

UBUHLEBEZWE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK



UYPF

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1. APPROACH TO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

1.1. Definition of Youth

- The term “youth” has a range of different meanings and connotations within the South African historical, social, cultural and political context.
- Since the youth uprising of 1976 the term “ youth” has represented a segment of the population seen as violent, unruly, undisciplined and underdeveloped.

1.2. Definition of a young person

- National Youth Commission Act has defined Youth as those people who are between **14** and **35** years of age.
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2. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF YOUNG PEOPLE

- Young people enjoy all the rights, responsibilities and obligations as normal citizens of South Africa, as contained in the bill of rights is a cornerstone of democracy,
- Enshrining the rights of all people in the country and affirming the democratic values of human dignity, equality and freedom.
- Further to these all young men and women irrespective of their socio-economic status, gender, disability have a right to an opportunity to:

a) Enjoy their Youthfulness

- Participate in policy formulation, decision making and leadership in youth development issues.
- They have the responsibility to build and guarantee the democratic order through playing a positive developmental role in South Africa, the region and the continent.
- **This should be done through:**
- Promoting peace, security and development, promoting human dignity and respect for adults and fellow young people, sound family and community values.
- Ensuring a society free from racism, violence, crime, exploitation and women and intimidation, promoting positive lifestyles and behaviour by young women and men, and promoting active participation in the democratic process in the country.
- Given the specific history of South Africa and the impact of poverty under development on all South Africans and their families and communities.
- A specific responsibility exists to rebuild the relationships between parents and young people and re-establish safe and nurturing environments in families; also where young people themselves are presents.
- In this regard all South Africans should value, promote and understand the importance of:

- a) supporting the psychological, emotional and physical well-being of young men and women;
 - b) acting as and providing positive role models, assisting young people in reaching their full potential; Supporting the development of young men and women;
 - c) Allowing young women and men to develop responsibility for themselves; Encouraging participation by young men and women in community life and development.
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3. PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

3.1. *All youth development initiatives should be based on and influenced in its design, direction and implementation through a set of principles and values. These are:*

3.1.1. Holistic and integrated:

- Policies and programmatic interventions should reflect an integrated, cross-sectoral and holistic approach.

3.1.2. Redress:

- The need to recognize past injustices and the need to address these injustices through equitable policies, programmes and the allocation of resources.

3.1.3. Non-Discriminatory:

- Non-sexiest, non-racist approach to youth development initiatives.

3.1.4. Acknowledging Diversity

- Recognition of cultural, spiritual and language diversity and the important role of tradition, spirituality, culture and language can play in the development of young men and women.

3.1.5. Responsive

- Stakeholders have to reconsider how they respond to, view and interact with young people and youth organisations, meaning being influenced less by organisational boundaries and definitions and more by understanding and acting in the best interest of young people.

3.1.6. Sustainable

- Ensure the needs of the present is met without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs e.g. needs and aspirations of youth living in rural & urban areas are to be addressed within the frameworks of the Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Programme and Urban Renewal Programme.

3.1.7. Participatory & Inclusive

- Creating opportunities to share information with involving young people, acknowledging youth leadership and encouraging responsibility. Young people should become active participants in their development as opposed to passive recipients of services.

3.1.8. Transport & Accessible

- Institutions and organisations involved in youth development & the implementation of youth development programmes should operate in a transparent and accountable manner, accessible to young women.
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4. PRIORITY TARGET GROUPS

4.1. Young Women

- Young women face particular difficulties in our society today.
- Young women experience unemployment more frequently than their young man counter-parts and tend to have fewer occupational opportunities.
- The higher number of teenage pregnancies also suggests that young women require specific support measures.
- In addition, it must be recognised that young women are often the victims of violence and abuse creating a situation where young women often feel threatened and powerless.

4.2. Young Men & Women with Disabilities

- Young women and men with disabilities require specific support and assistance to ensure that they have adequate access to education, services and opportunities to participate fully in society.
- This will require measures to be taken within schools, the work place, and the broader community.
- This involves a greater awareness of the issues faced by young women and men with disabilities, the removal of disabling attitudes, the creation of accessible environments and the empowerment of young people with disabilities and their representative organisations.

4.3. Unemployed Young Women and Men

- The experience of unemployment can bring with it a number of other social ills, including participation in crime, drugs and alcohol abuse, poor health and loss of confidence to participate in broader society.
- Unemployed young people require specific attention to deal with the wide range of concerns and problems they can experience.

4.4. School Aged Out-of-School Young Women and Men

- Those school-aged young people who are not attending school are of great concern. Apart from missing proper education, they can be at risk in many other ways.
- They may be in danger of becoming “street kids” or homeless if not provided with appropriate support and encouragement to continue their education.

4.5. Rural and Urban Young Women and Men

- Young women and men in rural areas are often more disadvantaged than those who live in urban settings.
- They have less access to services and facilities and the opportunities for employment are far less than in urban areas.
- Interventions here should address the situation of young people in rural areas specifically, within the framework of integrated Sustainable Rural Development Programme.

4.6. Young Men and Women at Risk

- Young women and men at risk refer to those young people that are in serious danger of being neglected or falling through existing societal safety nets.
- Included here are young people living with HIV/AIDS, teenage mothers, young single parents, and victims of specific circumstances and realities over which they have no or little control.
- Specific attention should also be given to those who came into conflict with the law and as a result find themselves in residential facilities such as places of safety, reform schools and prisons.

5. GOALS OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

5.1. Youth development in South Africa strives to:

- Instil in all young women and men an awareness of respect for an active commitment to the principles and values enshrined in the bill of rights and as well as a sense of national identity.
 - Enable young men and women to initiate actions that promote their own development and that of their communities and broader society.
 - Develop an effective, co-ordinated and holistic response to the issues facing young women and men.
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1. BACKGROUND AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT

1.1. INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL & POLICY ENVIRONMENT

- 1.1.1. United Nations Charter
- 1.1.2. United Nations World Programme of Action for Youth
- 1.1.3. Millennium Development Goals
- 1.1.4. Commonwealth Youth Charter

1.2. NATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL & POLICY ENVIRONMENT

- 1.2.1. The National Youth Commission Act
- 1.2.2. National Youth Policy
- 1.2.3. National Youth Development Policy Framework (2002-2007)

1.3. PROVINCIAL INSTITUTIONAL & POLICY ENVIRONMENT

- 1.3.1. Kwa-Zulu Natal Youth Commission.

1.4. DISTRICT INSTITUTIONAL & POLICY ENVIRONMENT

- 1.4.1. The White Paper on Developmental Local Government
 - 1.4.2. Municipal Systems Act
 - 1.4.3. Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act
 - 1.4.4. Municipal Youth Guidelines
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1.1. INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL & POLICY ENVIRONMENT

- South Africa, as a global village and a member of the international community, influences and also influenced by international declarations, accords, legislation and instruments on youth development.
- South Africa is a signatory to the following international declarations and charters:
 - United Nations Charter
 - United Nations World Programme of Action for Youth
 - Millennium Development Goals
 - Common Youth Charter

1.1.1. United Nations Charter

- South Africa, as a member of the United Nations has agreed to work towards the achievement of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.
- The Charter enables young men and women to enjoy full participation in the life of society.

- The Charter principles include the attainment, by young men and women of:
- An educational level commensurate with their aspirations
- Access to employment opportunities equal to their abilities.
- Food and nutrition adequate for full participation in the life of society; a physical and social environment that promotes good health and protection from disease and addiction and that is free from all types of violence.
- Human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to race, sex, language, religion.
- Participation in decision making processes; improve the living standards of young people in both rural and urban areas.

1.1.2. United Nations World Programme of Action for Youth

- The United Nations World Programme of Action for Youth is aimed at ensuring the well-being of young men and women and their full and active participation in the society in which they live.
- Its principles and purpose have helped to inform the National Youth Policy at many levels.

1.1.3. Millennium Development Goals

By 2015 all United Nations Member States have pledged to:

- Eradicate hunger and poverty.
- Achieve universal primary education.
- Promote gender equity and empower women.
- Reduce child mortality.
- Improve maternal health.
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.
- Ensure environmental stability.
- Develop global partnership for development.

1.1.4. Commonwealth Youth Charter

- The National Youth Policy recognizes the work of the Commonwealth in the support of National Youth Policies in all Commonwealth countries.
 - Its efforts towards creating societies where young women and men are empowered to develop their creativity, skills and potential as productive and dynamic members.
 - Commonwealth Youth Charter acknowledge the following principles and values for youth development:
 - Gender inclusive Development
 - Empowerment
 - Human Rights
 - Sustainability
 - Integration
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1.2. NATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL & POLICY ENVIRONMENT

- Since the start of the colonial era, South African young people have been victims of adverse political and socio-economic conditions.
- They have been subjected to poverty, blatant political manipulation and racial segregation.
- They experienced poor housing conditions, restricted and racially segregated access to education, training and employment opportunities, high levels of crime and violence and a general disintegration of social networks and communities.

1.2.1. The National Youth Commission Act No. 10 of 1996

- The advent of democracy in 1994 recognized the importance of youth and youth development.
- Through its Constitution, South Africa recognizes the role played by young people as well as their future role in molding a society that belongs to all.
- The passing of the National Youth Commission Act represents a major commitment by government to treat the needs of the youth in a serious and comprehensive manner.

1.2.2. National Youth Policy 2000

- The National Youth Commission in fulfilling its mandate developed and adopted the National Youth Policy in year 2000.
- The National Youth Policy in 2000 was a formal recognition and articulation of aspirations, needs and conditions of youth through policy initiative and was guided by two rationale:
- Provision of opportunities to the youth through programmes and services provided by the government and NGO's to enable them to reach their full potential as active participants in society.
- Active involvement of the youth in national development through promoting a spirit of co-operation and co-ordination of government departments, NGO's and youth groups in youth development.

1.2.3. National Youth Development Policy Framework 2002 – 2007

- The endorsement of the National Youth Development Policy Framework was a further reflection of the government's commitment to youth development in South Africa.
- The framework represents efforts to adopt a holistic and integrated approach to youth development through the identification of strategic intervention areas to address specific needs, challenges & opportunities confronting the youth of South Africa.
- It sets out in a comprehensive form of a plan for youth achievement and development.

- The policy framework provides an outline for the mainstreaming of youth development as an integral part of the broader transformation project and challenges in South Africa.

1.3. PROVINCIAL INSTITUTIONAL & POLICY ENVIRONMENT

1.3.1. KwaZulu Natal Youth Commission Act 1998

- Since 1998, young people in KwaZulu Natal have been involved in developing and shaping the legislative framework for youth development.
- The province enacted Provincial Commission through KwaZulu Natal Youth Commission Act.
- In line with the National Youth Commission Act of 1996.
- KwaZulu Natal Youth Commission responsibility is to: develop principles and guidelines and making recommendations to government regarding such principles and guidelines.
- Coordinating, directing and monitoring the implementation of such principles and guidelines at government level.
- Promoting uniformity of approach by all organs of state, including provincial departments, to matters relating or involving youth.

1.4. DISTRICT & LOCAL INSTITUTIONAL AND POLICY ENVIRONMENT

1.4.1. The White Paper on Developmental Local Government

- Section B (1) of The White Paper on Developmental Local Government of 1998 state that:
- “developmental Local Government is a local government committed to working with citizens and groups within the community to find sustainable ways to meet their social, economic and material needs and improve their quality of life”
- These groups include women, youth, disabled persons and children.

1.4.2. Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000

- Municipalities are encouraged to create conditions for local communities to participate in their affairs.
- This would include participation in preparation, organisation and reviews of the IDP's.
- *To promote youth development, young people must therefore be involved in IDP process.*
- *With the youth of South Africa constituting the majority of the population and having been disadvantaged by the policies of the past and challenges faced by youth generally and South African youth in particular.*
- *Local government as the sphere closest to the communities should commits to promoting youth development.*

1.4.3. Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act No. 13 of 2005

- Intergovernmental relations are necessary for national priorities to be implemented and monitored.
- Some of these priorities are economic growth, capacity building, systems support, poverty alleviation, job creation and enhanced service delivery.
- Cooperative governance is particularly important where there national or provincial programmes that may not be easily implemented without the participation of local municipalities and traditional leadership.
- An example of national or provincial priorities is the National Youth Service (NYS) Programme.

1.4.4. Municipal Youth Guidelines 2005

- In response to the need for intervention and guidance for youth development at local level, a national conference on Youth Development at Local Government Level was held in May 2002.
- The outcome of this conference was a resolution to draft guidelines for youth development for local government.
- Subsequently the Youth Development Guidelines for Local Government in South Africa were developed in 2004.

1.4.4.1. Objectives of the Youth Guidelines

- Provincial MECs responsible for Local Government and Metropolitan, District and Local Municipalities to set policy, oversight to the strategy, public consultations and evaluate performance as part of IDP.
 - Portfolio committees of the councils at three spheres of Government to provide a conducive environment consult on and provide oversight and foresight for youth development.
 - Youth Units in the municipalities to assist in planning, setting targets, resourcing, mainstreaming of youth development, lobbying and evaluating performance.
 - Youth Councils, civil society and youth organisations to lobby and hold the municipality accountable for youth development in their constituency.
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1.5. State of Ubuhlebezwe Municipality KZ5a5

- 1.5.1. Earth
- 1.5.2. Population
- 1.5.3. Economy
- 1.5.4. Employment & unemployment rate
- 1.5.5. Education
- 1.5.6. Safety & Security
- 1.5.7. Health, Culture, Belief and Conscience
- 1.5.8. Meetings

1.5.1. Earth/Land

- The area of Ubuhlebezwe Municipality is covered by 162 774 ha.
- Indigenous people of these area owned only (38828) 23.85% of land whilst white owned (123946) 76.15% of these land.
- Our goal as youth is that by 2015 at least 35% of land must be given back to their rightful owners.

1.5.2. Population

- Ubuhlebezwe has a population of approximately 122 860 people many of whom live in the tribal authority areas located throughout the municipality.
- This figure based on 2001 survey.
- Due to the birth rate and mortality rate the population is expected to increase by 2.5% and decrease by 1.5% per annum.
- Females are dominating 55% while Males are dominating 45% of its population.
- **Recommendation:** The office of the Youth is expected to conduct a proper survey to ensure the correct figure of its own population.

1.5.3. Economy

- The economy of Ubuhlebezwe is stable. This area contains large tracts of good agricultural land both in commercial farming and in the tribal authority areas.
- The area is well endowed with natural and physical resources and has immense potential for development of agricultural industries, tourism and other commercial enterprises.
- Policy and programmes need to provide the poor with opportunities to achieve human dignity and material well-being.

1.5.4. Employment & Unemployment Rate

- Unemployment rate in this area is approximately 80% of the population unemployed.
- About 30% unemployed but seeking employment.
- About 50% not working at all.
- The percentage of people employed is about 20%.
- Most of employment is still found in the agricultural and forestry industry with some 45% of the workforce employed in this sector.
- Community and Social Services is the second largest employee with the estimated figures, followed by retails, transport, manufacturing and construction.

1.5.5. Education

- Illiteracy is fairly high throughout the municipality area.
- By 2013 the poverty of education will be eradicated.
- Schools drop out will be becoming a criminal offences for a person under the age of thirty five years, tangible information required to be safe.
- Zero tolerance to those that doesn't want to go to schools.

1.5.6. Health, Culture, Belief and Conscience

- Ubuhlebezwe will promote freedom of conscience, religious tolerance and the acceptance of different ideological persuasions without prejudice or favour.
- Promote the respect for the beliefs and value systems of others.
- Promote equal opportunities for all persons including people with disabilities and those suffering from HIV/AIDS and other forms of disease.
- Virginity testing will be our key element to fight HIV/AIDS in our area.

1.5.7. Safety & Security, Human Dignity and Equality

- Our constitution affirms that human beings are born free and with equal dignity.
- We will respect the worth of all individuals, irrespective of social origin, race, gender, age, status and class.
- We will fight against the physical and emotional harassment of women that result in rape and other form of abuse.
- Eradicate the abuse of children brought about social ills such as malnutrition, child labour, drug trafficking, pornography and prostitution.
- Care for all who are weak and disadvantaged, the poor, the aged, the disabled, and those unable to care for themselves.
- Overcome discrimination on the basis of status, custom, culture, race, gender, sexual orientation, health-status and tradition.
- We will work for physical security and protection of all people.
- Any dangerous weapons are burned.
- Anybody caught or found guilty will face disciplinary measures or sentenced thirty five years in jail or will perform community service duties only for minor cases.

1.5.8. Meetings

- Each an every household must be represented in any community/youth meetings.
- Failure to do so will be leaded to disciplinary measures.
- No weapons allowed in a community/youth meeting.
- No sparing allowed in a community/youth meetings
- Everybody must come sober in community/youth meetings.
- Disrupting youth meetings are not allowed.