



**Green Economy and Sustainable Development:  
Bringing Back the Social Dimension  
CONFERENCE**

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**Emerging Policy, Plans and Programmes  
Towards a Green Economy and Social  
Development in Limpopo, South Africa**

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# Outline

- Introduction
- South African national initiatives
- Limpopo growth and development plan
- Green economy and creation of jobs –Limpopo green economy pathway
- Examples: Agriculture and Energy sectors - three Limpopo projects
- Key considerations
- Conclusion

# Introduction

- **Purpose:**

Examine extent to which social dimensions & impacts on women & poor rural communities are receiving attention in emerging green economy

- **Research informing the paper:**

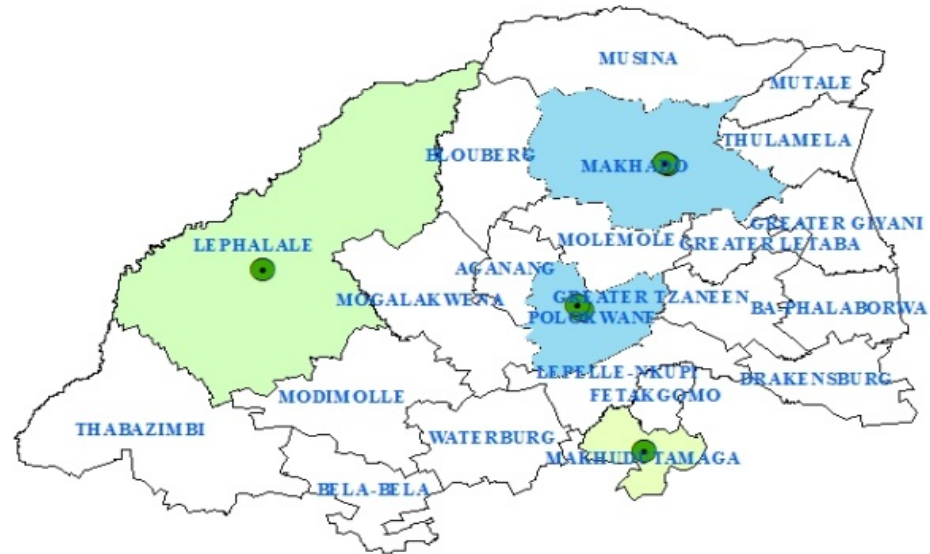
A review of official plans, programs, feasibility studies, & environmental & social impact studies of projects, project visits and interviews

# Introduction-----

## Projects discussed:

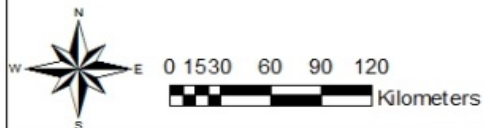
- 1) Mapfura-Makhura Incubator - bio-fuel project
- 2) The Solar Vision Limpopo
- 3) The Medupi-power station coal liquefaction project in Lephalale.

# LIMPOPO PROJECT SITES



## Legend

-  Major Towns
-  Solar Vision
-  Medupi Power Station
-  Mapfura Makhura Incubators
-  Limpopo Province



## SOUTH AFRICA



# New global Economy

- Response to global changes - threatening human existence on earth
- over-exploitation of natural resources, poverty & inequality, the financial crisis, climate change

- SA green economy pathway is concerned about how to balance natural resource use with economic & social development concerns.
- a green economy is viewed as one that results in improved human well being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental and ecological scarcities ( UNEP 2011)

# Select National Initiatives

- Stimulus package: 2009-2011 amounting to the value of US\$7.5 billion.
- SA Target 2020: energy efficient buildings, water and waste management practices sustainable production and consumption
- 15% of the country's electricity from renewable sources by the year 2020 (DEA, 2010).
- Concept of Green jobs: labour intensive natural resource management; to provide decent work and sustainable livelihood opportunities.



- **Invasive species: management & water supply improvement program jobs and training to approximately 20,000 people from the most remote rural areas per annum, of which 52% are women.**
- **Industrial Development Corporation (IDC): US\$3 billion (ZAR25 billion) to green economy investments over the next 5 years (2010-2015)**

# Challenges

- **Bridging the gap between policy & implementation;**
- **Inherent Inequalities;**
- **Governance Issues**

# Growth and Development Plan of Limpopo

- Limpopo's leading economic sectors: mining, tourism and agriculture
- distribution of resources remains critically imbalanced between men & women, urban and rural areas, racial and income groups.

- The green economy is therefore, seen as an opportunity to address these pertinent problems.
- 'there is an opportunity for all members of society to participate in credible economic activities' (LPG, 2011b: 1).

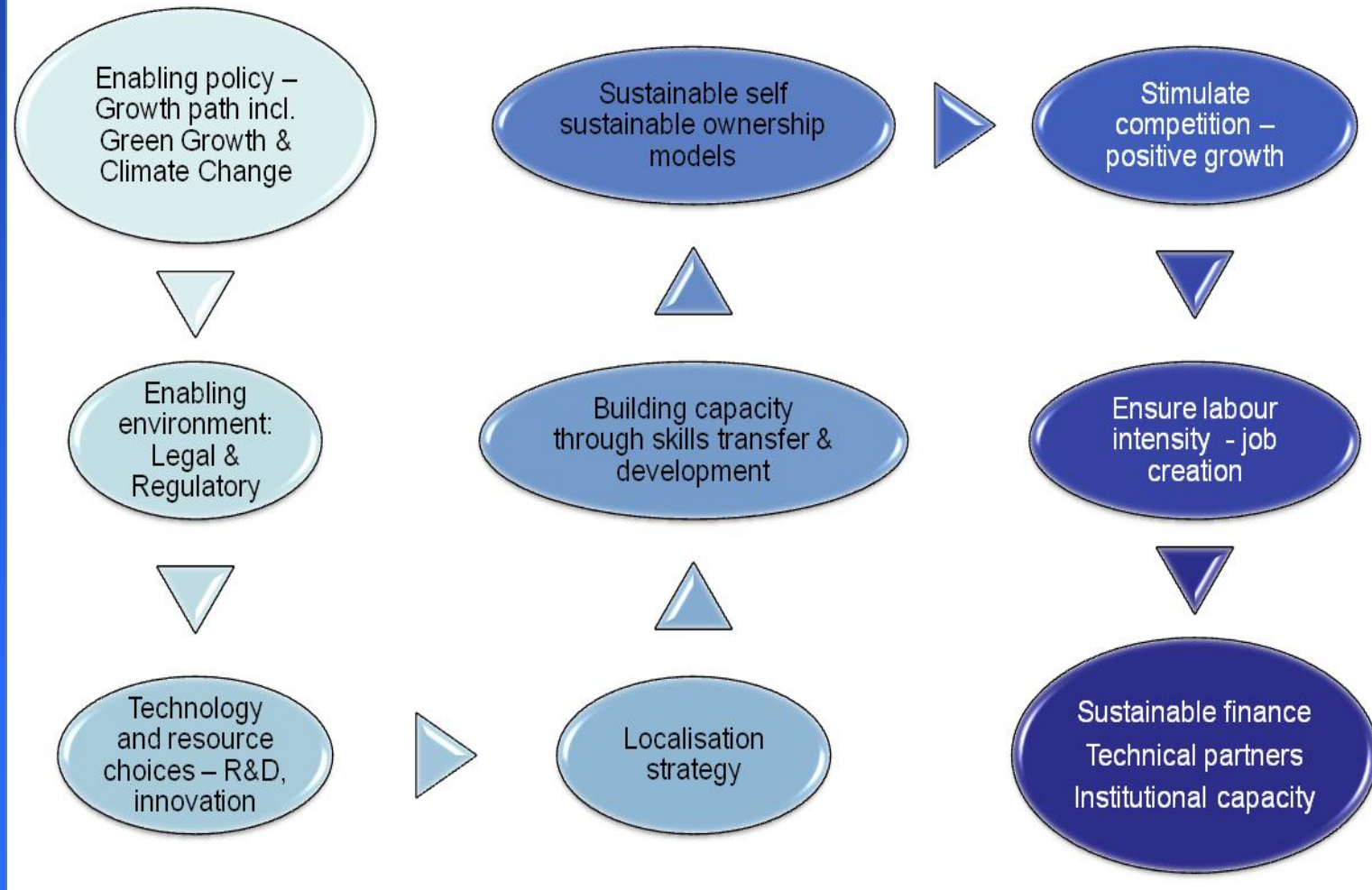
# **The Green economy and creation of jobs in Limpopo**

**The province aims:  
to champion sustainable  
development through amongst  
others, the green economy and  
creation of green jobs program  
(LPG, 2011b).**

**• It envisages:-**

**a green economy in agriculture, construction, manufacturing, Installation, Science and technology, and in the service sector.**

# Limpopo province pathway to a green economy (LGEP) (Draft plan)p.4



**Two key sectors (agriculture and energy)**

**expected to contribute to:-**

- **job creation**
- **poverty alleviation**
- **service provision to communities and**
- **promote rural development in Limpopo.**



# The Green Economy and Agriculture

- Key challenges in agriculture:
- extension services not keeping up to date with latest innovations;
- inadequate infrastructure;
- sustainability of rural resources;
- climate change, failure of land reform projects;
- lack of relevant policies and legislation;
- slow pace in processing land claims and lack of access to markets.;



## Initiatives to overcome these challenges include targeting:

- household that are food insecure;
- subsistence and emerging farmers;
- small scale farmers;
- large scale farmers.

## TABLE 1: Selected Strategies for Agriculture and Green economy


<b>INITIATIVE</b>	<b>POTENTIAL IMPACT ON WOMEN</b>	<b>POTENTIAL IMPACT ON YOUTH</b>	<b>CHALLENGES</b>	<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>
<b>Organic and local production Projects</b>	<b>Jobs, income, Financial independence Self-actualization, Household food security</b>	<b>Income and financial stability, being a productive member of society, Acceptability, self esteem</b>	<b>Access to land, markets, inputs</b>	<b>Government support, local development,</b>
<b>Water efficiency</b>	<b>Acquire water management skills</b>	<b>Training opportunities in water management</b>	<b>Access to water Climate change, Lack of skills</b>	<b>Irrigation, rain water harvesting, Government support</b>
<b>Appropriate Crops</b>	<b>Better nutrition at the household level</b>	<b>healthy youth</b>	<b>Changing food preferences</b>	<b>Indigenous knowledge systems</b>
<b>Feed lots regulation</b>	<b>Environmental education, Conservation skills, Rangeland management skills</b>	<b>Environmental education and conservation skills</b>	<b>Degraded communal lands</b>	<b>Extension services, government support, new proposed land reform</b>
<b>Production of bio-fuel resources</b>	<b>Jobs, income, group participation and business skills</b>	<b>Jobs, income, Skills development</b>	<b>Access to land, capital, markets</b>	<b>Government support, public &amp; private sector , research</b>


# Mapfura Makhura Incubator (MMI)- Small Scale farmers transition to Bio- diesel producers


- Established in 2006;
- Targets small black farmers;
- Farmers grow soya and sunflower for production of bio-diesel
- Government banned growing of maize for bio-diesel.

# Collaboration

- SEDA Technology Program (STP); Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR); Agricultural Research Council (ARC); University of Limpopo (UNIL); National African Farmers Union (NAFU); University of Venda (UNIVEN); Trade and Investment Limpopo (TIL) and Limpopo Department of Agriculture (LDA) The program
- started with 32 farmers and now there are 150 farmers growing soya and sunflower for bio - diesel production

- 
- **trained on Business management, financial management and Record keeping.**
  - **empowered participants economically, since most of them are breadwinners.**
  - **reported changes in their social relations at the household level since engaging in the project. (Limpopo Business guide 2007).**

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- The project aims at addressing gender balance and participation but only 30% women participants were involved in the pilot phase
  - Gender imbalance: caused by poor information flows, and limitations in the number of women who own land (Banda 2009).
  - operational challenges: cost of electricity, high costs for repairing machines, lack of finances and access to the mainstream market.

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- Another key concern in South Africa is the lack of effective engagement with rural young people especially rural young women.
  - MMI therefore set this as one of their goals, to promote women and youth empowerment (Maluleke, 2010).
  - This case therefore represents a good model for transitioning to a green economy particularly the potential to bring poor women, youth and men into productive work.



# Green Economy and Energy Sector

- research in gases such as bio-ethanol, bio-diesel and methane gas from waste and renewable resources.
- national guidelines have shifted the emphasis towards finding fuel from crops that are less likely to affect food security, like sugar cane, sugar beet, canola and sunflower seeds (Lenera, et al, 2010).
- The province has comparative advantages including: thousands of hectares of open space - low carbon market; high solar intensity, mineral deposits, such as silica, well-established and equipped agricultural commercial sector

# Solar Vision

- Aim: To provide basic electricity to mainly poor people living in the remote and rural areas.
- Eskom not within five (5) years
- Products : basic solar home systems (SHS); electricity management unit (EMU); four lights (9 watt); radio; TV - 12 volt; cell phone charging solar panel; and balance of system components (BOS)

# Basic components







2011/08/05







## views

- Mikateko: ' I feel happy because with the job that I have as a representative of Solar Vision in the community, I will use this job as a stepping stone, because I want to further my studies'
- Bongani : 'I am now able to read in the night without worrying that the lights might go off and also these lights are bright as compared to the paraffin lamp'.


# Medupi Power Station: Contradictions and Opportunities

- Medupi power station is a coal fired base load power plant in Lephalale in Limpopo
- Coal stations around the world are very high polluters of the environment.
- Medupi plans to employ super critical boiler technology which increases plant efficiency, reduces coal consumption and also reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to the environment (African Development Bank, 2009).




# Expected contribution

- An estimated ZAR3.6 billion has been set aside to contribute to black women's organizations in order to address the gender disparities that exist in the community (African development Bank, 2009)
- envisaged to support the long term growth and development plan of the country
- impacts - capacity generation, impacts on the GDP, new industries, employment (9000 permanent jobs ) and reduction of poverty.

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- **ESKOM set up a development foundation with a mandate to deliver on its corporate social investment objectives**

# Table 2: Lephhalale Eskom Social Responsible Program

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	SCOPE OF ESKOM INTERVENTION	NO. OF BENEFACTORS
Intel/Foundation Classroom Computers	Partnership with Intel to install Classmatecomputers inprimary schools around Lephhalale	The Foundation covers the cost for the servers, teacher laptops, printers, wireless access points, hubs, cabling, classmate laptop charging trolleys, software licences for 5 years, education content training	1714
Primary Schools Program (Numeracy)	Numeracy and Mathematics enhancement program for primary schools	Numeracy andmathematics enhancement program for primaryschools	8000
Primary Schools Program (Literacy)	Primary school language, literacy communication Primary school language, literacyand communication	Primary school language,literacy and communication program in 27 primary schools-3 years	8000
School Governance & Leadership	Schoolgovernance & Leadershipprogram	School governance and leadership program	307
Lephhalale	Contractor Academy	Contractor training for 28 Medupi emerging contractors	28

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- The ecological footprint of coal mining is very high-technology is key in minimizing impacts
  - Some efforts towards community development
  - Need specific detailed plans for mainstreaming poverty and gender issues.

## **the green economy emerges in Limpopo include:**

- **Collection of Gender disaggregated data**
- **Access to and ownership of land by men and women**
- **Availability of technology for both men and women**
- **Equality in accessing information and extension services**
- **Benefits accruing to both men and women from processing and sell of products**
- **Control over resources**
- **Degree of income generating opportunities for both men and women**
- **Access to markets for green economy products.**
- **Access to health facilities**
- **Skills development**

# Conclusion

- Innovative plans, projects and programs are emerging in Limpopo
- Most projects have community buy -in; but more could be done
- Question of access to productive land especially in the former homeland is key concern
- The coordination between various stakeholders is essential and
- new research must address the question of how to mainstream Gender and Poverty into the green economy

***THANK YOU***