YOUTH DEVELOPMENT POLICY

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ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AU	African Union
AYC	African Youth Charter
CBO	Community Based Organization
DSD	Department of Social Development
EC	Eastern Cape
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HSRC	Human Sciences Research Council
LGBTI's	Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgender and Intersexual
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NDP	National Development Plan
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NIYDS	National Integrated Youth Development Strategy
NYDA	National Youth Development Agency
NYDPF	National Youth Development Policy Framework
NYP	National Youth Policy
NYS	National Youth Service
NYSP	National Youth Service Programme
SAYC	South African Youth Council
UN	United Nations

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Apartheid	an official policy of racial segregation formerly practiced in the Republic of South Africa, involving political, legal, and economic discrimination against non-whites
Budget	a statement of the financial position of the state or a detailed schedule of planned financial activity for a definite or specified period of time (fiscal year) based on estimates of expenditures and proposal financing them
Business	The social science of managing people to organize and maintain collective productivity toward accomplishing particular creative and productive goals, usually to generate profit.
Century	any period of 100 years
Citizens	members of a politically or administratively defined community, having both rights and duties associated with that membership
Civil Society Organizations	The arena of uncoerced collective action with shared interests, purposes and values. They include community and faith based organizations, established non-government organizations, parastatals, and private sector organizations
Constitution	The supreme law of the country entrenching specific rights, responsibilities and an ethos that all people must uphold.
Democracy	Is a political system that allows the citizens to participate in political decision-making, or to elect representatives to government bodies
Demographic Dividend	a rise in the rate of economic growth due to a rising share of working age people in a population
Development	The use of resources to relieve poverty and improve the standard of living of a nation, community, groups and individuals through asset building. This may be achieved through mechanization, improvement in infrastructure and financial systems, and empowerment of those affected

Disability	the loss or elimination of opportunities to take part in the life of the community, equitably with others that is encountered by persons h physical, sensory, psychological, developmental, learning, neurological or other impairments, which may be permanent, temporary or episodic in nature, thereby causing activity limitations and participation restriction with the mainstream society.
Economic growth	an increase over time in the capacity of an economy to produce goods and services and (ideally) to improve the well-being of the citizens
Entrepreneur	A person who undertakes and operates a new enterprise or venture and assumes some accountability for the inherent risks.
Empowerment	an increase in the spiritual, political, social or economic strength of individuals, groups and communities
Evaluation	the process of determining or assessing whether an item or activity specified criteria
Exploitation	means the illegal or improper use of an individual or the individual's resources for another's profit
Global	Something that is happening throughout the world.
Graduate	a person who has finished a course of study at a college or tertiary institution
Human rights	universal rights to which every person is entitled because they are justified by a moral standard that stands above the laws of any individual
Internship	an experience that allows the student to apply what has been learned to a professional situation within a close mentoring relationship
Language	spoken languages and South African Sign Language and other forms of non-spoken languages
Learnership	a way of obtaining a nationally recognized qualification that refers to a specific occupation and consists of structured learning components

Marginalisation	the overt or covert trends within societies whereby those perceived as lacking desirable traits or deviating from the group norms tend to be excluded by wider society and ostracised as undesirables
Monitoring	regular and ongoing supervision, observation, testing, verification and reporting of progress toward achievement of the set objectives and goals
Orphaned and vulnerable Youth	young people without parents and youth at risk
Poverty	relative measure within a society of having income and/or wealth so low as to be unable to maintain what is considered a minimum "standard of living"
Primary education	the first stage of compulsory education, preceded by pre-school or nursery education and then followed by secondary education
Public Sector	the part of economic and administrative life that deals with the delivery of goods and services by and for the government, whether national, regional or local/municipal
Public Policy	A course of action or inaction chosen by public authorities to address a problem. Public policy is expressed in the body of laws, regulations, decisions and actions of government
Recidivism	Repeated or habitual relapse, as into crime. The chronic tendency toward repetition of criminal or anti-social behavior patterns.
Secondary education	an intermediate level of education between elementary/primary school and college and that usually offers general, technical, vocational, or college-preparatory curricula
Social cohesion	the process through which individuals or groups are included to participate fully in the society in which they live
Stakeholder	refers to any individual or group with vested interest who may add value, contributes towards the development of or benefits from interventions in the youth sector

Stereotype	a standardized mental picture that is held in common by members of a group that represents an oversimplified opinion, prejudiced attitude
Youth Out of School	Youth of school going-age who have dropped out of school and are unskilled.
Transformation	a process of major organizational change from the present state new/preferred state
Teenage parents	Young people with biological dependents
Tertiary education	Formal, non-compulsory, education that follows secondary education.
Youth	Young people between the ages of 14 and 35.
Youth development	an intentional holistic approach that provides space, opportunities and support for young people to maximise their individual and creative energy their personal development as well as development of the broader society through their contribution in eradication of economic and social ills
Youth in secondary School	youth enrolled at secondary school
Youth in tertiary institutions	youth enrolled in Institution of Higher Learning (IHL) and Further Education Training (FET)
Youth living with HIV and AIDS	Youth infected by HIV and AIDS.
Under-development	deliberately created poverty by imperialism, including lack of access to: health care, drinkable water, food, education and housing
Unemployment	Condition of a person who is able to work, is actively seeking work, but is unable to find any **or** the state of being without a job or compensation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This policy document is dedicated to young men and women of this province who dedicated their lives in the struggle against apartheid. Young people who sacrificed their youthful lives so that we could be free from all forms of oppression. Enjoy freedom and enhance our potentials in a free, non-racial and a democratic South Africa. These young people include amongst others, Bathandwa Ndondo, Phumezo Nxiweni, Zonwabele Mayaphi, Lizo Nzobole, Mike Koyana, Nolubabalo Conjwa, Phuthuma Rusi – Mhlathi, Simphiwe Mthimkhulu and many others.

PREFACE

South Africa has one of the best Constitutions in the World. This is so because of the unwavering commitments that South Africans made to protect and fulfill human rights which include socio economic rights. Further, South Africa signed International and Regional treaties and one of the most important one is Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development. South Africa as a country and a member of Southern African Development Community (SADEC) adopted White Paper on Social Welfare (1997) which directs Department of Social Development mandate. The delivery process of the department therefore is based on the thrust to shift from welfare approach to social development approach.

Youth Development Policy within the Department is also guided by various legislative policy frameworks which include National Youth Development Agency Act (NYDA), Act No. 54 of 2008; National Youth Policy (NYP) 2009-2014, the Youth Employment Accord 2013, National Youth Policy 2015-2020 and National Development Plan Vision 2030. The Department of Social Development is now adopting of its Youth Development Policy since the establishment of Youth Directorate in 2008. This bears a testimony of the seriousness of the management on fighting youth unemployment, underdevelopment and poverty in the province. As directed by the prescripts of this policy, departmental units are therefore directed to implement aspects of the policy that relate to their respective mandates.

I want to challenge all managers to do more in ensuring that youth development becomes a daily reality and all programmes are mainstreamed as such.

It is with pride and with sense of tremendous inspiration that I present this policy as a guiding document towards youth development in the Department.

19/04/2017
DATE

Nancy Sihlwayi
MEC for Social Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Eastern Cape Department of Social Development Youth Development Policy (2017 – 2022) is an important document that will act as a guide on how the Eastern Cape Department of Social Development must implement Youth Development programmes within the context of Community Development. The Department through Community Development provides social services to the poor and vulnerable. These services are delivered in a manner that engages and empowers communities to actively participate in the improvement of their quality of lives. Youth Development therefore forms part of the broader community developmental approaches adopted by the Department.

The Department's Youth Development Policy draws its manifest from the National Youth Development Policy 2009 – 2014, National Youth Policy 2015-2020 and the National Development Plan Vision 2030 that is currently being implemented as an essential planning tool guiding the country on approaches to youth development. Emanating from this National Youth Policy document are various proposal documents such as Youth Employment Accord 2013 that seek to position youth development in the mainstream of our country's development agenda and programme. The Youth Employment Accord 2013 is a product of purposeful engagement between Labour, Organised Business, and Youth Council together with the office of the Deputy President of the Republic. The Youth Employment Accord has six commitments that must certainly be prioritized. The commitments are as follows:

- Improving quality of Education
- The National Youth Service Programme
- Public Sector Measures
- Youth Target Set – Aside
- Youth Entrepreneurship and Co – Operatives
- Private Sector Measures

Development of the Department's Youth Development Policy encompasses both National Youth Policy and the Youth Employment Accord priorities and imperatives for the next five years. The programmes and interventions to be implemented must be underpinned through understanding a specific or core mandate of the Department. Recent Census results suggest that the Eastern Cape Province has a large population of young people and warrants that the Department adopts a policy towards youth development that will assist it in its endeavors to empower young people.

It is, however, important to note that full implementation of this policy by all business units within the Department will ensure the realization of its objectives.

14/02/2017
DATE

Mr. S. Khanyile
Superintendent General
Department of Social Development

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

The formulation of the Eastern Cape Department of Social Development Youth Development Policy is informed and based on the following key legislative prescripts and policy directives:

1) Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996
2) National Youth Commission, Act no. 19 of 1996
3) The White Paper for Social Welfare, 1997
4) United Nations World Programme of Action for Youth (2000- Beyond)
5) National Youth Policy 2015-2020
6) National Youth Development Policy Framework, 2000-2007
7) African Youth Charter, 2006
8) National Disability Policy Framework, 2008
9) National Development Plan Vision 2030
10) EC Provincial Development Plan
11) Children's Act, No. 38 of 2005
12) Reintegration and Aftercare Strategy for Probation Services 2015
13) Prevention and Treatment for Substance Abuse Act 70 of 2008
14) National Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS, TB and STI's 2012-2016
15) National Youth Development Agency Act 54 of 2008
16) National Skills Development Strategy III
17) National Skills Development Act of 1998
18) African Union (AU). (2006). The African Youth Charter. Addis Ababa: African Union. Amin, S, (1997). Capitalism in the age of globalization, (IPSR)
19) Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC). (2005). Young people in South Africa in 2003. The Status of Youth Report (SYR) Summary, (HSRC)
20) Republic of South Africa, National Youth Commission, (2002)
21) National Youth Development Policy Framework (NYDPF) 2002-2007
22) Republic of South Africa. National Youth Commission. (2006)
23) Integrated Youth Development Strategy for South Africa (IYDS)
24) United Nations (UN). (2005). The World Youth Report 2005. New York
25) Youth Employment Accord (2013)

POLICY CONTEXT AND LEGISLATION

a) South Africa's concept of youth development is influenced by the historical conditions that have shaped the country and its democratic goals. It is based on the principles of social and economic justice, human rights, empowerment, participation, active citizenship, the promotion of public benefit, and distributive and liberal values. Youth development therefore determines South Africa's future and is thus at the core of its development agenda.

b) The Department's Youth Development Policy is located within the UN World Programme of Action for the Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond and UN World Youth Report 2005 which identify 15 priorities that need attention to address challenges faced by youth. These include **education, employment, hunger and poverty, health, the environment, drug abuse, juvenile delinquency (youth in conflict with the law), leisure girls and young women and participation, globalisation, information and communication technologies, HIV and AIDS, youth and conflict, and intergenerational relationships**.

c) The Youth Development Policy is also informed by the African Youth Charter (2006) adopted by African Heads of State and governments as key to promote youth development in the region. Like the UN World Programme of Action for the Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (1995), the African Youth Charter has similar, but fewer prioritises which are **education, skills and competence development, employment and sustainable livelihoods, youth leadership and participation, health and welfare, peace and security, environment protection, and cultural and moral values.**

d) The National Youth Policy 2015-2020, like the African Youth Charter aims at the holistic development of a young person by supporting actions and processes that bring the youth into the mainstream of the economy and society. This policy is responding to the social and economic forces that shape global and regional development in the 21st Century, in particular the aftermath of the global financial and economic crisis. The policy seeks to align the development of young people with government's approach to addressing poverty and underdevelopment as envisaged by the National Development Plan Vision 2030.

e) Disadvantaged youth must be empowered through effective institutions and policies to overcome conditions which disadvantage them. In the same manner, marginalised youth and those that have fallen out of the educational, social and economic mainstream must be reintegrated through second-chance measures and other supportive actions. A multi-sectoral approach involving stakeholders in the public sector, civil society and the private sector where all these key role-players work together in promoting youth development and providing youth services is essential.

SECTION A

BACKGROUND TO THE POLICY FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

1. PREAMBLE

1.1   Several youth legislative policy frameworks such as the National Youth Policy 2009-20014 and National Youth Commission (NYC), Act No. 19 of 1996 were undertaken to respond to the peculiar challenges that are facing young people in the 21st Century. These legislative processes amply outlined institutional arrangements for youth development, a relatively new concept and perspectives on how delivery of services for young people was to occur, with their involvement and meaningful participation. The developmental challenges facing the youth, especially for those out of the mainstream of development cannot be eradicated by a single sector of government.

1.2   In order to grow and develop the Province of the Eastern Cape, youth development as a concept has to be amongst the top government priorities. The Eastern Cape Department of Social Development Youth Development Policy seeks to protect democracy, support economic development, moral and spiritual regeneration, and to provide the strategic leadership in the fight to eradicate poverty, unemployment and underdevelopment. It is clear that the future of the province's youth is intimately affected by this policy disposition.

1.3   All role players must support vulnerable young people who find themselves relegated to the margins of society and are unable to benefit from the policy dispensations offered by our democracy. The challenges that are faced by youth could never be tackled by government alone; hence the holistic approach when seeking to intervene on the problems that are confronting the young people. Government in partnership with different role players must ensure that all young people access the opportunities that enable them to grow, develop and prosper, responsive and productive citizens. The role players should be able to promote self-employment through economic participation, provision of learnerships that increase possibilities of employability for youth empowerment. Partnerships across sectors to ensure that the needs of young people are approached in a manner in which there is a provision of youth friendly services, intellectual and spiritual advancement.

2. RATIONALE FOR DSD YOUTH DEVELOPMENT POLICY

The Eastern Cape Department of Social Development Youth Development Policy 2017 – 2022 seeks to:

a) Propose strategic policy interventions in an attempt to address challenges thus speeding up further development and empowerment of young people.

b) Recognising the need for an integrated and collaborative approach to youth development programmes to ensure mainstreaming by different key role players internally and externally.

c) Advocate for mobilisation of resources to promote youth participation in the socio economic development of the society.

d) Defining the targets of the new interventions for mapping and measuring the progress of the implementation of the policy with regard to the impact assessment on the overall development of young people.

e) Specifying the monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the purposes of accountability and continuous improvement of interventions.

f) Highlight issues of unfair discrimination amongst the young people.

3. SCOPE OF APPLICABILITY

Target Youth Groups

The policy is applicable to young people between the ages of 14 – 35 with specific focus to youth in general and those who are vulnerable in particular such as the following:

a) Unemployed youth

b) School aged out of school youth

c) Youth in secondary schools

d) Youth in tertiary institutions

e) Youth in the workplace

f) Orphaned and vulnerable youth

g) Youth with disabilities

h) Youth in conflict with the law

i) Youth living with HIV and AIDS and other communicable diseases

j) Youth within the key population category of citizens (sex workers)

k) Youth from different racial groups
l) Young women
m) Teenage parents
n) Youth headed households
o) Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

4. GOAL OF THE POLICY

The goal of the Eastern Cape Department of Social Development Youth Development Policy 2017-2022 is to enhance capabilities for holistic development, thus advancing the social, cultural, political and economic empowerment of young people.

5. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Eastern Cape Department of Social Development Youth Development Policy are to:

a) To initiate, strengthen and streamline all programmes and services targeting youth for the Department.

b) To promote social and economic empowerment of youth through skills development for employment opportunities, work exposure to sustain acceptable livelihood.

c) Promote social cohesion, social activism, and patriotism in young people and inculcate an understanding of their role in civic awareness and national reconstruction towards building cohesive communities.

d) To create strategies that constructively address gender based violence, reproductive and sexual health information and healthy lifestyles (substance abuse, HIV and AIDS and crime).

e) Promote Social Behavior Change to improving health profile of the youth in the Province.

f) To build the human and organisational potential of young people by supporting their initiatives in development and resource mobilisation for economic development.

g) Instill and nurture a spirit of volunteerism among the youth in various areas of social development.

h) Build capacity and provide relevant training and information to young people through actions that empower and prepare them for adulthood.

6. POLICY OUTCOMES

The policy outcome is to realise capable and empowered young people who are at the centre of their own development. Below are the outcomes of this policy which are directly linked to the above stated objectives:

a) Strengthened and streamlined programmes for youth development.
b) Socially and economically empowered youth.
c) Cohesive, active and patriotic young people for nation building.
d) Informed and healthy living young people.
e) Mobilised resources for economic development.
f) Voluntary participation of young people in social development.
g) Empowered, capacitated and prepared young people for adulthood.

7. PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

In South Africa the concept of youth development has been shaped by the long history of struggle against apartheid. During this period young people have been pioneers of change and have participated actively in the development of a socially inclusive and empowering society. Youth development is therefore guided by the vision of a non-racial and non-sexist democracy that is being built through developmental and transformative processes which led to development of the following values and principles underpinning Youth Development Policy.

7.1 Principles

The policy promotes the following principles:

a) **Human Orientation:** Development whether in infrastructure, economic, environment, political, cultural and social should be human orientated. It should put young people at the centre of development to ensure responsive interventions and programmes that will lead towards decent standards of living. It should account for poor people's daily life experiences, perceptions and intangible aspects of their poverty.

b) **Empowerment:** Community Development should be able to assist young people to realize their potential and better use of their capabilities. Youth should be empowered to participate in the decision-making processes that concern their development and empowerment. Capacity building at community level must be predicated on local knowledge. Community development should result in building self-confidence, self-reliance and self-actualization of young people within their communities.

c) **Capacity Enhancement:** This principle recognizes that young people do have the potential to do things for themselves, participate and to drive their own development. Young people need to identify available opportunities that will enhance their livelihoods.

d) **Accessibility:** Young women and men of diverse backgrounds must access resources and services crucial to their total development.

e) **Responsiveness:** All Departmental Units should respond to the needs and concerns of young people and be guided by the intention to act in their best interests, thus maximizing their human potential.

f) **Integration:** The need for different key role players to coordinate and integrate their efforts to ensure greater impact in developing young people should be upheld.

g) **Diversity:** Youth development interventions must recognise and acknowledge the diverse backgrounds from which young people come from and celebrate the roles played by different agents of socialization, tradition, culture and spirituality in the development of young women and men.

h) **Non-discriminatory:** All youth development initiatives should not discriminate against young people on the basis of age, gender, race, sexual orientation, disability or any other form of discrimination as enshrined in the Constitution of the country.

i) **Transparency:** Institutions and organizations involved in youth development should operate in a transparent and accountable manner.

j) **Social cohesion:** Youth development interventions should promote inclusion of young people as significant part of societal structures by involving them in democratic and nation building activities. The policy promotes values of self -reliance, good governance, tolerance, national solidarity.

k) **Youth Service:** Young people should be involved in meaningful activities which benefit communities whilst developing their sense of patriotism and their abilities through learning and service.

l) **Redress:** It is essential to recognise the different ways in which young people have been affected by the injustices of the past and address these injustices through equitable, inclusive, transformative and democratic interventions.

7.2 Values

The policy promotes the following values:

a) Inherent worth and inborn dignity of youth. The provision of services should therefore reflect respect for the worth and dignity of youth as human beings who should be supported to unleash their energies and potential.

b) Empowerment of young people as catalysts of their own development. Interventions should raise the confidence of youth so that they can contribute meaningfully to their own development and to the broader society.

c) Young people as social beings belonging to a network of family and community structures essential for meaningful development. It is critical that these support systems are strengthened to ensure proper development of youth.

7.3 Policy Vision

a) The vision of the Eastern Cape Department of Social Development Provincial Youth Development Policy 2017-2022 remains consistent with the one contained in the National Youth Development Policy Framework (2002: 8) which is:

"*Integrated, holistic and sustainable youth development, conscious of the historical imbalances and current imbalances and current realities, to build a non-sexist, nonracist, democratic South Africa in which young people and their organisations not only enjoy and contribute to their full potential in the social, economic and political spheres of life but also recognise and develop their responsibilities to build a better life for all*".
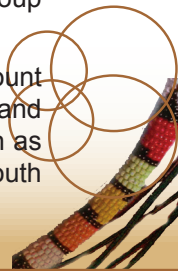
SECTION B

POLICY CONTEXT

1. DEFINING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

a) The National Youth Policy 2015-2020 defines youth development as:

   "an intentional comprehensive approach that provides space, opportunities and support for young people to maximise their individual and collective creative energies for personal development as well as development of the broader society of which they are an integral part."

b) Youth Development in the Department of Social Development has the responsibility to provide a holistic and integrated approach to youth development utilizing community-based interventions that provide space, opportunities and support for young people to optimise their individual and collective energies and potential for personal development as well as the development of the broader society of which they are integral part.

c) This policy in turn emphasises the need for various youth development efforts and interventions to respond to the needs of young people by focusing on all aspects or spheres of their lives.

2. DEFINING AND PROFILING YOUTH

a) The National Youth Policy 2015-2020 is used inclusively to refer to young people as those falling within the age group of 14 to 35 years. This is based on the mandate of the National Youth Commission Act 1996 and the National Youth Policy 2000. This inclusive approach takes into account, both historical as well as present-day conditions. This definition is also consistent with the definition of youth as contained in the African Youth Charter (African Union, 2006) which defines youth as those between the ages of 15 and 35 years, although the latter excludes the 14 year olds.

b) The targeting of interventions by segmenting the youth population into age cohorts and target groups in recognition of significant differences that exist in these youth groupings in terms of their unique situations and needs continues even in this National Youth Policy 2015-2020. All these acknowledge the fact that young people are not a homogenous group and different approaches should be adopted in dealing with them.

c) The different approaches makes it possible for policy to take into account definitions which are stipulated in other relevant pieces of legislation and policies such as proposal of 15-28 years as the age range for youth as in the National Youth Development Policy Framework (National Youth
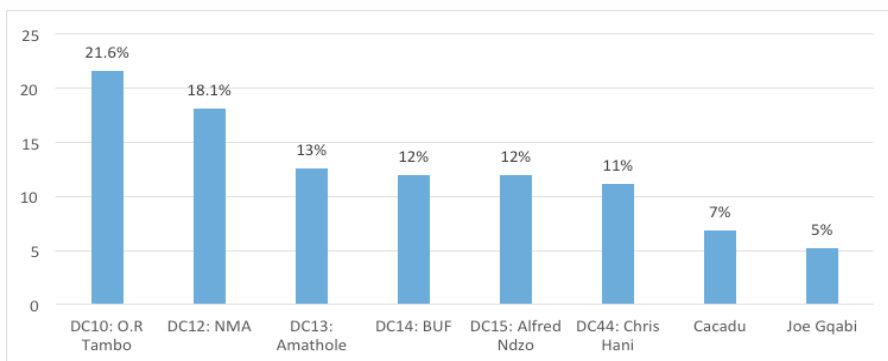
Commission, 2002); definition of a child as a person up to the age of 18 years as in the Children's Act No. 35 of 2005; and reference to young offenders as those between the ages of 14 and 25 years as reflected in the Correctional Services Act, (Department of Correctional Services, 2003); as well as distinction of a child from an "adult youth" by the criminal justice system which does not consider the latter as a specialised group in need of special rehabilitative programmes.

3. SITUATION ANALYSIS

3.1. Demographic and Statistical Analysis: Youth According to the Districts

The Census 2011 results confirm that Eastern Cape is a youthful province with youth aged 15-34 constituting about 33.9% (about 2.2 Million) of the total population, estimated at 6, 5 Million. When age 14 and age 35 is included in the estimations, the figure of youths as a proportion of the total population will go up to about 37.3% (about 2.4 million).

Figure: 1 Population group per districts 14-35 years

Source: Census 2011

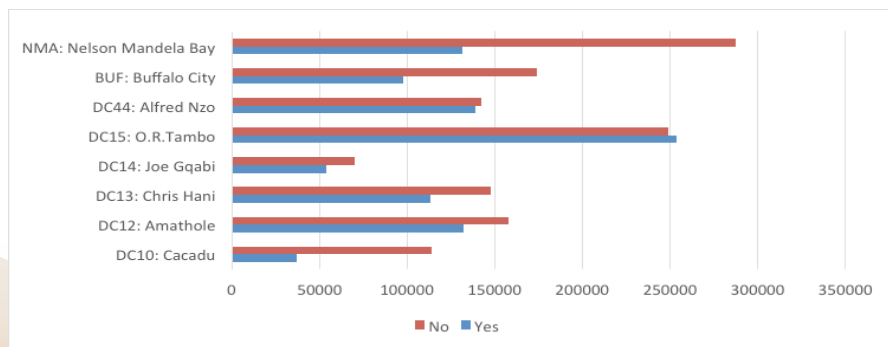Figure: 1 shows how the youth are distributed by district and sex in 2011. It reveals that the majority of the youth reside in O.R.Tambo by 21.6%. About 18.1% of youth reside in Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, followed by Amathole with about 13% of the youth. The rest of the figures are as follows, 12% (Buffalo City Municipality), 12% (Alfred Nzo), 11% (Chris Hani), 7% (Cacadu) and 5% (Joe Gqabi).

3.2. Unemployment and Joblessness

a) The province faces a range of challenges, amongst which economic marginalisation is paramount, with more than a quarter of youth unemployed. It is difficult for youth to find employment because of lack of experience and skills, poor education and limited networks. The importance of work lies not only in the experience acquired and income earned, but also in the intangible benefits it provides including independence, dignity, a sense of accomplishment and freedom.

b) According to the Diagnostic report compiled by the Eastern Cape Planning Commission, the dominant provincial economic sectors do not provide formal work for the low, unskilled and under-educated who are in the majority. Almost 45.8% or about 1.1 million of the working-age population of the Eastern Cape are unemployed and about 440 000 of this number are people who have given up on looking for work. The province's young people make up 70% of the unemployed and discouraged work seekers. This is about 738 000 young people without economic opportunity and not entitled to welfare support by the state. The research reflect that over the five years, i.e. between 2008 and 2013, more young people give up searching for work and join the ranks of so-called discouraged work seekers. This therefore necessitate specific interventions relevant for youth employment, primarily through education and skills development; youth entrepreneurship; creating an enabling environment for young people to start and run businesses; and improved access to support measures.

3.3 High Drop-Out Rates and Inadequate Skills Development

Figure: 2 Present school attendances

Source: Census 2011

A small percentage (39.1%) were attending school in 2011, 54.8% were not attending school; these are overall percentages of all the districts.

Table: 1 Educational Level

	Not schooling	High school grade 8-11	Matric Grade 12	Higher Diploma	Higher education
DC10: Cacadu	2260	81066	34215	1152	1374
DC12: Amathole	6921	159465	46343	1940	1368
DC13: Chris Hani	7965	137663	44658	1955	1386
DC14: Joe Gqabi	4556	65276	19468	692	482
DC15: O.R.Tambo	20778	262671	76139	3483	3050
DC44: Alfred Nzo	9859	151371	37400	1502	976
BUF: Buffalo City	2745	136940	84319	4974	4244
NMA: Nelson Mandela Bay	4596	1247139	141858	7232	6267
Grand Total	**59680**	**2241591**	**484400**	**22930**	**19147**

Source: Census 2011

The report recorded the highest number of young people who completed grade 12 in the Nelson Mandela Metro, followed by Buffalo City and O R Tambo respectively. Nelson Mandela metro has the highest number of school going young people whilst O R Tambo has the highest number of young people not schooling.

Inadequate school resourcing and infrastructure challenges are viewed as the most contributing factors for the low education levels. In addition, the inactive nexus between policy formulation and policy implementation adversely affects educational levels of young people in the province.

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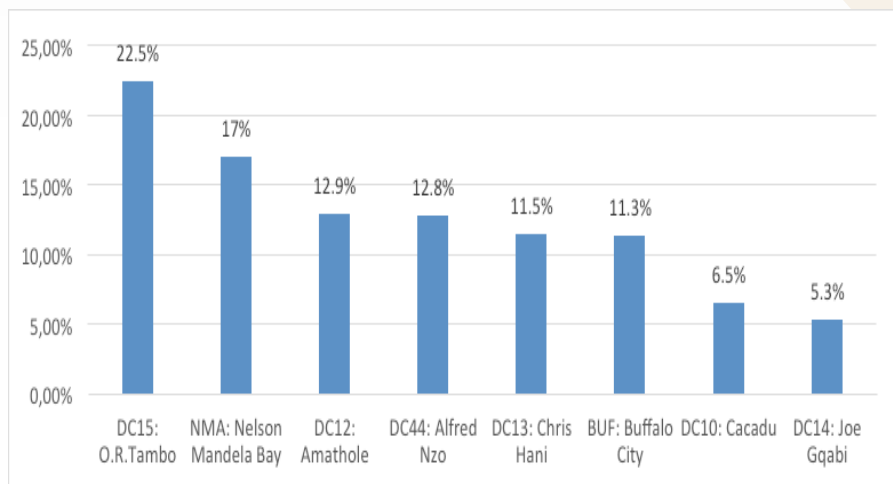
3.4 Inadequate healthcare services, HIV and AIDS Prevalence and Substance Abuse

South Africa's health challenges are more than medical. Behaviour and lifestyle also contribute to ill-health. To become a healthy nation, South Africans need to make informed decisions about what they eat, whether or not they consume alcohol, and their sexual behaviour, among other factors

(NDP:2012). One of the biggest challenges for youth is the issue of sexual and reproductive health. Due to the lack of access to quality health facilities (as mentioned above), there are high rates of maternal deaths, high fertility rates (particularly teenage pregnancies) and a high prevalence of HIV. The Eastern Cape accounted for 16% of new infections in 2012 and the HIV prevalence amongst antenatal women, according to the 2010 sentinel survey, is 29, 9%. The EC has the third highest number of new infections, at 47 464 (2008), at an estimated annual incidence rate of 1, 5%, which is slightly higher than the current national incidence rate of 1, 2%. The surveys then indicate that the more infected and affected population is the young men and women of the province.

3.5   Youth with disability

Figure: 3

Source: Census 2011, Figure 3

a) Figure 3 shows different percentage estimates of disabilities depending on whether any disability, severe disability or youth with some difficulties, a lot of difficulties or who cannot do at all and others. Young people with disabilities face the same challenges and the same issues as their peers who do not have disabilities,

such as societal prejudices, barriers, and further exacerbate their concerns. The greatest impediments against the advancement of young persons with disability are discrimination, prejudice and social isolation.

b) These factors contribute greatly towards the inability of this cohort of young people accessing, education, employment and health care. Many countries believe that the approach of measuring disability (using only people with severe difficulties) provides adequate estimates compared to the traditional approach where only severe disabilities are measured, leading to underestimation of people with disabilities.

3.6 Youth in conflict with the law

a) Youth in conflict with the law indicate how society is dealing with deviant youth behaviour. Crime statistics still indicate that the level of crime is still very high in Eastern Cape. The department of Correctional services indicate that the significant proportion of those incarcerated, sentenced or un-sentenced, are young people. The level of recidivism is also very high. Given the economic status of young people, coupled with the very high youth unemployment rate, most young people released from these facilities are likely to return to prison these high-risk youth require programmes that will support them even after release from incarceration to ensure that they are properly re-integrated to the society.
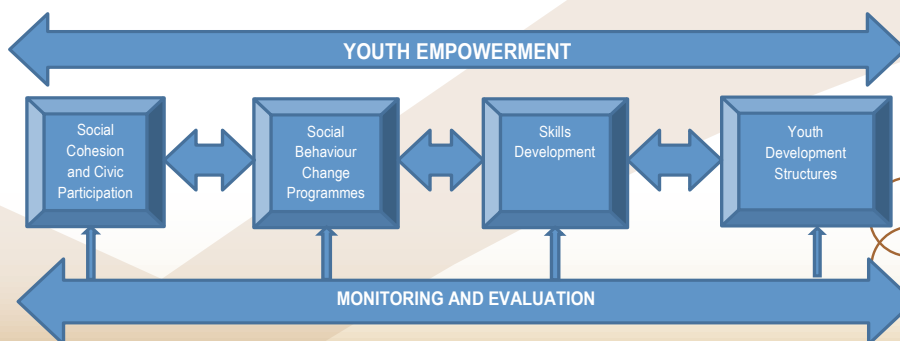
SECTION C
IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

PILLARS/APPROACHES

1. KEY POLICY IMPERATIVES

a) There are many challenges facing young people. This policy will prioritise dealing with those challenges that impact on young people because they are young and impact more negatively on them than on any other population group. The situation analysis above suggests that the youth policy must enable economic participation (young people face highest levels of unemployment); skills development (skills development is mostly for young adults); promoting less-risky behaviour (evidence suggests that adolescents have a harder time controlling their impulses than do adults; the few comparisons of adults and adolescents that exist suggest that thrill seeking and disinhibition are higher during adolescence than adulthood (Steinberg and Cauffman, 1996) and nation building/social cohesion (to promote unity of purpose towards the construction of a reality and a sense of common nationhood which will be derived from the abolition of disparities in the quality of life among South Africans based on the racial, gender and geographic inequalities we inherited from the past).

b) The following policy imperatives which contribute to development of youth have been identified and prioritized as the focus of this policy.

     i.   Social Cohesion and Civic Participation

    ii.   Social Behaviour Change Programme

   iii.   Skills Development

   iv.   Youth Development Structures

Table 2: Policy Imperatives

2. YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Youth empowerment entails empowering young people by providing them with opportunities to enhance their capabilities through social cohesion and civic participation, skills development, social behavior change programmes and Youth development structures.

2.1 Social Cohesion and Civic Participation

a)   Social Cohesion and civic participation is a process through which young people fully participate as diverse individuals and groups to realize their potential. Young people freely participate in activities that will enhance them such that they expand their social capital, intensify networking amongst themselves and promote their relations that will ultimately encourage oneness and unity.

b)   The networking sessions strengthen their identity, self-esteem and develop a sense of belonging. Youth conscientization or people's empowerment is a deliberate act of reawakening or emancipation of young people to regain self-confidence, mobilise and rediscover themselves using their own organic knowledge and networks to the cause of their own development and to justice. The goal of critical consciousness is that young people should act as subjects not objects in the creation of a democratic society.

c)   Social Cohesion and civic participation can be achieved through youth mobilisation process. Youth Mobilisation Programmes involves continuous engagement of young people to empower them with tools to take charge of their own development. This programme mobilises young people to work together, raises awareness, create a strong voice using a solution focused approach. The programme focuses on Youth Outreach programmes/educational awareness campaigns, Youth Dialogues, Youth Month, Nelson Mandela Day, Inter-Generational Dialogues (Imbadu) and Youth Camps. This seeks to promote the spirit of activism, patriotism, unity and social cohesion towards building cohesive communities.

d)   In light of the disintegration and loss of the moral fabric within our communities leading to abuse and killing of the elderly, women and children, the Department undertakes to lead the facilitative and mobilisation process of bringing together community members of different ages and categories to discuss issues that affect them through intergenerational community dialogues. This also inculcates love for the

Constitution which promotes values of Ubuntu and respect for human dignity. The Policy dictates that all Departmental Programmes focusing on Social Cohesion and Civic Participation must ensure full participation of young people.

2.2. Social Behaviour Change Programmes

a) Young people are engaged in progressive social conscientization programmes to be champions of their own development. For young people to realise and accept that poverty and the prevalent culture of dependence that afflict them can be eradicated through self-effort initiatives and social behaviour change programmes focusing on healthy lifestyles. These aspects focus on building healthy functioning communities with young people playing a vital role.

b) Increasing drug abuse, teenage pregnancy, HIV and AIDS pandemic amongst the youth necessitates life skills and information sharing sessions. Build partnerships and coordination among stakeholders involved in youth health and development. Resultant collaborative programmes are not only meant to create awareness but to build people's confidence in taking action that would change the social order.

c) To combat the above prevailing challenges the focus must be on prevention programmes. The purpose of the programmes are to prevent young people from continuing to use substances that may lead to abuse or result to dependence. Parents and families are enabled to recognize the early warning signs with regard to substance use and equipping them with information on appropriate responses and available services. Empower communities to understand and to be proactive in dealing with challenges related to substance abuse, and its links to crime, teenage pregnancy, HIV and AIDS and other health conditions.

d) For children and youth in conflict with the law and community at large, provision of prevention, early intervention, statutory and reintegration and aftercare services are rendered. Diversion programmes are implemented as an alternative sentencing of children at risk of committing crime and those in conflict with the law. These programmes have been identified as appropriate mechanisms to divert children away from the criminal justice system into programmes that provide them with corrective and educational opportunities.

e) Through client-centred and needs based diversion programmes, young offenders are held accountable for their actions and are empowered to lead restoration processes with those that they have offended.

f) A successful diversion outcome implies that young offenders are able to avoid negative consequences of having a criminal record, especially at an early age and they ultimately become law abiding citizens.

g) These programmes will ensure protection of young people from all forms of violence, including gender based violence, sexual abuse and exploitation and promoting psychological recovery and the social and economic reintegration of the victim.

2.3. Skills Development

a) Youth skilling is of paramount importance to the country in general and Eastern Cape Province in particular to redress skills shortage and enable them to participate meaningfully in mainstream economy.

b) The Policy compels the Department that in its endeavors to execute youth development programs must incorporate youth skilling through training, internship and learnerships for them to access a range of available opportunities within the mainstream economy.

c) Young people who are not taking part in the formal economy need to be brought into the fold through innovative empowerment initiatives that addresses the needs of the economy and provides the youth with real, marketable skills.

d) Moreover, the Department has an obligation to provide skills in the Child & Youth Care Centres in the form of life skills and vocational training such as brickmaking, upholstery, sewing, carpentry etc. One of the fundamental functions of the Skills Development programme is to ensure that the required integration of theory and practice is explicitly reflected in all the learning elements used to achieve the outcome. The objective is to focus on applied learning rather than inert learning. This is required to ensure effective learning, not only in the context of work but also in the real world of work.

e) Skills development programmes provide foundation for youth to enter a range of qualification based training on community development methodologies such as National Youth Service Programme. National Youth Service is an initiative to engage young South Africans in community service activities in order to strengthen service delivery, promote nation building, foster social cohesion and to assist youth to gain occupational skills necessary to access sustainable livelihood opportunities.

f) The primary beneficiaries of these second economy interventions are the communities receiving services, the unskilled and unemployed youth are the secondary beneficiaries. National Youth Service aims to provide long-term and effective ways of reconstructing South African society by developing abilities of young people through service and learning.

2.4. Youth Development Structures

a) Youth Development Structures have been identified as vital vehicle of participatory community development process and delivery mechanism for youth development. Youth Development Structures are democratic organisations which emanates from youth mobilisation sessions with a social purpose that addresses both economic need and social need initiated and sustained by the combination of public and private resources. They should work towards establishing a youth development agenda or goal, which may range from spearheading a youth development clubs, youth forums, youth service centres, youth NPOs and community based initiatives.

b) The Youth Development unit is mandated to capacitate Youth Development Structures in relevant aspects such as governance, entrepreneurship development, financial management, book keeping, leadership, social cohesion and nation building for effective performance and for service delivery.

c) Youth development provides mentorship and empowerment programmes to poor and vulnerable young people to respond to opportunities with a spirit characterised by innovative behavior.

3. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

a) Rights and Responsibilities encourage all South African citizens young and old to enjoy human rights as enshrined in the Constitution and a Bill of Rights. Young people must understand that a right always goes with a responsibility. They must therefore appreciate the fact that rights are the cornerstones of our democracy and assures them of values, human dignity, equality and freedom.

b) The policy recognizes that we have to identify rights relevant to the development of young people and encourage young people to uphold their rights and ultimately become champions of their rights thus building a responsible society.

SECTION D
MONITORING AND EVALUATION

1. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

a) The Policy views monitoring and evaluation as an integral part of ensuring that progress on achievement of the policy objectives is tracked and consistent evaluation of the policy is ensured.

b) The design of an implementation plan will specify details of targets to be reached in the short, medium and long term, and evaluation tools will specify quantitative and qualitative indicators with time frames will assist in tracking progress on achievement of policy objectives.

c) Emphasis will be on assessing relevance, performance, challenges, successes, and impact of various recommended policy interventions in developing young people, particularly those targeted by this policy. This involves the Department making the appropriate budget allocations, enlisting the required skilled human resources and taking action to ensure the commensurate institutional empowerment.

d) In turn, the youth of Eastern Cape as primary stakeholders and beneficiaries of this policy must play an active role in the monitoring and evaluation process. The review of this policy will be done after five years.

2. PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

a) The South African government's approach to integrated policy planning, policy-making and implementation creates an opportunity for the mainstreaming of youth development. The effective implementation depends on optimization of the intergovernmental relations that inform policy implementation across the national, provincial and local spheres.

    i. Holistic development of young people, and, secondly, to the need for various aspects of public policy to function synergistically in order to equip young people with the knowledge, skills and values they require to make appropriate choices throughout their lives.

    ii. Integrated youth development also implies that youth development efforts needs to be integrated agenda and it is also about provision of seamless service to young people by

        placing them at the centre of national development initiatives as beneficiaries of development and active participants.

    iii.   Provide a framework for planning and action for all sections involved in youth development.

  b)   This approach values cooperation between various stakeholders. It further seeks to create a cohesive and balanced range of high quality services and programmes designed to ensure responsiveness in meeting the actual needs of youth.

3. The following implementation procedures need to be adopted

3.1. A Holistic Assessment of the Challenges Facing the Youth is required:

  a)   A stakeholder mapping exercise must be undertaken to determine the number of stakeholders, the scope of their activities and the impact they have on youth development and engagement.

3.2. Department must invest in youth through a wide range of programmes:

  a)   Bulk of the targeted budget must be on youth development programmes as the National Government Priority.

SECTION E
INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

1 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1.1 NON-GOVERNMENTAL STAKEHOLDERS

a) In addition to the government, there are a range of stakeholders working on youth related issues. These include civil society organisations, corporates and industry associations. These stakeholders have to participate in order to promote youth development through programmes on education, skill development, healthy lifestyles, sports etc. and to facilitate youth participation and engagement on issues such as community development, politics, governance etc.

1.2 DEPARTMENTAL YOUTH UNITS

a) This policy promotes and supports the establishment of Youth Development Unit in all spheres of the department, i.e. Province, District, Area, and Service as directed by the National Youth Policy (2009 – 2014).

b) The Departmental Programme of Action clearly articulates strategic location of these youth units in such a manner that Heads of Units and Head of Department will take direct responsibility of the span of control.

c) All directorates within the Department are guided by this policy in the implementation of programmes targeting youth to ensure horizontal cohesion and mainstreaming. Youth Development will be responsible for:

    i. Initiating and promoting coordination, collaboration and networking amongst all stakeholders.

    ii. Provide technical guidance and support supervision in the development, implementation and evaluation of youth programmes in the Department.

    iii. Advocating for raising awareness and mobilisation of resources for youth development programmes.

    iv. Advocating for youth participation and representation in all structures of leadership, governance and management.

    v. Working closely with youth development structures in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the EC DSD Youth Development Policy.

    vi. Monitoring and evaluation of youth development programmes.

1.3 Superintendent General

Supports the implementation of this policy and requires each staff member to support the values underlying in this policy.

1.4 Chief Directors / Directors / District Directors / Area Managers / Community Development Managers / Service Office Managers

Responsible for the implementation of this policy and their respective units.

2. APPROVING AUTHORITY

Superintendent General shall recommend the policy for approval to the Member of the Executive Authority (MEC) of the Eastern Cape Department of Social Development.

3. ADMINISTRATION OF THE POLICY

Director for Youth Development shall be responsible for its administration to ensure adherence to the provisions of the policy.

4. EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE POLICY

The Departmental Youth Development Policy shall be effective from the date the Member of the Executive of Authority (MEC) has approved.

5. CONCLUSION

Like other young people in the rest of the world and the country, youth of the Eastern Cape Province have immense potential. In order to unleash this immense potential, government need to create an enabling environment for young people to harness their skills and potential. It is against this background that Eastern Cape Department of Social Development has developed the Youth Development Policy as a tool and a vehicle to create the necessary environment for provincial youth development. The objective of youth development is to enable young men and women to become active participants in activities which fulfill their potential and enable them to participate in all aspects of society.

POLICY CUSTODIANS
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