











RURAL DEVELOPMENT TOOLKIT

The Rural Development Toolkit is designed to guide and enhance the detailed planning processes required by the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA). SPLUMA mandates that Municipal Spatial Development Frameworks (MSDFs) identify areas for more detailed local plans, such as precinct plans, especially in regions anticipating significant development and change. These precinct plans, aligned with higher-level frameworks like Provincial Spatial Development Frameworks (PSDFs) and Regional Spatial Development Frameworks (RSDFs), offer detailed development proposals for specific geographic areas, including Rural Intervention Areas.

The toolkit incorporates SPLUMA principles of spatial justice, spatial sustainability, efficiency, spatial resilience, and good administration to ensure inclusive, sustainable, and effective rural development. It emphasises the inclusion of previously excluded areas, protection of prime agricultural land, optimisation of existing resources, sustainable livelihoods, and transparent, integrated planning processes.

TOOLKIT INTENT

This Toolkit is to be Used to Guide:

- → Enhance Security of Tenure: Secure land ownership and usage rights.
- → Promote Sustainable Human Settlements: Develop infrastructure and sustainable settlements for rural communities.
- → Foster Resource-Based Economic Activities: Encourage economic activities based on local resources, including agriculture, mining, environmental management, and tourism.
- → **Support SPLUMA Principles**: Ensure plans align with SPLUMA's principles of spatial justice, sustainability, efficiency, resilience, and good administration.
- → Integrate with Higher-Level Plans: Ensure alignment with PSDFs, RSDFs, and MSDFs for cohesive and comprehensive rural development.

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The TOOLKIT should be read in conjunction with the specific Driver and Spatial Outcomes as proposed in the PSDF as well as the respective District RDSPs. This comprehensive approach ensures that the planning and development initiatives align with the overarching goals of the PSDF, fostering coordinated and sustainable development throughout the Northern Cape Province.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SPLUMA AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

SPLUMA mandates that Municipal Spatial Development Frameworks (MSDFs) must identify areas requiring more detailed local plans, such as precinct plans. These precinct plans, within the context of higher-level plans (like PSDFs, RSDFs, and MSDFs), provide detailed proposals for areas expecting significant development and change. According to the RSDP Guidelines, Precinct Plans can offer more detailed development proposals for specific geographic areas, which can include Rural Intervention Areas. SPLUMA Principles relating towards Rural Development:

Spatial Justice

- → Must address the inclusion of previously excluded persons and areas, emphasising informal settlements, former homeland areas, and regions of widespread poverty and deprivation.
- → Should incorporate provisions enabling redress in land access for disadvantaged communities and persons.
- → Must include all municipal areas, with flexible and appropriate provisions for managing disadvantaged areas, informal settlements, and former homeland areas.
- → Should accommodate access to secure tenure and the incremental upgrading of informal areas.

Spatial Sustainability

- → Special consideration for the protection of prime and unique agricultural land.
- → Incorporate environmental management instruments.
- → Ensure effective and equitable land markets.
- Consider current and future costs for infrastructure and social services.
- Promote sustainable land development and limit urban sprawl.
- → Aim to create viable communities.

Efficiency

→ Optimise the use of existing resources and infrastructure.

Spatial Resilience

 Ensure sustainable livelihoods for communities vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks.

Good Administration

- Promote an integrated approach to land use and land development.
- → Require sector inputs from all government departments.
- → Ensure transparent processes of public participation.

1.2 NORTHERN CAPE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

he Northern Cape Province has embarked on developing plans specifically for rural development. The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) introduced the concept of a Rural Development Sector Plan (RDSP) to frame and guide this initiative. The RDSP aligns with DALRRD's Vision, Mission, Strategic Priorities, and Outcomes as detailed in its Annual Performance Plan (APP). This alignment ensures that departmental projects integrate seamlessly with National, Provincial, and Municipal plans, including the District Development Model and Integrated Development Plans (IDPs).

The RDSP serves as a comprehensive action plan for rural development, outlining objectives, strategies, projects, and a phased implementation program. It focuses on three key pillars:

- → Improving the Security of Tenure: Ensuring land ownership and usage rights are secured and fairly distributed.
- → **Promoting Sustainable Human Settlements:** Developing infrastructure and sustainable settlements to support rural communities.
- → Enhancing Resource-Based Economic Activities: Fostering economic activities based on local resources, including agriculture, mining, environmental management, tourism, and the ocean economy.

1.2.1 Importance of the Sector Plans in Supporting SPLUMA Principles

Sector plans are essential in supporting the principles outlined in the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA) for several reasons:

- → Spatial Justice: Addressing the inclusion of previously excluded persons and areas, ensuring equitable access to land and resources. To incorporate provisions for redressing land access for disadvantaged communities and provide flexible management strategies for informal settlements and former homeland areas.
- → **Spatial Sustainability:** To protect prime agricultural land, incorporate environmental management practices, and promote sustainable land development. By focusing on sustainable human settlements and resource-based economic activities, they help create viable communities and limit urban sprawl.
- → Efficiency: To optimise the use of existing resources and infrastructure, ensuring that developments are cost-effective and sustainable over the long term.
- → **Spatial Resilience:** Enhancing rural-urban linkages and promoting economic activities based on local resources, ensuring that rural communities can withstand economic and environmental shocks, thereby fostering sustainable livelihoods.
- → Good Administration: To promote an integrated approach to land use and development. They require inputs from various government departments and ensure transparent public participation processes. This integrated and participatory approach leads to better planning decisions and more cohesive development strategies.

1.2.2 Rural Intervention Areas

As per the Northern Cape District(s) Rural Development Sector Plans a Rural Intervention Area is defined as - is a spatially explicit area within a district area that is made subject to (1) the inclusion and overlap of the three (3) Pillar Focus Areas identified for the Rural Development Sector Plan. It further addresses (2) particular administrative arrangements to protect and promote rural and regional landscape values and supporting

activities within the functional region that are shared between urban nodes and supporting rural nodes and settlements. The Rural Intervention Area (3) is focused on building on the unique urban and rural economic advantages that the functional region shares.

1.2.2.1 Namakwa District

- NAM 1: This area focuses on the ocean economy, mariculture, small-scale irrigation solutions, tourism development, environmental management, and small-scale mining. Specific actions include support for the Agrihub in Springbok.
- → NAM 2: Emphasises tourism and adventure tourism along the Lower Orange River. Specific actions include implementing small-scale intensive agriculture initiatives at FPSUs (Farmer Production Support Units) planned at Onseepkans.
- → NAM 3: Targets extensive agricultural activities, focusing on development in regions surrounding Calvinia and Sutherland.

1.2.2.2 ZF Mgcawu District

- → **ZF 1:** Targets high-intensity agricultural production along the Orange and Lower Vaal River areas, with an Agrihub proposed in Upington and FPSU priority at Keimoes. Numerous rural development projects are evident along the corridor between Keimoes and Groblershoop.
- → ZF 2: Supports rural interventions south of Kathu, Danielskuil, and Olifantshoek, focusing on extensive farming, including cattle, sheep, and goat farming, with no FPSU prioritised.
- → ZF 3: Supports the most rural part of the province towards Groot Mier and Rietfontein with limited opportunities and no Agrihubs or FPSUs prioritised.

1.2.2.3 Pixley Ka Seme District

→ **PKS 1**: Includes the Vaal Corridor between Douglas, Ritchie, Hopetown, and Groblershoop, overlapping with ZF 1. Two FPSUs are prioritised in Douglas and Groblershoop. This area has strong agricultural processing and value-adding opportunities for commodities such as maize, ground beans, lucerne, and grapes.

- → PKS 2: Focuses on extensive farming, especially Karoo lamb and sheep farming, with FPSUs proposed as priorities in Vanwyksvlei and Vosburg, supporting agri-support services and extension services.
- → PKS 3: Supports the region towards the Van der Kloof Dam and Gariep Dam sections of the Orange River, focusing on irrigation opportunities with a proposed Agrihub in Petrusville. FPSUs are proposed for De Aar and Colesberg, with extensive farming in the western part of the region.

1.2.2.4 Frances Baard District

- → **FB 1:** Supports the Vaalharts irrigation region, key to South Africa's national economy for crops like ground beans, peanuts, and lucerne. The Agrihub is proposed in Warrenton with numerous FPSUs concentrated in the north of the intervention area.
- → **FB 2**: Supports the intensive agricultural region of Ritchie linked to Jacobsdal, focusing on Lucerne. An FPSU is proposed in Ritchie.
- → FB 3: Supports local food security between Barkley West and Kimberley with FPSUs proposed in Barkley West and Ulco.

1.2.2.5 John Taolo Gaetsewe District

- → JTG 1: Provides support to the Heuningvlei and Van Zylsrus areas along the Molopo River towards the northeast of the province with limited agricultural potential. This region includes numerous rural development farms and requires intervention for agricultural extension, infrastructure, and capacity support.
- → JTG 2: Supports the Kuruman, Mothibistad, and Hotazel areas, predominantly providing support to traditional leadership areas and overlapping the ZF 2 area around Kathu.

The Northern Cape Rural Development Sector Plan aims to integrate and align rural development initiatives with broader national and provincial objectives. By focusing on the security of tenure, sustainable human settlements, and resource-based economic activities, the RDSP seeks to foster a cohesive and sustainable rural development strategy that leverages the unique strengths of each district.

1.2.3 PSDF Alignment (PSAAs)

Aligning the Rural Development Sector Plan with the Northern Cape Provincial Spatial Development Framework (PSDF) is essential for several reasons. Firstly, it ensures that rural development initiatives are consistent with broader provincial spatial planning objectives, promoting cohesive and sustainable development. Secondly, alignment helps optimise resource allocation and project implementation by identifying synergies between rural development and other strategic spatial initiatives. Finally, it enhances coordination among various stakeholders, including government departments, municipalities, and private sector partners, fostering an integrated approach to rural development.

1.2.3.1 Coastal Spatial Action Area:

This area focuses on the regions along the West Coast, including Rural Intervention Area NAM 1. The core focus is the ocean economy, with catalytic projects such as the Boegoebaai Harbour development, Mariculture development, small harbours development, and linkages between Cape Town and Namibia along the N7. The area is known for Rooibos tea cultivation, with Springbok as the regional development anchor.

1.2.3.2 Douglas – Kakamas Spatial Action Area:

This area includes Rural Intervention Areas NAM 2, ZF 1, and PKS 1. It aligns well with the Spatial Action Area, considering unique opportunities for mining, agriculture, tourism, and renewable energy along the corridor. The area also encompasses much of the Northern Cape Industrial Development Corridor, which is key to the province's exponential growth forecast. The regional development anchor includes Upington, with key towns like Prieska and Douglas.

1.2.3.3 Gamagara Spatial Action Area

This area focuses on mining beneficiation and development, including JTG 2 and ZF 2. The key regional development anchor is Kathu.

1.2.3.4 Kalahari Spatial Action Area

This area includes ZF 3 and JTG 1, supporting tourism development, and conservation, and having limited potential for other industries.

1.2.3.5 Karoo Spatial Action Area

This area supports the Arid Innovation region as part of the National Spatial Development Framework (NSDF) and the Karoo lamb industry. Key Rural Intervention Areas include NAM 3, PKS 2, and PKS 3. It is well aligned with the unique Karoo region and its attributes, offering opportunities for extensive agriculture and tourism.

1.2.3.6 Vaalharts Spatial Action Area

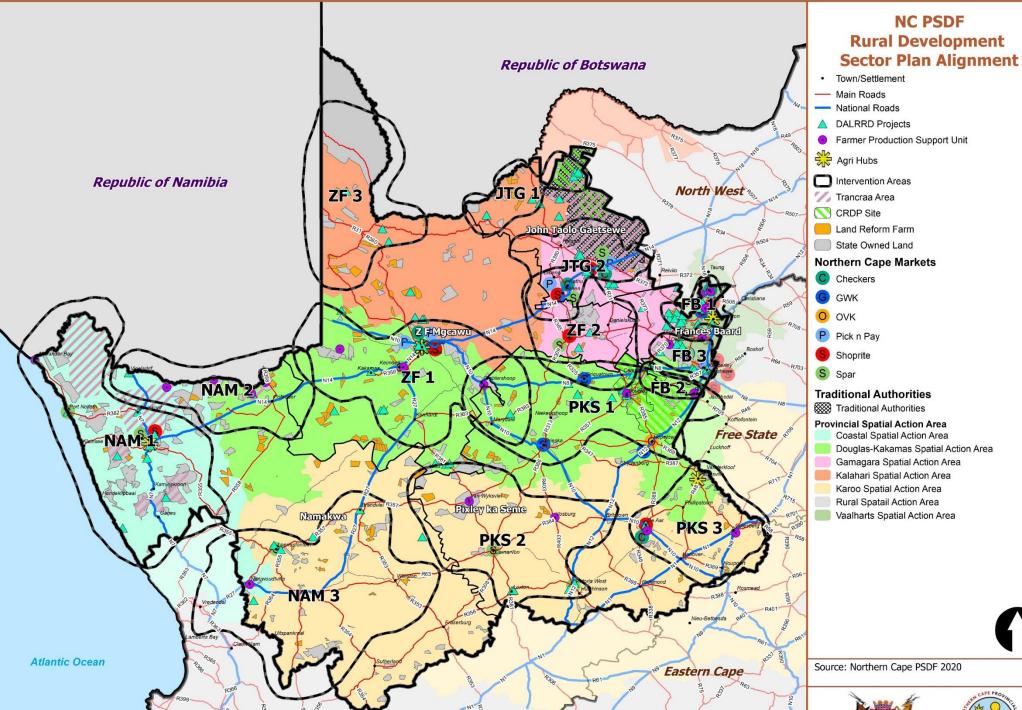
This area supports intensive agricultural development and includes the Kimberley Urban Node, regarded as the heart of the provincial economy. It encompasses FB 1, FB 2, and FB 3.

1.2.3.7 Rural Spatial Action Area

The Rural Spatial Action Area is supported by Rural Intervention Areas JTG1 and JTG2. This predominantly rural region faces distinct challenges, particularly in addressing food security, access to basic services and roads, and opportunities to support the transition from subsistence to commercial agriculture. The area is burdened by extensive degraded lands, necessitating a stronger emphasis on regenerative agricultural practices. Farmer production support should also prioritize training and skills development. Additionally, a significant portion of this area is designated as a Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) site.

1.2.3.8 Alignment of Rural Intervention Areas with PSAAs

The Rural Intervention Areas align well with the Provincial Spatial Action Areas, ensuring a cohesive strategy that leverages the unique strengths of each district. By integrating these areas, the RDSP can effectively promote sustainable rural development, fostering economic growth, and enhancing the quality of life for rural communities across the Northern Cape.



Western Cape





