

Speaking Remarks at African Union: SDG Awareness Raising and Training

1. Greetings

Ladies and gentlemen and all dignitaries present

2. Contextual Setting of Amathole District Municipality

- Located in the Eastern Cape, South Africa
- 912 000 people, majority babies and kids followed by youth
- High unemployment rate
- Limited economic sector diversity to create jobs

3. Strategic Outlook

- Long Term prognosis of planning for two generations
- Building a smart District
- Opportunities brought by the 4IR
- Alignment to SDGs, Agenda 2063, NDP, PDP: finds its translation into our Integrated Development Plan (e.g. SDG Goal 6 of clean water and sanitation is aligned to Local Government KPA of Service Deliver)
- Municipal Turnaround Strategy: a vehicle to transform the Municipality to drive the principles of sustainability, growth, equity and resilience and public sector transformation (linking to CEPA principles of effective governance for sustainable development such as competence and participation)

4. SDG Training awareness and training

- Regulatory environment: integrated development planning and participation
- MTAS provides for the pillar of leadership development and also institutional development

4.1. Approaches on the SDG Training Awareness and Training

- Targeting internal and external participants
- Internally: utilization of the SDBIP as part of implementing activities linked to indicators and outcomes of the long-term vision of the municipalities
- Aligning the workplace skills plan as a mechanism to develop awareness, skills, knowledge, capacity building towards long term vision of the Municipality
- Externally: Utilization of public participation platforms
- Using civic educations as to bring about awareness of SDG goals
- Engagement with institutions of higher learning and strategic stakeholders (NMU, Public entities and organized formations)
- Developed an Integrated Public Participation and Citizen Engagement Framework (which is championed by Political principals)

5. In summary

- Use of regulatory environment
- Long term planning by a local government sphere aligned to the global, African, national and provincial agenda
- SDG Awareness and Training must be customized to the local space- to make it easy to take small bites and integration into daily work