtain final input and comments from key community stakeholders, leaders and officials from other spheres of government.

The Summit saw experts and growth & development practitioners presenting papers on the topic of economic growth and development on variety of service delivery issues ranging from the state of the service delivery in our region, state of our economic development, etc.

The Summit reaffirmed the 7 areas of focus which we refer to as the 5R's plus 2, areas which dominated the discussions in the commissions. The findings from various commissions have given us the following insights on the seven service delivery areas of focus:

- **Reinvent the economy** from an old to a new by consolidating existing sectors and exploring new sectors of growth, and in this way build local economies to create more employment and sustainable livelihoods
- **Renewing our communities** from low to high quality through the provision of basic services, improving local public services and broadening access to them, and regenerating and property, development to improve the quality of living for
- **Reviving a sustainable environment** from waste dumps to a green region by increasing focus on improvement of air, water, and soil quality and moving from being a producer and receiver of waste to a green city.
- **Reintegrating the region** with the rest of Gauteng, South and Southern African to move from an edge to a frontier region, through improving connectivity and transport links



- **Releasing human potential** from low to high skills and build social capital through building united , non-racial, integrated and safer communities.
- **Deepening democracy** through enabling all South Africans to progressively exercise their constitutional rights and enjoy the full dignity of freedom.

To promote more active community participation in local government, including further strengthening the voice of communities and making sure that community based structures such as ward committees, police forums, school governing bodies are legislatively supported to function effectively

- **Good Governance** through building accountable, effective and clean government, with sound financial management, functional and effective Councils, and strong, visionary leadership. It is about compliance and competence.

**The Stakeholder Summit resolves to incorporate into the GDS2 the following gaps from GDS1:**

- Township Development
- Urban Renewal
- Rural Development
- Clean Energy
- ICT connectivity
- Human Settlements

“The long walk continues, in the spirit of deepening democracy and in ensuring that communities play a role in shaping their future, the product of the Summit is owned by our communities as our partners and stakeholders. The roadmap ahead as informed by the 5 R’s plus 2, is made clearer through your inputs which cast the light when the road was not clear.”, said the Executive Mayor of the Sedibeng District Municipality: Councillor MS Mofokeng when closing the Summit.

The Summit was attended by, Executive Mayors, Councillors, various private sector institutions, government officials, business formations, Ward Committees and Political Parties

### Integrated Development Plan

On the 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> March 2012, the Sedibeng District Municipality held a successful District - wide Joint Mayoral IDP Lekgotla, at the Khaya iBhubesi in Parys, Free State Province. This Lekgotla came at the time when the plans and preparation towards a single authority, the metropolitan system are at an advanced stage.

“In the development of aligned four year IDPs, which seek to give expression to our aspiration towards a Vaal Metropolitan River City, we need to link everything we do with the 12 Outcomes as derived from the ruling party’s manifesto as translated by the Cabinet after the 2009 National and



Provincial Elections”, said the Executive Mayor of the Sedibeng District Municipality: Cllr. MS Mofokeng in opening the Lekgotla.

“Our planning and alignment must first and foremost be informed by the 5 priorities set by government to address the following: Poverty, Inequalities, Education, Unemployment, Health and Rural Development”, added the Executive Mayor.

**The Lekgotla considered among other the following matters:**

- Issues of alignment of service delivery priorities with those of the District Municipality, Provincial and National Government as outlined in various commitments such as the Outcome 9;
- Service delivery commitments for the next four years, i.e. the period from July 2012 to June 2016; and
- Further assess the rate of implementation of the 5 Rs, the key strategic areas of service delivery areas in the District;
- A new vision for the Sedibeng region which will inform its positioning, planning, setting of a collective service delivery plan and governance perspective will be taken further;
- To further consider the future of Gauteng Province and its impact on the Sedibeng municipalities
- Receive a report on the Sedibeng Second Generation Growth & Development Strategy Summit which was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011, at the Emerald Conference Centre, Vanderbijlpark;
- Report on the housing developments in the District;
- Sedibeng flagship projects and the Spatial Development Framework;
- Ultimately ensure that our municipalities sing from the same hymn book when it comes to service delivery pronouncements and plans

The Lekgotla deliberations and resolutions are meant to ensure holistic and integrated regional development programmes which seek to mainstream and enhance participation and empower our people, through a people-centered approach which is responsive and gender inclusive.

The implementation of these resolutions by the various municipalities comprising the Sedibeng District Municipality, Midvaal, Lesedi & Emfuleni Local Municipalities will improve the quality of services which we render.

This is in line with our continued commitment of ensuring and enabling our communities to progressively exercise their constitutional rights and enjoy the full dignity of freedom in shaping their future.

This process further aims to promote more active community participation in local government, including further strengthening the voice of communities and making sure that community based structures such as ward committees, police forums, school governing bodies are legislatively supported to function effectively



This will be followed by a series of public meetings throughout the Region as per the attached programme / schedule of meetings.

It is in this regard that members of the public are invited to participate in these public meetings and view the contents of the IDP and the Second Growth & Development Strategy on our website, [www.sedibeng.gov.za](http://www.sedibeng.gov.za) for their comments.

**Members of the media are as well invited for interviews with the Executive Mayor and/or the MMC responsible of the Sedibeng District Municipality for further information**

**Ends!**

**Issued by the External Communications Department  
Sedibeng District Municipality**

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