

# **VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEW OF THE RUSTENBURG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

*United Nations 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT*



**MAY 2024**

**TRANSFORMING OUR CITY**

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## **Opening Statement**

In 2015 The Rustenburg Local Municipality (RLM) took the solid decision to become part of the global sustainability movement of 192 countries collaborated under the United Nations banner in developing implementable initiatives in achieving the use of natural resources to fulfill the current and future needs of its people in an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable manner.

The implementation of the United Nations 2023 Agenda for Sustainable Development is the guideline for RLM to put forward a reportable action plan on sustainability and align its integrated development ambitions to the global visions on prosperity and realising the maximum benefits of its diverse economic landscape, which largely includes mining and industry but with great potential in the agriculture and tourism sector. The RLM is the home of the Magaliesberg Mountain range which spans over to the Gauteng Province and was declared as a Biosphere area under the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme; this region of pristine landscape creates great opportunity for Tourism and sustainable Agriculture which the City greatly appreciates as a potential for economic diversification.

The commitment of RLM to the UN Agenda 2023 for Sustainable development will assist in delivering the 17 Global Sustainable Development Goals to the doorstep of the residents in all **45 municipal wards of our City and putting our people on the front foot of sustainable livelihood. RLM is the only municipality in the North West Province participating in the localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the Voluntary Local Review (VLR) process. This is the first VLR report produced by the RLM. It is a baseline report, In essence, the municipality has assessed how the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) is linked to the SDGs, It has also assessed the SDGs and this VLR report.**

## **Key Message from Rustenburg Local Municipality:**

**In the process of assessing SDGs through multiple stakeholder engagement, the following key messages came to the fore”**

- The municipality's social, economic, and environmental dimensions have to a large extent been influenced by the presence of mining activities within its jurisdiction. Mining activities are mainly concentrated along the geological belt, known as the Bushveld Complex. The mining industry in the municipality provides a huge proportion of employment opportunities. The Bushveld complex is one of the most heavily mineralised districts in the world and the platinum mines in this region are the largest producers of platinum in the world.
- The municipality is committed to ensuring that the implementation of SDGs is inclusive, transparent and sustainable as stated in its vision and mission statements. All stakeholders will be part of the implementation team within their respective areas of expertise.
- The municipality will continue to contribute to improving the quality of life for its citizens by stimulating economic growth, improving the quality of services through adopting best practices, ensuring sustainability and inclusive government.
- The SDGs have been localized for implementation. The municipal Integrated Development Plan (IDP) is aligned to the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP).
- Tourism continues to play an increasingly important role within the municipality. The unique topography of the Magaliesburg offers several opportunities for tourism. These include opportunities for eco-tourism as well as tourism associated with a variety of historical and cultural interests. The areas include the Kgaswane game reserve; Vaalkop dam nature reserve; Kroondal heritage site; and the Bafokeng sports palace. The municipality is also part of the Magaliesburg biosphere which was proclaimed an international biosphere reserve by UNESCO on 9 June 2015, having been recognized for its exceptional natural, cultural and human characteristics.

### Highlights

The reporting of the Highlights of the achievements of the RLM council & stakeholders in realising the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals is sourced from various strategic planning policies of the municipality such as the Integrated Development Plan and the Spatial Development Framework; stakeholder inputs into the city's success are

contained in the Social Labour Plans and Local Economic Development reporting tools produced by the relevant stakeholders.

An Integrated Development Plan (IDP) is an inclusive strategic development and expenditure planning tool developed by a municipality for a 5 year term as per mandatory requirement contained in Section 25(1) of the Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000. The Act dictates that Each Municipal council must, within a prescribed period after the start of its elected term, adopt a single, inclusive and strategic plan for the development of the municipality which:

- (a) Links, integrates and co-ordinates plans and takes into account proposals for the development of the municipality.
- (b) Aligns the resources and capacity of the municipality with the implementation of the plan.
- (c) Forms the policy framework and general basis on which annual budgets must be based.
- (d) Complies with the provisions of this chapter.
- (e) Is compatible with national and provincial development plans and planning requirements binding on the municipality in terms of legislation.

The Municipal Systems Act further requires that the municipality, as part of the IDP, to develop a Spatial Development Framework (SDF). The SDF is prescribed to include analysis of different sectors, a series of spatial guidelines, policies and principles which guide decision making and actions indicating where physical development should or not occur as well as the desired spatial form of RLM.

The intentions and actual implementation of all initiatives undertaken by a sitting council are guided by the SDF and must be contained in the IDP document and will further reflect the Highlights of RLM achievements on implementation of the 2030 SDG's.

Efforts to fulfil the Sustainable Development Goals are backed by civil society, private sector, organizations as well as the public sector. This VLR is the first report produced by the Municipality and therefore, no progress will be registered in the report. Much as progress is not registered as per reporting requirements, there are projects that are linked to the SDGs, which will find expression in the next reporting cycle. It is the municipality's wish to have everyone on

board in order to have a collective effort towards the realisation of meeting the targets for the SDGs. At the ultimate end, if we all take responsibility for fulfilling the SDGs, it becomes possible to attain and meet the targets. Together we can when we leave no one behind. Main benefits derived from the VLR process include amongst others, the importance of reporting on VLRs and linkages between SDGs, planning processes, implementation and monitoring and evaluation.

**Efforts made to mobilise all stakeholders in the VLR process and SDGs implementation included:**

- Item which served before Council on the 31st January 2024.
- Engagement with internal and External Stakeholders – 16 and 17 November 2023
- Education and Awareness programmes.
- Social media statement by Office of the Executive Mayor.
- Environmental Sustainability Camp of 300 teachers of the North West Province

**Success stories from RLM**

South African land transport has in the recent past undergone extensive transformation, which has resulted in the introduction of new policies and legislation. The introduction of the new Constitution, 1996 for the country set the scene for a fundamental restructuring process of various legislative frameworks. The publication of the White Paper on National Transport Policy in 1996 has laid the foundation for the re-alignment of transport policy at all spheres of government.

In view of the above, the development of the vision, goals and strategies for the Rustenburg Integrated Transport Plan (RIRP) had to consider current transport policies and legislation. Secondly, cognizance was taken of the Rustenburg Integrated Development Plan (RIDP) as well as other city development strategies to inform the city's transport vision, mission, goals and strategies. To date, RLM has ten buses using Euro 4 rated diesel and operate in 16 routes in the Central Business District (CBD). Over and above that, 35 minibus taxis are operating under Phase 1A in the Greater Tlhabane Area using 80 bus stops and ten routes. A bus depot and

fare collection system have been implemented. The RLM is a Water Services Authority (WSA) and distribute electricity in some parts of municipal areas together with Eskom.

**Challenges faced during VLR and how they were addressed**

<b>Plans</b>	<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Means of addressing challenges</b>
<b>Sourcing of data</b>	RLM relied mostly on STATSSA Data, which is insufficient.	Citizen and admin generated data was used and still to undergo SASQAF quality check.
<b>Data analysis</b>	No financial resources to appoint researchers.	Through partnerships.
<b>Political Leadership buy-in</b>	Consideration of the Municipal Participation on the VLR by Council	Council is on board and has approved the VLR item which is a standing Item at the Executive Management Meetings.
<b>Budget for SDGs vs IDP</b>	The process is seen to be additional work and colleagues do not embrace it.	Mainstreaming the SDGs in the IDP.

## **CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCING SDG's TO THE RUSTENBURG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

### **1.1 Background of SDG's in RLM**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a United Nations initiative that was adopted by member states of the UN in 2015. This initiative formed the foundation for a collaborated global movement that aims to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development by the year 2030. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals aim to achieve a balance of the dimensions of sustainable development namely the economic, the social and the environmental aspects important in realising the survival of current and future livelihoods.

The participation of RLM in the Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) of the SDG is a solid affirmation of the City's commitment to end poverty and hunger; protect the air, water, soil, plants and animals from degradation, ensure all human beings enjoy prosperity in a protected peaceful environment that allows equal access to opportunities in economic and technological progress in a harmonised global reach. The SDG VLRs is in principal aligned to South Africa's National Development Plan 2030; a national long-term plan which aims to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030. The RLM has adopted both policy initiatives which complement each other and augment the genuine intentions of RLM council in forwarding the sustainability narrative in all its service delivery agenda.

The RLM is a category B municipality, situated in the Northwest Province. It is made up of 45 wards. The total geographical area of the RLM is 3,423 kilometres square and serves as a Water Service Authority. The distribution of electricity is a responsibility of both the RLM and Eskom in some parts of the Municipal areas. The Municipality serves a population of 562, 031 people. The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) issued an invitation to all municipalities to apply for participation in the VLR and within the Northwest Province only the Rustenburg Local Municipality was selected.



**Methodology and process for preparation of the Rustenburg Voluntary Local Review of the Implementation of the UN Global Sustainability Goals.**

The Environmental Department of the Rustenburg Municipality was in charge of facilitating the process, in collaboration with other institutional structures of the municipality and they are grouped as follows:

- Municipal Council.
- Technical Committee appointed by the Accounting Officer after expressing an interest to Partake in VLR Process.
- Portfolio Committee on Integrated Development Planning, Performance Management System and Legal
- Multi-stakeholder Forum ( Government Depts, Mining Houses, Vulnerable group – Women, disabled people, youth, elderly; Civil Society, Financial Institutions, Academia, Faith-Based Organisations, Traditional Authorities).
- Internal SDGs Working Committee (Represented by Planning and Human Settlement, Special Projects, Technical and Infrastructure, Community Development, Strategy and Planning).
- Marketing and Awareness Committee.

**1.2 Stakeholder engagement in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals:**

Efforts to fulfil the Sustainable Development Goals are backed by civil society, private sector, organizations as well as the public sector. The array of SDGs stakeholders identified by the technical committee is indicative of the inclusiveness intended by RLM in bringing sustainability to it's citizens. The SDGs stakeholder engagement initiatives of RLM include:

- Meetings: Municipality include dates of all meetings.
- Focus groups consultations: Municipality to provide information.
- Written Communications: Information.
- Social Media: Date of publication or postings.

- Education and awareness programmes on SDGs

### **1.3 SDG's in RLM Data collection methodology included:**

Desktop

Questionnaire

Stakeholders Engagement

### **1.4 Methodology used to include vulnerable groups that are mostly “left behind”**

The Special Projects Unit of the Municipality identified such groups and one-on-one engagement method with the groups was used. Engagement with Internal SDGs Working Committee is done as and when through physical meetings, email and calls. The coordination is centralised at the Technical Committee appointed by the Accounting Officer. Implementation is done through Internal SDGs Working Committee.

### **1.5 Overview of the Municipality's sustainability on implementation of the SDGs as regard to the main strengths and weaknesses that RLM has:**

Municipality is functioning as both the Water Services Authority (WSA) and Water Services Provider (WSP). Despite RLM being the WSA, there is a challenge of providing basic services equitably due to mushrooming of informal settlements. RLM is a mining town and it enjoys the support through the implementation of social labour plans. However the Municipality is challenged by retrenchments in the mining industry and this impacts the municipality in revenue collection. The introduction of integrated transport services known as Rustenburg Rapid Transport (RRT) reduced number of taxis in the city, thereby reducing emission, congestion and accidents.

**1.6 Steps followed by RLM in the implementation of VLR:**

RLM Working Group is responsible for the coordination of the process and the responsibility was assigned by the Accounting Officer (Municipal Manager) and endorsed by Municipal Council. The following steps were taken to include local stakeholders in the process:

- Mapping of relevant Stakeholders
- Issuing of Invitations to attend the engagement session in the SDG programme.
- Questionnaires to stakeholders to populate projects implemented against the SDGs selected by the Municipality.
- Item to Council – Item 12 of the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024
- Engagement with internal and External Stakeholders – 16 and 17 November 2023
- Education and Awareness programmes
- Social media statement by Office of the Executive Mayor

Participating stakeholders were identified according to the goals selected by the Rustenburg Local Municipality and those that address the core functions of the Municipality. The table below indicates the selected stakeholders participating in the development of VLR:

<b>Internal Stakeholders</b>	<b>National Government Stakeholders</b>	<b>Provincial Government Department</b>	<b>Non-Governmental Organisations</b>
Office of the Executive Mayor – Special Projects and Communications Units	Statistics South Africa	Statistics South Africa	United Nations Department of Economic Development and Social Affairs
Planning and Human Settlement Directorate – Housing	Office of the Presidency –	Department of Economic Development,	Orbit TVET College - Rustenburg Campus

Provision and Development Planning	National Planning Commission	Environment, Conservation and Tourism	
Technical and Infrastructure Directorate – Water, Sanitation and Electrical Infrastructure Units	Department of Home Affairs	South African Social Security Agency	Mining Houses (Sibanye Still water, Anglo-Platinum Mine, Impala, Bafokeng Platinum Mine, Glencore Alloys)
Community Development – Waste Management, Community Facilities and Integrated Environmental Management Units		Bojanala Platinum District Municipality	Mine Rehabilitation and Green Economy Holdings
Office of the Municipal Manager – Strategy and Planning		Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation	African Women Leaders Network
Local Economic Development		Department of Cooperative Government and Traditional Affairs	Traditional Council
			Faith-Based Organisations
			People with Disabilities

			Youth Representatives
			S A Organisers

The primary obstacle encountered by the RLM during the stakeholder invitation process was that certain stakeholders were unable to express their availability for the engagement process. Nevertheless, a phone follow-up was conducted.

**1.7 Lessons learnt from VLR**

- Importance of Reporting on VLRs.
- Linkages between SDGs, planning processes, Implementation and Monitoring and evaluation.
- Incremental process
- Indicators to be aligned with municipal priorities and objectives

## CHAPTER 2: SDG's IN THE RUSTENBURG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY.

### 2.1 Implementation and prioritisation of SDGs by RLM

Several strides have been made in furthering the achievements of the RLM in the implementation of the SDGs; the following 2030 SDGs goals are reported as a starting point however RLM envisages to broaden the scope in phases as time progresses & resources become available:

**Goal 5** : Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

**Goal 6** : Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

**Goal 8** : Promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

**Goal 11**: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

**Goal 13**: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

**Goal 17**: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnerships for sustainable development.

The rationale behind chosen goals is that the Municipality has direct impact on them, however, other goals chosen will be addressed through goal 11 during this reporting cycle.

### 2.2 Implementation of SDG 11: Make cities and human settlement inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

#### 2.2(a) Sustainable Development Goal 11

SDG 11 promotes the importance of creating sustainable, strategically placed & institutionally supported settlements of dignified standard suitable for human purposes to promote a non-racial, non-sexist and socially inclusive society in the RLM. Human settlements within the general city area must be made safe, resilient, and sustainable socially, economically and environmentally. Human settlement planning must seek to maximise access to essential basic services and to address & manage the risk of disasters on livelihoods of citizens.

SDG11 conscientises the city council that the population of the municipality is growing at an alarming rate, with more than half of the city's population currently living in urban areas. SDG 11 highlights the need for affordable housing, sustainable transport, access to green and public spaces, and the preservation of cultural and natural heritage. Achieving SDG 11 is critical for building sustainable and liveable cities that can support the well-being and prosperity of the residents while also safeguarding the adverse impacts on the natural environment. A multistakeholder approach that encompasses governments, civil society, the private sector and individuals must be observed to address issues that come about with urbanisation such as nature degradation, waste generation, climate change, social inequality and insufficient availability of infrastructure support.

### **2.2(b) Highlights of SDG11 in RLM**

According to the recent census by Statistics South Africa (2022), as much as 85,9% of the total population of RLM were recorded to be living in formal housing dwellings; this is an increase from the 68,7% recorded in 2011 census. It is essential to indicate that the residents that live in informal settlements get supplied with services such as water, sanitation and refuse removal. The following graph depicts the dwelling by type.

The first step of SDG11: Making cities and human settlements; is making viable residential land available to the needy/ previously disadvantaged families in the municipal area.

The RLM Rapid Land Release Programme as contained in the IDP 2022-2027 is intended for community land releases to promote development of viable residential & mixed use establishments with particular emphasis on the previously disadvantaged communities, within a well-planned environment. The initiative is intended to empower legitimate beneficiaries who would be able to get legal access to property through legal transfer; and further seeks to verify and quantify the total number of properties owned by the municipality. The process would provide economic incentives for investing in strategic parcels of land and thereby identifying specific precincts that stimulate economic and social development. By transferring the properties, simultaneously compiling verifiable and more accurate asset register, the land release programme will be an important source of revenue contributing to financial, social and

environmental objectives of the City area. The initiative has registered successful milestones in Lethabong settlement in Ward 27&28 of the municipality where a total of 1871 beneficiaries were allocated strategically located residential stands; Monnakato settlement (ward 25) 500 stands made available, Phatsima settlement (Ward 1) 123 stands of the identified 291 have been allocated to qualifying beneficiaries for residential purposes. Other initiatives under the land release programme are taking place in Ward 40&42 of the RLM.

Several residential land acquisition initiatives have been registered by the RLM council in the recent times through direct purchase and donations of land by stakeholders for use of establishing new mixed use settlements which ultimately become part of the city area. The RLM have invited donations and initiatives from stakeholders including the Housing Development Agency, the Sibanye Stillwater mine, the Anglo American mine and the North West Provincial Government through COGHSTA. All entities have collectively made over 600 hectares of land available to RLM initiatives directly linked to the 2030 SDG 11: Make cities and human settlement inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

It is safe to mention that the need for the achievement of SDG 11 in the RLM has been aligned with the municipality's strategic vision, the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS), Vision 2030 (City Master Plan), particularly its pillar of Creating a Spatially Transformed City. According to this pillar, the municipality and its stakeholders should work towards addressing imbalances of the past such as apartheid spatial patterns by providing adequate housing and affordable services in conducive living environments.

RLM has been working with the Provincial Department of Human Settlements and constructed and handed over 9, 766 houses. 12, 467 serviced sites were developed and handed over in the same period. The housing projects that RLM has implemented include Bokamoso, Marikana, Seraleng and the Boitekong Housing Project. The Municipality has scaled up its development of sustainable communities through human settlements development by partnering with the Housing Development Agency for the delivery of more houses over the next 5 years.

The RLM has considered that achieving spatial integration and transformation also means having an overlay between human settlements, the central business districts and transport infrastructure. This has seen the municipality undertake projects that are aimed at developing public transport facilities, expanding the road network and coordinating the necessary investment from other public transport players such as the South African National Road Agency



(SANRAL), the Taxi industry and operating bus companies. According to the approved Master Plan vision 2030, the RLM should work towards the achievement of Target 11.2 of SDG 11 through creating a globally connected city. The municipality is and has been busy with the construction of the Bus Rapid Transport (BRT) Project. This project is currently operational from the nearby township of Tlhabane to the CBD.

The RLM has made some strides in the upgrade of its road network for daily commuting population. Besides the BRT project, the municipality is in addition maintaining roads through ongoing pothole repair programme. The work done does not mean the municipality is financially in a position to upgrade and maintain all roads to a desired level at once. Bridges that were wiped by floods were reconstructed and are currently in use by commuters and pedestrians.

### **2.2 (c) SDG 11 Challenges in RLM**

A key challenge that impacts progress on SDG 11 is the limited financial resources of the municipality as funding is based on contributions allocated from the national government which has an extremely stretched mandate across the country. This challenge is overcome by developing the human settlements of the city in Phases which could span over several financial years before the ultimate completion; this to some extent results in many citizens being disgruntled as they would seem to be forgotten people while the planning & design phase is being undertaken prior to physical development commencing. The City is reliant on the effectiveness of the communication approach of the Municipal Ward Councillors in delivering the message of progress updates on the initiatives around human settlement developments in the vicinity of their specific Wards. The requirement is that a Municipal Ward Councillor must be a resident of the Ward in which they are elected to represent at the council meetings. Environmental forces such as recent flooding caused large-scale damage to infrastructure and affected access to basic service delivery, impacting the achievement of SDG 11.

## **2.2 (d) SDG 11 Target Review in RLM**

The SDG11 target of the RLM is well captured in the latest version of the municipal Housing Sector Plan document; the Human Settlement Vision 2030 of the city is to no longer have poverty traps in the rural and urban areas of the municipality, to eradicate housing backlogs of more than 2.1 million housing units, to provide affordable access to municipal services and quality living environment in a socially integrated human settlement dome.

## **2.3 Implementation of SDG 6: Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services**

### **2.3(a) Sustainable Development Goal 6**

SDG 6 "Clean Water and Sanitation" seeks to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030. Access to clean water and sanitation is a fundamental human right. The global and South African contexts highlight the urgent need for action to address the challenges of water and sanitation access, particularly for marginalized and vulnerable populations. Achieving SDG 6 requires a coordinated and sustained effort from governments, civil society, the private sector, and individuals to promote sustainable water management and governance practices, invest in water and sanitation infrastructure, and promote sustainable behaviours and practices.

In the South African context, the challenges of water and sanitation access are particularly acute. South Africa is a water-scarce country, with limited water resources and high levels of water demand. In addition, South Africa is facing significant environmental and economic challenges that impact its ability to achieve SDG 6. One of the major challenges is the impact of climate change on water resources, with prolonged droughts and occasional flooding impacting agricultural production, and destroying infrastructure. The challenges of water scarcity and water stress are exacerbated by high levels of poverty and inequality, which make it difficult for many people to access safe and sustainable water and sanitation services. Rustenburg Local Municipality (RLM), as a Water Services Authority, has the mandate and responsibility to conform to the Water Services Act (WSA) 108 of 1997, and also adhere to prescribed

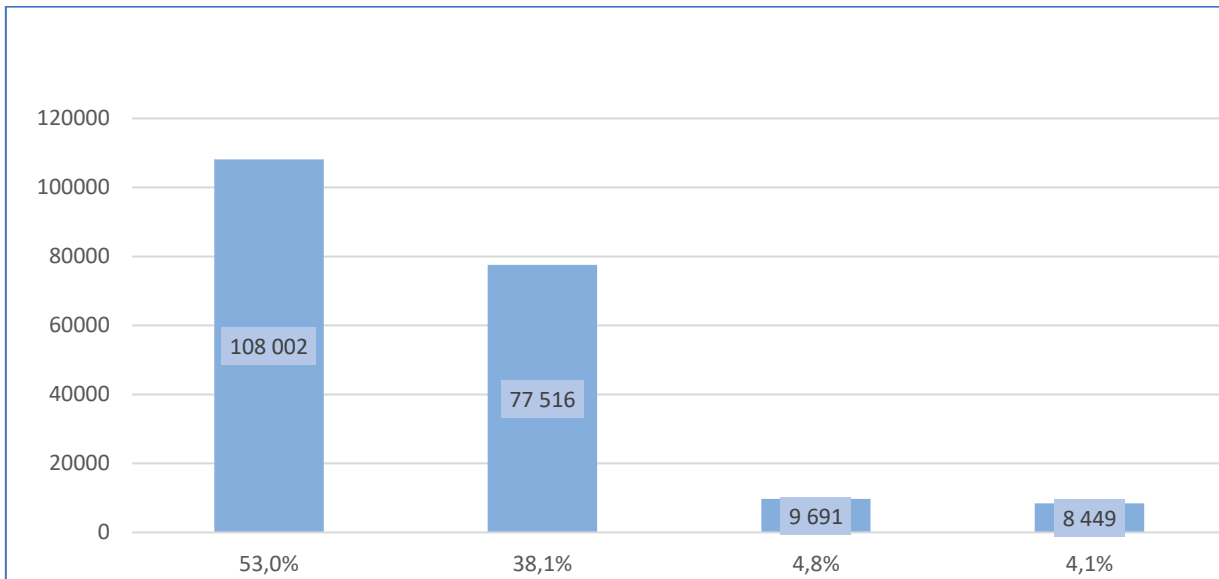
compulsory national norms and standards in accordance with Sections 9 and 10 of the Act. RLM ensures that all water conservation and water demand management initiatives are implemented and that these are reflected within the annual budget, the Integrated Development Plan (IDP), and the Water Services Development Plan (WSDP). RLM provides water services to approximately 700 000 residents including the mining industry and other commercial industries. The key sources for the abstraction of water are Rand Water, Magalies Water, and the Rustenburg Water Trust (RWST). The greatest advantage that enables RLM to provide portable drinking water is the highly skilled technical team that works tirelessly and diligently to ensure that sustainable water provision is provided to its consumers for both industrial purposes and consumption.

**2.3(b) Highlights of SDG 6 in RLM**

Rustenburg Local Municipality understands its full responsibility and accountability to ensure that service delivery is rendered efficiently and effectively to all communities within the municipal periphery, which encompasses compliance and regulations governing the drinking water quality fraternity. RLM has a water master plan in place that makes provision for the envisaged population growth and industrial development, as Rustenburg is qualified as one of the rapidly growing cities in the country.

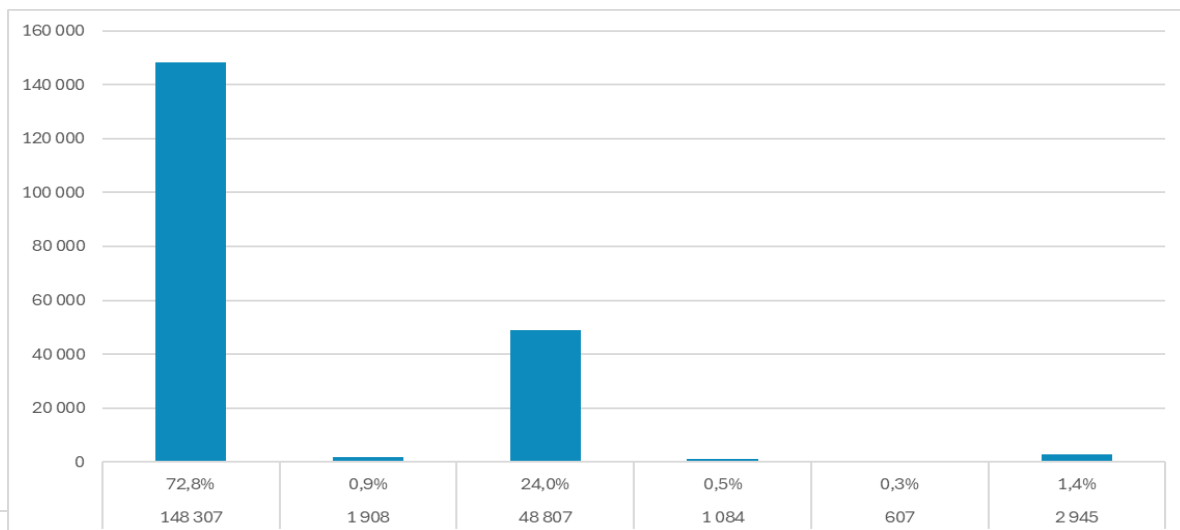
**Indicator 6.1 Access to piped water in the dwelling.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Piped (tap) water inside the dwelling	108 002	53.0%
Piped (tap) water inside the yard	77 516	38.1%
Piped (tap) water on community stand	9 691	4.8%
No access to piped water	8 449	4.1%



**Indicator 6.2 Flush toilets connected to sewerage**

	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>%</b>
Flush toilet	148 307	72,8%
Chemical toilet	1 908	0,9%
Pit toilet	48 807	24,0%
Bucket toilet	1 084	0,5%
Other	607	0,3%
None	2 945	1,4%



Rand Water, Magalies Water and Rustenburg Water Services Trust monitors' water quality distributed from their Water Treatment Works to Rustenburg Local Municipality. Rustenburg LM monitors the quality of water at all the distributions to ensure that the water supplied to the residents of Rustenburg meet the standards for drinking water and is safe for human consumption.

The Water Conservation and Water Demand Management Strategy is a fundamental step in promoting water use efficiency and is consistent with the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) which emphasises effective management of our water resources. Rustenburg is currently one of the fastest-growing cities in South Africa due to being the major platinum producer. With increased population comes greater demand and pressure on the existing water infrastructure and services.

### **2.3 (d) SDG 6 Target Review in RLM**

Rustenburg Local Municipality is supplied with an average of 137 ML/day from the Bulk Water Suppliers. One of the roles of the Water Services Authority is to incorporate WC/WDM in its Water Services Development Plan (WSDP) and ensure its implementation by Water Services Providers (WSP). Therefore RLM water unit embarked on projects to address WC/WDM. RLM Water unit initiated several projects aimed at addressing the replacement of AC pipes through WC/WDM which has subsequently reduced water loss margins. The unit in conjunction with Magalies Water embarked on a war on leaks programme in Boitekong and other affected areas to reduce water losses.

### **2.4 Implementation of SDG 8– Proportion of informal employment in total employment, by sector and sex.**

#### **2.4(a) SDG 8 in RLM**

SDG 8 aims to address and enable the promotion of economic growth and decent employment by tracking performance and providing quantitative reporting of the country's economic activities

to inform evidence-based policy formulation. The 2030 Agenda emphasises decent employment and economic growth as an encompassing measure of an economy's or region's progress.

Heading or title of the Table

Name	2022	2011
Working age population (15-64 years)	71,3%	72,5%
Elderly (65+ years)	4,0%	3,4%
Dependency ratio	40,3	37,9

Local Economic Development (LED) plays a central role in fighting the triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment by striving to stimulate economic growth, development and transformation. In this case, LED is striving to develop Rustenburg local economy into a diversified and vibrant world class economy. LED programmes that are expected to make a huge economic impact and registered progress on each:

The table below shows the catalytic projects that the Municipality is in the process of implementing:

<b>STRATEGIC GOAL AND FOCUS AREA</b>	<b>PLANNED TARGETS</b>	<b>PROGRESS TO DATE</b>
Rustenburg Gateway Precinct - African Convention Centre & Hotel	Land acquisition / availability and investment promotion	Council resolution for a 5ha land at Civic Centre for a convention centre and hotel.
Rustenburg Gateway Precinct Trade and Investment Promotions Development Centre	Trade and investment promotional products identified and ring-fenced	LED one-stop office for implementation for catalytic projects and enterprise development has been constructed at the

		showgrounds and will be resourced to support the catalytic investment function and SMMEs.
Rustenburg Gateway Precinct – Flea Market	Operation of flea market	Flea market has been completed and officially opened with local crafters trading until the COVID-19 regulations that affected the tourism sector leaving crafters with no business at the market. The Directorate is leading a programme to promote the facility and to ensure that there are activities at the Visitors Information Centre.
Rustenburg Gateway Precinct – Rustenburg Showgrounds	Development of the Farmer Support/ Agri-Park Model. Facility to be used to promote activities and support the tourism sector.	Farmer Production Support Unit approved to be hosted at the showgrounds for livestock farming support including agriculture shows and auctions. Long term lease pending approval for race track & other amenities.

<p>Industrial Park (SEZ) including Fresh Produce Market and Aerodrome</p>	<p>Proclamation, re-zoning and investment promotion</p>	<p>Township Establishment underway for the development of the Waterval Industrial Park pending revision of the Environment Impact Assessment. Alternative land identified through land donations from Sibanye to host the SEZ or industrial park – donation in progress. Council has approved the transfer of land to North West development Corporation to be used for the purpose of establishing an Industrial Area/SEZ in Rustenburg Local Municipality.</p>
<p>CBD Regeneration and Precinct Plans</p>	<p>Final plans with National Treasury</p>	<p>Rustenburg ext.30 developed with Rustenburg Mall completed. Additional development pending finalisation of the transfer of the additional land made available to investor.</p>
<p>Education Hub – University of Technology &amp; Centre of Excellence in Mining</p>	<p>Land availability, investment promotion and recruitment of higher learning institution</p>	<p>Directorate attending to several enquiries. Few proposals received previously not responding to the Municipality' expectations. Currently</p>



		considering other proposals with one written intent received.
Packaged Projects	Feasibility studies and bankable business plans for 6 projects	No approved development to date on the 5 approved precincts. Precinct plans proposed to be revised / repackaged for aggressive investment campaign
Annual Review of Investment Incentives	Annual review of investment incentives	Approved incentive policy guidelines to be reviewed with comprehensive implementation plan.
Market Development for SMMEs (links to masterplan projects)	Identification and packaging of market opportunities from the municipality and the mines	Signed Agreement with DPWI for the implementation of the Contractor Development Programme. Establishment of partnership with Enterprise Development and sector specialists for the development implementation of LED Programmes.
Identification and Profiling of SMMEs	Acquire SMME database and register SMMEs and job seekers across all wards.	SMME database platform to be developed. Profiling and marketing of SMMEs on the LED social media platforms.

		<p>Council has approved the establishment of the Rustenburg Business Council, the process of establishing the structure has begun.</p>
<p>SMMEs and Co-operatives to be assisted with business development support interventions</p>	<p>Development of sustainable businesses across all sectors. Support of the Informal trading sector</p>	<p>Directorate to continue conducting enterprise days and cooperatives development workshops across all Wards. Programme to develop cooperatives across all wards and to facilitate financial and non-financial support through sector stakeholders. Cooperatives to be profiled for market access through various municipality platforms and private sector opportunities. Various programmes developed and being implemented to support SMME to become sustainable – i.e. Vuk’uphile contractor development; Incubation in engineering, mining &amp; manufacturing incubation; Green economy programme,</p>

		<p>Enterprise Development Support Programme.</p> <p>Support of the informal trading sector in partnership with stakeholders.</p>
<p>To facilitate the creation of jobs through SMME &amp; Cooperatives development, tourism, agriculture, industrial, and, infrastructure projects</p>	<p>Sustainable jobs to be created. To reduce unemployment.</p>	<p>Over 3000 jobs have been created through the Municipality' LED and capital projects including private sector investments</p>
<p>Agriculture and Agro-processing</p>	<p>Ensure participation in Agri-Parks/FPSU and launch Marikana Agri-Hub</p>	<p>Agriculture Development Support Programme implemented with following flagship projects developed and currently attracted various stakeholders to support the local agriculture sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sunflower Production</li> <li>- Farmer Support Production Unit</li> <li>- Amaranths Research and Commercialisation</li> <li>- Animal Production</li> </ul> <p>Sunflower production currently at pilot stage with up to 1000 ha of land targeted for 2021/22</p>

		season and land size to increase outer years.
Housing	Land acquisition / availability and investment promotion	Council has identified and approved land to be developed for housing.
Alternative Energy Production	Land acquisition / availability and investment promotion	To identify land and to promote Rustenburg as an Investment Destination for alternative energy.

**2.7 Implementation of goal 13, target 13.2, Indicator 13.2.1 – Number of countries with National determined contributions, long-term strategies, National adaptation plans and adaptation communications as reported to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as linked to goal 11, target 11.6, indicator 11.6.2A**

The RLM has an approved Climate Change Management Plan and Green House Gas Inventory that addresses the following:

**Assessment of vulnerabilities**

Adaptation to climate change refers to a process of adjusting to actual and expected climatic changes, or to the effects of climate change on social and ecological systems. Adaptation aims to moderate harm to human well-being associated with those changes, and to exploit potentially beneficial opportunities. To understand adaptation in the development context, the RLM must also take vulnerability into account. Vulnerability refers to the degree to which populations face harm from climatic changes.

Many factors including environmental, socioeconomic, and institutional factors contribute to climate vulnerability. Some people may be more vulnerable because their livelihoods make them especially sensitive to changing climatic patterns.

### **Water Resources**

Climate change will stress water resources. Water is an issue in every South African municipality, but the nature of the potential impacts varies. Drought related to reduced precipitation, increased evaporation, and increased water loss from plants, is an important issue in the RLM. Water quality problems and impacts on aquatic ecosystems and species are likely to be amplified by climate change.

### **Agriculture**

Crop and livestock production will be increasingly challenged. Agriculture is considered one of the sectors most adaptable to changes in climate. However, increased heat, pests, water stress, diseases, and weather extremes will pose adaptation challenges for crop and livestock production.

### **Terrestrial Ecosystems**

Imbalances and/or modifications to ecosystems will increase due to distinction of most animal and plant species. These will affect vegetation and wildlife within the RLM.

### **Human Health**

Threats to human health are expected to increase. Health impacts of climate change include heat stress, waterborne and food-borne diseases, poor air quality, extreme weather events, and diseases transmitted by insects and rodents. Robust public health infrastructure could reduce the potential for negative impacts from climate change.

## **Social and Environmental Stresses**

Climate change will interact with many social and environmental stresses. Climate change will combine with air and water pollution, population growth, overuse and/or depletion of resources, urbanization, and other social, economic, and environmental stresses to create larger impacts than from any of these factors alone.

## **RLM Climate Change Management Plan and GHG Inventory -Revised Status Quo 2013**

The key aspects vulnerable to climate change in the RLM, and the sectors accounting for the vulnerabilities can be represented in order of decreasing priority as Water and Energy, Transportation, Public Health and Ecosystems.

## **Adaptation**

Given the many different drivers of vulnerability and the diversity of possible climatic changes, adaptation may entail any number of different activities. For example, a farming community may plant new crops that have a higher heat tolerance or resistance to drought. Safeguarding water resources: Water resources become stressed as the effects of climate change become more pronounced. Conflict between human and environmental demands is likely to intensify. Water basin management can be used to identify and adapt to these demands.

## **Disaster management**

Disaster management strategies have been developed and implemented for the vulnerable community. These strategies include early warning procedures for natural disasters such as floods or droughts that are forecast to increase in frequency and magnitude. Strategic planning to minimize the impact of natural disasters in inhabited locations should also be considered. Strategies for robust protocols that alleviate the impacts of natural disasters in order to minimize loss of human life, economic assets and negative effects on rural societies, can also be implemented.

### **Diversifying economic activities**

To minimize overall sensitivity to climate change, the municipality needs to diversify its economies to minimize the impact of market fluctuations.

### **Protecting health**

As the climate changes, the potential for vector-borne diseases also changes. This is likely to have major impacts on health. The origins of such diseases and how they can be combated effectively are not yet clear, as the scientific background is not yet well understood. The RLM needs to improve their health care and emergency medical care systems.

### **Specific adaptation measures in the land use sector**

In terms of its impact on agriculture, climate change threatens the suitability and productivity of crops and livestock. Further research into and deployment of drought resistant crops could increase food security and prevent malnutrition and starvation caused by the impacts of climate change. In terms of the forestry sector, climate change jeopardizes wood and non-wood production. Projects in this sector often aim to combat soil erosion and desertification by promoting agroforestry and preventing woodland destruction. In such cases, adaptation focuses on enhancing the natural regeneration of degraded forest lands, supporting reforestation, promoting agroforestry and the adoption of sustainable forest harvests, and on management approaches.

### **Protecting natural resources and ecosystems**

The identification, restoration, protection and linking of conservation areas plays an important role in protecting biodiversity. In many cases, the continued availability of ecosystem services can be ensured by working towards adaptation in other sectors such as forestry.

The key sectors and/or directorates within the RLM relevant for successful adaptation programmes include Health, Water and Energy, Transport, Disaster Management, Agriculture and Land Use.

## **Mitigation**

Land Degradation, desertification and persistent drought processes undermine the capacity of ecosystems to provide food, water and other services, leading to major declines in the welfare of vulnerable populations. Integrated approaches to tackling land degradation/desertification, drought and climate change therefore have multiple benefits, especially for vulnerable communities. Activities such as CDM projects in the agriculture, rural and land use sectors, have high potential to generate multiple benefits in terms of emission reductions/removals, in halting the expansion of land degradation and desertification, and in providing effective tools for drought mitigation.

The current mitigation initiatives in the RLM focus on waste minimisation, education and awareness, greening projects, water and energy conservation, and reforestation. The sectors involved in reduction initiatives are waste, energy, transport and agriculture. Possible mitigation initiatives that can be conducted by the RLM should therefore include the following:

(1) Agriculture - Cropland and grazing management

- Conservation measures
- Fertilizer switch or management to reduce N<sub>2</sub>O emissions
- Biodigestion and other methane-based projects
- Livestock management Cropland and grazing

management

(2) Forestry - Afforestation/reforestation

- Avoided deforestation
- Sustainable forest management

(3) Energy - Biofuel/bioenergy and fuel-switch projects (e.g., oil/gas)

- Small hydro projects (possibly combined with forestry activities such as watershed protection)
- Energy efficiency



The following GHG mitigation services related to the avoidance of land degradation and desertification have the potential to generate carbon credits either under the Kyoto markets Joint Implementation (JI), CDM mechanisms, or voluntary schemes:

- (4) Carbon sequestration through afforestation, reforestation and restoration of degraded lands, agroforestry, cropland and grazing management and silviculture, promoting increased carbon stocks in biomass or soil carbon enhancement (e.g. alternative tillage practices);
- (5) Carbon conservation through conservation of biomass and soil carbon in protected areas, improved forest management practices (e.g. reduced-impact logging), and fire protection and more effective use of prescribed burning in forest and agricultural systems;
- (6) Carbon substitution through increased transfer of forest biomass into durable wood products to replace energy-intensive materials (e.g. steel), sustainable use of biofuels, and enhanced harvesting and utilization of waste as biofuel (e.g. sawdust);
- (7) GHG reduction or avoidance through bio-digestion and other methane-based projects in the agriculture and rural sectors, and energy-related projects that earmark financial resources (e.g. from carbon credits) to finance community or land-use management activities.

### **Conclusion and efforts going forward**

The first VLR of the RLM mapped out efforts to implement the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 2030 Agenda. This can be seen as a learning process that assisted in inward looking and planning forward on how the goals can be achieved. As earlier mentioned, not all goals are addressed thus the report is limited to the 6 selected. Challenges faced in reporting work done by the municipality towards implementation of the goals gave a chance to come up with some recommendation going forward. They are as follows:

- Enforce adequate housing policies that promote affordable and decent housing with access to basic services.
- Implement informal settlement upgrading programs and urban redevelopment projects to improve living conditions.
- Promote income generating opportunities to empower vulnerable populations and improve their housing affordability and livelihoods.

- Foster community participation in decision-making processes related to urban development.
- Adopt integrated and holistic approaches that consider social, economic, and environmental aspects of sustainable urbanization.
- Emphasize the importance of land use planning to prevent inefficiencies and negative socio-economic and environmental impacts.
- Optimize land use and improve green infrastructure, such as parks and open spaces.
- Allocate adequate funding for waste management activities, including infrastructure construction, equipment procurement, staff training, community awareness programmes and overall planning and management, And
- Implement comprehensive urban planning strategies to guide development.

The RLM will continue improving and reporting implementation of SDGs on a regular basis.