

# Provincial Agricultural Sector Plans (PASPs)

Guiding Agricultural Development and Land Use  
Decisions

In terms of the Preservation and Development of  
Agricultural Land Act, 2024

Provincial consultation

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# Legislative Context

## Preservation and Development of Agricultural Land Act, 2024 (PDALA)

- Applies to all agricultural land in South Africa
- Requires provinces to prepare Provincial Agricultural Sector Plans
- Plans must be science-based, participatory and aligned across spheres of government
- Standardised content prescribed by national regulations

# Definition of an Agricultural Sector Plan

A statutory, strategic planning instrument prepared by a province

- Provides a spatial and economic overview of agriculture
- Identifies agricultural potential, constraints and opportunities
- Sets priorities for agricultural development and land protection

# Purpose and aims of an ASP

Coordinate and harmonise agricultural policies and decisions

- Promote sustainable agriculture and food security
- Preserve high-value and strategic agricultural land
- Support viable and resilient farming systems
- Ensure consistency in land use decision-making

# Who can use the ASP

- National and provincial departments
- District and local municipalities
- State-owned entities and infrastructure agencies
- Farmers, agri-businesses and investors
- Applicants for land use change, subdivision or authorisation

# Role of ASPs in Land use applications

- Guides applicants on preferred and restricted land uses
  - Identifies priority agricultural areas and commodities
  - Supports preparation of compliant land use and subdivision applications
  - Reduces uncertainty in approval processes
  - Aligns proposals with provincial development priorities

# Key principles informing ASPs

- Agro-ecosystem management
- Productivity of agricultural land
- Stability and resilience of food systems
- Economic viability of farming units
- Equity and long-term sustainability

# Key ASP components

- Agro-ecosystem and land potential mapping
- Soil, water and climate resource assessments
- Agricultural performance and trends
- Priority commodities and value chains
- Strategic development interventions

# Table of Contents – Executive Summary

- Purpose, statutory basis, role as decision-support tool
- Importance of agriculture (food security, growth, employment)
- Alignment with National and Provincial Goals
- Summary of strategies, priorities, interventions
- Priority commodities and value chains
- Land protection priorities
- Institutional arrangements, funding & M&E framework

# Chapter 1: Introduction

- Background and Context – including ag land pressures, trends
- ASP rationale, purpose, scope, objectives
- Legal mandate and intended outcomes
- Agro-ecosystem-principled planning
- Stakeholder engagement
- Public participation and consultation
- Linkages with other planning instruments

# Chapter 2: Policy and Legislative Framework

- Constitutional Framework, Policy Context, NDP, MTDP, etc
- Provincial Growth and Development Strategy
- District and Municipal Planning Context
- Key legislation governing agricultural land (PDALA, SPLUMA, CARA), etc

# Chapter 3: Agro-Ecosystems, resources, assessment

- Agro-Ecosystem delineation and description
- Agricultural land classification
- Natural resource base
- Current land use and farming systems
- Socio-economic and demographic profile
- Land tenure and ownership patterns
- Agricultural infrastructure and support services

# Chapter 4: Agricultural performance, trends

- Key commodities and value chains – primary production + agro-processing linkages
- Spatial and commodity trends
- Economic contribution, employment, trade
- Climate change and risk assessment
- Role of various farmer categories
- Existing programmes, interventions
- Constraints, risks, opportunities

# Chapter 5: Strat framework for agric development

- Vision, mission, principles, strategic objectives, development goals
- Key development interventions, production support
- Agricultural land protection and stewardship
- Infrastructure development – including agro-processing
- Market access and value chain development
- Farmer support, extension, R&D, innovation, land, agrarian reform
- Youth and women and other strategic programmes

# Chapter 6: Land Use and protection

- Agricultural land categorisation - high, medium or low potential
- Mechanisms for land protection
- Land use change and subdivision – preferred/discouraged uses
- Alignment with agro-ecosystem classifications
- Disaster, risk management, biosecurity management
- Integration with spatial frameworks
- Managing land use conflicts

# Chapter 7: Institutional arrangements, governance

- Roles, responsibilities - national, provincial, district & local spheres
- Intergovernmental coordination
- Cooperative governance mechanisms
- Institutional capacity assessment: Skills, resource requirements
- Public–Private Partnerships
- Data management and information systems
- Alignment with the National Agro-Eco Information System

# Chapter 8: Financial Framework, investment

- Funding requirements
- Sources of finance
- Investment incentives and risk mitigation
- Funding sustainability strategy
- Cost–Benefit and Economic Impact Analysis (where applicable)

# Chapter 9: Implementation, Monitoring & Evaluation

- Phasing and timeframes
- Action plan
- Institutional responsibilities
- Monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework
- Indicators, performance targets
- Review, feedback, adaptive management

# Chapter 10: Integration, alignment

- Alignment with relevant official frameworks and strategies
- Guidance to District and Local Municipalities, including reporting

## Annexures (examples)

- Spatial Maps and data sets
- Stakeholder engagement report
- Technical resource reports
- Other supporting documentation

# Conclusion and takeaways

Agricultural Sector Plans are mandatory statutory instruments

- Guiding agricultural development and land use decisions
- Protecting agricultural land
- Enabling sustainable development
- Provide clarity and certainty to all stakeholders

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