



Mainstreaming SDGs in Local Development Planning, Budgeting, Infrastructure Asset Management & VLRs



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The three spheres of government



Constitution of the Republic provides for 3 Spheres of government, having specified powers and functions, but are:-

- Distinctive;
- Interdependent; and
- Interrelated

Local Government, as one sphere, plays a crucial role

Sustainable Development Goals



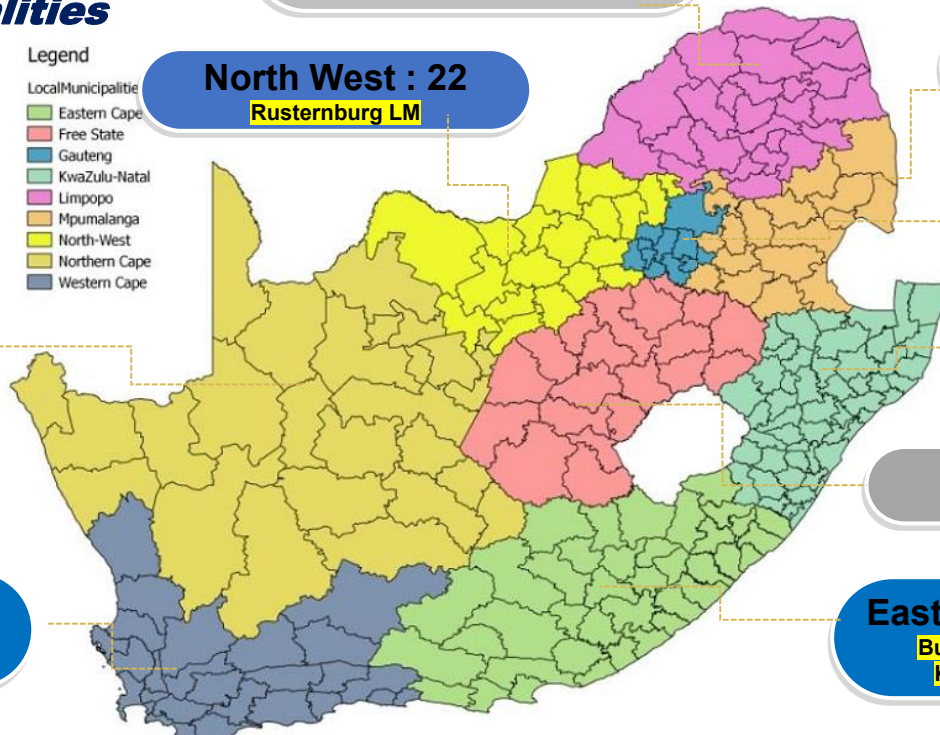
8 Metros

44 District Municipalities

205 Local Municipalities

Legend

Local Municipalities
 Eastern Cape
 Free State
 Gauteng
 KwaZulu-Natal
 Limpopo
 Mpumalanga
 North-West
 Northern Cape
 Western Cape



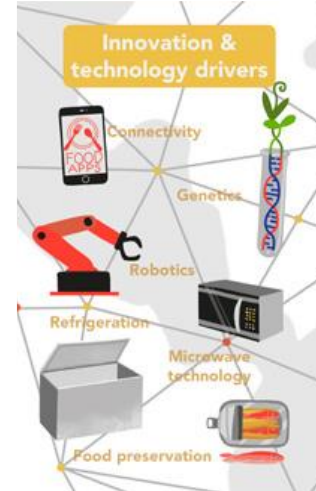
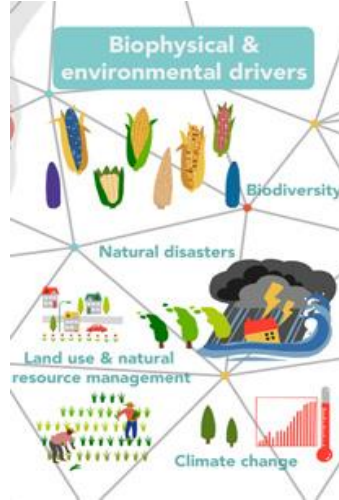
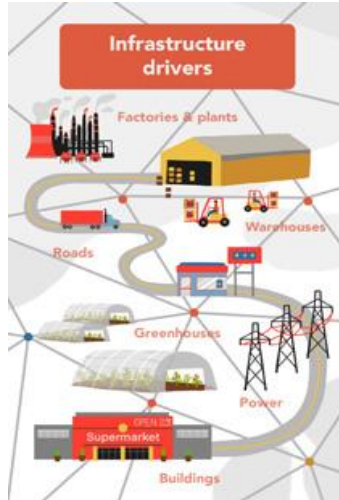
<https://sdgs.un.org/topics/voluntary-local-reviews>

Why SDG mainstreaming matters for Municipalities



- 65% of the SDG targets can only be achieved at the local level” highlights the central role of local government in sustainable development
- SDG localisation enhances service delivery, inclusivity, and accountability
- Aligns municipal priorities with national & global development frameworks

DRIVERS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT



Our Integrated Development Plans (IDPs) are our most powerful planning tool. By aligning them with the SDGs, we ensure our development is inclusive, measurable, and globally relevant.

How to Integrate SDGs into IDPs:

- Map IDP priorities to SDG targets (e.g., water = SDG 6, sanitation = SDG 3)
- Use local data to identify gaps
- Involve communities to ensure no one is left behind

A plan without a budget is a wish. If we truly want to achieve the SDGs, our municipal budgets must speak the language of sustainability, equity, and accountability.

SDG-Responsive Budgeting:

- Tag budgets to specific SDG goals
- Use performance-based and participatory budgeting approaches
- Ensure funding priorities reflect local needs and global commitments

Infrastructure is not just about building, it's about managing, maintaining, and adapting to ensure services reach our people sustainably. This is a critical SDG enabler.

SDG Links

- Sustainable infrastructure underpins SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, Infrastructure), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities), and SDG 13 (Climate Action)
- Embrace green, resilient infrastructure
- Track asset conditions digitally and plan for lifecycle maintenance

VLRs are more than a reporting tool. They are a chance to tell your municipality's development story, backed by evidence and aligned with international standards.

Why VLRs Matter:

- A localised version of national SDG reporting
- Helps municipalities track progress, identify challenges, and celebrate success
- Encourages transparency, citizen engagement, and global recognition

UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG)/ Agenda 2063

The UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) has identified six key "transitions" areas that are critical for accelerating progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These transitions focus on areas where policy interventions and strategic investments can produce compounding benefits across multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UNSDG six key "transitions"	The 7 Aspirations of Agenda 2063
Food Systems	Inclusive growth and sustainable development
Energy Access and Affordability	Political integration and Pan-Africanism
Digital Connectivity	Good governance and democracy
Education	Peace and security
Jobs and Social Protection	Strong cultural identity and values
Climate Change, Biodiversity Loss, and Pollution	People-driven development
	Africa as a global player

Aligning VLRs with Key Development Agendas

Development Framework	Key Focus Areas	Integration with IDPs and VLRs
Agenda 2030 (SDGs)	17 SDGs with 169 targets focusing on poverty eradication, economic growth, sustainability, and inclusivity.	VLRs track local progress on SDGs and integrate findings into IDPs, ensuring alignment between municipal policies and global targets.
Africa Agenda 2063	A continental blueprint for Africa's socio-economic transformation, including aspirations for sustainable development, infrastructure, and governance.	Municipalities contribute to Africa's long-term goals by integrating Agenda 2063 aspirations (e.g., smart cities, green growth) into IDPs and linking them to SDG progress.
National Development Plan (NDP) 2030	South Africa's long-term vision for eliminating poverty, reducing inequality, and building a capable state.	IDPs serve as local implementation frameworks for NDP objectives. VLRs provide data-driven insights to measure municipal contributions to national targets.
New Urban Agenda (NUA)	A global roadmap for sustainable urbanisation, emphasising resilient cities, housing, and participatory governance.	IDPs incorporate urban planning, climate resilience, and inclusive growth strategies in line with NUA principles, with VLRs ensuring progress monitoring.

Why Integrate SDGs into Municipal Planning and Budgeting?

- **Alignment with National Priorities:** SDGs are aligned with South Africa's national development framework, including the National Development Plan (NDP) and Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF).
- **Improved Service Delivery:** Integration of SDGs ensures more sustainable, inclusive, and equitable service delivery at the local level.
- **Long-Term Sustainability:** Aligning SDGs with planning and budgeting ensures that local development is sustainable, addressing both current and future generations' needs.



We implement Programmes and Projects to achieve Sustainable Development Goals through Voluntary Local Reviews.”



Steps to Integrate SDGs into Municipal Planning and Budgeting

Step 1: Align SDGs with Local Development Plans

- Ensure that the municipality's Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and budgeting processes reflect the SDGs.

Step 2: Set Clear SDG Targets and Indicators

- Break down SDGs into localized targets with clear metrics to measure progress in key areas (e.g., health, education, environment).

Step 3: Strengthen Data Systems

- Invest in data collection and management systems to monitor and evaluate SDG progress at the municipal level.

Step 4: Mobilise Resources

- Identify funding sources, both domestic and international, to finance SDG-aligned initiatives.

Step 5: Monitor and Report Progress

- Implement a regular monitoring and reporting system to track progress toward SDGs and adjust strategies as needed.

IDP alignment with SDGs

INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS																
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
KPA 1: Municipal Transformation and Organisational Development																	
KPA 2: Municipal Basic Service Delivery and Infrastructure Development																	
KPA 3: Local Economic Development																	
KPA 4: Municipal Financial Viability and Management																	
KPA 5: Good Governance and Public Participation																	
Cross cutting issues																	

Phase 2 SDG & Asset Management



Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng	KwaZulu Natal	Limpopo	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	North West	Western Cape
Amahlathi	Mangaung	Tshwane	eThekwin	Capricorn	Emalahleni	Hantam	Moses Kotane	Cape Tewn
Buffalo City		Johannesburg	Msunduzi	Greater Tzaneen	Nkangala District	Namakwa	Rustenburg	Drakenstein
Kouga		Ekurhuleni	Umhlathuze	Lephalale	Govan Mbeki		Mafikeng	Knysna
Koukamma		Mogale City		Ephraim Mogale				Bergrivier
Mbhashe LM				Vhembe				George
Nelson Mandela Bay				Waterberg				Matzikama
Raymond Mhlaba								Mossel Bay
Emalahleni								Stellenbosch
								Theewaterkloof
8	1	4	3	6	3	2	3	9

The journey begins with one step. You don't have to do everything at once start by mapping your IDP, engaging your teams, and building toward your first VLR.

1. Conduct an SDG mapping of IDPs
2. Establish an SDG Coordination Task Team
3. Integrate SDG targets into SDBIPs & KPIs
4. Use digital tools for asset tracking
5. Pilot a VLR – start small, build incrementally

Benefits of Mainstreaming SDGs



- Improved service delivery and planning
- Attracts donor/investment opportunities
- Enhances governance and transparency
- Aligns with NDP 2030, SADC vision 2050, Agenda 2063 and global commitments (UN Agenda 2030)

- “Municipalities are not just implementers of the SDGs – they are enablers, innovators, and leaders.

Lets discuss.

- What does SDG localisation look like in your context?
- How is your Municipality, Department, Business and NGO contributing to the SDGs?

THANK YOU: LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND



"No one knows everything,
everyone knows something,
all knowledge resides in **networks.**"

Source : Pierre Lévy, Collective Intelligence: Mankind's Emerging World in Cyberspace, 1997

Lévy 1997