



ZULULAND ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN

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1. Introduction and Background

The outbreak of the worldwide Covid19 pandemic earlier this year, had a devastating effect on the health and socioeconomic livelihoods of millions of people around the world including South Africa, KwaZulu-Natal and Zululand District Municipality. South African President Cyril Ramaphosa pronounced a National Disaster Plan to fight this pandemic. Following the announcement national lockdown to prevent the spread of the coronavirus (Covid-19), government has subsequently put measures in place not only to save lives, but also to boost our ailing economy which had already suffered technical recession in the first quarter of 2020.

The plan *"will be implemented immediately to firstly ignite economic activity, secondly restore investor confidence, thirdly prevent further job losses and create new jobs, and fourthly to address some urgent challenges that affect the conditions faced by vulnerable groups among our people"*, Ramaphosa said.

1.1 Problem Statement

The South African socio-economic environment has significantly been altered by the Covid-19 Pandemic., casing devastating impact on the social and economic reality of Citizens of South Africa and the community of the Zululand District Municipality was no exception to this.

The Covid-19 pandemic presented a disturbing manifestation of considerable widespread poverty and hardship on different critical sectors of the ZDM economy, specifically in tourism, agriculture, informal trading, SMMEs, established businesses, education, health, and households.

Whilst the Municipality is still collecting data and conducting a comprehensive assessment on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on its economy, there is significant level of evidence that Covid-19 has deposited an amplified poverty creating mechanism which will cause poverty and loss of income to persist on households and businesses in ZDM.

The extent of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the various aspect of the ZDM's economy is not yet conclusive, although the picture that emerged is a worrying one-hence the need for a strong intervention to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on households and to facilitate the recovery of the ZDM's economy.

1.2 Impact of Covid-19 and challenges within the district

The inadequate health facilities that exist within the district have contribute to number of infections experienced. The pandemic had amplified the existing uneven healthcare capacity within the province and the need to improve our current health facilities. Necessary discussions with the relevant authorities need to be facilitated in efforts to improve the livelihood of the Zululand communities.

The high levels of unemployment, resulting to a densely poverty stricken community remained a challenge through this period. This saw more families, including children being affected by hunger particularly during the period where the school nutrition programme had been seized.

Covid-19 impact assessment questionnaires have been developed to evaluate the extent of damage caused by the pandemic on various economic sectors of Zululand.

2. District Response during Covid-19

Following the declaration of the state of National Disaster for South Africa, the district ensured that it implements measure to ensure alignment with regulations working closely with all relevant authorities. This included:

- a. The establishment of the District Command Council;
- b. Giving support to Law Enforcement Authorities to ensure the effective implementation of the rule of law as per regulations;
- c. Close monitoring of district borders to curve the spread of the pandemic through inter-district travel;
- d. Mayoral Food Parcel Programme.

Mitigation	Approach	Objective	Time Frame	Tools	Target	No. of Beneficiaries
Sethembe food Relief Voucher Programme	To relief pain without addressing the shock or condition	Provide cushion from shock	Medium - term	Social Protection Policy	Vulnerable households	5010

The decision by the South African Reserve Bank to cut interest rates, came amid a wave of cuts by global central banks in an attempt to offset the economic damage from the Covid-19 pandemic. The repo rate is at its lowest, ever. "The government undoubtedly have to do more to support households and companies facing a dramatic loss of income"

With the understanding that in an event of a disaster like the Covid-19 pandemic, not everyone would have the capacity to effectively navigate the shocks. The ZDM Honourable Mayor Cllr TD Buthelezi, in the spirit of Ubuntu, initiated a food relief programme

implemented by the municipality shock of the pandemic on households. Thus, providing a temporary relief measure to families assisting them to negotiate through the shock.

3. Purpose of the Plan

The primary objective of the plan is to register and outline the strategic intent of Zululand District wide stakeholders to revitalise economy and put it back to the desired growth and development-oriented trajectory. Furthermore, it is in the interest of the plan to curb and minimise the adverse effect of Covid-19 on local economy and its role players, thereby preserve existing jobs, create new business opportunities and stimulate job creation in the processes.

The emergence of Covid-19 and subsequent of the economic lockdown in March 2020 aimed at curbing the spread of the virus and flatten the curve has resulted to a number of unintended consequences. Amongst other things, the contraction of the economy is estimated to stand between 5 – 7%. The collapse of various industries has led to the dramatic increase in job losses and ultimately high national level of unemployment which is approximately 30%. Such adverse socio-economic statistic has undoubtedly proved that, Covid-19 has reversed the economic gains of the country which were geared towards eradication of poverty, creation of employment and addressing inequality.

It is against this background that, all level of government are expected to participate in the country wide “creative economic think tank” to formulate strategies and packages interventionist measures that will revive dwindling economies, saves jobs, eradicate poverty and minimise the adverse economic impact of the pandemic to our respective local economic spaces.

4. The stimulus and recovery plan has the following parts:

Implementation of high impact to projects for enhancing economic reforms.

- a. Reprioritisation of public spending to support job creation and support livelihoods.
- b. Establishment of an infrastructure fund.
- c. Address urgent and pressing matters in education and health.
- d. Investing in municipal social infrastructure improvement.
- e. Fast-tracking reform measures for a competitive and inclusive economy.

The national Government stand point and perspective towards reigniting and revitalisation of the economy provides a clear road map for all spheres of government to follow suite, thereby ensure a seamless, concerted and integrated efforts and approach for better economic growth and recovery trajectory.

To this end, it is fascinatingly noted that KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government has taken an initiative to fast track the compilation of the Economic Reconstruction and Recalibration

Plan in order to set in motion the activities that are aimed at addressing the socio-economic ills resulted from the adverse impact of the pandemic.

The Reconstruction and Recalibration Plan is by no means the Provincial Macro Economic Plan that replaces the Provincial Growth and Development, but is purely an action plan of short term interventions intended to bring back the economy to recovery mode and redress the adverse impact of the pandemic to various economic sectors and their respective participants at all levels.

In view of the socio-economic felt impact of the pandemic, the province has advised and directed the District Development Agencies to craft their respective plans in alignment and compliance with provincial socio-economic standpoint towards recovery trajectory.

5. Key Objectives

The primary objectives of the Economic Recovery Plan are to amongst other things:

- a. To expedient the short intervention corrective measures aimed at addressing the impact of Covid-19 within Zululand District area of jurisdiction.
- b. To promote and encourage expeditious implementation of budgeted capital and investment programmes thereby curb the spread of socio-economic ills.
- c. To facilitate access to socio-economic relief stimulus packages for local businesses and their labour force.
- d. To re-strategies on the critical programme of action for the regions and its ailing economy.
- e. To guide public sector adjustment towards understanding and accommodating the dire economic situation facing its residents.
- f. To position the District towards accessing the National and Provincial government driven stimulus packages.

6. Fundamental Economic Principles

The Zululand Economic Recovery plan has adopted and embraced critical economic principles of inclusivity, partnership, empowerment, investment orientation and support of enterprise development. In its strategic pillars or thrusts the plan attempts to encapsulate all these principles thereby practical means of tuning the regional economic fortunes to the benefit of its business and population at large.

- a. Public Sector Participation:** leadership in various development processes, as well as management of development programs and the mobilising and development of resources.
- b. Community Involvement:** addressing poverty through local level debates and local strategies, since communities or community organisations know the challenges their communities face, they are not likely to struggle in identifying

them. Giving communities a sense of ownership in local government initiatives by providing them with access to economic initiatives, support programmes and information.

- c. Public Private Partnership and Communication:** good coordination of economic development planning and implementation across government and between government and non-government stakeholders – private sector, civil society NGOs and regional local governments.
- d. Financial Support:** this can take many forms, particularly for small enterprise initiatives, and large capital projects. These include financial assistance and referrals to funding and finance institutions, and access to government grants for business and community projects.
- e. Economic Growth Acceleration:** the focus of this recovery plan is focused on an increase in productive investment, facilitation of economic activity in the second economy, improvement of social services income support and human development and improvement of state capacity.
- f. Empowerment:** this includes equitable access and participation on the economy regardless of race, gender, disability, age, geographical location with emphasis on issues such as black enterprise and productive asset ownership and control, black occupation of executive and senior management positions; preferential procurement and investment in black enterprises.
- g. Economic Integration:** promotion of participation of historically disadvantaged people and marginalised people in the mainstream industrial economy by integration of the second economy.
- h. Infrastructure Investment:** infrastructure attracts growth enhancing investment. Some of the infrastructure that many South African municipalities are in dire need of are roads, telecommunications infrastructure, water and sewerage infrastructure and power infrastructure.
- i. Spatial Development Planning:** this includes socio-economic development, in areas according to their spatial positioning and economic potential. Spatial development in the democratic South Africa planning is crucial for the reconfiguration of apartheid spatial planning.
- j. Enterprise Support:** this refers to assistance given to people to become entrepreneurs in viable and productive small enterprises. It can take many

forms including technical support, general business advice, skills training and development and access to markets.

- k. Industrial Development:** amongst others, the most important factors of industrialisation in SA include the facilitation of diversification beyond current reliance on traditional commodities and non-tradable services, the intensification of South Africa's industrialisation process and movement towards a knowledge economy, and promotion of a more labour absorbing industrialisation path.

- l. Sustainable Provision of Basic Services:** sustainable provision of basic services such as water and electricity, and the development and maintenance of essential public and social infrastructure are critical for sustained growth and poverty reduction.

7. Strategic Sector Prioritisation Approach

The provincial recovery plan has adopted the approach where it prioritises twelve critical sectors of focus. The same approach is adopted by the district Cluster of Zululand by looking at active economic sector and assessed the impact of Covid-19 around those sectors.

Key investment opportunities include Tourism infrastructure (construction), Agriculture, Informal Trading and Mining Sectors. Tourism has started to play a larger role in the economy, replacing mining as the predominant sector. Zululand therefore has the potential for accelerated economic growth given the right programmes, support, and funding.

Several economic corridors and priority economic development zones have been proposed by the Zululand Infrastructure and Economic Cluster, namely:

- a. Pongolapoort Dam Development Node
- b. Emakhosini Ophathe Development Node
- c. Ithala/Ngoje Development Node
- d. Areas of Economic Opportunities
- e. Prince Mangosuthu Airport precinct (one-stop-shop)
- f. P700 Nodal Development
- g. Agro-Processing Hub (value chain)
- h. Mining Corridor

8. Economic Recovery Strategic Pillars

Zululand District did an assessment of the major economic sectors and areas, in line with the National and Provincial priorities that requires urgent attention. Working in partnership with different stakeholders, the following strategic pillars were identified.

8.1 Agricultural Value Chain

This pillar of the strategy seeks to take advantage of the agricultural potential of Zululand areas thereby ensure that local farmers access all the available support and capitalise the potential private and public markets at their disposal. It is believed that agriculture carries the capacity to create more jobs opportunities while ensuring sustainable food security.

The clear rationale behind this intervention is to provide much needed support to the sector during the current planting season and align the production to the newly emerging demand and supply trends in the market. Furthermore, the Covid-19 relief fund allocations for Zululand have suggested a very strong community of farmers in vegetable and livestock production.

The district is also to leverage from the provincial plan of increasing the inclusion and productivity of women, youth and person with disability as part of the agricultural recovery plan, this is in light of the global decline in food production.

8.2 Infrastructure Improvement

The Provincial Reconstruction and Calibration strategy has infrastructure development as a critical element of economic recovery and future prosperity of the country. To this end, they have categorically classified it as an Economic Stimulus that:

- a. Drive up aggregate demand in the short term;
- b. Create capacity that improves productivity in the medium to long term;
- c. Bring people who would have lost their jobs during the crisis back into employment;
- d. Promotes and support small business development.

8.3 Tourism Revitalisation

Covid-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the sector nationally and in the district in particular. This has been one of the hardest sectors as it was completely closed down during the lockdown period. This period resulted in the loss of income for tourism related businesses, some of them collapsing and being unable to reopen and some jobs were completely lost as businesses collapsed or reduce the scope of operation.

Impact of the pandemic on tourism within KZN:

- a. Projects are that international visitor number will decline by 580 000 resulting to R5.3 billion loss in revenue;
- b. Domestic tourism said to decrease by over 3 million visitors in 2020, resulting to R5 billion of revenue;
- c. Preliminary finding from provincial tourism survey predicts around 3 000 jobs to be lost.

The tourism recovery generally takes place in three phases which are protective interventions, managed re-opening phase as well as continuity interventions phase. The strategies in this document are more of the managed re-opening phase interventions whereby the attempt is to assist in the re-opening and re-entry to the sector by operators. The long term continuity interventions will be covered by the standing tourism plan of the District.

The tourism sector is recognised in the district IDP as one of the key mechanisms to grow the district economy and give the district a distinct brand, differentiated from its neighbours. Successful tourism growth can only be achieved through intensive and sustained tourism development and marketing interventions which should be prioritised and effected through ample budget allocation, able implementers and active participation by the pertinent departments and ZDM leadership.

8.4 SMMEs and Informal Trading Support

SMMEs and informal traders provide jobs for a reasonable amount of people in the country in general. Informal traders sell essentials and non-essentials goods at affordable prices, in accessible locations and sell to the majority of the urban poor communities. The lock down has created a meagre of challenges for both the SMMEs and the informal traders. These include the loss of income due to the lockdown regulations, loss of perishable stocks during the lockdown period, inability to pay for permits and licences due to the loss of income, job losses caused by retrenchments and reduction in operation sizes for SMMEs. As the District is gearing for recovery from the Covid-19 aftermaths, informal economy and SMMEs are no exception to such plans hence interventions are required on relief, infrastructure, capability and demand creation.

8.5 Development Finance Strategy

The Covid-19 has interfered the financial position of individuals, businesses and government at large thereby undermine the delivery of services, compromised and led to escalating poverty levels. This had called to immediate response from government to address financial predicaments of all the affected parties thereby balance the humanitarian and business economics of the country.

As at the onset of the lockdown on 27 March 2020, South African Government has announced a broad range of measures to mitigate the worst effects of the pandemic on businesses, on communities and on individuals. These included amongst others:

- a. **The Unemployment Insurance Fund** – R40 billion to help employees who will be unable to work, as part of the effort to prevent jobs losses as a result of the lockdown.
- b. **The industrial Development Corporation** – R3 billion for the procurement of essential medical supplies
- c. **The Solidarity Fund** – was established to mobilise resources from companies, organisations and individuals to combat the coronavirus pandemic – raised over R2.2 billion.
- d. **Agricultural Relief Fund** – was made available to all deserving farmers’ country wide and Zululand farmers had a share of at least R12.4 million.

It is not yet known as to how many people from Zululand who had benefited from UIF, IDC funding and Solidarity Fund. Undoubtedly this had indicated the importance of financial support to the workers and employers alike in order to keep the economy afloat.

The Zululand Infrastructure and Economic Cluster has since realised the importance of addressing development and municipal finance reforms and reactions to the post Covid-19 economic impact. This strategic thrust is purely meant to facilitate, coordinate and ensure the injection of capital funding and working cash flow to the local businesses. This could be achieved through relaxation of municipal rates to the most affected sectors or establishments, provision of incentives schemes, accessing relief funds, implementation of rental holiday schemes and mobilisation of development oriented funding from various government institutions and donor agencies.

9. Overall Financial Implication

Covid-19 had a dire impact on the financial positions of the municipalities in the country. The Zululand family of municipalities are not an exception in this case, they are also faced with numerous financial challenges and constraints.

- a. Decline in inter-governmental fund transfer to municipalities: overall reduction in inter-governmental transfers as National Government Departments and Treasury see their own budgets constrained by inability to collect taxes, tariffs and fees as businesses and household’s battle to pay taxes.
- b. Slowing down of infrastructure development has impacted service delivery, reduce capital expenditure budget and reduced overall local economic spend.

- c. Loss revenue from property rates and taxes: property rates and taxes account for between 15 and 22% of total revenue of municipalities. The revenue based has been adversely affected as a result of inability of households, businesses to pay job losses and businesses closing. To this end, information is not yet available on the actual revenue losses experienced by the Local Municipalities of Zululand District.
- d. Generation of Revenue from electricity: revenue from electricity sales account form between 30 and 45% of own revenue for municipalities. The sales from electricity has declined significantly, due to limited demand from business operations.
- e. Bulk purchases of water and electricity: it is not just electricity, but the bulk purchasing capacity of electricity and water, has been significantly affected, net impact on overall ability to supply has been compromised.

The tables below are a list of projects that the economic role-players in the ZDM believe could bring about a positive change towards resuscitating the economy.

10. Covid-19 Economic Recovery Implementation Plan

10.1 Agricultural Value Chain

Intervention	Project	Local Mun.	Budget	Jobs	Funded/not Funded	Responsibility	Time Frame
RASET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Engagement with Cogta RASET Team ➤ Farmer mobilisation and readiness to supply RASET team 	All LMs	R5m	40	Not Funded	ZDM, LMs and Dept. of Agriculture	On going
Pack House / Cold Room	Submission of Business plan to ADA, Cogta and EDTEA	Ulundi & uPhongola	R40M	50	Not Funded	ZDM, Ulundi & uPhongola LM	2 years
Mechanisation Support	Provide mechanisation support to the District cooperatives	All LMs	R25M	100	Not Funded	ZDM and DARD	On going
Agricultural Relief Programme	Identify any additional agricultural relief funding to further support farmers	All LMs	R20M	200	Not Funded	ZDM	12 months
National Schools Nutrition Program	Schools Nutrition programme Possibly Recommencing soon	All LMs	R5M	40	Not Funded	ZDM, LMs, Cogta & EDTEA	On going
Establishing organic vegetable farms	This project aims to establish organic farms in each LM for farmers to earn more incomes from niche markets	District wide	R5M	25	Not funded	ZDM, Cogta, EDTEA	4 years (one in each financial year)

10.2 Infrastructure Improvement

Intervention	Project	Local Mun.	Budget	Jobs	Funded/not Funded	Responsibility	Time Frame
Ulundi Private Hospital	Construction of a 100 bed hospital	Ulundi	R567M	200	Funded	Private sector	3 years
KwaMajomela Small Scale Manufacturing & Value Add	The project mainly seeks to provide working space, shared capital equipment and skills development for SMME's & Cooperatives in the area.	Nongoma	R13.4M	20 Co-ops	Funded	ZDM, EDTEA & Nongoma LM	2 years
Tourism Infrastructure	The aim of the project is to establish four tourism centres in ZDM (i.e. one per local municipality).	District wide	R6M	50	Not funded	ZDM, Cogta, EDTEA	6 months
Water Infrastructure	Bulk water supply schemes through the District	All	R131M	300	Funded	ZDM	On going

10.3 Tourism Revitalisation

Intervention	Project	Local Mun.	Budget	Jobs	Funded/Not Funded	Responsibility	Time Frame
Imbube Cultural Village	Construction of cultural centre which include conference facilities	uPhongola	R15M	35	Funded	ZDM, NPG & Cogta	12 months
Mkuze Falls	Upgrading facilities – uPhongola LM is an implementing agent & value chain add. Facilities are managed by Community Trust	uPhongola	R2,5M	20	Funded	ZDM, NPG & Cogta	12 months
Koppie Allean		uPhongola	R1,5M	15	Funded	ZDM, NPG & Cogta	12 months
Development of Tourism Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To formulate tourism vision, general objectives, development and management strategies, programmes, projects and action plans for Zululand District Municipality and align these to Local, Provincial and National Plans. ➤ To conduct a SWOT and Gap analysis and to formulate conclusions and recommendations for product development, product diversification, marketing strategy and land analysis in order to unleash the tourism potential for the municipality. 	District wide	R700 000		Funded	ZDM & EDTEA	12 months

10.4 SMMEs and Informal Trading Support

Intervention	Project	Local Mun.	Budget	Jobs	Funded/not Funded	Responsibility	Time Frame
Trading Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The identification of new sites across all towns for the trading infrastructure ➤ Provide Facilities for SMMEs 	All LMs	R10M	100	Not Funded	ZDM, all LMs, Cogta & EDTEA	12 months
Relief Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assist informal traders & SMMEs to access National/Provincial Support programs 	All LMs	-----	100	Not Funded	ZDM, all LMs, Cogta & EDTEA	12 months
Capability Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Preparing the informal trading infrastructure to be Covid-19 ready and compliant. ➤ Capacitate SMMEs and informal traders on the Covid-19 safe operations ➤ Facilitate re-entry of informal traders sector and developing existing informal traders to SMMEs 	All LMs	R2M	100	Not Funded	ZDM, all LMs, Cogta & EDTEA	12 months
Craftwork sector	The aim of the project is to organise those involved in craftwork to establish craftwork centres and distribution centre where they can exhibit their products.	Nongoma	R2M	50	Not funded	ZDM, Cogta, EDTEA	6 months
Tyre Recycling Centre	The centre seeks to explore options of providing recycled materials for both consumer and commercial markets including rubber crumb for playground products, tyre to energy (pyrolysis plant), railway crossing panels and rubber powder for protective and architectural coatings applications, road tar applications, aggregate and others	Abaqulus i			Not funded		12 months

10.5 Development Finance Strategy

Intervention	Project	Local Mun.	Budget	Jobs	Funded/ not Funded	Responsibility	Time Frame
Covid-19 Relief Funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assist business to apply for Covid-19 funds ➤ Quantify the success rate of funds accessibility and its related impact thereof 	District wide	--	1000		ZDM	12 months
Procurement Reforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Relaxation of Procurement Policies and short circuiting off processes ➤ Improved payment circle of service providers 	District wide	--	1000		ZDM	12 months
Development Funding Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assist local businesses to apply for funding of strategic projects ➤ Assist agro-business to access DTI incentives schemes 	District wide	--	1000		ZDM	12 months

11. Projects Identified for Prioritisation

Intervention	Project	Local Mun.	Budget	Jobs	Funded / not Funded	Responsibility	Time Frame
Usuthu off-storage dam	A Preliminary investigation was done which indicated that additional storage is needed and a site was identified. In this time of drought and water shortages it is vital that this facility is constructed	Nongoma	R700M	500	Not funded	ZDM & DWS	2 Years (dependent on funding)
Prince Mangosuthu Regional Airport	The target is to operate the airport as a catalyst for economic growth. It will also be used as a self-sustaining, ring fenced, socio / economic hub that acts to support the national government mandate for the economic and social upliftment of the people of the district through high value industry, employment, added value to education and better access to healthcare. The airport has the potential to upgrade to level 4. Although the airport is currently in a functional state, infrastructure maintenance needs have been evaluated and costed. There are no scheduled flights however private and government flights are landing from time to time. Air shows have also been held in partnership with Civil Aviation Authority which drew large crowds and attraction to the area.	Ulundi	R150M	250	Not funded	ZDM, Treasury, South African Civil Aviation Authority, Private Sector	12 months
Aloe Processing Plant	It involves the cultivation of abundant aloe ferox and processing that in an Aloe Processing Facility to promote social upliftment while preserving this natural resource for the use of medicine, and other products. The project will stimulate small businesses and much needed job creation.	Ulundi & Nongoma	R25M	200	Not funded	ZDM, EDTEA, Private sector	12 months
Mona Market Development	Rehabilitation and improvement of facilities of Mona Market to improve trading conditions through promoting economic activities, improve infrastructure, strategic coordination, interaction and spatial alignment for tourism and agriculture. Business Plan has been completed. Concept and record of decision has also been completed.	Nongoma	R70M	500	Not funded	ZDM, NLM, Cogta, EDTEA	12 months

Intervention	Project	Local Mun.	Budget	Jobs	Funded/ not Funded	Responsibility	Time Frame
eDumbe Waterborne Sewerage Infrastructure	The town of Paulpietersburg is constantly growing and the proposed development of a Shopping Centre & Middle Income Housing (both have currently started) will place additional pressure on the current sanitation system and with the absence of water borne sanitation system in the town, the need and demand for one is forever growing. The water borne sanitation system will also be environmentally friendly and promotes the concept of COP 17. The town is currently using a septic tank which in return has a negative impact on investment within the town. Status: Grant conditions for water do not allow for implementation of this project.	eDumbe	R350M	300	Not Funded	ZDM, DWS, eDumbe LM	3 Years (dependent on funding)
Pongolapoort Dam Development Node	This is a PPP project which will see contribution across all sectors. The potential development lies in the TFCA between Zululand, Mozambique and Swaziland & could serve as major tourist draw card. The dam and surrounding scenic landscape is the key element. Approximately 10000 temporal jobs and 1500 permanent jobs could be created. Development of infrastructure & facilities for 10 water-based PPP opportunities (Houseboat, fishing charters, event boats, game view operators & canoe trips), two public access management & house boat servicing hubs, two land based PPP opportunities in the Phongola nature reserve (Lodges, camp site, game drives, hiking, bird watching)	uPhongola	R32M	135	Not Funded	ZDM, Cogta, EDTEA, Phongola LM & Private Sector	2 years
Ulundi 19 Tourism Gateway Project	Building of nodal infrastructure and activities, t/ship establishment to stimulate economic and tourism opportunities afforded by Ulundi 19 (Intersection of R34 to Vryheid/Newcastle and R66 towards Nongoma & uPhongola). Proposed activities include 24 hour tourism information centre, Filling station, restaurant, internet	Ulundi	R15M	40	Not funded	ZDM, Ulundi, Cogta, EDTEA, Private sector	12 months

	café and up market craft shops, truck stop & long distance bus stop.						
Zululand Centre of Technology	The centre seeks to reduce the shortage of quality Maths and Science matriculants especially from townships around Zululand. Although there will be an initial focus on grade 8-12, all grades will eventually be offered. Grade 8 students from surrounding high schools will be invited to finish their schooling at the centre of technology. It will have library, ICT, physical science, life science and computer study laboratories.	Ulundi	R15M	150	Not funded	ZDM & Private Sector	3 years
ZDM Digital Transformation (ICT)	A framework for digital transformation is needed to realize benefits. The goal of digital transformation is to deliver better outcomes using fewer resources by reinventing the way services are produced and delivered. Change is required to become more efficient, where change is driven by digitalization and implementing new technology.	Ulundi	R30M	100	Not funded	ZDM & Private sector	2 years

12. Conclusion

It must be noted that the effective implementation of the plan requires adapting to the new normal and collaboration with all spheres of government and the private sector in maximising resource and the impact thereof.

Examples of interventions:

- Provision of relief measures on municipal rates, water, electricity.
- Availability of land for new developmental initiatives.
- Targeted interventions on skill development and/transfer Coordinated facilitation of packaging and funding of catalytic projects.
- Ease of access to government facilities: grants, soft loans, etc.
- Targeted interventions by Provincial government aimed at spreading the economic activities and benefits across the province.

The reconstruction and recovery plan will enable a significant expansion in the delivery of public infrastructure, creating jobs, unlocking investment and boosting aggregate demand.