

COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS INTERMINISTERIAL TASK TEAM ON SERVICE DELIVERY



PROJECT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO BASIC LEVELS OF RELIABLE SERVICE DELIVERY IN THE 27 PRIORITY DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES

Presentation to Parliamentary Portfolio Committee
19 August 2015



ACCESS TO SERVICES

- A significant number of households still do not have access to quality, reliable and sustainable basic levels of municipal services
- In the case of water supply, in 2014, 1.4 million households did not have access to water infrastructure, and a further 3.5 million households who had been given access to infrastructure were faced with repeated and lengthy disruptions in supply owing to neglect of maintenance and aged infrastructure that has not been upgraded
- The MTSF sets out the targets to be achieved over the next five years for sustainable and reliable access to basic services:
 - 90% of households with access to reliable water services
 - 90% of households with access to functional sanitation services
 - 80% of households with access to an acceptable refuse removal service
 - 1.4 million additional households connected to the grid and an additional 105 000 to non-grid energy supply

CAUSES OF LACK OF ACCESS

- There are a number of reasons for ongoing lack of access, including, inter alia:
 - The difficulties of investing in infrastructure in remote areas
 - Rapid growth of informal settlements
 - Insufficient funding
 - The capacity of existing infrastructure is insufficient and requires extension
 - Services have collapsed or are unreliable due to neglect of maintenance and poor operational management
 - Aged infrastructure that needs replacement
 - Non-payment for services
 - Weak revenue collection
 - Weak technical and infrastructure procurement capacity in municipalities
- The MTSF also highlighted ongoing weaknesses in collaboration and cooperation between all the different government institutions which need to work together to deliver and manage infrastructure, particularly at the local planning level
 - The MTSF therefore identified a need for a concerted and coordinated effort to accelerate the provision of reliable basic services if these targets are to be met



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PROJECT ESTABLISHMENT

- In response to the MTSF, CoGTA has recently put in place a project to accelerate the provision of quality, reliable and sustainable basic levels of service in 27 priority district municipalities
- The project is one of the outputs in the MTSF for Outcome 9 and is also a focus of the Inter-Ministerial Task Team (IMTT) for Service Delivery and the Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Commission (PICC)
- The focus of the project is on water, sanitation, refuse removal, roads and energy



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OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

- The intention of the project is not to repeat or reopen the planning processes already carried out by sector departments, provinces and municipalities
 - The project will complement these existing planning processes
- The main aim of the project is to mobilise all the stakeholders (e.g. national and provincial departments, municipalities, agencies such as water boards) around agreed key actions and projects to be taken to reduce backlogs per district
 - Many of these key projects may already be in existing plans
 - But there may be gaps in existing plans, or a lack of coordination between the plans of different stakeholders

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- The project is being managed by a core group of COGTA personnel, supplemented by officials from the main sector departments responsible for these types of infrastructure and other stakeholders such as the DBSA
- The project involves coordination on a day-to-day basis through one-on-one meetings between the project team and stakeholders, in addition to coordination through established government structures
- Progress per district will be reported to the IMC, Outcome 9 Implementation Forum, and PICC
- Progress reports will identify planning gaps and blockages in implementation for resolution
- Planning gaps may include, for example, prioritisation and sequencing differences between stakeholders, such as reticulation infrastructure without bulk infrastructure or vice versa
- Progress reports will cover issues of maintenance and operation as well as delivery of infrastructure

PROJECT STEPS

For each district, the following steps will be undertaken:

1. Collect existing secondary data and if necessary collect new primary data in order to determine/ confirm/ validate current backlogs in each sector in each of the 27 priority district municipalities
2. From existing plans and engagements with stakeholders, identify key interventions that should be done (eg what capital projects, what maintenance or operational management interventions by whom) in order for the backlogs to be addressed
3. Assess whether or not the relevant sector stakeholders (eg municipalities and sector departments) are implementing or planning to implement the required interventions and whether the required interventions have been budgeted for
4. Identify gaps between what is required and what is being implemented or planned to be implemented
5. Assess whether potential funding sources could be available to address identified gaps
6. Engage with stakeholders at technical, senior management and political levels to ascertain whether the identified gaps can be addressed and the necessary interventions included in their plans
7. Monitor the implementation of the plans to address the backlogs
8. Facilitate support to municipalities where necessary in the implementation of the interventions
9. Report on progress at various levels of government

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IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH

- Work has started on the first four districts (Umzinyathi in KZN and Amathole in Eastern Cape, Bojanala in North West and Sekhukhune in Limpopo)
 - For Bojanala and Sekhukhune, the project is currently at the stage of collecting secondary data and engaging with sector departments
 - For Umzinyathi and Amathole, the project is currently at the stage of engaging with the municipalities and provinces, having collected secondary data and engaged with sector departments. Intention is to submit first reports on these two districts by mid- September 2015
- The methodology will be tested in these first districts and then applied to the other 23 districts in an accelerated fashion
- It is envisaged that the project will continue up to 2019 (in line with the MTSF)
- The intention is to be reporting on all 27 districts within the first year

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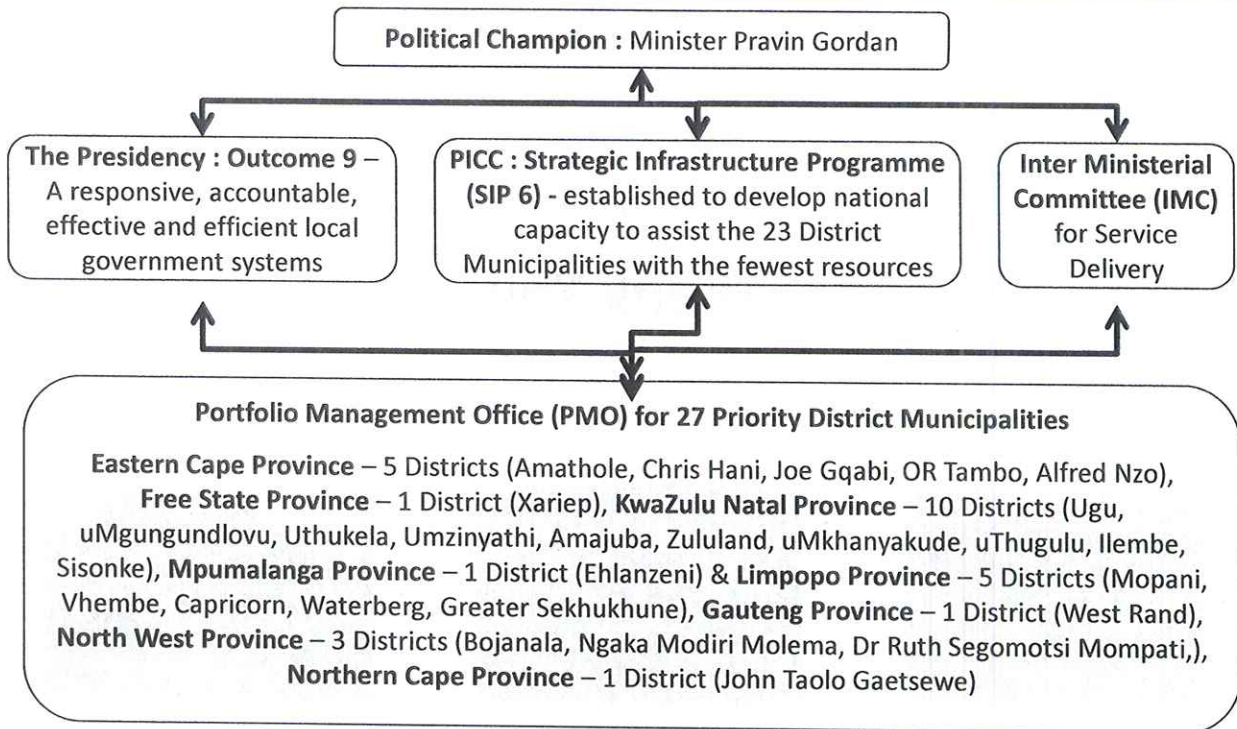


Thank You



Additional detail

PMO MANDATE & FOCUS AREAS



27 Priority Districts Geographical Location

