





Finance and Economic

**Opportunities:** 

Mireille Wenger

In the year under review, the significant milestone of completing and adopting the Western Cape Government's economic action plan, 'Growth For Jobs', or G4J, was achieved, which is certainly worth celebrating. This Strategy aims to dramatically lift the provincial growth rate and to achieve breakout economic growth. G4J is based on the very best data, countless hours of research, collaborations, calculations, discussions and an immense depth of experience. It is our map to a future where we can build a trillion-Rand jobs-rich, inclusive, sustainable, diverse, and resilient provincial economy growing by between 4% and 6% by 2035. It sets out a comprehensive, challenging, and ambitious goal for the Western Cape to grow its economy, to generate confidence, hope and prosperity for all. At the very heart of G4J, is the understanding that the private sector, including the formal, informal, and township-based economies, citizens, entrepreneurs and SMMEs, create jobs. It is government's role to enable them to do so. The G4J provides a long-term perspective with clear targets, framed within defined principles, which are the result of in-depth engagements with the private sector, because ultimately, our goal is to enable and grow the private sector.

We know that South Africa and the Western Cape have everything we need to succeed, if only we can get the fundamentals of growth right and if we work together to unlock her full and immense potential. Change requires a vision, a strategy, and it requires action to realise a better future for our country, and we must work toward it with determination. Ultimately, the G4J Strategy is the Western Cape's bold step towards realising this better future.

The financial year 2022/23 was crucial in responding to the Western Cape Government's need for a strategy to dramatically lift the provincial growth rate and, as growth continues to falter in South Africa, to decouple the province's growth trajectory from that of the rest of the country. Substantial research and engagements undertaken resulted in a strategy setting out a comprehensive, challenging, and ambitious goal for the Western Cape to grow its economy by between 4% and 6% by 2035.

The strategy clarifies how we would grow our economy. The "Growth for Jobs" Strategy distinguishes itself by providing a long-term perspective with clear targets, framed within defined principles. Tackling binding constraints and creating an enabling environment for the private sector will accelerate our economic growth.

Some highlights for the 2022/23 financial year include:

- The RTRU established a R10 million Municipal EoDB Fund to work with local municipalities to improve business-facing services, institutional capacity (to implement EoDB) and regulatory reform within municipalities.
- Business Helpline Service: 519 cases logged 91% resolution rate, 80% satisfaction rate.
- Wesgro facilitated R4.1 billion of committed investment into the province and facilitated 1 507 jobs.
- An estimated R3.1 billion worth of trade agreements were signed during 2022/23 with 906 jobs being facilitated.
- The SMME Booster Fund 2022 aided organisations geared at supporting SMMEs in the Western Cape. Seven projects were assisted, helping SMMEs to maintain and/ or enhance sustainability, develop the capacity of the business and the owner/ entrepreneur, increase efficiencies, and to enable growth and job creation.
- The Enterprise Development unit continued rolling-out nine SMME Booster Fund 2021 projects.
- The electricity master plans (EMPs) updated using MER grant funds (completed: Swartland, George, Witzenberg and Bitou municipalities) can now be used to identify grid capacity that can be made available to energy projects needing grid connection (for wheeling, SSEG or municipal IPP procurement purposes).
- The Skills Development and Innovation programme has leveraged R201 million from private sector and other government sources in support of experiential learning iniatives and skills development of unemployed youth. Private sector funding is utilised on accredited skills development programmes, on-the-job training, work readiness training and matching departmental stipend funding.



**Head of Department:** 

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ROGRAMM

## **ADMINISTRATION**

Purpose: To provide strong, innovative leadership, and to deliver clean, efficient, cost-effective, transparent and responsive corporate services to the Department.

### **Financial Management**

- 17.16 days for the processing of payment to creditors.
- 99% (R502 883) cumulative expenditure achieved (Actual expenditure/Adjusted budget).
- 3 financial efficiency interventions implemented.
- 13 financial manual training sessions conducted.
- 79% of customer service satisfaction achieved.
- 100% of external audit recommendations implemented.

### **Corporate Services**

- 1 Outcome Monitoring Report produced.
- 2 Output Monitoring reports reproduced.
- 3 M&E capacity building sessions conducted.

### **Departmental Communications**

• 5 strategic economic communication agendas developed.

Purpose: To promote and support an enabling business environment for the creation of opportunities for growth and jobs.

### **Enterprise Development**

- 270 businesses supported with business development support interventions.
- R8 689 680 funding leveraged to enhance support to SMMEs in the Western Cape.

### Regional and Local Economic Development

- 54 businesses assisted through municipal support interventions.

### **Red Tape Reduction**

- 91% of cases resolved.
- 19 improvement measures to business-facing government services implemented.
- 16 ease of doing business capacity-building interventions conducted to improve awareness on EoDB.
- 9 business interventions conducted that enable compliance.

Purpose: To stimulate economic growth in targeted sectors through industry development, trade and investment promotion.

### **Trade and Investment Promotion**

- 4 Trade Promotion oversight reports compiled.



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ROGRAMME

## BUSINESS REGULATION AND GOVERNANCE

Purpose: To ensure an equitable, socially responsible business environment in the Western Cape through general interventions within the trading environment and specific interventions mandated by the Constitution and national and provincial legislation and policies.

### **Consumer Protection**

- 215 consumer education interventions conducted.
- 94% of complaints resolved within 90 days

Purpose: Purpose: The purpose of this programme is to provide support to the provincial leadership and enable economic growth through the generation and co-ordination of economic research and planning, and through the active support of key economic thematic drivers and enablers that will stimulate economic growth across the economy and within sections of the economy.

- 5 research reports developed.
- 15 partnerships established/strengthened.
- 3 catalytic infrastructure projects supported.
- 78 persons supported with digital literacy skills.
- 218 business supported in resource resilience.
- 25 municipalities provided with resource resilience support.
- 5 energy resilience projects supported.

# TOURISM, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Purpose: To facilitate the implementation of an integrated tourism strategy that will lead to sustained and increased growth and job creation in the tourism industry.

- 2 tourism sector initiatives report developed.
- 2 progress reports on the implementation of the tourism product development programme.
- 89 tourist guides developed.
- 1500 individuals registered as tourist guides.
- 110 individuals/tourism-related businesses inspected or monitored (tourist guides).
- 139 tourism establishments/individuals supported.
- 1 oversight report on the establishment of the Tourism Safety Law Enforcement unit.
- 2 Tourism Safety Strategy Implementation Reports.

Purpose: To facilitate the provisioning of human capital and innovation skills to deliver on the economic human resources development needs of the Western Cape.

- 5 skills development initiatives supported to address the skills mismatched between the skills supply and industry
- 4 684 beneficiaries supported through skills interventions.
- R201 699 123 value of funds leveraged.



The Department's vision is a Western Cape that has a vibrant, innovative and sustainable economy, characterised by economic growth and employment.

To attain the vision, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism will provide qualitative leadership to the Western Cape economy through the Department's understanding of the economy, its ability to identify economic opportunities and potential, and its contribution to government economic priorities.

The Department will enhance the productive and competitive capability of the provincial economy. It will catalyse economic growth and employment creation through:

- Investment promotion and catalytic infrastructure;
- Export growth;
- Addressing skills gaps;
- Accelerating the ease of doing business; and
- Resource resilience.

The Department has a final appropriation of R510.030 million for the 2022/23 financial year. Of this, the Department spent 98.6% of its appropriated funds as compared to 98.7% in the 2021/22 financial year.

|  | 2022/2023              |                       |                              | 2021/22                |                       |                              |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Departmental receipts                    | Final<br>Appropriation | Actual<br>Expenditure | (Over)/ Under<br>Expenditure | Final<br>Appropriation | Actual<br>Expenditure | (Over)/ Under<br>Expenditure |
|  | R'000                  | R'000                 | R'000                        | R'000                  | R'000                 | R'000                        |
| Administration                           | 58 544                 | 57 911                | 633                          | 55 805                 | 54 841                | 964                          |
| Integrated Economic Development Services | 47 839                 | 47 159                | 680                          | 53 676                 | 53 204                | 472                          |
| Trade and Sector Development             | 74 799                 | 74 413                | 386                          | 73 990                 | 73 976                | 14                           |
| Business Regulation & Governance         | 10 636                 | 10 431                | 205                          | 9 580                  | 9 392                 | 188                          |
| Economic Planning                        | 150 089                | 144 989               | 5 100                        | 160 320                | 157 255               | 3 065                        |
| Tourism, Arts & Entertainment            | 71 909                 | 71 874                | 35                           | 74 597                 | 74 161                | 436                          |
| Skills Development & Innovation          | 96 214                 | 96 106                | 108                          | 71 931                 | 70 567                | 1 364                        |
| Total                                    | 510 030                | 502 883               | 7 147                        | 499 899                | 493 396               | 6 503                        |

