

CHRIS HANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

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EXECUTIVE MAYOR
CLLR MXOLISI KOYO



SPEAKER
CLLR GEORGE XOSENİ



MUNICIPAL MANAGER
MR MOPPO MENE

VISION

A people-centred developmental rural district municipality.

MISSION

To coordinate governance for quality services and better communities through cooperative governance, socio-economic development, integrated development planning, and sustainable utilisation of resources.

VALUES

- Commitment
- Honesty
- Respect
- Integrity
- Sincerity
- Humanity
- Accountability
- Nurturing
- Innovative

The Chris Hani District is, both geographically and figuratively, the heart of the Eastern Cape, named after the heroic freedom fighter. The area has played its part in producing many of the giants of the country's liberation struggle. Their lives, and the values they stood for, are well captured in the Chris Hani District Municipality (CHDM) liberation heritage route project.

The district played a singular role in the struggle, and in almost every small town and remote rural area, one can find traces of local heroes and heroines who made the ultimate sacrifice in the fight for freedom.

Thus far, valuable milestones have been reached in various projects, including the following: in Sabalele, Chris Hani's birthplace, the District has established a Development Centre with the intention of facilitating development needs and uplifting the standard of living in and around Sabalele Village - various programmes and projects are taking place at the centre every day; the Museum and Heritage Programme, which acts as a source for collection, storage and exhibition of what the late Chris Hani stood for; the Food Security Programme, which facilitates issues related to access to markets, finance and technical support to improve productivity and reduce poverty; the Arts, Crafts and Recreation Programme and Hospitality Programme; and the Early Childhood Development Programme, which gives children the opportunity to engage in a variety of educational and social activities.

The District is proud to have completed the Cradock Four Memorial Site in Cradock's Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality. The site boasts huge tourism potential and has been one of our flagship projects.

The Municipality has made it a priority to preserve the history and heritage of the district, so that we may all remember our fallen heroes and learn from them. The Municipality has just completed

the repatriation and reburial of heroes fallen in Lesotho during the apartheid era. The graves of Luvuyo Lerumo and Qonda Hoho have been rehabilitated as part of site development.

Calata Route: Traversing the Inxuba Yethemba, Inkwanca and Tsolwana Local Municipalities, the Calata Route begins at the busy town of Cradock, where there are numerous heritage sites such as the Cradock Four Grave, the Flame of Hope and Liberation, and the Olive Schreiner House. The route passes through Middelburg and onto Molteno, where we find Heroes Park and the Nomonde Graves, among other interesting sites, and then on to Sterkstroom for the Higher Mission School and the Garden of Remembrance. The route concludes at Tarkastad and its surrounds.

Sisulu Route: This route falls within the Lukhanji Local Municipality and leads around Queenstown and its surrounds, taking in the fascinating heritage sites of the area. Places such as the Ilinge, Sada and Zibeleni Resettlements, landmarks of historical importance, and birthplaces of iconic people such as Mongezi Feza and Unathi Mfeka all form part of the Sisulu Route.

Ndondo Route: The route includes the four local municipalities of Emalahleni, Sakhisizwe, Ncgobo and Intsika Yethu, and features heritage sites over a large area. From the outskirts of Queenstown, through Lady Frere, Cala, Elliot, Ncgobo and finally on to Cofimvaba, this tour features some of the most important landmarks in the Liberation Heritage Route.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AGRI-PARK IN THE CHRIS HANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Following the pronouncement made by the country's President Jacob Zuma in his State of the Nation Address, the Chris Hani District Municipality is set to establish its own agri-park. The initiative has a national cash injection of R4 billion and will benefit 44 district municipalities, which includes the CHDM. Designed against the backdrop of poverty alleviation, the agri-model seeks to improve on what the District already initiated years ago by revitalising its four functioning irrigation schemes.

The development will also stimulate and attract scientific and entrepreneurial innovation that can, in the long term, position the Chris Hani region as a model case study of an inclusive agro-industrial development. An estimated 17 383 jobs will be created within the next five years, with a projection of 21 000 sustainable jobs in the primary and secondary production created ten years thereafter.

OBJECTIVE OF THE AGRI-PARK PROGRAMME

Through this programme the CHDM hopes to develop capable small-scale farmers and producer groups through:

- commercialising sustainable small-scale farming enterprises
- promoting the efficient farming of commodities sought after by different markets - local markets for food and nutrition security, as well as external markets
- coordinating the activities of small-scale farmers so that market demand is sufficiently and satisfactorily addressed.

AGRI-PARK BENEFICIARIES

Small-time farmers, workers and producer homesteads will be majority shareholders in the agri-parks management company to be established. Households will be actively involved in homestead-based production, using modern-day technology, and will participate in the agro-value chain and markets. Furthermore, it is foreseen that the attraction of business and professional operatives to the areas concerned through the agri-park will lead to the transformation of these areas into attractive, modern hamlets inhabited by a growing professional class set to migrate into these new nodes of industrial activity.

SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE - CATALYST FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE CHRIS HANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

The Chris Hani District Municipality has reaffirmed its readiness for an inspired Special Economic Zone (SEZ). An SEZ is defined as a geographically limited area administered by a single body offering certain incentives and benefits to businesses physically located within the zone. This economic policy tool will see the Lukhanji Local Municipality being the economic hub of the District. Other local municipalities will either be Free Trade Zones (FTZs), Export Processing Zones (EPZs), Industrial Development Zones (IDZs) or Sector Development Zones (SDZs).

The approval of the SEZ will increase foreign and domestic private sector investment through export growth and diversification; develop industries within the District; and upgrade skills and technological transfer. The Municipality has investigated various economic development instruments that are integrated and inclusive of the eight Local Municipalities (LMs). The SEZ will be biased towards the agro-processing sector and will take advantage of the region's agricultural strengths. The proposed SEZ will be located near the old Queenstown industrial area.

The suggested location has almost all the necessary base infrastructure, such as water supply connection, waste management works, electricity supply, ICT infrastructure, roads and rail connection to the economic hubs of the Eastern Cape and the rest of the country. One possible constraint has been identified under the spatial planning section; the existence of a landfill site just to the north of the proposed location. Local municipalities under the jurisdiction of the CHDM will form sector nodes that will yield primary production so that the Agro-Processing Hub (the Queenstown SEZ) has an adequate quantity and quality of input raw materials. This approach is inclusive and it ensures that economic activities and job creation occur not only in the proposed SEZ, but also in LMs of the District and, possibly, with adjacent district municipalities as suppliers.

Four major corridors have been identified and are defined as the:

- East Corridor (Corridor 1), which runs along the R61 and links Ngcobo, Cofimvaba and Tsomo to Queenstown
- North-East Corridor (Corridor 2), which links Elliot, Cala and Lady Frere to Queenstown along the R394
- West Corridor (Corridor 3), which links Middelburg to Cradock along the N10, and then Cradock and Tarkastad to Queenstown along the R61
- North-South Corridor (Corridor 4), which links Sada/Whittlesea through Queenstown to Molteno.

Each of the abovementioned corridors transverse Queenstown, which has a strong existing business and support service base. Queenstown was therefore selected as the location for the proposed SEZ.



Above from top: Ncora Irrigation Scheme; Ncora Dairy Parlour; Ncora Harvest Day.

CHRIS HANI DISTRICT COUNCIL

The District Council comprises 40 Councillors, 17 of whom are directly elected (PR). The Executive Mayoral Committee is made up of six members, who are Portfolio Heads for the following directorates: Budget and Treasury, Corporate Services, Engineering, Integrated Planning and Economic Development, Health and Community Services, and Special Programmes Unit.