

**External Communications Unit
Press / Media Release**

To : All media
Attention : News Editors & Journalists
Date : Monday, 14th November 2011

For the attention of all media houses

The MEC for Roads & Transport & the Executive Mayor of the Sedibeng District Municipality announce R100 Million development during the Sedibeng Growth & Development Summit

During his inauguration on the 14th June 2011, the Executive Mayor of the Sedibeng District Municipality, Councillor MS Mofokeng announced that the first 12 months of the new term of political office will be characterized by some vital planning initiatives which required public participation and stakeholder engagement.

He was here referring to the preparations and the hosting of our Second Generation Growth and Development Strategy, or GDS-2 as will refer to it. This will be taking the ruling party's elections manifesto commitment to the next level of converting it into achievable programme statement. The GDS-2, augmented by the ruling party's elections manifesto will be a basic document informing our integrated development plans for the next five year.

"We must do a critical review of how well has our First Generation GDS served us. Several key questions need to be asked to establish the progress made with regard to our GDS-1 which include its strong elements, its weaknesses, its alignment with the seven (7) National Key Priorities, and in particular, with OUTCOME 9 of the nationally prioritized outcomes of government, said the Executive Mayor of the Sedibeng District Municipality, Councillor MS Mofokeng.

It is therefore in this regard that the Sedibeng District Municipality announces that it will be hosting the Sedibeng Growth & Development Summit on the 30th November and 1st December 2011, at the Emerald Conference Centre, Vanderbijlpark to take this pronouncement forward.

On the first day of the Summit, the Gauteng MEC for Roads & Transport and the Executive Mayor of the Sedibeng District Municipality will announce for the first time, the R100 Million development which will be taking place in Sedibeng as part bettering people' lives.

The Summit will be attended by Ministers / Deputy Ministers for Corporative Governance & Traditional Affairs, MECs for Local Government & Housing and Economic Affairs, Executive Mayors, Councillors, various government and private institutions, Ward Committees, Political Parties,

The Summit will extend the international and local expert discussions to a broader base consisting of our previous and current stakeholder and community partners who have contributed to Sedibeng GDS – 1 previously. *The discussions on these two days* will consolidate the seven (7) themes as found in our GDS under one umbrella and possibly adding some as the Summit would determine.

The purpose of the Sedibeng GDS Summit is threefold: to reflect on international best practices; to seek advice from local and international experts in rural, township, urban development and lastly, to obtain final input and comments from key community stakeholders, leaders and officials from other spheres of government.



The Summit will see experts and growth & development practitioners presenting papers on the topic of economic growth and development on variety of issues ranging from the state of the service delivery in our region, state of our economic development, etc. In addition to these papers, the Summit will break into commissions wherein all the discussions would be in-depth with vigorous debates by all invited guests representing various stakeholders in the region.

Working together as the people of Sedibeng, we achieved a lot. However, a lot more still needs to be done for every member of our communities to benefit from the district IDP as underpinned in the 5R's of GDS1 through various projects.

The GDS2 will also make us aware of the new challenges and goals to ensure that Sedibeng meets its IDP commitments and objectives in the short term for better success in the long term. Let's work together to achieve more.

The discussion papers and the various presentations will be made in examining progress made in our 5 + 2 Focus areas which are:

- Reinventing our economy
- Renewing our communities
- Reviving sustainable environment
- Reintegrating our region
- Releasing human potential
- Good and financial sustainable governance
- Vibrant democracy

It is further in this regard that we continue the spirit of a COLLECTIVE DREAM, where each and every one of us harbours within us individual dreams, dreams which are often about achievements and successes. They are about what we want and desire for ourselves. It is however, through an appreciation of our inter-dependence on each other, that the idea of a COLLECTIVE DREAM is born.

The Summit will held under the theme: "Towards A Vaal Metropolitan River City"

Ends!

**Issued by the External Communications Department
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