

*at a
Glance*



AN ECSECC PUBLICATION

**The
Eastern Cape
State of the
Province Address
2018**

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Introduction

The 2018 State of the Province Address (SOPA) by Eastern Cape Premier, Phumulo Masualle, identified economic growth, job creation, road infrastructure, education and health, as key focus areas. Premier Masualle said the province would undertake various initiatives aimed at radical socio-economic transformation through “redistributive economic development aimed at reducing income inequality”.

Prefaced by a summary of this year’s State of the Nation Address, this pamphlet sets out, in brief, the key points of the 2018 SOPA. We trust that this publication will prove useful to development practitioners and activists in the eastern Cape in striving for the rapid transformation of the province.

Yours Faithfully

Luvuyo Mosana
Chief Executive Officer, ECSECC

The 12 Priorities of the SONA

National priorities set the scene for the planning of all provincial government programmes. As background to the SOPA, these are the top 12 priorities outlined by President Cyril Ramaphosa in this year's State of the Nation Address.



1. Jobs

There will be a jobs summit this year, an investment conference within three months and urgent action on youth unemployment, which Ramaphosa described as "our most grave and pressing challenge".



2. Young People

A youth working group, representative of all young South Africans, will be set up "to ensure that our policies and programmes advance their interests".



3. Infrastructure

"I will assemble a team to speed up implementation of new projects, particularly water projects, health facilities and road maintenance."



4. Mining

Ramaphosa said mining should not be seen as a sunrise industry. "I am certain we will be able to resolve the current impasse and agree on a mining charter that both accelerates transformation and grows this vital sector of our economy."



5. Land Redistribution

"[Our] approach will include the expropriation of land without compensation."



6. Technology

"We will soon establish a digital industrial revolution commission, which will include the private sector and civil society."



7. The Economy

A presidential economic advisory council "will draw on the expertise and capabilities that reside in labour, business, civil society and academia".



8. Health

An extra 2-million HIV-positive people will be on antiretrovirals by 2020; a "huge" cancer prevention campaign will be launched in the next three months; and the National Health Insurance Bill will be submitted to Parliament within a few weeks.



9. Government Restructuring

"We will initiate a process to review the configuration, number and size of national government departments."



10. State-Owned Enterprises

“The recent action we have taken at Eskom to strengthen governance, root out corruption and restore its financial position is just the beginning.”



11. Justice

“We will urgently attend to the leadership issues at the National Prosecuting Authority.”



12. The South African Revenue Service

A commission of inquiry will “ensure that we restore the credibility of the service and strengthen its capacity to meet its revenue targets”.

Eastern Cape SOPA 2018

Guided by the resolutions of the 54th ANC National Conference, and the 2018 January 8th Statement of the ANC, the province aims to focus on a range of tasks, which include:

- ⊙ Uniting all South Africans around a shared vision
- ⊙ Confronting corruption and state capture in all its forms
- ⊙ Restoring the credibility of public institutions; and
- ⊙ Accelerating land redistribution for purposes of agricultural development and food security.

Seven Provincial Priorities

Based on the Manifesto of the ANC, the National Development Plan, the Provincial Development Plan, and the Provincial Medium Term Strategic Framework, work in this term is packaged into seven provincial priority areas:

1. Economic growth and job creation
2. Rural Development, land reform and food security
3. Education and skills development
4. Promoting better healthcare
5. Strengthening the developmental state and ensuring good governance
6. Intensifying the fight against crime and corruption
7. Developing integrated human settlements, building cohesive communities and nation-building



I. Economic Growth and Job Creation

A strategic objective of Economic growth and job creation commits the province to undertake a number of initiatives aimed at radical socio-economic transformation through redistributive economic development, aimed at reducing income inequality.

Key elements of this will include:

Adherence to the 30-Day Payment Period

To ensure the sustainability of our SMMEs, government will continue to monitor the adherence to the 30-day payment period to service providers by departments, public entities and municipalities. The province will fully embrace the intention of National Treasury to enforce compliance and consequence management in this regard in line with section 76 of the PFMA.

Off-Take Agreements

The identification of opportunities for off-take agreements¹ will also be prioritised to meet a target of 50% of goods and services sourced locally.

Road Projects

With the support of the South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL), the road project pipeline for 2018/19 to 2021/22 is budgeted at just above R5 billion. A number of provincial and access roads are at various stages of completion² and more will be upgraded in the next financial year³. R3.1 billion is allocated for the maintenance of rural access roads over the MTEF. This emerging world-class road network will give impetus to economic growth and be a much-needed boost to our tourism sector.

Tourism

Government will continue promoting and marketing the Eastern Cape as a tourism destination of choice. Central to this policy objective is the improvement of tourism infrastructure as well as restoration of heritage sites.

1 In the current financial year, off-take agreements have been awarded for fertilizers, supply and delivery of seeds, early childhood development support, hostel catering, school furniture and protective clothing, to the value of approximately half a billion Rand.

2 Such as the phases 1 and 2 upgrading of the R61 from Magusheni to Mzamba.

3 These include the road to the Hluleka Nature Reserve and the road to Canzibe Hospital.



Small Town Revitalisation

Government is engaged in the revitalization of a number of small towns in the Province. The focus is on improving the provision of water, sanitation, electrification, roads infrastructure, and transport hubs. A number of projects are currently underway and at various stages of completion in places such as Ntabankulu, Port St Johns, Nyandeni, Sunday's River Valley, Raymond Mhlaba, and Elundini.

Public Transport

Government will continue to provide affordable bus passenger services through AB350, Algoa Bus Company and Mayibuye Transport Corporation. Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality is finally proceeding with the implementation of phase 1 of an Integrated Public Transport System, with effect from February this year.

Aviation

The Eastern Cape remains a largely untapped market for airline operators. Following the refurbishment of the Mthatha Airport into a state-of-the-art facility, the Airports Company of South Africa will manage it. This will boost the profile of the region and the airport will be used as part of the broader strategy for the development of the eastern part of the province. The Air Show and career expo at Mthatha Airport will become an annual event, and this year it will form part of the Centenary Celebrations of Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu.

Economy Indaba

In line with the national agenda to develop a social compact between government, labour, business and civil society, the Province will convene an economic Indaba within the next six months. This will seek consensus on a minimum package of programmes to grow the Eastern Cape economy.



2. Rural Development, Land Reform and Food Security

Rural Development, land reform and food security remain on course. Government aims to reposition the Eastern Cape as a food basket of the country and the SADC region. As part of our land reform programme, land claims continue to be settled.

Export Crops and Agro-Processing

To transform the sector and to create jobs, government is partnering with commercial farmers and commodity groups to scale up the production of export-oriented high value crops. Government will also be engaging the private sector to invest in agro-processing to give impetus to manufacturing in the sector. A thriving primary agricultural sector is critical to ensure that these agro-processing initiatives bear fruit. The Province has also planted over 201 000 ha of maize over the 2018/19 financial year, and 55 000 ha of grain, which is expected to yield 193 000 tons.

Food Security

To strengthen food security in the province, over 25 000 households will also be supported with agricultural inputs. In support of livestock farmers, the Provincial Government already has 12 operational feedlots, and an additional four are planned for the new financial year. Government's transformation agenda is to support 200 black livestock farmers to participate in the export oriented Berlin Beef business. This is jointly funded by the provincial government and the private sector.

To combat the armyworm plague and other diseases, Government will in the 2018/19 financial year, invest R38 million.

Government's overall agricultural intervention aims to grow the share of GDP of an inclusive agricultural sector, contribute towards job creation, and address sustainable livelihoods and food security.



3. Education and Skills Development

Education Transformation Plan

To promote quality education and skills development, Government has been implementing a three-year Education Transformation Plan aimed at stabilizing the Department of Education, and at improving the quality of education in the province. Government has increased the enrolment of Grade 1 learners and also the numbers of ECD practitioners in training. Going forward, Government will pay more attention to the ECD infrastructure programme to increase the registration of ECD centres as part of enhancing the quality of the foundation phases.

School Principal Mentorship and Capacity Building Programmes

The School Principal Mentorship and Capacity Building Programmes have already strengthened school leadership and improved the functionality of targeted schools. The number of learners benefitting from no-fee schools and school nutrition, will continue to rise. These measures have led to an improvement of the matric pass rate from 59.3 percent in 2016, to 65.0 percent in 2017.

Future Critical Focus Areas

Future critical areas of focus will include ICT-based digital transformation in education; improved project management efficiencies in the delivery of basic services to schools; and more emphasis on training and development in mathematics and physical science.



4. Promoting Better Healthcare

Promoting better healthcare for all our people is a significant indicator of the quality of life.

The HIV/AIDS Pandemic

In responding to the crisis of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, Government will continue to test clients for HIV/AIDS as part of its 90-90-90 strategy. During this MTSF period, the number of patients remaining on ART rose from 320 062 in 2014 to 427 170 as at end September 2017.

Fighting TB, Hypertension and Diabetes

TB incidences have reduced from 697 per 100 000 in 2014 to 571 per 100 000 in 2017. New initiatives will aim to increase early detection of TB and early initiation of patients on treatment. Furthermore, over 970 000 hypertension clients have been tested, as well as one million clients for diabetes. In the coming year, Government will continue with the drive to achieve the 90-90-90 strategy targets.

Primary Health Care

The re-engineering of Primary Health Care, which is one of the cornerstones of the NHI, remains a key driver to achieve universal health coverage. Through this programme, a total of 400,000 households will be visited by ward-based outreach teams to assess the health status of individuals in these households.

Sexual Reproductive Health Education

To prevent teenage pregnancies, Government will provide sexual reproductive health education programmes in schools. Through the Integrated School Health Programme, young girls at school will continue to be provided with screening services including pregnancy tests. 89 000 girls aged 9 will be vaccinated against the HPV infection to prevent development of cervical cancer in their later years. Government will also continue to provide sanitary pads to young girls at schools around the Province.

Health Infrastructure

Health infrastructure remains at the core of providing health care services: in the coming year, Government will prioritise the refurbishment of 11 facilities, of which 4 are in the OR Tambo NHI pilot district. The state of the art Cecilia Makiwane Hospital will radically improve the level of health care for the people of Buffalo City Metro and feeder areas.



5. Strengthening the Developmental State and Ensuring Good Governance

Batho Pele and Back to Basics

To strengthen the developmental state and ensure good governance, Government will ensure that public servants embark on a process of renewal by adhering to the principles of Batho Pele, of putting our people first. The Back to Basics Programme will ensure that municipalities are capable of delivering core services to our people, namely clean drinking water, sanitation, electricity, shelter, waste removal and roads.

Operation Masiphathisane

Under Operation Masiphathisane, Government has established 510 war rooms at ward level. These war rooms are platforms for people to engage meaningfully with government and to be empowered to take full responsibility for their own development.

Support to Local Government

Government is continuing to offer support to local government in the province including the four amalgamated municipalities, namely Walter Sisulu, Enoch Mgijima, Raymond Mhlaba and Dr Beyers Naude. The province will also continue to engage with the National Government to find a sustainability model for unviable municipalities. The Province has developed an Ideal Municipality Model which all municipalities must strive to attain.

Drought and Disaster Mitigation

The province has suffered persistent drought in the past three years. Affected municipalities will be supported in leveraging the allocated national resources to deal with this. The Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs will lead a process of developing a comprehensive plan to mitigate against disasters in the province.

Engagement with Traditional Leaders

Government will continue to strengthen the strategic engagement with traditional leaders, as well as working closely with the Provincial and Local Houses of Traditional Leaders and Kings' Councils, to promote unity and cohesion of traditional communities.



Youth Development

As part of the programme for youth development in the Province, the Maritime Youth Development Programme will continue throughout the MTEF period and will be extended to all municipalities, considering socio-economic factors affecting young people. The Youth in Infrastructure Maintenance Programme, in partnership with the departments of Defence, Education, Health and Higher Education, is targeting 5 000 young persons over a period of 5 years. It started with an initial intake of 400 in the 2017-18 financial year and will gradually increase over the years.

Provincial SMS conference

In pursuit of the call by the President for renewal, change, hope and commitment to serve the people, the province will convene a provincial SMS conference to address the perennial problem of poor implementation, and to encourage a new culture of getting things done at both provincial and local government level.

The Provincial Development Plan

In the first six months of the new financial year, the Eastern Cape Planning Commission will finalise the refinement of the PDP and the development of its 5 year implementation plan. This will enable the province to rally all stakeholders and role players around a shared vision and build unity of purpose in attaining our developmental goals.

Provincial Coordination and Integration Framework

At the beginning of 2018/19 the Provincial Coordination and Integration Framework will be implemented. Through this Framework, the Office of the Premier, Provincial Treasury and COGTA will jointly lead efforts to improve coordination and integrated planning, budgeting and service delivery, across the three spheres and in public entities.

Oversight of State-Owned Entities

State-Owned Entities (SoEs) play a critical role in implementing strategic programmes in government as well as driving development. In this regard, the Provincial Government will continue to play a robust oversight function over public entities, including dealing with issues of governance and alignment of mandates.



6. Intensifying the Fight Against Crime and Corruption

Protecting the people of the Eastern Cape from the scourge of crime is a task of paramount importance. The province therefore prioritises the fight against crime and corruption. Government has noted with concern the marginal 2016/17 increase in serious crimes recorded in the Eastern Cape.

Strengthening of the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster

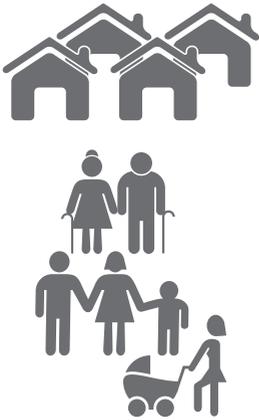
To date, Government responses to this challenge have included the strengthening of the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster, as well as the development of the provincial Anti-Gang Strategy.

Community Mobilisation

In collaboration with SAPS, Government is also engaged in ongoing campaigns aimed at promoting community participation in crime prevention initiatives. These are aimed at mobilising communities against crime.

Lifestyle Audits

In line with what the President said in the SONA, the province is also committed to uprooting all forms of corruption in our Province, and fully supports the intention to institute lifestyle audits, for both public office bearers and administrators.



7. Developing integrated human settlements, building cohesive communities and nation-building

Government envisions a society in which everyone has shelter, and is living in vibrant communities that are alive with possibilities of growth and fulfilment. To this end, it is focusing on developing integrated human settlements, building cohesive communities and on nation-building.

Producing Quality Homes

The years have seen progress from an era of under expenditure and poor workmanship to a well-functioning engine, producing quality homes. Since 2014/2015, a total of 47 453 housing units were delivered by the end of the 3rd quarter of 2017/2018. As it moves forward in 2018/2019, the province aims to deliver 8870 housing units.

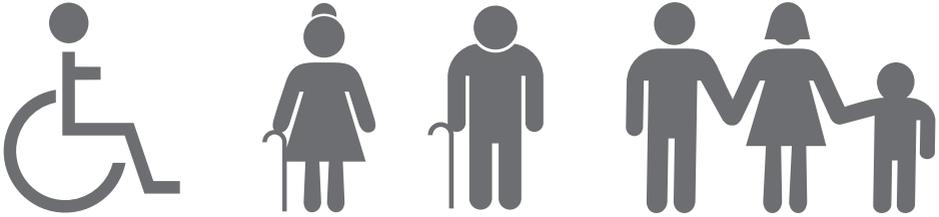
Provincial projects are consistently recognized as the best in the country. At the Govan Mbeki National awards, the province won the Best Enhanced People's Housing Project for 'Tiryville 48' in the Nelson Mandela Metro. The award for Best Established Woman Contractor, went to Mavis Kianna from 'Mambhele & Son', who were responsible for the Joe Slovo West 4040 Project.

Prioritizing Destitute Families

Government aims during this financial to prioritise destitute families, including the disabled, the elderly, child-headed families and destitute military veterans. Between financial years 2014/15 and 2016/17, 195 military veterans benefitted from housing opportunities. Since 2014/2015, over 6579 destitute and vulnerable groups also benefitted from housing projects.

Victim Empowerment

As part of its commitment to victim empowerment, the province will address the skills deficit in the social sector, especially the demand for the Social Work professionals. Government's goal for the coming financial year is to employ 100 Social Workers, targeting persons with disabilities.



Support to Older Persons and Persons with Disability

As part of the transformation of its funding model in support of older persons and persons with disability, the province will increase the current subsidy from R1 700 to R2 000 per person per month.

Women and Youth

Government will also intensify its efforts to ensure the real development and socio-economic emancipation of women and the youth, through economic participation. To this end, it aims to ensure that cooperatives benefit from the state procurement system, especially in the purchasing of school uniforms and supplying of food required in the funded Community Nutrition and Development Centres.

Addressing Social Distress

Building functional families is key to addressing social distress and ensuring social transformation. Accordingly, priority attention will be given to implementing the business case for addressing the social determinants of rising violence. These include heightened levels of addiction, increasing criminality among young people, high levels of gang-related violence in schools and communities, and sexual violence against children and women, especially in economically deprived areas. To address these social ills, the Provincial Moral Regeneration Movement will intensify the promotion of the Charter of Positive Values which is meant to restore the social fabric of our communities and ensure stable families.



Violence Against Women, Children and the Elderly

Government calls upon all men to join the struggle to stop violence against women, children and the elderly. This fight must extend beyond a mere 16 Days in November and December.

Transforming the Eastern Cape Heritage Landscape

As part of building social cohesion, Government aims to continue its programme of transforming the Eastern Cape heritage landscape. This will be done through commemorative partnership programmes to preserve the memory of freedom fighters, and their efforts and sacrifices in liberating this country. The ongoing programme of exhumation, repatriation and reburial of mortal remains of combatants of liberation movements from foreign lands, will be continued.

Lower Saxony Exchange Programme

Government's exchange programme with Germany's Province of Lower Saxony will, in addition to sports, also be rolled out to the arts and culture sector.



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