

# **Presentation by Premier of KwaZulu-Natal Hon. Nomusa Dube-Ncube to the National Council of Province's Three Sphere coordination meeting held in Cape Town on 30 March 2023**

Hon. Chairperson of the NCOP; Hon Mr. A.N. Masondo

Hon. Deputy Chairperson: Hon Ms. S. E. Lucas,

**House Chairperson of committees NCOP: Hon, AJ Nyambi**

The Deputy President of the republic of South Africa: Hon.Mr. P. Mashatile

Hon Ministers;

Minister in the Presidency responsible for Planning monitoring and evaluation: **Minister M Ramokgopa**

Minister of Small Business Development: **Minister ST Ndabeni Abrahams**

Hon. Members;

Hon. Premiers;

Good Day!

## **Introduction**

May we start by appreciating the opportunity given to us by the NCOP to present on behalf of the province of KwaZulu-Natal key projects and programmes that we will deliver in the remaining months of the Sixth Administration.

As the province of KwaZulu-Natal, we have defined the remaining period as a time of decisive action, renewal and hope to build a better and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal.

This is a year in which we want to leave behind the trials and setbacks of Covid-19, unrest and the floods which severely disrupted the set vision of our administration as set in 2019.

## **Priorities of the Sixth Administration in KZN**

At the beginning of this term in 2019, as KwaZulu-Natal we identified Eight Priorities which we delineated as follows:

- Provision of Basic Services -immediate challenge being water;
- Job Creation;

- Growing the Economy;
- Growing SMMEs and Cooperatives;
- Education and Skills Development;
- Human Settlements and Sustainable Livelihoods;
- Build a Peaceful Province;
- Build a Caring and Incorruptible Government.

These priorities are grounded on the vision and the aspirations of the Freedom Charter, the Reconstruction and Development Plan (RDP), the National Development Plan Vision 2030, and our Provincial Growth and Development Strategy.

### **Decisive Actions in High Priority Areas**

In the 2023 State of the Province Address we announced the following decisive interventions and high priority areas:

- **Energy security plan for KwaZulu-Natal;**
- **Job opportunities for young people and mass employment creation;**
- **Strengthening the fight against Crime, Fraud and Corruption;**
- **Faster implementation of the Economic Recovery, Reconstruction and Transformation Plan;**
- **Delivering quality basic services and maintenance of infrastructure;**
- **Building a capable and agile state machinery to drive implementation.**

### **KEY PROVINCIAL PRIORITIES DELIENIATED FOR ACCELERATED IMPLEMENTATION DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS OF THE SIXTH ADMINISTRATION: THEMES AND PROJECTS FOR ACCELERATED IMPLENTION ACROSS CLUSTERS:**

#### **URGENT PRIORITY: INTERVENTIONS IN THE ENERGY CRISIS IN KWAZULU-NATAL**

Under energy we have established the KZN Energy War Room chaired by the Premier overseeing the province's response to the energy crisis and developed the KZN Energy Master Plan;

We will:

- electrify 25 000 households and complete the exemption of critical infrastructure from load-shedding;
- support Eskom in the establishment of the first Battery Energy Storage System in the province based in Elandskop BESS within Msunduzi and Impendle Local Municipalities. This will have the capacity to produce 8MW (Mega Watts), equivalent to 32MWh (Mega Watts per hour) of distributed electricity which is enough to power a small town for four hours.
- accelerate the rollout of rooftop solar panels to households in the province in line with the pronouncement by the Minister of Finance;
- support eThekweni Metro and other municipalities in implementing their own energy generation capacity;
- use the Richards Bay IDZ to establish itself as an energy hub.

## **1. JUSTICE CRIME PREVENTION CLUSTER**

### **Building Safe and Secure Communities - Curbing the Proliferation of Guns**

- The province will eliminate fake gun shops and unlicensed guns and lobby national government in review regulations of the possession of firearms and ammunition, limiting the number of rounds a person can purchase;
- We are reviving Operation Shanela to focus on violence and crime on our roads and strengthen the fight against crime;
- Install and deploy various technologies including drones as part of contribution to fighting crime;
- Intensify raids in search of guns and drugs in taxi ranks, residential areas, hostels, taverns and similar spots;
- Establish a Community Safety Intervention Unit focusing on the safety of Amakhosi and Izinduna;
- Reprioritising their budgets each department and Provincial Entity will contribute R10 million towards the fight against crime. This will be used to acquire additional cars and technology for the police.

## **2 SOCIAL CLUSTER**

### **Education and Skills Development**

- Focus now is on improving the quality of education and preparing learners for the future world of work and industries.

- The province will extend the coding and Robotics curriculum which is being implemented in 26 out of the targeted 33 schools at foundation phase and at 211 schools for the Intermediate Phase (Grade 7).
- Improvement in matric results and piloting online registration in EThekweni and Mgungundlovu. The Province recorded a 6.2% improvement in the matric results and the province has risen from 6th to third in the country.
- The province has eradicated mud schools and now target the provision of adequate clean water and sanitation as part of programmes towards “zero schools with pit latrines and bucket systems”. Children with special needs are prioritized and school safety for learners and educators is continuously improved.

The Department of Education plans to build 12 new schools in 2023 which includes a Maritime School of Excellence and an ICT focus school in Amajuba District.

We are

- steadily increasing the number of paperless schools such as seen at Mandla Mthethwa School of Excellence and Anton Lembede School of Innovation and Technology.
- Converting non-viable schools into learning and yarding centres for artisans and small business skills
- Extending decent sanitation to all schools in KwaZulu-Natal
- Out of a total 356 schools that were damaged by the floods, 107 have been completed across the province, 23 others are being completed in 2023.

## **Building a Healthy Society**

The province will

- build 11 new clinics and re-purpose 4 district hospital into regional hospitals.
- build a new modern hospital in the northern part of the province.
- implement e-health systems to reduce patient waiting times
- strengthen the “Make Me Look Like A Hospital” programme targeting 28 poorly performing hospitals.

## **GBVF - Ending the Tragedy of Gender Based Violence and Femicide in our Life - Time**

To protect vulnerable women and girls, in partnerships with the private sector we are providing panic buttons linked to police stations. This will be extended to ordinary citizens to curb crime.

- We are forging partnerships in the establishment, training and programmatization of Ward-based GBVF Rapid Response Teams integrated into War Rooms (starting with GBVF Hotspots);
- We are coordinating the refurbishment of shelters, 50 Victims Friendly Rooms, developing Gender Based Violence and Femicide App with a panic button and enrol unemployed graduates to be placed in community organizations, driving GBFV programmes through R10-million funding from the Gaming and Betting Board.

## **War on drugs**

- Implementation of the Provincial Drug Master Plan with the province building two rehabilitation centres this year;
- The province and municipalities will urgently demolish buildings with no owners or take them over if no rates are being paid.

## **3 ECONOMIC SECTORS INVESTMENT EMPLOYMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER**

### **Growing the Economy**

To grow the economy the province is establishment of the KwaZulu-Natal Wealth Fund and has provided funding for the KZN Maritime University; and in addition, implementing the following

- Rural and Township Economy Programmes
- Operation Vula Fund Second Window;
- Flood Relief Fund for SMMEs;
- Township and Rural Revitalisation Strategy
- Tourism Revitalisation;
- Rolling out of the Cannabis Master Plan in four districts uThukela, uMzinyathi, uMgungundlovu and Harry Gwala;
- Rolling out of agri-hubs throughout the province

## **Investment Attraction**

- In 2023/24 Trade and Investment KwaZulu-Natal (TIKZN) plans to attract greenfield investments totalling R8,3 billion which will create 3182 jobs.
- TIKZN will generate a further R2.5 billion from foreign and domestic investors, generating 3500 jobs from high-value projects like the Cato Ridge Logistics Hub and Tinley Manor ClubMed.
- Investec Property plans to invest more than R6bn to redevelop the old Corobrik site north of Durban into a logistics and distribution which will create 16 000 jobs.

## **Special Economic Zones**

- The province is establishing Special Economic Zones in the Newcastle and Ladysmith corridor. The two will add to the two provincial Special Economic Zones (SEZ) of Dube Trade Port and Richards Bay IDZ;
- Infrastructure development at provincial industrial estates such as Madadeni, Isithebe and Ezakheni alone created 1 578 job opportunities during last year with a further 2 660 envisaged in 2023.

## **Solving Youth Unemployment**

- We have repurposed the Youth Fund and set aside R100million to benefit young people in sectors that create jobs as opposed to businesses that employ only a few people;
- Repurposing of the KZN Youth Fund is our response to this challenge of massive youth unemployment this year we will disperse R70million from the Youth Empowerment Fund to applicants who meet the requirements.
- Rollout of youth business in the box partnership with Sumitomo/Dunlop to roll out smart centres and cooperatives in townships and rural areas. The cooperatives are to be fully owned by young people to promote local economic growth and absorb young people into the tyre industry.

## **Mass employment creation**

- The Executive Council resolved that each department except for the frontline services departments must reprioritize their budgets to contribute R10million towards job creation through an intensified

Expanded Public Works Programme to benefit youth, women and people with disabilities.

- Established the KZN Jobs War Room which to date has facilitated over 500 000 job opportunities combined through the EPWP programme across sectors in KwaZulu-Natal.

## **Basic Services Improving Access to Water and Sanitation**

Key projects to be supported to improve the water situation in the province:

- The South Coast Phase 2B - South Coast Pipeline Phase 2: Kelso to Umdoni. Completion is scheduled for Sept 2023;
- Maphumulo Plant Upgrade - Project is due to start in March 2023;
- uMshwathi Bulk Water Supply phase 4, 5,6 are in progress and all contracts will be finalised in June and October 2023;
- Lower uMkomazi Bulk Water Supply Scheme. Design of pipeline and reservoir to start in March 2023. The project will augment water supply to Ugu District Municipality;
- The Raising Hazelmere Dam Wall as announced by the President will be completed in March 2023;
- Durban Height and Molweni Aqueduct 1 was commissioned in December 2022. Aqueduct 2 to be completed in June 2023;
- The licence to extract water in Jozini Dam has been granted and we are fast-tracking more water licences for KwaZulu-Natal to tap in more dams.;
- Establishment of Water War Rooms.

## **Infrastructure Rehabilitation, Maintenance and Construction**

- The Province is implementing flood repairs using its own reprioritised budget of R2.91 billion;
- The Province has further received an allocation of about R580 million which will also go towards flood damages from National Government.
- Fixing of Potholes is allocated R2,5 billion patching and road rehabilitation programme.
- Major road networks are being rehabilitated back to life

## **Transformed and Sustainable Human Settlements**

- The province is implementing the following housing projects regarding human settlements: - eThekweni Inner City: (Social/Rental/GAP housing)
- eThekweni: KwaMashu Bridge City Urban Hub:
- eThekweni: uMlazi Urban Regeneration:
- eThekweni Amaoti Greater Housing Project:
- Amajuba: Newcastle: Johnston Blaaubosch Cavan (JBC):
- Ilembe: KwaDukuza: Hyde Park:
- uMhlathuze: Empangeni

Our programme to decommission oLindela in eThekweni and other municipalities continues and the Department of Public Works has finalised the transfer of 14 000 hectares of state land for housing.

#### Permanent Resettlement of Flood Victims

In 2023 the Department will commence the provision of permanent solutions in the identified 13 land parcels to have the flood victims permanently rebuild their lives.

### **Provincial Government Precinct**

The Provincial Government Precinct is steaming ahead,

- statutory compliance requirements and the funding models will be completed in March 2023 while the concepts for the office blocks are targeted for April 2023.
- Preliminary Design Concepts for the Legislature and Archives have been completed and stakeholder engagement has commenced to ensure end user acceptance.

### **SMART KZN**

- In 2022 the province launched the SMART KZN project involving the roll-out of digital empowerment programs, capacity development, entrepreneurship and data skills.
- We will fast-track the rollout of Broadband and Connectivity in KwaZulu- Natal with KZN Broadband Phase 1 covering 1150 sites, the SA Connect Phase 2, 3000 sites and telecommunication companies' Social Obligation to include 8890 sites bringing the total to 13 040 sites.
- The province is rolling out Wi-Fi hotspots and Digi-centres in townships and rural centres such as libraries, schools, health youth zones and community service centres.



- The Richmond and Ndwedwe digital centres will be finalised together with the Harry Gwala District TechnoHub.
- We are piloting the online registration system for in two districts of uMgungundlovu and eThekweni as part of the 4th industrial revolution.
- Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife has become the first government entity in KZN to obtain its Remotely Piloted Aircraft System Operations Certificate (ROC) from the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) last year. This technology enables the organisation to support scientific research, law enforcement, ecotourism marketing and infrastructure inspections, including Search and Rescue Operations.
- The Province is working with the Department of Communications and Digital Technologies and its entities is extending services in the Harry Gwala and Ugu districts through the Broadband Access Funds under the Presidential Employment Stimulus.
- In addition, National Treasury has approved funds for the roll-out of digital infrastructure in the following districts over the next 2 years, starting from 2023 which are Amajuba, iLembe, uMkhanyakude, Zululand, King Cetshwayo, uMgungundlovu and uMzinyathi.

#### **4 GOVERNANCE STATE CAPACITY AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER**

##### **Building an Ethical State and Capacity to Implement**

- Tackling fraud, maladministration and Corruption and Fighting Corruption
- Conclude disciplinary cases and implement consequence management.
- Conducting lifestyle audits and vetting of Supply Chain and Senior Management Staff will be finalized in 2023.
- Finalise skills audit for remaining employees
- Conduct study in productivity of employees in the provincial administration
- Implement e-government systems in line with SMART
- Reposition the Training Academy to focus on skills in demand
- Reduction of disciplinary cases, especially prioritizing cases where officials have been suspended for a long period.
- Develop a data base, detect and prevent people who are found guilty in departments, and resign only to resurface in another department or municipality.

- Payment of outstanding salaries to Izinduna

### **Turning around Local Government**

Attend to under expenditure on MIG as KZN Municipalities have spent only 53,75% of their MIG allocation, 40,4% of WSIG and 30,6% of RBIG.

This expenditure performance is below projections and implies that infrastructure grant expenditure needs to improve.

Address delays in projects caused by Business Forums

### **70 Artisans and 280 Water agents**

#### **Strategy to deal with coalition led municipalities**

We appreciate the improvement in Audit outcomes and direct COGTA to give more hands-on support to prevent regression.

## **Operation Clean Audit**

After in 2022, at least 8 departments received clean audits which was an improvement from 5 in the previous year with 05 departments receiving unqualified audit opinions we want no regression.

## **New Smart Coastal City**

- We are on course to create a new post-apartheid African Smart City linking KZN with Eastern Cape's . It is about 3 spheres of government working with civil society and traditional leadership playing a central role over the past year.
- All three spheres of government have agreed to proclaim the project as a Regional SDF zone with the principles of Africanness, Smartness, Integration and Inclusion in mind.
- Port Shepstone and the Greater Kokstad have started to explore this approach to improve service delivery and to enable those areas to act as catalytic growth nodes in the wider region.

## **Establishment of Agri-Hubs (DARD)**

The province will commence with the rollout of agri-hubs located in various districts. To this extent an amount to the tune of R152 million has been allocated to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development over the next three years.

The Red Meat Hub is going to be in both uMgungundlovu and Zululand District Municipality. The uMgungundlovu hub will prioritise Pig and Sheep hubs while Zululand will focus on beef. The Wool, Skin and Hides Treatment Facility will be in uThukela District Municipality. The White Meat Hub will be on the border of eThekweni Municipality and uMgungundlovu District.

The Dairy Hub will be in the Harry Gwala District Municipality, the Fresh Produce Hub in King Cetshwayo Municipality District and the Grain Hub in the Amajuba District Municipality.

On Food security we will revive our "One Home One Garden" programmes to fight poverty not only in rural areas but our townships as well. The RASET programme focuses on townships - poverty is exacerbated in townships by non-availability of land. We need more seeds, scooping of dams and mechanisation programmes to support our small-scale farmers.

## **Farmer Support and Seed Multiplication Programme**

The production of our own seeds is vital to ensure food security, and, in this regard, government will support the planting of 6293 ha to produce 10 million seedlings in the period of 12 months. 115 jobs for youth will be created from this programme.

Through the department's farmer support intervention programme, over 15 248 subsistence producers were supported with food production initiatives in 2022/23 financial year. The department is planning to support a further 13 455 subsistence producers in the 2023/24 financial year; 978 smallholder producers and 20 black commercial farmers who are producing exclusively for markets.

## **Environmental Sustainability and Rehabilitation as a Cushion against Poverty**

EDTEA will assist UKZN and the Msunduzi municipality to resuscitate their waste to energy initiatives and to divert waste being landfilled at the New England landfill site. Approximately 11 225 employment opportunities have been created, and we will ramp up to employ more than 20 000 youths this year.

## **Tourism promotion**

Tourism drive will be among the biggest activities with events and conferences in the Province already lined up. The Airport Development Master Plan, the expansion and reconfiguration of several regional airports continues. The Margate Airports Terminal has been completed and the department has initiated processes to upgrade Pietermaritzburg, Newcastle and Richards Bay airports.

## **BUILDING A COHESIVE SOCIETY**

The province will promote traditional horseracing which is expected to generate over R100million per annum.

The School Sport programme is being rolled out focusing on mass participation in sport amongst learners with special emphasis on previously disadvantaged urban and rural schools.

## **Social Cohesion and Moral Regeneration (SCMR)**

We will revitalise the Social Cohesion and Moral Regeneration (SCMR) Council in all Districts with Social Cohesion Advocate structures set up in

all communities working with non-profit organisations and other sectors of society.

### **Rehabilitation of Infrastructure (roads and bridges)**

Under Operation Siyazenzela, we are attending to the affected gravel network in areas under Amakhosi. This approach bore fruit in Ugu, iLembe, Zululand, King Cetshwayo, uThukela – and is now being moved to all districts. Through collaboration between the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, the Department of Transport and Defence we are building 24 Welisizwe Baily bridges in addition to the seven vehicular bridges already built.