LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEMOCRATISATION AND SERVICE DELIVERY IN SA: QUO VADIS?: THE CASE OF NDWEDWEDWE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

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INTRODUCTION

- Ilembe District: 4 municipalities: Ndwenwe one of them: 1153 sq.km and 140,820 people: settlement density of 115 people per km.: fragmented/steep: 68% tribal: major part of Kwazulu homeland

- Major service delivery challenges: poverty and despair.

- Study focused on service delivery levels: democratisation/transformation.

- Mixed method research methodology: interviews and empirical survey. Only findings from literature review and qualitative study.
presented through thematic analysis. Recommendations for enhancing service delivery.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESTRUCTURING

- “Rural areas of country,… worst concentrations of poverty” (Mbeki). SA Poverty and Inequality Assessment Report: 77% of poor live in rural areas. 52% of 55% rural people living in poverty. Rural local government restructured very late.

- Political restructuring of Ndwedwe Municipality: municipal structures
SERVICE DELIVERY IN NDWEDWE MUNICIPALITY

- Deficiencies in administrative capacity/ institutional performance: LGSETA/SALGA Report
- Poor municipal leadership
- **Ndwedwe Municipality**: challenges: limited infrastructure / lack of resources and dependency on equitable share

**Service Delivery Backlogs**:  
- Water and Sanitation  
- Education
Health Facilities
Electricity
Local Sports Facilities
HIV/AIDS
Community Services
Expanded Public Works Programme
Human Settlements
Cemeteries and Crematoria
Empowerment: Youth/People/Special Needs
DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

- KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Plan of Action (Priorities); Ndwedwe Municipal Strategy; Provincial Spatial Economic Development Strategy and Ndwedwe Spatial Development Framework and Development Framework of Ndwedwe Municipality. Primary/Secondary Corridors; Economic Development; Tourism and Recreation

KEY FINDINGS

- Service delivery challenges: protests. Common local government problems: poor administration/financial difficulties/
incompetence. Government interventions has not assisted. Serviced delivery mechanisms need to be strengthened, namely community participation, IDP and LED.

- Local Government Restructuring/Transformation
- Service Delivery
- IDP Process as a Municipal Strategic Framework
- Compliance with Local Government Legislation
RECOMMENDATIONS
- Compliance with Legislative/Policy Framework for Service Delivery
- Education/Training for Executive Municipal Functionaries
- Merging of Provincial/Local Spheres of Government: Regional Focus
- Interconnected Governance in Service Delivery
- Analysis of SWOT
CONCLUSION

- Municipality is lagging behind in service delivery: shortage of educational facilities.
- Lack of clean water: communities infected with numerous diseases: compromise the budget: shifting focus from service delivery.
- Ndwedwe is extremely vast: difficult to reach entire jurisdiction: challenges: rural municipality: not financially sustainable: not a deterrent in achieving developmental mandate.