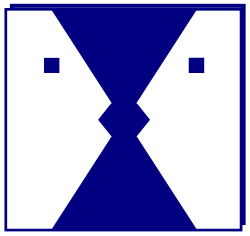
Northern KwaZulu-Natal Strengthening Project

Social Scoping Report



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Executive Summary

The purpose of this document is to provide a baseline description of the receiving socio-economic environment and to identify preliminary social and economic impacts for the proposed Northern KwaZulu-Natal strengthening project.

ESKOM Holdings SOC Ltd (Eskom) has commissioned a project to strengthening the supply of electricity in northern KwaZulu-Natal (KZN). The northern KZN network is currently fed at 132 kV by Normandie substation and Impala substation (BID, August 2016). High voltage drops are experienced in the 132 kV network and the voltages are approaching unacceptable levels as the demand increases. Contingencies on the main 132 kV supplies also lead to thermal overloading of the remaining network.

In order to alleviate current and future network constraints in northern KZN, Eskom proposes that Iphiva 400/132 kV substation be introduced in the area, which will de-load the main sub-transmission network and improve the voltage regulation in the area.

The proposed project consists of the new Iphiva 400/132 kV substation near the town of Mkuze in KwaZulu-Natal, which will be integrated into the 400 kV network by two 400 kV lines, namely:

- the 120 km Normandie-Iphiva line, and
- the 130 km Duma-Iphiva 400 kV line.

In addition, 65 km of 132Kv distribution power lines will be link into the Iphiva substation. The size of the substation is 24 Ha.

Stakeholders will be identified in more detail during the EIA phase, but preliminary stakeholders include:

- Government and parastatals
    - Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal Provinces;
    - District and local municipalities;

  - Traditional authorities;
  - Spoornet;
- Civil society
  - Ingonyama Trust;
  - Surrounding towns and communities;
  - Private landowners;
  - Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife;
  - NGO's;
- Business
  - Commercial farms and associated industry (e.g. sugar milling, timber processing);
  - Private game reserves and other tourism attractions;
  - Other business,
- Internal stakeholders
  - Eskom.

It must be noted that this list can change during the SIA phase and more stakeholders that emerge may be added.

The receiving environment is mostly located in the KwaZulu-Natal province, with a small portion located in the Mpumalanga Province. There are only a few large towns in the area. The rest of the area consist of settlements in areas under traditional leadership, commercial farms as well as some game reserves. The land under traditional management belongs to the Ingonyama Trust. Settlement patterns are scattered. Dwellings consist mostly of brick structures or traditional structures. Most people have isiZulu as home language.

Basic and social infrastructure is limited and do not meet the needs of the entire population in the area. Municipalities in the area are faced with challenges that

urban municipalities do not have. The settlement patterns make it extremely challenging to provide infrastructure such as piped water and sanitation. Road infrastructure in general need some upgrading and the conditions of the roads make it challenging to reach the communities that need to be served. In some areas relationships with traditional leadership provides an additional challenge. As there are few employment opportunities in these areas, many males have migrated to urban areas in search of employment, resulting in a community that stays behind with more females than males, as well as a very young population group. Other challenges include poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and skills levels and crime.

Most of the municipal areas have shown an increase both in the number of people as well as the number of households. In most areas the household sizes have decreased. This can be due to children leaving their parents' house to stay on their own and start families of their own.

The area is characterised by high levels of poverty as well as deprivation on a number of dimensions which mostly related to access to basic services. Education levels are low and there are very few employment opportunities. In areas under traditional leadership, subsistence farming is a very important livelihood strategy and informal trading plays a much greater role in survival than in urban areas.

In terms of commercial farming, sugar cane and forestry are concerns when it comes to the presence of power lines. Sugar cane need to be burnt, and as such cannot be planted below power lines. Although there are other methods to harvest sugar cane, those are more expensive and labour intensive. Fire is a great risk in terms of forestry, and a spark or a snapped power line could cause extensive damage. Fire is often use as a retribution measure in some areas, and this might also cause damage to power lines.

A number of preliminary social and economic impacts have been identified through the lifecycle of the project. These will be assessed in more detail during the social and economic impact assessment and it is possible that additional impacts may emerge during this process and that the preliminary ratings may change.

At this stage none of these possible impacts is seen as a fatal flaw in the possible successful execution of the proposed project. Most of the potential impacts can be mitigated. The importance of addressing the potential impacts as early in the project cycle as possible must be underlined, since failure to do so may result in the development of risks and an exponential increase in project cost.

Declaration of Independence

Equispectives Research and Consulting Services declare that:

- All work undertaken relating to the proposed project were done as independent consultants;
- They have the necessary required expertise to conduct social impact assessments, including the required knowledge and understanding of any guidelines or policies that are relevant to the proposed activity;
- They have undertaken all the work and associated studies in an objective manner, even if the findings of these studies were not favourable to the project proponent;
- They have no vested interest, financial or otherwise, in the proposed project or the outcome thereof, apart from remuneration for the work undertaken under the auspices of the abovementioned regulations;
- They have no vested interest, including any conflicts of interest, in either the proposed project or the studies conducted in respect of the proposed project, other than complying with the relevant required regulations;
- They have disclosed any material factors that may have the potential to influence the competent authority's decision and/or objectivity in terms of any reports, plans or documents related to the proposed project as required by the regulations.

Record of Experience

This report was compiled by San-Marié Aucamp and Ilse Aucamp.

San-Marié Aucamp is a registered Research Psychologist with extensive experience in both the practical and theoretical aspects of social research. She has more than 10 years of experience in social research and she occasionally presents guest lectures on social impact assessment. Her experience includes social impact assessments, social and labour plans, training, group facilitation as well as social research. She is a past council member of the Southern African Marketing Research Association (SAMRA).

Ilse Aucamp holds a D Phil degree in Social Work obtained from the University of Pretoria in 2015. She also has Masters degree in Environmental Management (Cum Laude) from the Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education which she obtained in 2004. Prior to that she completed a BA degree in Social Work at the University of Pretoria, She is frequently a guest lecturer in pre- as well as post-graduate programmes at various tertiary institutions. Her expertise includes social impact assessments, social management plans, social and labour plans, social auditing, training as well as public participation. She is the past international chairperson of the Social Impact Assessment section of the International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA) as well as a past member of the National Executive Council of IAIA South Africa. She advises the Centre for Environmental Rights on social issues, and is also on the advisory panel of the SIAhub, an international website aimed at SIA practitioners. She is a co-author of the newly published *Social Impact Assessment: Guidance for assessing and managing the social impacts of projects* document published by the International Association for Impact Assessment.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Sense of place: Defining oneself in terms of a given piece of land. It is the manner in which humans relate or feel about the environments in which they live.

Social impact: Something that is experienced or felt by humans. It can be positive or negative. Social impacts can be experienced in a physical or perceptual sense.

Social change process: A discreet, observable and describable process that changes the characteristics of a society, taking place regardless of the societal context (that is, independent of specific groups, religions etc.) These processes may, in certain circumstances and depending on the context, lead to the experience of social impacts.

Social Impact Assessment: The processes of analysing, monitoring and managing the intended and unintended social consequences, both positive and negative, of planned interventions (policies, programs, plans, projects) and any social change processes invoked by these interventions. Its primary purpose is to bring about a more sustainable and equitable biophysical and human environment.

Social license to operate: The acceptance and belief by society, and specifically local communities, in the value creation of activities.

Social risk: Risk resulting from a social or socio-economic source. Social risk comprises both the objective threat of harm and the subjective perception of risk for harm.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
BID	Basic Information Document
DM	District Municipality
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
ESOMAR	European Society for Opinion and Marketing Research
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GVA	Gross Value Added
HDSA	Historically Disadvantaged South African
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
KZN	KwaZulu-Natal
LED	Local Economic Development
LM	Local Municipality
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act
NGO	Non Government Organisation
SAMRA	Southern African Marketing Research Association
SETA	Sector Education and Training Authorities
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme

1 Introduction

ESKOM Holdings SOC Ltd (Eskom) has commissioned a project to strengthening the supply of electricity in northern KwaZulu-Natal (KZN). The northern KZN network is currently fed at 132 kV by Normandie substation and Impala substation (BID, August 2016). High voltage drops are experienced in the 132 kV network and the voltages are approaching unacceptable levels as the demand increases. Contingencies on the main 132 kV supplies also lead to thermal overloading of the remaining network.

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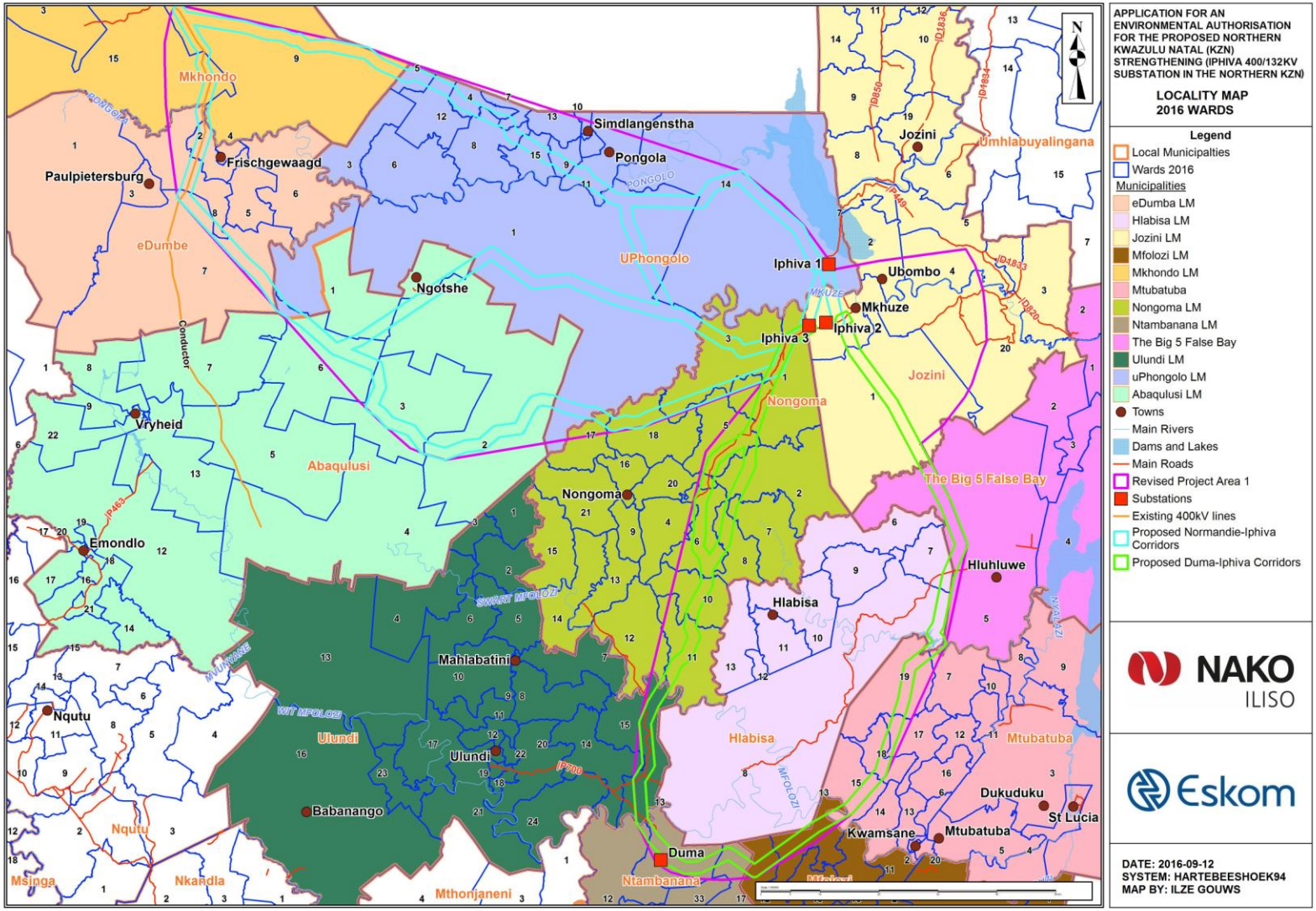
Figure 1 shows the proposed location for the project within municipal context.

Figure 1: Locality of the proposed KZN strengthening project (2016 municipal and ward boundaries).



The purpose of this report is to provide baseline information regarding the socio-economic environment, to identify possible social and economic risks/fatal flaws and to suggest ways in which these impacts can be mitigated. This will assist decision-makers on the project in making informed decisions by providing information on the potential or actual consequences of their proposed activities. The process entailed the following:

- A baseline socio-economic description of the affected environment;
- Identification of potential social and economic change processes that may occur as a result of the project; and
- Identification of potential social and economic impacts.

One of the ways in which social risk can be managed is by conducting a social impact assessment (SIA). Such an assessment can assist with identifying possible social impacts and risks. Disregarding social impacts can alter the cost-benefit equation of development and in some cases even undermine the overall viability of a project. A proper social impact assessment can have many benefits for a proposed development (UNEP, 2002) such as:

- Reduced impacts on communities of individuals;
- Enhanced benefits to those affected;
- Avoiding delays and obstruction – helps to gain development approval (social license);
- Lowered costs;
- Better community and stakeholder relations; and
- Improved proposals.

NAKO ILISO was appointed to manage the Environmental Impact Assessment for the project and they appointed Equispectives Research and Consulting Services to

perform a social impact assessment for the proposed project. This report represents the findings and recommendations of a social screening for the proposed project as part of the scoping phase. A social impact assessment will follow during the EIA phase where a more detailed consultative process will be followed. More detail on the scope of each of these phases is included in the section below.

2 Scope of Work

The purpose of the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) is to provide a Scoping Report and EIA/EMP Report for the proposed mining and ancillary service/activities that will take place on site. This report represents the Scoping Level Assessment. The scope of work for each of the reports is set out below.

2.1 Scoping Level Assessment

The Scoping level assessment includes the following;

- A desktop description of the baseline receiving environment specific to the field of expertise (general surrounding as well as site specific environment);
- Key issues related to specialist area that need to be addressed in the EIA;
- No-go areas or potentially highly significant impacts affected by the proposed corridors (based on available desktop information), and
- Terms of reference for Social Impact Assessment.

2.2 EIA/EMP Level Assessment

The EIA level assessment will include the following:

- Update of Baseline Information as determined post Scoping Phase;
- A detailed social impact assessment based on the proposed activities and the alternatives identified during the Scoping phase;
    -

- Identification and description of sensitivities and constraints from a social perspective;
- Contribution to the preparation of an EMP relating to the specific field of expertise and impacts identified;
- Providing detailed mitigation / management measures for the management of the identified impacts for inclusion in the EMP. The mitigation / management measures will be presented in a tabulated format for each phase of the project and will include;
    - Detailed description of mitigation measures or management options;
    - Roles and Responsibilities for Implementation;
    - Timeframes for implementation;
    - Means of measuring successful implementation (Targets & Performance Indicators).

3 Methodology

The information used in this report was based on the following:

- A literature review (see list provided in the References);
- Data from Statistics South Africa; and
- Professional judgement based on experience gained with similar projects;

4 Legislative and Policy Framework

4.1 The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996

The current Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996 can be regarded as one of the most progressive constitutions in the world. Human rights are enshrined in the South African Constitution, which forms the basis of all the country's legislation.

Chapter 2 consists of a Bill of Rights, which explicitly spells out the rights of every South African citizen. Human rights and dignity are fundamental to SIA and it recognises fundamental human rights and the prerogative to protect those rights as core values (Vanclay, 2003). The human rights relevant to the environmental management field that are safeguarded by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996 in the Bill of Rights, includes:

- Right to a healthy environment;
- Rights of access to land and to security of tenure; and
- Right to adequate housing and protection against evictions and demolitions.

The right to a protected biophysical environment, the promotion of social development and trans-generational equity is explicitly included in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996, which states:

"Everyone has the right -

1. To an environment that is not harmful to their health and wellbeing, and
2. To have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that*:*
    1. *Prevent pollution*
    2. *Promote conservation, and*
    3. *Secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development."*

When considering an environment that is not harmful to peoples' health and wellbeing, it is important to reflect on the interconnectedness of biophysical, economic and social aspects. The impact of development on people, and the true cost of development, as well as the consideration of "who pays the price?" versus

"who reaps the benefits?" cannot be ignored in a discussion about human rights and the environment.

The right to a generally satisfactory environment is increasingly seen as a human right in Africa (Du Plessis, 2011), and South Africa's environmental legislation supports this.

4.1.1 The National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998

The National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) 107 of 1998 states that the State must respect, protect, promote and fulfil the social, economic and environmental rights of everyone and strive to meet the needs of previously disadvantaged communities. It states further that sustainable development requires the integration of social, economic and environmental factors in the planning, evaluation and implementation of decisions to ensure that development serves present and future generations.

Chapter 1 of NEMA contains a list of principles and states clearly that environmental management must place people and their needs at the forefront of its concern, and serve their physical, psychological, developmental, cultural and social interests (NEMA, 1998). It states further that negative impacts on the environment and on peoples' environmental rights must be anticipated and prevented, and if they cannot be prevented, they should be minimised and remedied. It elaborates further on the equity of impacts, and the fact that vulnerable communities should be protected from negative environmental impacts. It refers to the principle that everyone should have equal access to environmental resources, benefits and services to meet their basic human needs (NEMA, 1998). Therefore there is a clear mandate for environmental and restorative justice in the act.

Another important aspect of NEMA is the principle of public participation. It states that people should be empowered to participate in the environmental governance processes, and that their capacity to do so should be developed if it does not exist. All decisions regarding the environment should take the needs, interest and values of the public into account, including traditional and ordinary knowledge (NEMA,

1998). There are also specific environmental management acts that fall under NEMA, such as the National Environmental Management, Air Quality Act 39 of 2004 (NEM:AQA), and the National Environmental Management, Waste Act 59 of 2008 (NEM:WA). These acts require similar public participation processes to NEMA and the principles of NEMA also apply to them (Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning [DEA&DP], Provincial Government of the Western Cape, 2010).

Chapter 6 of NEMA elaborates on the public participation requirements. This is supplemented by the EIA regulations published in GN 982 of 4 December 2014, which contained requirements for public participation (GN 982 in GG 38282 of 4 December 2014). It provides requirements for the public participation, the minimum legal requirements for public participation processes, the generic steps of a public participation process, requirements for planning a public participation process and a description of the roles and responsibilities of the various role players. These requirements are complemented by a compulsory Public Participation Guideline that was published in 2012 (GN 807 of 10 October 2012) in terms of section J of NEMA (NEMA, 1998). According to the guidelines, public participation can be seen as one of the most important aspects of the environmental authorisation process. Public participation is the only requirement of the environmental impact assessment process for which exemption cannot be given, unless no rights are affected by an application. This stems from the requirement in NEMA that people have a right to be informed about potential decisions that may affect them and that they must be given an opportunity to influence those decisions.

The principles of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 declare further that community wellbeing and empowerment must be promoted through environmental education, the raising of environmental awareness, sharing of environmental knowledge and experience and any other appropriate means. It states that the social, environmental and economic impacts of activities, including disadvantages and benefits, must be considered, assessed and evaluated, and decisions taken must be appropriate given the assessment and evaluation. NEMA

107 of 1998 recognises that the environment is held in public trust for the people, and therefore the beneficial use of environmental resources must serve the peoples' interest and protect the environment as the peoples' common heritage.

NEMA takes a holistic view of the environment, and promotes the consideration of social, economic and biophysical factors to obtain sustainable development and achieve effective management of the biophysical environment.

4.1.2 The National Water Act 36 of 1998

Chapter 1 of the National Water Act (NWA) 36 of 1998 states that sustainability and equity are identified as central guiding principles in the protection, use, development, conservation, management and control of water resources. It affirms that the guiding principles recognise the basic human needs of present and future generations and the need to promote social and economic development using water. Chapter 2 of the NWA states amongst others that the purpose of the act is to ensure that everyone has equitable access to water, and that the results of past racial and gender discrimination are redressed. It aims to promote the efficient, sustainable, and beneficial use of water in the public interest, and to facilitate social and economic development. The NWA recognises that the nations' water resources are held in public trust for the people, and therefore the sustainable, equitable and beneficial use of water resources must serve the peoples' interest.

4.1.3 The National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999

Although the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) 25 of 1999 is not an environmental act per se, it is relevant in the field of environmental management. The NHRA affirms that every generation has a moral responsibility to act as trustee of the national heritage for later generations and that the State is obliged to manage heritage resources in the interest of all South Africans. The general principles for heritage management in Chapter 5 of the act state that in order to ensure that heritage resources are effectively managed, the skills and capacities of persons and communities involved in heritage resources management must be developed. The act further elaborates on the fact that heritage resources form an important part of

the history and beliefs of communities and must be managed in a way that acknowledges the right of affected communities to be consulted and to participate in their management.

The general principles (Chapter 5) state that the identification, assessment and management of the heritage resources of South Africa must:

- Take account of all relevant cultural values and indigenous knowledge systems;
- Take account of material or cultural heritage value and involve the least possible alteration or loss of it;
- Promote the use and enjoyment of and access to heritage resources, in a way consistent with their cultural significance and conservation needs;
- Contribute to social and economic development, and
- Safeguard the options of present and future generations.

The National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999 therefore protects the cultural rights and heritage of the people of South Africa. It does not require explicit public participation, or give any guidelines on how the public should participate. It does refer, like the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 and the National Water Act 36 of 1998, to social and economic development. Public participation processes may be requested by the South African Heritage Resources Agency if it deems it necessary for a specific project.

4.1.4 Promotion of Administrative Justice Act 3 of 2000

The Bill of Rights in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996 states that everyone has the right to administrative action that is legally recognised, reasonable and procedurally just. The Promotion of Administrative Justice Act (PAJA) 3 of 2000 gives effect to this right. The PAJA applies to all decisions of all State organisations exercising public power or performing a public function in terms of any legislation that negatively affects the rights of any person. The Act prescribes what procedures

an organ of State must follow when it takes decisions. If an organ of State implements a decision that impacts on an individual or community without giving them an opportunity to comment, the final decision will be illegal and may be set aside. The Promotion of Administrative Justice Act 3 of 2000 also forces State organisations to explain and give reasons for the manner in which they have arrived at their decisions and, if social issues were involved, and how these issues were considered in the decision-making process.

The Promotion of Administrative Justice Act 3 of 2000 therefore protects the rights of communities and individuals to participate in decision-making processes, especially if these processes affect their daily lives.

4.2 Additional governance tools

Legislation is not the only tool that authorities can use to achieve sustainable development and social development outcomes. There are a number of tools, policies and strategic planning instruments that can contribute to this.

4.2.1 Integrated Development Plans

The South African government operates on three levels, namely local (municipal), provincial and national. Integrated Development Plans (IDPs) are compulsory through the Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 on municipal level. Integrated Development Planning is a process by which municipalities prepare 5-year strategic development plans. The IDP is the written plan that results from the integrated development planning process. It is the principle strategic planning instrument that guides and informs all planning, management, investment, development and implementation decisions and actions in the local area and supersedes all other plans that guide local development (Coetzee, 2002).

The White Paper on Local Government (RSA, 1998) has contextualised the IDP as a tool for developmental local government with the intention of enabling municipalities to:

- Help to align scarce resources behind agreed policy objectives and programmes;
- Make sure that actions are prioritised around urgent needs;
- Ensure the necessary integration with other spheres of government, serving as a tool for communication and interaction with them, and
- Serve as a basis for engagement between local government and communities/residents.

For the purpose of this project IDP documents of the following municipalities need to be considered:

Mpumalanga Province

- Gert Sibande District Municipality
    - Mkhondo Local Municipality

KwaZulu-Natal Province

- Zululand District Municipality
    - eDumbe Local Municipality
    - Uphongolo Local Municipality
    - Abaqulusi Local Municipality
    - Nongoma Local Municipality
    - Ulundi Local Municipality
- Umkhanyakude District Municipality
    - Jozini Local Municipality
    - Mtubatuba Local Municipality
    - Big 5 False Bay Local Municipality
    - Hlabisa Local Municipality (**Note:** The Hlabisa and Big 5 False Bay Local Municipalities have merged into the Big 5 Hlabisa Local Municipality on 3 August 2016)
- Uthungulu District Municipality
    - Mfolozi Local Municipality

- Ntambanana Local Municipality (**Note:** The Ntambanana Local Municipality was disestablished on 3 August 2016 and merged with the uMhlatuze, Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi Local Municipalities)

4.2.2 Provincial Growth and Development Strategies

Provinces play an important role in contextualising acts and other tools of governance and grounding them within the realities of each province. The provincial governments must guide the local government in the implementation and development of IDPs and other programmes for sustainable development. Provincial Growth and Development Strategies (PGDS) are a critical tool to guide and coordinate the allocation of national, provincial and local resources and private sector investment to achieve sustainable development outcomes. They are not a provincial government plan, but a development framework for the province as a whole (Department Provincial and Local Government [DPLG], 2005).

PGDS are not a legislative requirement, but plays an important role in ensuring effectiveness and coordinating delivery of the overall objectives of South Africa as a developmental state. PGDS are based on a long-term view of the provinces' development route. Their primary purpose is to provide a collaborative framework to drive implementation within a province (DPLG, 2005).

The Mpumalanga Economic Growth and Development Path (MEGDP, 2011) has as its focus to:

- Improve labour absorption of the economy;
- Reduce carbon emissions; and
- Strengthen the link between science and technology and growth and jobs.

The Mpumalanga Government has identified the following sectors to prioritise efforts to support employment creation in:

- Infrastructure development;
- Climate change and the green economy;
- Agriculture and agro-processing and rural development;
- Minerals and beneficiation;

- Manufacturing;
- Knowledge based sectors
- Tourism and business services,
- The social economy;
- Public sector;
- Regional economy.

Linking to this, the MEGDP has identified five job drivers:

- Infrastructure;
- Main economic sectors;
- Seizing the potential of new economies;
- Investing in social capital and public services; and
- Spatial development.

The KwaZulu-Natal PGDS strategy consists of seven long-term goals and 30 objectives (KZN PGDS, 2011)"

1. Job creation
   1.1. Unleash agricultural potential
   1.2. Enhance industrial development through Trade, Investment & Exports
   1.3. Expand Government-led job creation programmes
   1.4. Promote SMME, entrepreneurial and youth development
   1.5. Enhance the knowledge economy
2. Human resource development
   2.1. Improve early childhood development, primary and secondary education
   2.2. Support skills alignment to economic growth
   2.3. Promote and enhance youth skills development & life-long learning
3. Human and community development
   3.1. Alleviate poverty and improve social welfare
   3.2. Enhance health of communities and citizens
   3.3. Safeguard sustainable livelihoods & food security
   3.4. Sustain human settlements
   3.5. Enhance safety & security

3.6. Advance social cohesion
3.7. Promote youth, gender and disability advocacy & the advancement of women

4. Strategic infrastructure
   4.1. Develop ports and harbours
   4.2. Develop road & rail networks
   4.3. Develop ICT infrastructure
   4.4. Improve water resource management
   4.5. Develop energy production capacity
5. Responses to climate change
   5.1. Increase productive use of land
   5.2. Advance alternative energy generation
   5.3. Manage pressures on biodiversity
   5.4. Manage disaster
6. Governance and policy
   6.1. Strengthen policy, strategy coordination and IGR
   6.2. Build Government capacity
   6.3. Promote participative, facilitative & accountable governance
7. Spatial equity
   7.1. Promote spatial concentration
   7.2. Facilitate integrated land management & spatial planning

The KwaZulu Natal Provincial Spatial Development Strategy has been developed in order to achieve the goals and objectives of the PGDS in a targeted and spatial coordinated manner (KZN PGDS, 2011).

4.2.3 National Development Plan

On 11 November 2011 the National Planning Commission released the National Development Plan: Vision for 2030 (NPC, 2012) for South Africa and it was adopted as government policy in August 2012. The National Development Plan (NDP) was undertaken to vision what South Africa should look like in 2030 and what action steps should be taken to achieve this (RSA, 2013). The aim of the NDP is to eliminate

poverty and reduce inequality by 2030. The report identifies nine central challenges to development in South Africa:

1. Too few people work.
2. The standard of education for most Black learners is of poor quality.
3. Infrastructure is poorly located, under-maintained and insufficient to foster higher growth.
4. Spatial patterns exclude the poor from the fruits of development.
5. The economy is overly and unsustainably resource intensive.
6. A widespread disease burden is compounded by a failing public health system.
7. Public services are uneven and often of poor quality.
8. Corruption is widespread.
9. South Africa remains a divided society (NPC, 2012).

The plan focuses on creating an enabling environment for development and wants to shift from a paradigm of entitlement to a paradigm of development that promotes the development of capabilities, the creation of opportunities and the involvement of all citizens (NPC, 2012). The National Development Plan (NPC, 2012) wants to achieve the following:

1. An economy that will create more jobs.
2. Improving infrastructure.
3. Transition to a low-carbon economy.
4. An inclusive and integrated rural economy.
5. Reversing the spatial effects of apartheid.

6. Improving the quality of education, training and innovation.
7. Quality healthcare for all.
8. Social protection.
9. Building safer communities.
10. Reforming the public service.
11. Fighting corruption.
12. Transforming society and uniting the country.

Each of the points above is a chapter in the plan, and contains a range of targets and proposals. Some are general statements of policy intent, while others are specific policy proposals, actions or processes that should take place (NPC, 2012).

4.2.4 Sustainable Development Goals

All 189 Members States of the United Nations, including South Africa, adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration in September 2000 (UN, 2000). The commitments made by the Millennium Declaration are known as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and 2015 was targeted as the year to achieve these goals. The United Nations Open Working Group of the General Assembly identified seventeen sustainable development goals, built on the foundation of the MDGs as the next global development target (UN, 2014). The sustainable development goals include aspects such as ending poverty, addressing food security, promoting health, wellbeing and education, gender equality, water and sanitation, economic growth and employment creation, sustainable infrastructure, reducing inequality, creating sustainable cities and human settlements, and addressing challenges in the physical environment such as climate change and environmental resources (UN, 2014). These aspects are included in the NPD, and it can therefore be assumed that South Africa's development path is aligned with the international development agenda.

4.3 National and international standards

National and international industry standards aimed at sustainable development and social justice specifically have become abundant in the last decade. Many industries use these standards as indicators for best practice. The discussion below highlights only a few of these standards.

4.3.1 ISO 26000:2010/SANS 26000:2010

Performance standards have long been a voluntary tool used by industry to achieve certain outcomes. The first standard on social responsibility, ISO 26000 was published on 1 November 2010 (ISO, 2010). It was developed using a multi-stakeholder approach involving experts from more than 90 countries and 40 international or broadly based regional organisations involved in different aspects of social responsibility (ISO, 2010).

The South African Bureau of Standards (SABS), a statutory body that is mandated to develop, promote and maintain South African National Standards (SABS, [sa]) adopted the ISO 26000 Standard as a South African National Standard (SANS) 26000:2010.

Social responsibility is defined in the standard as the responsibility of an organisation for the impacts of its decisions and activities on society and the environment, through transparent and ethical behaviour that contributes to sustainable development, including health and welfare of society; takes into account the expectations of the stakeholders; complies with applicable law and is consistent with international behaviour norms, and is integrated throughout the organisation and practiced in its relationships (ISO, 2010).

The document identifies seven principles for social responsibility and seven core subjects that should be addressed by organisations. The seven principles for social responsibility are accountability, transparency, ethical behaviour, respect for stakeholder interests, respect for the rule of law, respect for international norms of behaviour and respect for human rights (ISO, 2010). The core subjects that should be addressed include organisational governance, human rights, labour practices,

environment, fair operating practices, consumer issues and community involvement and development (ISO, 2010). Economic aspects, health and safety and the value chain are dealt with throughout the seven core subjects, and gender issues are considered.

ISO 26000 is a good introduction to what social responsibility is and what measures should be taken to move towards being a more socially responsible company. It deals with equity issues and can encourage social development initiatives by companies through activities such as social investment projects, employment creation, skills development and income creation.

4.3.2 International Social Performance Standards/Initiatives

There is a profusion of global initiatives aiming at assisting companies to make their operations more sustainable. Human rights, environmental protection and social justice are gaining support from industry. The social agenda forms an important part of this trend. Only a few relevant initiatives will be mentioned in this section.

The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) is a leading organisation in the sustainability field that promotes sustainability reporting as a way for companies to become more sustainable and contribute to sustainable development. A sustainability report is published by a company to report the economic, social and environmental impacts of its everyday activities, present its values and governance model and explain the link between its strategy and its commitment to sustainable development (GRI, [sa]). The GRI have strategic partnerships with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Global Compact, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the International Organisation for Standardisation, amongst others (GRI, [sa]). The social category relates to the impact of the company on the social systems in which it operates. The social category consist of four subcategories namely labour practices and decent work; human rights; society; and product responsibility. Each of the categories is unpacked by using a number of aspects that should be considered (GRI, [sa]). GRI Focal Points are national offices that drive the initiatives in particular countries and regions. On 26 February 2013 the

GRI Focal Point South Africa was launched. South Africa is one of the countries with the largest number of GRI reporters in the world. The GRI Focal Point South Africa aims to work with multi-national companies to expand and share best practices across the continent (GRI, [sa]).

The United Nations is the origin of many of the sustainability initiatives and international ideals. The United Nations (UN) Global Compact is a strategic policy initiative for businesses that are committed to align their operations with ten universal principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption (UN, 2013). The UN Global Compact has two main objectives, which are to mainstream their ten principles in business activities globally and to catalyse actions in support of broader UN goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals (UN, 2013).

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) was the first specialised agency in the UN, and its main aims are to promote rights at work, encourage decent employment opportunities, enhance social protection and reinforce discourse on work-related issues (ILO, [sa]). Numerous ILO conventions and standards relate to social justice (ILO, [sa]).

Many of the multi-lateral funding agencies such as the World Bank have social standards that they must uphold. The most frequently used in the EIA industry is the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) principles (IFC, 2012). The IFC is a member of the World Bank group, and as a part of their sustainability framework they created performance standards on environmental and social sustainability (IFC, 2012). The standards relevant to the social environment are the following:

1. Performance Standard 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
2. Performance Standard 2: Labour and Working Conditions
3. Performance Standard 4: Community Health, Safety, and Security
4. Performance Standard 5: Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement

5. Performance Standard 7: Indigenous Peoples

6. Performance Standard 8: Cultural Heritage (IFC, 2012)

Issues such as gender, climate change, water and human rights are addressed across the standards. A guidance note accompanies each standard (IFC, 2012:4). Environmental and social risks and impacts must be managed by using an Environmental and Social Management System. The standard applies to all the activities funded by the IFC for the duration of the loan period. A number of private banks adopted most of the IFC standards in an initiative known as the Equator Principles (Esteves, Franks & Vanclay, 2012).

4.3.3 International Principles for SIA

The practice of SIA is guided by a set of *International Principles* that defines the core values, fundamental principles for development and principles specific to SIA practice (Vanclay, 2003). When the *International Principles* are considered, it is clear that SIA aspires to more than just assessing the impact of development on people, and includes sustainable outcomes. The following specific principles refer to these sustainable outcomes (Vanclay, 2003):

1. Development projects should be broadly acceptable to the members of those communities likely to benefit from, or be affected by, the planned intervention.

2. The primary focus of all development should be positive outcomes, such as capacity building, empowerment, and the realisation of human and social capital.

3. The term “environment” should be defined broadly to include social and human dimensions, and in such inclusion, care must be taken to ensure that adequate attention is given to the realm of the social.

4. Equity considerations should be a fundamental element of impact assessment and of development planning.

5. There should be a focus on socially sustainable development, with the SIA contributing to the determination of best development alternative(s) – SIA (and EIA) has more to offer than just being an arbiter between economic benefit and social cost.

6. In all planned interventions and their assessments, avenues should be developed to build the social and human capital of local communities and to strengthen democratic processes.

7. Local knowledge, experience and acknowledgement of different cultural values should be incorporated in any assessment.

8. Development processes that infringe the human rights of any section of society should not be accepted.

In addition to the *International Principles*, the international SIA community produced a document titled: *Social Impact Assessment: Guidance for assessing and managing the social impacts of projects* (Vanclay, Esteves, Aucamp & Franks, 2015) in April 2015. The purpose of this document is to provide advice to various stakeholders (including proponents) about good practice SIA and social impact management (Vanclay et al., 2015). This document aspires to provide a much-needed benchmark for SIA practice across the globe.

5 Receiving environment

According to the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, 1998) environment refers to the surroundings in which humans exist. When viewing the environment from a socio-economic perspective the question can be asked what exactly the social environment is. Different definitions for social environment exist, but a clear and comprehensive definition that is widely accepted remains elusive. Barnett & Casper (2001) offers the following definition of human social environment:

> *"Human social environments encompass the immediate physical surroundings, social relationships, and cultural milieus within which defined groups of people function and interact. Components of the social environment include built infrastructure; industrial and occupational structure; labour markets; social and economic processes; wealth; social, human, and health services; power relations; government; race relations; social inequality; cultural practices; the arts; religious institutions and practices; and beliefs about place and community. The social environment subsumes many aspects of the physical environment, given that contemporary landscapes, water resources, and other natural resources have been at least partially configured by human social processes. Embedded within contemporary social environments are historical social and power relations that have become institutionalized over time. Social environments can be experienced at multiple scales, often simultaneously, including households, kin networks, neighbourhoods, towns and cities, and regions. Social environments are dynamic and change over time as the result of both internal and external forces. There are relationships of dependency among the social environments of different local areas, because these areas are connected through larger regional, national, and international social and economic processes and power relations."*

Environment-behaviour relationships are interrelationships (Bell, Fisher, Baum & Greene, 1996). The environment influences and constrains behaviour, but behaviour also leads to changes in the environment. The impacts of a project on people can only be truly understood if their environmental context is understood. The baseline description of the social environment will include a description of the area within a provincial, district and local context that will focus on the identity and history of the area as well as a description of the population of the area based on a number of demographic, social and economic variables.

5.1 Description of the area

The transmission lines will be located in the provinces of Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal and will run through a number of local and district municipalities (Table 1), depending on the alternatives selected. For the baseline description of the area, data from Census 2011, Community Survey 2016, municipal IDP's and websites were used. It must be noted that some of the municipalities amalgamated or were incorporated in other municipalities on 3 August 2016. As the most of the data is based on the 2011 demarcation boundaries, these will be used for a description of the area.

Table 1: Project area in municipal context (2011 demarcation boundaries).

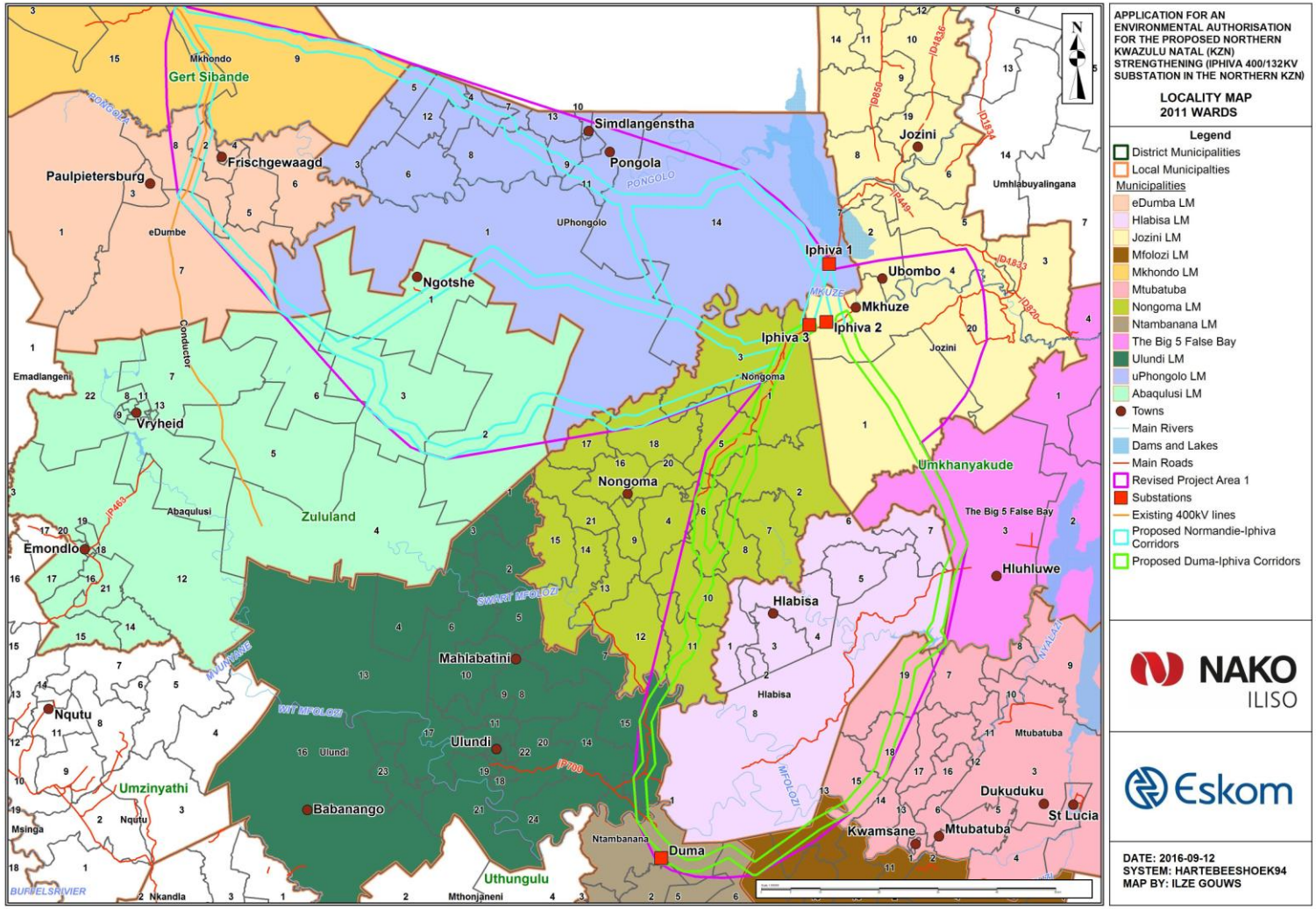
Province	District Municipality	Local Municipality	Wards
Mpumalanga	Gert Sibande	Mkhondo	9, 15
KwaZulu-Natal	Zululand	eDumbe	2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
		Uphongolo	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 ,7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14
		Abaqulusi	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
		Nongoma	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20
		Ulundi	14, 15
	Umkhanyakude	Jozini	1, 2, 4, 20
		Mtubatuba	7, 15, 18, 19
		Big 5 False Bay*	3
		Hlabisa*	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
	Uthungulu**	Mfolozi	10, 12, 13
		Ntambanana***	1, 2, 5, 6

* The Hlabisa and Big 5 False Bay Local Municipalities have merged into the Big 5 Hlabisa Local Municipality on 3 August 2016)

** The Uthungulu District Municipality was renamed the King Cetshwayo District Municipality

*** The Ntambanana Local Municipality was disestablished on 3 August 2016 and merged with the uMhlatuze, Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi Local Municipalities

Figure 2: Locality of the proposed KZN strengthening project (2011 municipal and ward boundaries.



The Mpumalanga Province is located in the north eastern part of South Africa and consists of three district municipalities, namely Gert Sibande, Nkangala and Ehlanzeni. Only one local municipality in the study area falls in the Mpumalanga Province, namely the Mkhondo Local Municipality.

The remainder of the municipalities in the study area falls in the KwaZulu-Natal Province that is located in the south eastern part of South Africa. KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) consists of one metropolitan municipality (eThekwini Municipality Metropolitan) as well as ten district municipalities, namely Amajuba, Zululand, Umkhanyakude, King Cetshwayo (previously uThungulu), Umzinyathi, Uthukela, uMgungundlovu, iLembe, Ugu and Harry Gwala.

The main towns and settlements in the area are summarised in Table 2. Settlement patterns are scattered. In each municipality part of the land are under traditional authority. All the land that was owned or belonged to the KwaZulu Natal Government is held by the Ingonyama Trust (www.ingonyamatrust.co.za) since 1994. The mandate of the trust is to hold the land for "the benefit, material welfare and social well-being of the members of the tribes and communities" living on the land. The Zulu King is the sole trustee of the land. The Ingonyama Trust Board administers the affairs of the Trust and the Trust land. Most, if not all, the land in KZN that is under traditional authority belongs to the Ingonyama Trust.

Table 2: Main towns, settlements and traditional authorities (sources: IDP's, www.municipalities.co.za)

Area	Main towns and settlements	Traditional Authorities
Mpumalanga	**Mbombela (previously Nelspruit), eMalahleni (previously Witbank), Standerton, eMkhondo (previously Piet Retief), Malalane, Ermelo, Barberton and Sabie**	**See relevant municipality**
Gert Sibande DM	**Amersfoort, Amsterdam, Balfour, Bethal, Breyten, Carolina, Charl Cilliers, Chrissiesmeer, Davel, Ekulindeni, Embalenhle, Empuluzi, Ermelo, Evander, Greylingstad, Grootvlei, Kinross, Leandra, Lothair, Morgenzon, Perdekop, Secunda, Standerton, Trichardt, Volksrust, Wakkerstroom, eManzana, eMkhondo (previously Piet Retief)**	**See relevant municipality**
Mkhondo LM	eMkhondo (previously Piet Retief),	Yende Traditional

	Amsterdam, eThandakukhanya, kwaThandeka, Driefontein, kwaNgema, Mahamba, Dirkiesdorp, Iswepe, Stafford, eNtombe, Commondale	Authority
KwaZulu-Natal	**Durban, Richards Bay, Port Shepstone, Newcastle, Estcourt, Ladysmith and Richmond**	**See relevant municipality**
Zululand DM	**Louwsburg, Nongoma, Paulpietersburg, Pongola, Ulundi, Vryheid**	**See relevant municipality**
eDumbe LM	Paulpietersburg/Dumbe, Bilanyoni, Mangosuthu Village	Dlamini and Mthethwa Traditional Authorities
Uphongolo LM	Pongola, Ncotshane, Belgrade, Magudu, Golela	Msibi, Sibiya, Ntshangase and Simelane Traditional Authorities
Abaqulusi LM	Vryheid, eMondlo, Hlobane/Corronation, Louwsburg	Hlahlindlela, Khambi and Khambi Ext Traditional Authorities
Nongoma LM	Nongoma, KwaPhenyane, Maphophoma, Mahashini, Ngxongwane	Seat of Zulu monarch Mandlakazi, Usuthu and Matheni Tribal Authorities
Ulundi LM	Ulundi, Nqulwane, Babanango, Denny Dalton/Mpungamhlophe, Ceza	Ntombela, Mbatha, Bhutelezi, Ndebele, Mpungose, Ximba and Zungu Traditional Authorities
Umkhanyakude DM	**Hlabisa, Hluhluwe, Ingwavuma, Jozini, Mbazwana, Mkuze, Mtubatuba, St Lucia**	**See relevant municipality**
Jozini LM	Jozini, Mkuze, Ingwavuma, Ubombo, Bhambanana, Ndumo	Mathenjwa, Ngomezulu, Nyawo, Myeni-Ntsinde, Jobe, Myeni-Ngwenya and Siqakatha (Gumede) Traditional Authorities
Mtubatuba LM	Mtubatuba, St Lucia, Somkhele, Mfekayi, Zamimpilo, Khula Vilage, Dukuduku Forest	Mpukunyoni Traditional Authority
Big 5 False Bay LM	Hluhluwe, Makhasa, Mnqobokazi, Nibela	Makhasa, Mnqobokasi and Nibela Traditional Authorities
Hlabisa LM	Hlabisa, Mpembeni, Ezibayeni	Hlabisa, Mpembeni and Mdletsheni Traditional Authorities
Uthungulu DM	**Empangeni, Eshowe, KwaGingindlovu, KwaMbonambi, Melmoth, Mtunzini, Nkandla, Ntambanana, Richards Bay**	**See relevant municipality**
Mfolozi LM	KwaBonambi, Dondotha, Hlaweni, Mabhuyeni, Nzalabantu	Ingoyama Trust Land, Mhlana, Sokhulu and Mbonambi Traditional Authorities
Ntambanana LM	Buchanana, Heatonville, Mambuka, Luwamba	Obuka, Obizo, Mambuka and Somopho Traditional Authorities

Census 2011 shows the proportions of households living in urban areas, areas under traditional authority and on farms in each municipal area (Table 3). The Mkhondo LM has the smallest proportion of households living in areas under traditional authority, while areas like the Ntambana, Nongoma and Hlabisa LMs have more than 90% of households living in areas under traditional authority.

Table 3: Geotypes (source: Census 2011, households)

Area	Urban	Tribal/Traditional	Farm
Mpumalanga	46.2%	45.7%	8.2%
Gert Sibande DM	71.1%	16.9%	12.1%
Mkhondo LM	50.3%	16.2%	33.5%
KwaZulu-Natal	55.5%	37.5%	7.1%
Zululand DM	25.4%	59.6%	15.0%
eDumbe LM	34.0%	40.5%	25.4%
Uphongolo LM	18.2%	56.2%	25.6%
Abaqulusi LM	46.1%	30.3%	23.6%
Nongoma LM	6.6%	93.4%	0.0%
Ulundi LM	20.3%	73.9%	5.7%
Umkhanyakude DM	9.1%	87.4%	3.4%
Jozini LM	10.7%	88.8%	0.5%
Mtubatuba LM	15.5%	78.7%	5.8%
Big 5 False Bay LM	17.5%	62.7%	19.7%
Hlabisa LM	6.1%	90.6%	3.4%
Uthungulu DM	24.8%	71.0%	4.2%
Mfolozi LM	5.1%	87.9%	7.0%
Ntambanana LM	0.0%	96.8%	3.2%

Table 4 gives an indication of the prevalence of social infrastructure such as libraries, schools, clinics, hospitals, community halls, sports facilities and police stations in the area. In some districts there are discrepancies between the figures provided by the District Municipality's IDP and the Local Municipality's IDP for a specific area. The figures should thus be interpreted as indicative. Some of the IDPs have indicated that the unavailability of records at the municipality is a challenge. Although there is social infrastructure in the area, the municipalities have all describe the available facilities as inadequate to meet the needs of the community. More facilities are required.

Table 4: Social infrastructure (source: Municipal IDPs)

Area	Libraries	Schools	Clinics (fixed) and hospitals	Community halls	Sports facilities	Police stations
Mpumalanga						
Gert Sibande DM						
Mkhondo LM	Not known	79 primary 29 secondary 1 independent	10 clinics 2 hospitals	Not known	Not known	4
KwaZulu-Natal						
Zululand DM						
eDumbe LM	2	71 primary 27 secondary (LM IDP indicates total of 80 schools)	7 clinics 1 hospital	8	2	2
Uphongolo LM	3	76 primary 41 secondary	8 clinics 1 hospital	Not known	Not known	2
Abaqulusi LM	4	104 primary 45 secondary (LM IDP indicates total of 133 schools)	12 clinics 1 hospital	10	4	6
Nongoma LM	1	98 primary 29 secondary	18 clinics 2 hospitals	21 + 3 under construction (2 Zululand IDP)	Not known	1
Ulundi LM	1	109 primary 51 secondary 8 combined	19 clinics 2 hospitals	5	Not known	5
Umkhanyakude DM						
Jozini LM	1	168 schools (unspecified)	18 clinics 2 hospitals	35	13	Not known
Mtubatuba LM	Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known
Big 5 False Bay LM	Not known	21 primary 5 secondary	3 clinics 0 hospitals	7	3	1
Hlabisa LM	Not known	Not known	2 clinics 1 hospital	Not known	Not known	2
Uthungulu DM						
Mfolozi LM	0	61 primary 27 secondary	8 clinics 0 hospitals	0	0	1
Ntambanana LM	0	36 primary 18 secondary	3 clinics 0 hospitals		0	1

Most of the municipalities have indicated that the quality and maintenance of infrastructure as well as delivery of basic services such as water, sanitation and electricity are some of their key challenges. This is exacerbated by scattered

settlement patterns, particularly in the areas under traditional leadership. Other challenges include poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and skills levels, crime and poor road infrastructure. In some areas there is a need for better relationships between the municipality and traditional leadership. The population profile, which includes a very young population with more females than males due to migrant work, creates some further challenges for the municipality. The key challenges per municipality is summarised in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Key municipal challenges (source: Municipal IDPs)

Area	Key challenges
Mpumalanga	
Gert Sibande DM	
Mkhondo LM	Poverty and unemployment; Retention of municipal employees with necessary qualifications and experience; Illiteracy and low levels of education; Poor infrastructure; Regular social unrest, crime and violence; Forest and veld fires/ natural disaster; Air pollution from industries; Water contamination – especially from poor sanitation and mining activities; Increase in land evasions and informal/unplanned settlements; HIV and AIDS; Unequal access to economic opportunities (especially for youth); Lack of formalised public transport system; Spatially not connected to economic hubs
KwaZulu-Natal	
Zululand DM	
eDumbe LM	Lack of social and economic services within the rural areas Spatial development pattern - most rural settlements small with about 65% of population living in rural areas Population characterised by significantly more women than men, resulting in a large number of female-headed households. Women more disadvantaged in terms of resources. Almost half the population are children, placing pressure on need for educational and social facilities Low income levels Majority of population relies on public transport facilities - quality and efficiency of public transport sector needs attention Many people can't afford to use electricity - municipality must adopt policy embracing use of alternative energy sources
Uphongolo LM	Population characterised by significantly more women than men, resulting in a large number of female-headed households. Women more disadvantaged in terms of resources. Almost half of the population are children, placing pressure on the need

	for educational and social facilities Low income levels and most rural areas poverty stricken High levels of unemployment Quality and efficiency of public transport needs attention Access to clean water in rural communities Sanitation systems in rural areas such as septic tanks, pit latrines or no system at all place strain on environment Access to electricity in rural areas Retention of municipal employees with necessary qualifications and experience
Abaqulusi LM	Apartheid spatial planning Declining economic sectors Lack of skills and high rate of functional literacy Poor access to social facilities Service backlog Housing HIV and AIDS
Nongoma LM	Poor provision of free basic services Inadequate resources for upgrading existing infrastructure Stealing because of unemployment, e.g. copper wire Interference by traditional leaders hinders process of housing delivery Lack of trust from the community and unrealistic expectations Illegal electricity connections and culture of non-payment of electricity Limited industrial base Poor access to social facilities and services Roads in bad condition Uncontrolled street trading Skills shortage and illiteracy Land invasion and illegal development
Ulundi LM	High rate of unemployment coupled with low skills levels Decreasing population size and increasing number of households (households getting smaller) Influx of illegal foreign nationals Small rates base Culture of non-payment still prevalent Need for better relationships between municipality and traditional leadership Scattered, low density settlement pattern complicates service provision Roads in poor state and poor accessibility Lack of recreational and community facilities Urban sprawl, especially in Ulundi town
Umkhanyakude DM	
Jozini LM	Backlog on basic infrastructure (housing, water, electricity, sanitation, roads) Backlog on infrastructure maintenance in towns High unemployment and poverty Poor access to social development services (rural communities) Community development for sustainable environments High grant dependency ratio Land ownership and land rights
Mtubatuba LM	Lack of coherent spatial structure and lack of structured engagement

	between the municipality and traditional leadership in dealing with issues of spatial planning and land allocation. Lack of specialised (4X4) vehicles suitable for rural terrain for disaster management Poor infrastructure in rural areas Water shortages Maintenance of existing infrastructure Road linkages Lack of access roads and causeways/bridges Weak service levels Stealing of copper wires (electricity cables) Lack of employment opportunities, poverty and underdevelopment Primary source of income - government grants
Big 5 False Bay LM	Limited access to basic services and community facilities and power outages High rates of unemployment and inability to attract and retain investment and tourism in the area High levels of poverty Low skills level development, literacy, inability to attract and retain scarce skill Inadequate energy and water supply Unsustainable development practices High levels of crime and risk Poor waste management Increased incidents of HIV/AIDS and communicable diseases Infrastructure degradation & backlogs Climate change
Hlabisa LM	Prevalence of poverty, high rate of unemployment and dependence on social grants No well-established economic core Extremely high prevalence of HIV/AIDS Lack of proper educational facilities Inadequate and limited recreational facilities High crime rate that hampers tourism
Uthungulu DM	
Mfolozi LM	Ensuring that arable land is used productively Roads in a poor condition - entire road infrastructure needs an upgrade Lack of potable water for rural communities Challenge attracting skilled people and lack of capacity at municipality Social infrastructure poorly maintained due to budgetary constraints. Focus was on developing facilities such as community halls, playgrounds and crèches, with the result that facilities like clinics, ICT centres etc were excluded. Very young population - youth skills development and women empowerment need to be a priority Spatial distortion and inequalities Increasing population and low delivery of services, especially in coastal areas No tourism development plan or strategy to enable municipality to develop tourism sector
Ntambanana LM	Limited employment opportunities and low education and skills levels

	Limited economic development High backlogs in basic service delivery Spatial profile: most of study area is sparsely populated making service delivery costly Lack of business support facilities The municipality has a small income base Land ownership Lack of basic infrastructure e.g. water and road Ensuring food security High crime rate Attraction and retention of skilled personnel e.g. engineers Attraction of investors because of poor infrastructure Prevalence of natural disasters especially, veld fires

5.2 Description of the population

The baseline description of the population will take place on three levels, namely provincial, district and local. Impacts can only truly be comprehended by understanding the differences and similarities between the different levels. The baseline description will focus on the municipalities in the study area, as these are the areas that will be most affected by the proposed project. Where practical, the data will be reviewed on a ward level. The data used for the socio-economic description was sourced from Census 2011. Census 2011 was a de facto census (a census in which people are enumerated according to where they stay on census night) where the reference night was 9-10 October 2011. The results should be viewed as indicative of the population characteristics in the area and should not be interpreted as absolute.

The following points regarding Census 2011 must be kept in mind (www.statssa.co.za):

- Comparisons of the results of labour market indicators in the post-apartheid population censuses over time have been a cause for concern. Improvements to key questions over the years mean that the labour market outcomes based on the post-apartheid censuses have to be analysed with caution. The differences in the results over the years may be partly attributable to improvements in the questionnaire since 1996 rather than to actual developments in the labour market. The numbers published for the 1996, 2001, and 2011 censuses are therefore not comparable over time and are

higher from those published by Statistics South Africa in the surveys designed specifically for capturing official labour market results.

- For purposes of comparison over the period 1996–2011, certain categories of answers to questions in the censuses of 1996, 2001 and 2011, have either been merged or separated.

- The tenure status question for 1996 has been dropped since the question asked was totally unrelated to that asked thereafter. Comparisons for 2001 and 2011 do however remain.

- All household variables are controlled for housing units only and hence exclude all collective living arrangements as well as transient populations.

- When making comparisons of any indicator it must be taken into account that the time period between the first two censuses is of five years and that between the second and third census is of ten years. Although Census captures information at one given point in time, the period available for an indicator to change is different.

5.2.1 Population and household sizes

According to the Community Survey 2016, the population of South Africa is approximately 55,7 million and has shown an increase of about 7.5% since 2011. The household density for the country is estimated on approximately 3.29 people per household, indicating an average household size of 3-4 people (leaning towards 3) for most households, which is down from the 2011 average household size of 3.58 people per household. Smaller household sizes are in general associated with higher levels of urbanisation.

In the study area the Mtubatuba LM (15.25%) and the Abaqulusi LM (14.28%) showed the greatest increase in population since 2011 (Table 6), much greater than on a national level. The population in the Ntambanana LM (0.61%) showed virtually no increase.

Population density refers to the number of people per square kilometre. In all the areas in the study area the population density has increased since 2011. The Mfolozi LM has the highest population density with 114.7 people per km^2, followed by the Mtubatuba LM with 102.63 people per km^2. The Big 5 False Bay LM has the lowest population density (15.83).

Table 6: Population density and growth estimates (sources: Census 2011, Community Survey 2016)

Area	Size in km^2	Population 2011	Population 2016	Population density 2011	Population density 2016	Growth in population (%)
Mpumalanga	**76,495**	**4,039,939**	**4,335,964**	**52.81**	**56.68**	**7.33**
Gert Sibande DM	**31,841**	**1,043,194**	**1,135,409**	**32.76**	**35.66**	**8.84**
Mkhondo LM	4,882	171,982	189,036	35.23	38.72	9.92
KwaZulu-Natal	**94,361**	**10,267,300**	**11,065,240**	**108.81**	**117.26**	**7.77**
Zululand DM	**14,799**	**803,575**	**892,310**	**54.30**	**60.30**	**11.04**
eDumbe LM	1,943	82,053	89,614	42.23	46.12	9.21
Uphongolo LM	3,239	127,238	143,845	39.28	44.41	13.05
Abaqulusi LM	4,185	211,060	241,196	50.43	57.63	14.28
Nongoma LM	2,182	194,908	211,892	89.33	97.11	8.71
Ulundi LM	3,250	188,317	205,762	57.94	63.31	9.26
Umkhanyakude DM	**13,855**	**625,846**	**689,090**	**45.17**	**49.74**	**10.11**
Jozini LM	3,442	186,502	198,215	54.18	57.59	6.28
Mtubatuba LM	1,970	175,425	202,176	89.05	102.63	15.25
Big 5 False Bay LM	2,487	35,258	39,357	14.18	15.83	11.63
Hlabisa LM	1,555	71,925	77,265	46.25	49.69	7.42
Uthungulu DM	**8,213**	**907,519**	**971,135**	**110.50**	**118.24**	**7.01**
Mfolozi LM	1,208	122,889	138,561	101.73	114.70	12.75
Ntambanana LM	1,083	74,336	74,792	68.64	69.06	0.61

The number of households in the study area has increased in all the local municipalities, except in the Ntambanana LM where the number of households decreased with about 6.42% (Table 7). The average household sizes have decreased in all the areas except for the eDumbe LM, the Nongoma LM and the Ntambana LM where household sizes have increased.

Table 7: Household sizes and growth estimates (sources: Census 2011, Community Survey 2016)

Area	Households 2011	Households 2016	Average household size 2011	Average household size 2016	Growth in households (%)
Mpumalanga	**1,075,488**	**1,238,861**	**3.76**	**3.50**	**15.19**
Gert Sibande DM	**273,490**	**333,815**	**3.81**	**3.40**	**22.06**
Mkhondo LM	37,433	45,595	4.59	4.15	21.80
KwaZulu-Natal	**2,539,429**	**2,875,843**	**4.04**	**3.85**	**13.25**
Zululand DM	**157,748**	**178,516**	**5.09**	**5.00**	**13.17**
eDumbe LM	16,138	17,415	5.08	5.15	7.91
Uphongolo LM	28,772	34,667	4.42	4.15	20.49
Abaqulusi LM	43,299	51,472	4.87	4.69	18.88
Nongoma LM	34,341	36,409	5.68	5.82	6.02
Ulundi LM	35,198	38,553	5.35	5.34	9.53
Umkhanyakude DM	**128,195**	**151,245**	**4.88**	**4.56**	**17.98**
Jozini LM	38,849	44,584	4.80	4.45	14.76
Mtubatuba LM	34,905	41,792	5.03	4.84	19.73
Big 5 False Bay LM	7,998	11,336	4.41	3.47	41.74
Hlabisa LM	12,586	13,919	5.71	5.55	10.59
Uthungulu DM	**202,976**	**225,797**	**4.47**	**4.30**	**11.24**
Mfolozi LM	25,584	29,439	4.80	4.71	15.07
Ntambanana LM	12,826	12,003	5.80	6.23	-6.42

The total dependency ratio is used to measure the pressure on the productive population and refer to the proportion of dependents per 100 working-age population. As the ratio increases, there may be an increased burden on the productive part of the population to maintain the upbringing and pensions of the economically dependent. A high dependency ratio can cause serious problems for a country as the largest proportion of a government's expenditure is on health, social grants and education that are most used by the old and young population.

The Nongoma LM has the highest total (88.0), youth (78.96) and employed (93.41) dependency ratios and the second highest aged dependency ratio (9.04) (Table 8). Employed dependency ratio refers to the proportion of people dependent on the people who are employed, and not only those of working age. The Mtubatuba LM has the second highest total (85.8), youth (76.85) and employed (2.5) dependency ratios, while the eDumbe LM has the highest aged dependency (9.06) ratio. The Ntambanana LM has the lowest total (56.47), aged (7.06) and employed (75.16)

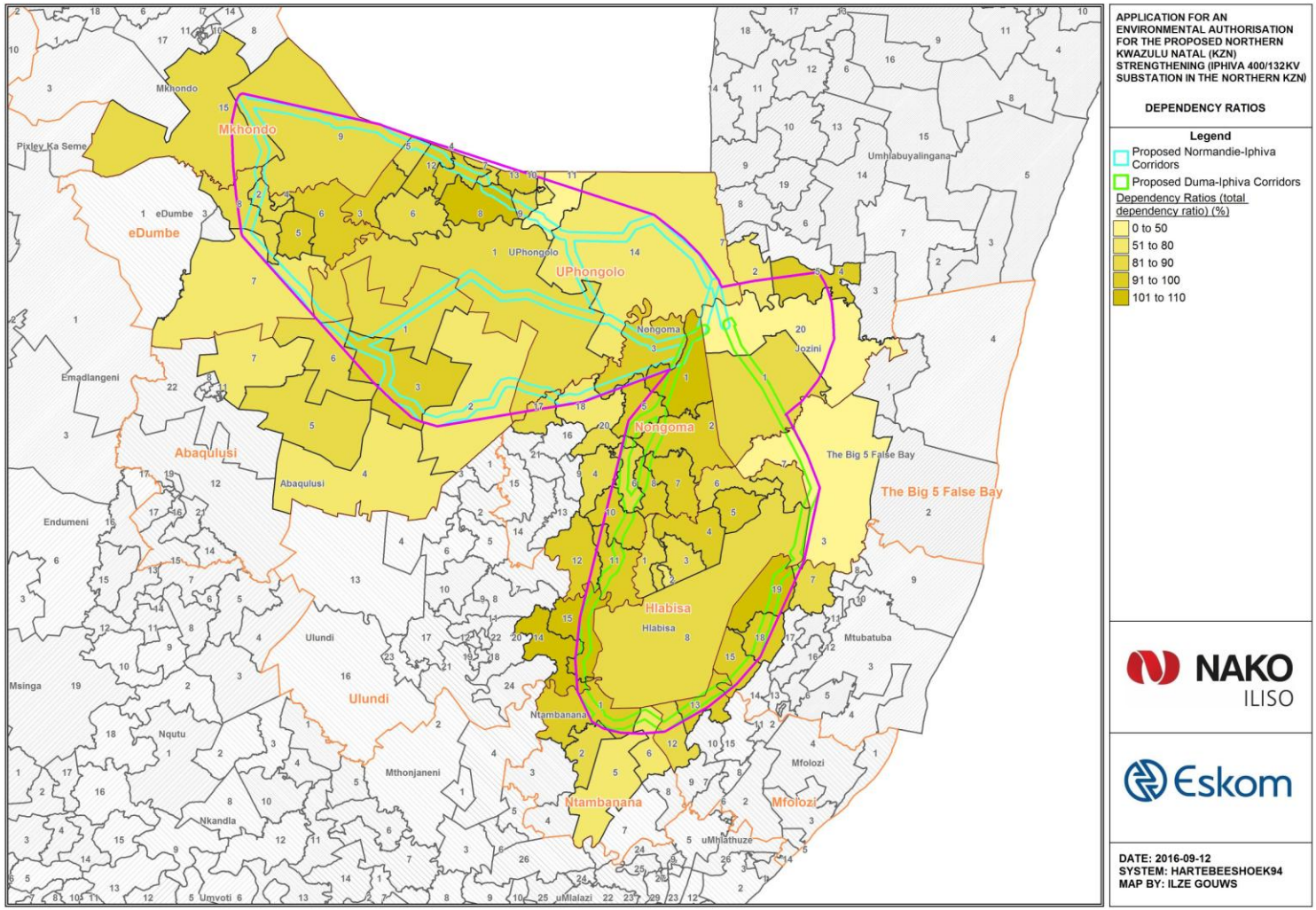
dependency ratios, while the Mfolozi LM has the lowest youth (48.68) dependency ratio.

Table 8: Dependency ratios (source: Census 2011).

Area	Total dependency	Youth dependency	Aged dependency	Employed dependency
Mpumalanga	**56.01**	**48.68**	**7.33**	**76.00**
Gert Sibande DM	**56.47**	**49.41**	**7.06**	**75.16**
Mkhondo LM	68.97	61.82	7.15	82.26
KwaZulu-Natal	**58.45**	**50.61**	**7.84**	**80.12**
Zululand DM	**79.24**	**70.86**	**8.37**	**89.63**
eDumbe LM	81.72	72.66	9.06	88.31
Uphongolo LM	77.33	69.72	7.61	85.69
Abaqulusi LM	70.52	62.53	7.99	86.93
Nongoma LM	88.00	78.96	9.04	93.41
Ulundi LM	80.95	72.84	8.11	90.58
Umkhanyakude DM	**77.98**	**70.07**	**7.91**	**88.48**
Jozini LM	72.01	64.53	7.48	84.83
Mtubatuba LM	85.80	76.85	8.95	92.50
Big 5 False Bay LM	64.74	57.29	7.45	83.66
Hlabisa LM	68.16	60.69	7.47	86.58
Uthungulu DM	**79.27**	**70.36**	**8.91**	**91.06**
Mfolozi LM	56.01	48.68	7.33	76.00
Ntambanana LM	56.47	49.41	7.06	75.16

On a ward level the differences between wards in the same municipality in terms of dependency ratio can be quite big (Figure 3), for example in the Uphongolo LM Ward 11 has a total dependency ratio of 44.25 while the total dependency ratio of Ward 8 is 100.82. This can be explained by the presence of employment opportunities in Ward 11 as the town of Pongola is located in this ward. In the areas with higher dependency ratios there are most likely less opportunities to make a livelihood.

Figure 3: Total dependency ratios on ward level (source: Census 2011).



Poverty is a complex issue that manifests itself on economic, social and political ways and to define poverty by a unidimensional measure such as income or expenditure would be an oversimplification of the matter. Poor people themselves describe their experience of poverty as multidimensional. The South African Multidimensional Poverty Index (SAMPI) (Statistics South Africa, 2014) assess poverty on the dimensions of health, education, standard of living and economic activity using the indicators child mortality, years of schooling, school attendance, fuel for heating, lighting and cooking, water access, sanitation, dwelling type, asset ownership and unemployment.

The poverty headcount refers to the proportion of households that can be defined as multidimensionally poor by using the SAMPI's poverty cut-offs (Statistics South Africa, 2014). The poverty headcount has decreased for all the areas since 2011 except the Abaqulusi LM that showed a small increase (Table 9). The Jozini LM (16.4%) and the Big 5 False Bay LM (16.2%) have the highest proportion of households that are multidimensionally poor.

The intensity of poverty experienced refers to the average proportion of indicators in which poor households are deprived (Statistics South Africa, 2014). The intensity of poverty has increased in all the areas except for the Abaqulusi LM where it remained the same and the Mtubatuba LM where it showed a very slight decrease. The intensity of poverty and the poverty headcount is used to calculate the SAMPI score. A higher score indicates a very poor community that is deprived on many indicators. The Jozini LM (0.7) and the Mtubatuba LM (0.7) have the highest SAMPI scores and thus represent the poorest, most deprived communities in the study area.

Table 9: Poverty and SAMPI scores (sources: Census 2011 and Community Survey 2016).

Area	Poverty headcount 2011 (%)	Poverty intensity 2011 (%)	SAMPI 2011	Poverty headcount 2016 (%)	Poverty intensity 2016 (%)	SAMPI 2016
Mpumalanga	7.90	41.80	0.03	7.80	42.7	0.03
Gert Sibande DM	8.4	41.6	0.03	7.2	43.1	0.03
Mkhondo LM	15.8	41.5	0.07	11.9	43.7	0.05
KwaZulu-Natal	10.9	42	0.05	7.7	42.5	0.03
Zululand DM	12.9	41.6	0.05	10.4	42.8	0.04

eDumbe LM	13.4	41.2	0.06	9.3	43.3	0.04
Uphongolo LM	12.5	41.4	0.05	10.6	41.9	0.04
Abaqulusi LM	11.2	41.9	0.05	11.4	41.9	0.05
Nongoma LM	15.3	41.7	0.06	9.2	43.4	0.04
Ulundi LM	12.4	41.7	0.05	10.4	42.3	0.04
Umkhanyakude DM	11.1	42.4	0.05	7.7	44.1	0.03
Jozini LM	22.2	42.6	0.09	16.4	43.8	0.07
Mtubatuba LM	11.7	41.5	0.05	10	41.4	0.04
Big 5 False Bay LM	17.6	42.1	0.07	16.2	43.8	0.07
Hlabisa LM	16.2	41.8	0.07	10.3	41.7	0.04
Uthungulu DM	11.1	41	0.05	7.7	43.1	0.03
Mfolozi LM	10	41.5	0.04	7.2	42.7	0.03
Ntambanana LM	16.9	41.3	0.07	15	41.9	0.06

5.2.2 Population composition, age, gender and home language

More than 90% of the population in the study area belong to the Black population group. In some wards, especially in the urban areas, the proportions differ and larger proportions of people belonging to other population groups are found.

The average age in all the municipal areas are below 27 years (Table 10), with the lowest average age (22.91) in the Nongoma LM. More than half of the population in the Nongoma LM are younger than 20 years of age. Such a young population place a lot of pressure on resources and infrastructure of the area, and a great demand for future infrastructure and creation of livelihoods can be expected.

In all the municipalities in the study area, there are more females than males. Females are usually regarded as more disadvantaged in terms of resources, especially in areas under traditional leadership, and are therefore a very vulnerable group. Many males of economically active age have migrated to the cities and other urban areas in search of employment.

Table 10: Age and gender distribution (source: Census 2011).

Area	Average Age	Population younger than 20 years (%)	Females (%)
Mpumalanga	26.79	41.71	51.14
Gert Sibande DM	26.81	41.98	50.69
Mkhondo LM	24.75	48.17	52.17
KwaZulu-Natal	26.57	42.85	52.48
Zululand DM	23.85	52.26	53.68
eDumbe LM	24.05	51.87	53.14
Uphongolo LM	23.46	51.78	53.06
Abaqulusi LM	24.98	48.65	52.40

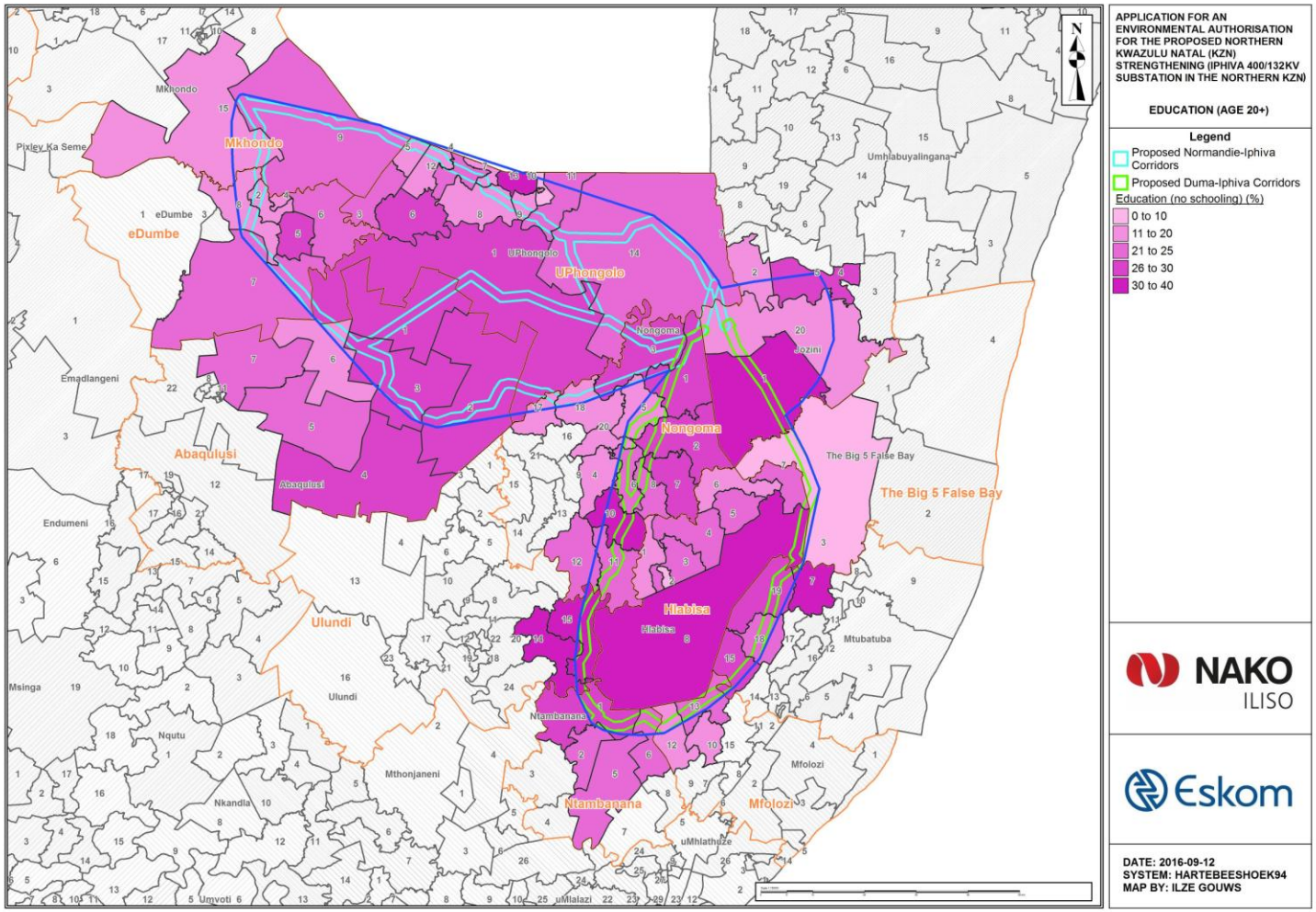
Nongoma LM	22.91	55.89	54.60
Ulundi LM	23.28	53.22	53.88
Umkhanyakude DM	22.57	54.59	53.83
Jozini LM	23.51	51.93	53.65
Mtubatuba LM	24.12	49.78	53.19
Big 5 False Bay LM	23.15	55.07	54.20
Hlabisa LM	25.21	46.61	52.90
Uthungulu DM	24.60	47.76	51.97
Mfolozi LM	23.96	52.60	53.89
Ntambanana LM	26.79	41.71	51.14

IsiZulu is the home language of more than 90% of the residents of the area (Census 2011), except in the Mkhondo LM, where only 89.06% of people have isiZulu as home language.

5.2.3 Education

The highest proportion of people with no schooling who are aged 20 years or older are in the Jozini LM (27.37%) and the Big 5 False Bay LM (26.05%) (Census 2011). There proportions vary on a ward level within the municipal areas (Figure 4) and in some wards more than 30% of the population older than 20 years have received no schooling. These high levels of illiteracy should be taken into consideration when consulting with these communities on the project.

Figure 4: Education – no schooling on ward level (those aged 20 years or older, shown in percentage, source: Census 2011).



5.2.4 Employment, livelihoods and economic activities

The area is characterised by scattered settlement patterns with only a few towns. Levels of employment vary, with the highest proportion of employed people in the Mkhondo LM (29.98%) (Census 2011) in Mpumalanga. The proportion of employed people vary on a ward level within the local municipalities (Figure 5). The wards with the highest levels of employment are not the wards where the towns are located and it can be assumed that commercial farms, forestry and/or tourism attractions are located in these wards.

The Mkhondo LM in Mpumalanga has a well diversified economy with the main activities being forestry, commercial agriculture, some coal mining and a few tourism attractions. There is industry in the area that supports forestry. In the remaining local municipalities (Table 11) the economy is not well diversified and the economic activities are mostly limited to agriculture and tourism in the form of game farms, private and public game reserves. In terms of agriculture two main types of agricultural activities can be identified, namely commercial agriculture and then small-scale and subsistence farming. The communities in the areas under traditional leadership rely heavily on small-scale and subsistence farming for their livelihoods. Informal trading is another important livelihood strategy in the study area and some municipalities are trying to regulate or manage informal trading, acknowledging the importance of this strategy for the communities. There is very little industry that supports commercial agricultural activities in most of the municipal areas.

Figure 5: Labour status – employed on ward level (those aged between 15 - 65 years, shown in percentage, source: Census 2011)

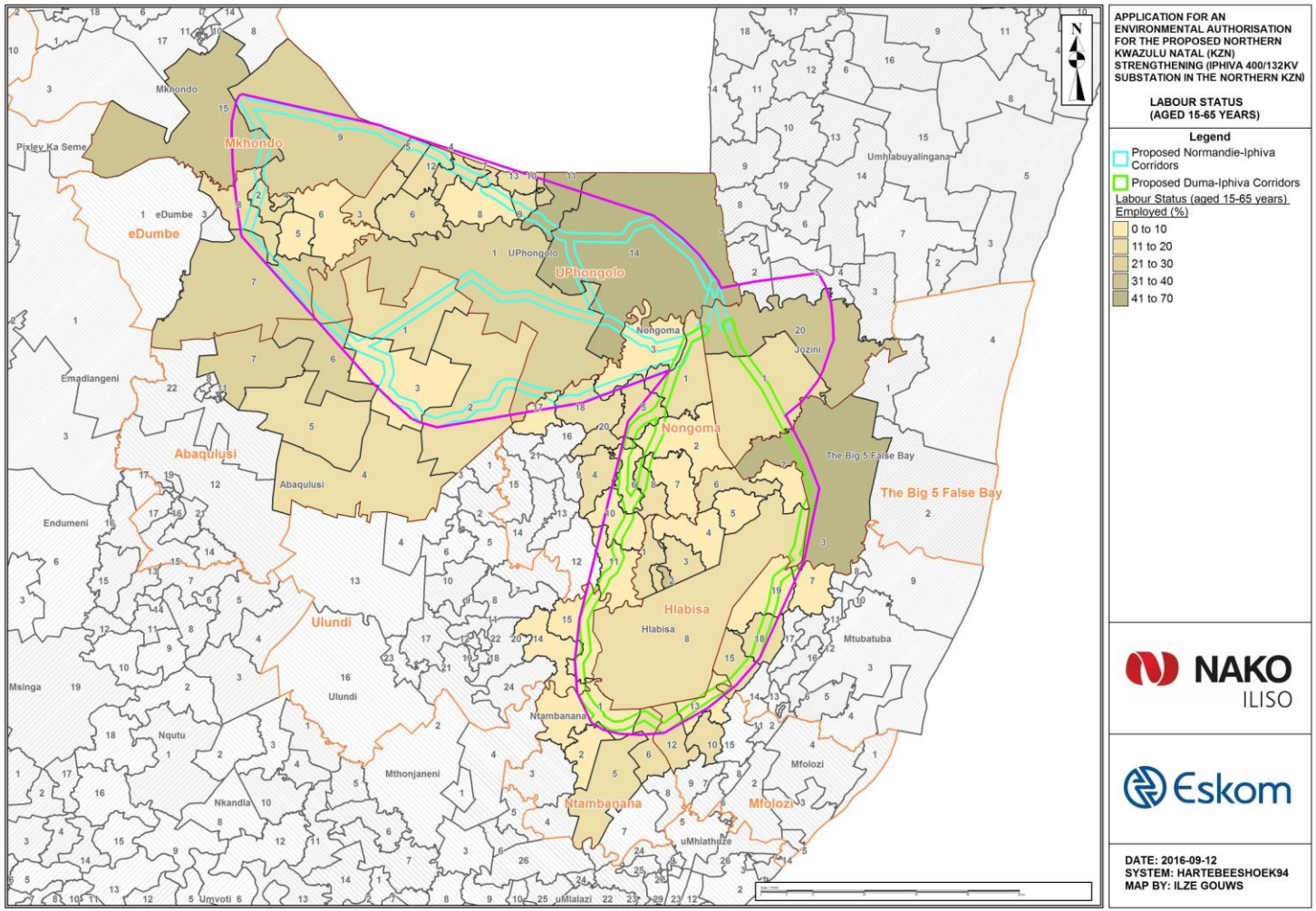


Table 11: Economic activities and livelihoods (source: Municipal IDPs).

Area	Economic activities and livelihoods
Mpumalanga	
Gert Sibande DM	
Mkhondo LM	The economy is well diversified and the dominant land use is forestry. Agricultural activities: forestry and timber, stock grazing, limited crops. Main tourism attractions: Athole Nature Reserve, Entomber Battlefield, Rooikraal, Confidence, Kalkoenlaagte, Heyshope Dam, Witbad Nature Reserve, a number of private nature reserves and conservancies. Several scattered pockets of coal mining.
KwaZulu-Natal	
Zululand DM	
eDumbe LM	Agriculture well established and quite diverse. Greatest portion of economic activity. Agricultural activities: timber, crops (maize, sugarcane), livestock, game and bird farming. Community gardens popular way of reducing poverty and organising women. Main tourism attractions: Ithala Game Reserve, Pongola Bush Nature Reserve, Natal Spa Hot Spring and Leisure Resort, Battlefields Route, Engodini Crater, fishing, eco-tourism and game resorts, Zulu cultural experience. Mining activities has decreased since mid 1990's. Five existing mines, but all closed down. Number of mines in the process of opening. Manufacturing: Valpre still water bottling plant, manufacturing of coffins, ignite coal manufacturing plant. Manufacturing made minimal contribution to GDP. Many residents travel to Vryheid to do their shopping. Informal sector, especially on retail side grown a lot of past few years.
Uphongolo LM	Agriculture employs more people than any other sector. Agricultural activities: sugarcane, vegetables, citrus fruit and game. Subsistence farming practised by communities in traditional areas. Main tourism attractions: Phongolo Game Reserve, Phongolapoort Nature Reserve. Mining provides limited employment opportunities. Manufacturing activity very low. Sugar mill in area. Informal sector contributes significantly to economy.
Abaqulusi LM	Although agriculture is the dominant land use in the area, most agricultural land is not high potential due to poor soils, irregular rainfall and significant areas of degradation. Agricultural activities: timber, field crops (maize, groundnuts, soya beans, sunflowers, fruits and sorghum), livestock (cattle, game). Small-scale farming in traditional areas. Main tourism attractions: Ithala Game Reserve, Ngome Forests, Private game farms Coal mining - a number of mines ceased operation over the past 15 years. Impacted negatively on regional economy. Manufacturing: Food and beverages, clothing and textiles, leather products, paper and paper products, printing and publishing, metal products, machinery and equipment. Low impact on local economy. Services: Financial, administration, government to manufacturing and

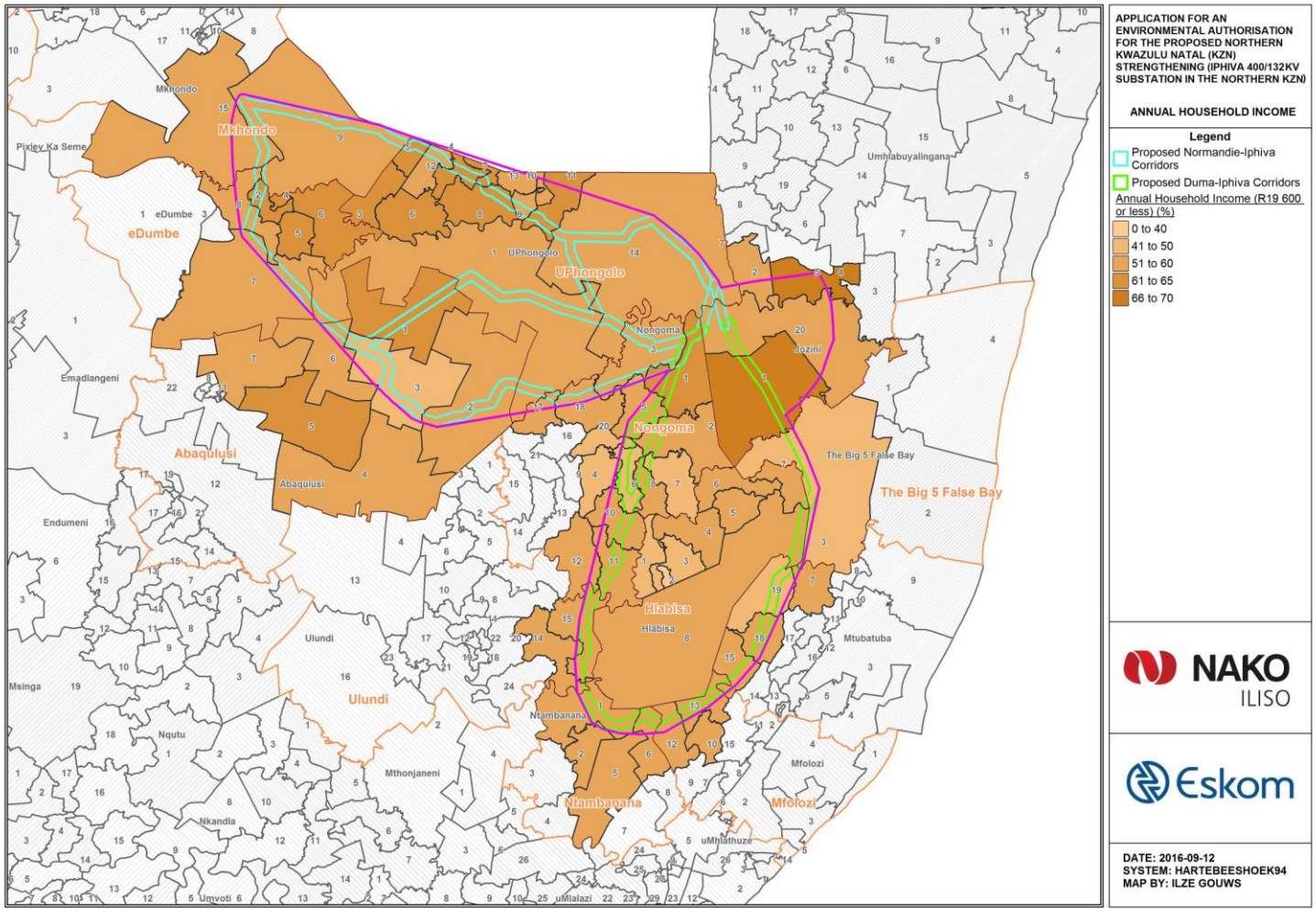
	retail. Town of Vryheid primary service centre. Informal trade.
Nongoma LM	Agriculture is an important sector, but little detailed information available. Small-scale agricultural activities - crop farming and livestock (cattle and goats). Main tourism attractions: Imfolozi Game Reserve, religious and traditional tourists (traditional), Route 66, Zulu King palace, Royal Reed dance festival, Ntendeka Wilderness. Manufacturing: small scale brick manufacturing. Informal trade (in most other areas).
Ulundi LM	Agriculture is a major sector within municipality. Agricultural activities consist of small-scale farming and community gardens. Commercial farming in western part. Main tourism attractions: Odini Museum, Amafa Akwazulu Heritage Site, Ondini Battlefields, Ulundi Multi Media Centre (uMgungundlovu), Spirit of eMakhosini, Ceza Cave,Kwafqokli Hill, Opathe Game Park, Cengeni Gate to the Umfolosi Game Reserve. Virtually no mining in area. Minimal manufacturing or industrial activity.
Umkhanyakude DM	
Jozini LM	Agriculture, tourism, formal and informal business are the main economic driving sectors in the area. Agricultural activities: cattle, sheep, goat, dairy, poultry, game, aquaculture, vermiculture, apiculture, alternative animal production systems. Crops include cotton, sugarcane, fruit and vegetables, fruit trees (avocado, papaya, banana, citrus and mango), cassava, forestry. Subsistence agriculture. Main tourism attractions: Pongolapoort Dam (known as Jozini Dam), Pongolapoort Game Reserve, Mkhuze Game Reserve, Ndumo Game Reserve, Hlathikulu Forest, BorderCage, King Dingaan's Grave, Usuthu Gorge. Manufacturing is third largest contributor to municipality's Gross Value Added. Industrial activity limited due to lack of supporting infrastructure.
Mtubatuba LM	Agriculture is principle economic activity and source of livelihood for majority of people. Commercial agriculture: sugarcane and timber. Small-scale farming and subsistence farming (amadumbe, beans, bananas, potatoes, imbumbe, sugarcane, gumtrees, pawpaws, avocados, peaches, litchi, mango, sweet potatoes, onions and cabbages). Main tourism attractions: Hlluhluwe-Imfolozi Park, Isimangaliso Wetland Park. Coal mining. Isolated informal markets.
Big 5 False Bay LM	Tourism and agriculture are key economic drivers. Agricultural activities: pineapples, sweet potatoes, sugar cane, sugar beans, timber, essential oils. Small-scale fishery in Nibela, community gardens and poultry projects. Main tourism attractions: Isimangaliso Wetland Park, private game reserves. Informal traders.

	Mining and manufacturing are not major economic drivers. There are some light industrial activities. Hluhluwe is the main service centre with services such as medical, education, Home Affairs, safety and security.
Hlabisa LM	Subsistence agriculture is the most significant land use and agriculture is one of the main economic activities. No commercial farming takes place, just small-scale farming. Forestry Tourism plays a minimal role in the economy - Hluhluwe-Infolozi Game Reserve. One mine in area. Informal trading.
Uthungulu DM	
Mfolozi LM	Agricultural sector dominated by forestry. Small-scale farming (field crops, subtropical fruits, beef, goat, game). Emerging farmers: sugar cane, forestry. Not currently a tourism destination. Main tourism attractions: Dawsons Rock Development, Lake Eteza Nature Reserve. Mining operations declining and manufacturing sector consists almost exclusively of forestry and wood processing operations of SAPPI and Mondi. Local sewing clubs and cooperatives are active. Informal economy makes important contribution.
Ntambanana LM	Agriculture one of the main economic activities with the production of sugarcane the most important economic activity. Other commercial farming includes Macadamia nuts, maize, vegetables, cattle farming. Small-scale farming. Tourism plays a minimal role in economy. Main tourism attractions: Thula Thula Game Reserve, Nyala Game Ranch, Mfuli Game Ranch, Fundimvelo, Intabayengwe. Informal businesses.

Statistics South Africa (2015) has calculated the Food Poverty Line (FPL) for Kwazulu-Natal as R354 per capita per month and for Mpumalanga as R343 for 2011 where the FPL is the Rand value below which individuals are unable to purchase or consume enough food to supply them with the minimum per-capita-per-day energy requirement for good health. The FPL is one of three poverty lines, the others being the upper bound poverty line (UBPL) and the lower bound poverty line (LBPL). The LBPL and UBPL both include a non-food component. Individuals at the LBPL do not have enough resources to consumer or purchase both adequate food and non-food items and are forced to sacrifice food to obtain essential non-food items, while individuals at the UBPL can purchase both adequate food and non-food items. The LBPL for Kwa-Zulu Natal was R539 per capita per month and for Mpumalanga R517 per month in 2011 and the UBPL R757 (KZN) and R974 (Mpumalanga) per capita per

month respectively. More recent poverty lines than the rebased poverty lines for 2011 are not available. Based on this, a household with four members needed an annual household income of approximately R17 000 in 2011 to be just above the FPL. In most municipalities half or more (in some just less than half) of the households are below, or barely above the FPL (with a household income of R19 600 or less, the closest income category in Census 2011). There are distinct differences between wards in the same local municipality (Figure 6). When comparing this with the SAMPI data it seems as if there are more households below the poverty lines in the area than who are multidimensionally poor. This is due to the poverty lines using a financial measure and do not take into consideration payment in kind and livelihood strategies such as subsistence farming. If there were to be converted into a Rand value, the poverty line picture may have a closer resemblance to the SAMPI data.

Figure 6: Annual household income – R19600 or less, wards (shown in percentage, source: Census 2011).



5.2.5 Housing

Most of the dwellings in the study area are houses or brick/concrete block structures that are on a separate yard, stand or farm (Census 2011), followed by traditional dwellings/huts/structures made of traditional materials. The proportions differ per municipal area as well as per ward in each municipal area (Figure 7). Ntambanana LM is the only area where there are slightly more traditional dwellings (45.58%) than brick structures (45.13%).

The majority of the dwellings in the study area are owned and fully paid off, or occupied rent free (Census 2011). It must be noted that the Ingonyama Trust is the custodian of the land under traditional authority in KZN, and although a household may own their dwelling, they may not own the land the dwelling was built on. The proportion of dwellings owned off and paid in full differ between wards in different local municipalities (Figure 8).

More than 40% of households in the Big 5 False Bay LM (49.14%), Uphongolo LM (44.51%), Mkhondo LM (40.72%) and the Abaqulusi LM (40.5%) have only one or two members (Census 2011). Most of large towns in the study area are located in these municipalities. In the municipalities with a more traditional character such as Nongoma, Hlabisa and Ntambana, the household sizes tend to be larger. There are large differences between the wards in the municipalities (Figure 9), giving an indication of the character of the different wards.

Figure 7: Dwelling types – traditional dwellings, wards (shown in percentage, source: Census 2011)

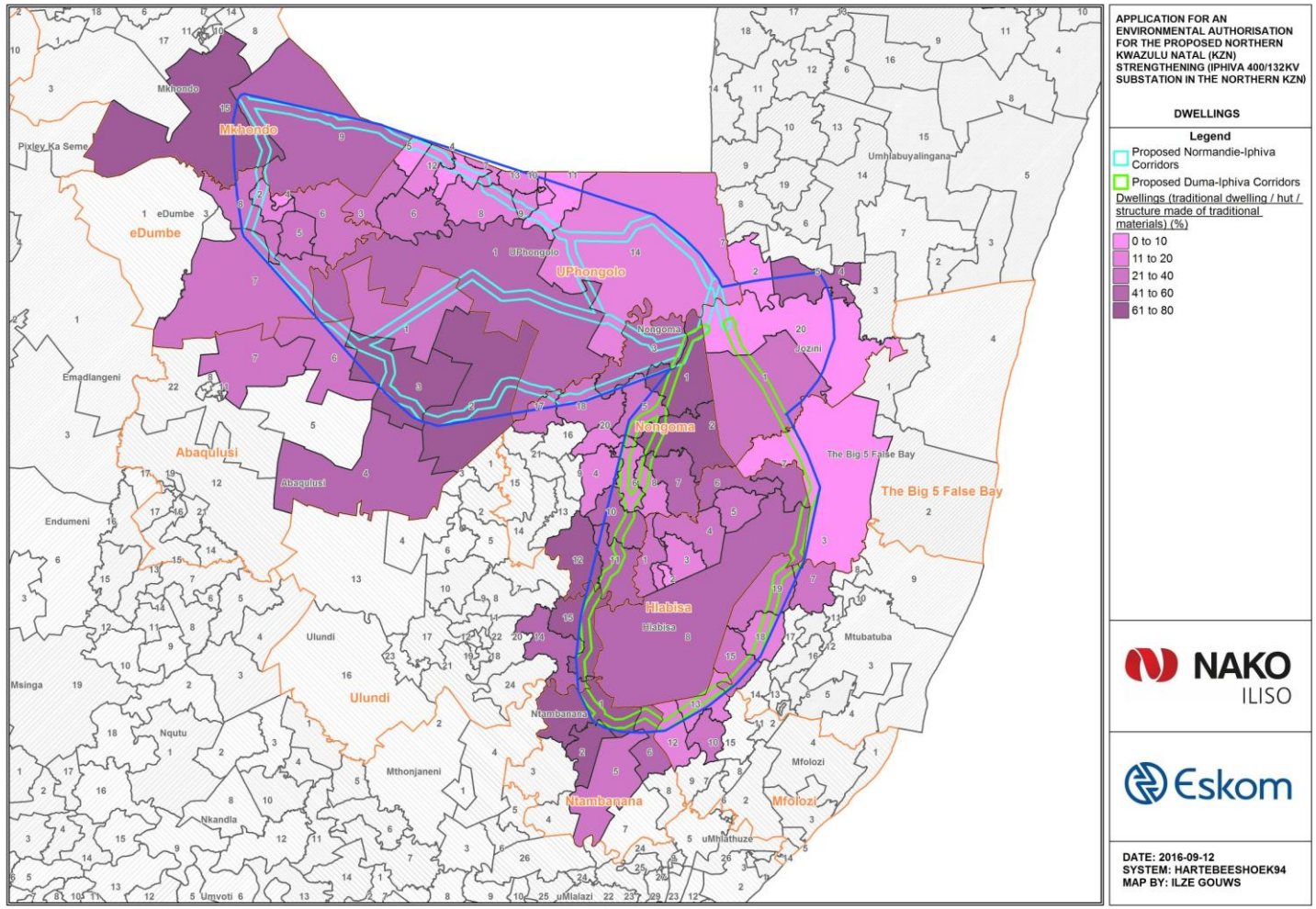


Figure 8: Tenure status (shown in percentage, source: Census 2011)

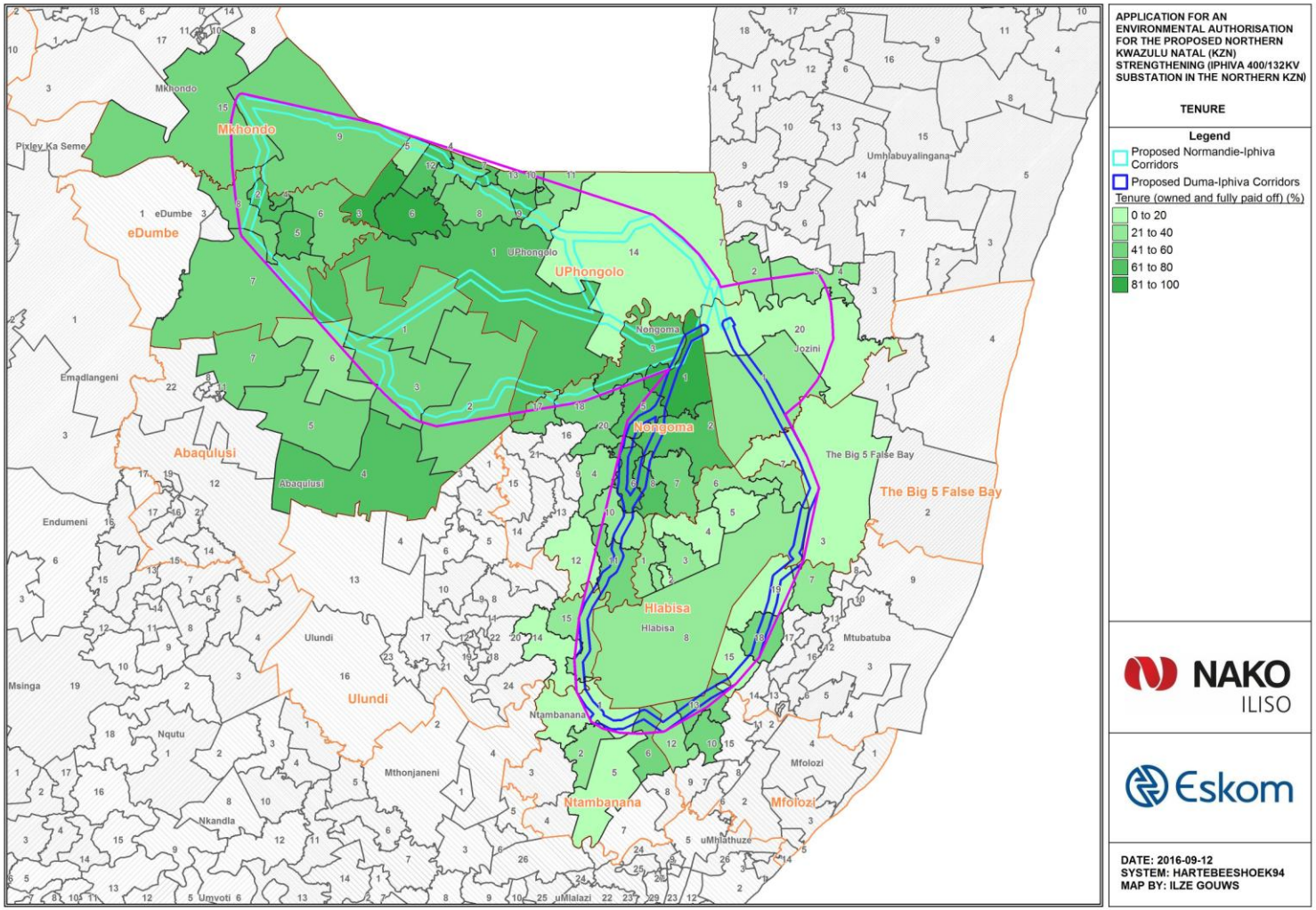
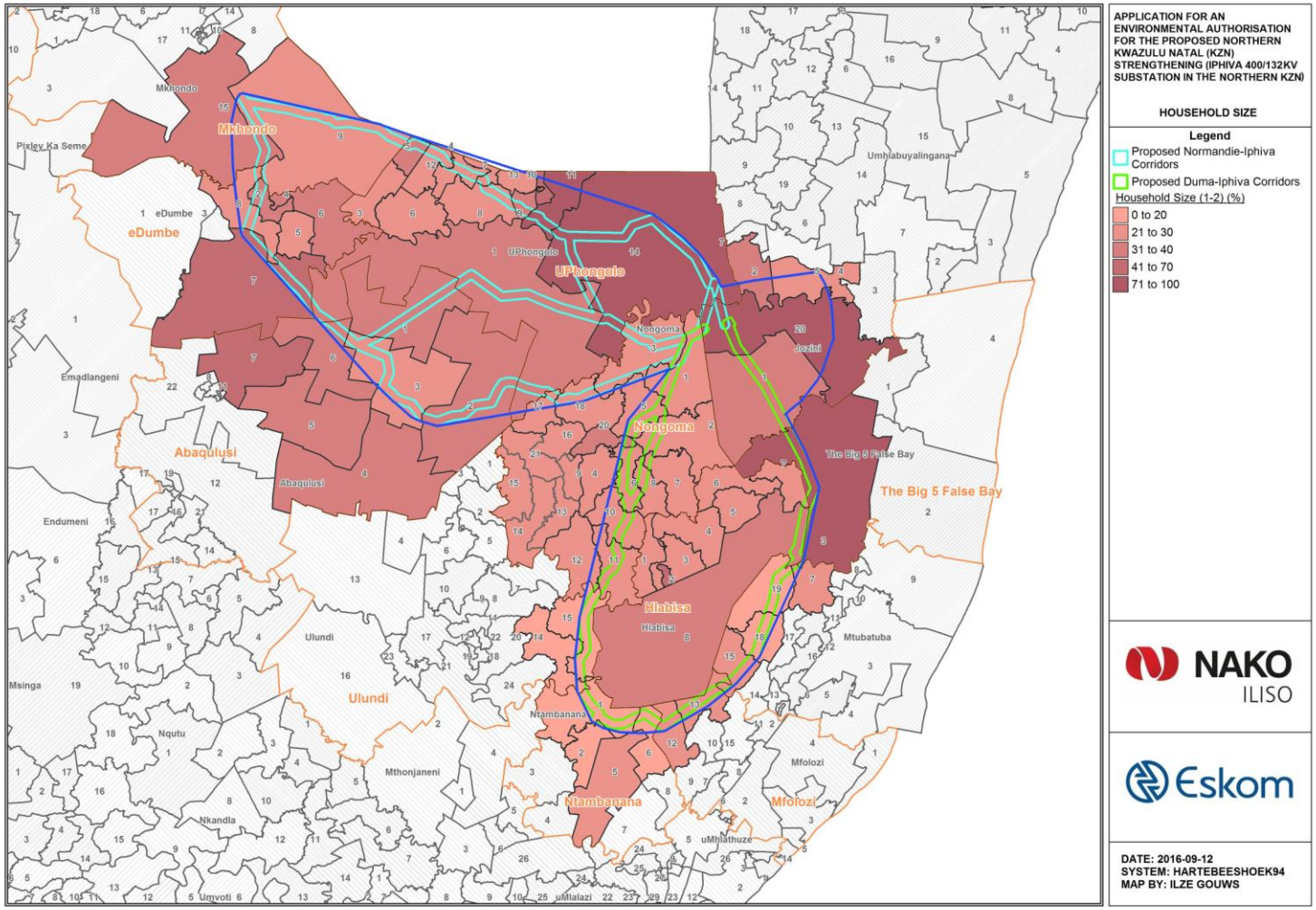


Figure 9: Household size – 1-2 members, wards (shown in percentage, source: Census 2011)



5.2.6 Access to basic services

Access to basic services such as water, sanitation and electricity relate to standard of living according to SAMPI (Statistics South Africa, 2014). Households that use paraffin, candles or nothing for lighting; or fuels such as paraffin, wood, coal, dung or nothing for cooking or heating; have no piped water in the dwelling or on the stand and do not have flush toilets can be described as deprived in terms of these basic services.

The majority of households in all the local municipalities, except for Nongoma and Hlabisa have access to water from a local or regional water scheme (Census 2011). The majority of households in Nongoma or Hlabisa get their water from a river or a stream. In Ntambanana quite a large proportion of households get their water from water tankers. The source of water differ between wards in local municipalities (Figure 10). More than half of the households, except in Big 5 False Bay (43.52%), Hlabisa (34.34%), Jozini (30.33%), Nongoma (27.48%) and Ntambanana (22.28%) have access to piped water inside their dwellings or yards (Census 2011). Figure 11 shows the incidence of piped water inside dwellings or yards on a ward level.

The incidence of flush toilets (connected to sewerage system or septic tank) is relative low in most areas except for Mkhondo (42.11%) and Abaqulusi (43.76%) (Census 2011). The highest incidence of households with no access to toilet services is in Nongoma (29.1%), Uphongolo (27.45%), Ntambanana (24.26%) and Jozini (23.13%). Figure 12 shows the incidence of no toilets on a ward level.

Access to electricity for lighting purposes give an indication of whether a household has access to electricity, as poor households sometimes only use electricity for lighting, but use other sources of energy for heat and cooking. The Jozini LM (29.09%) has the lowest incidence of households with access to electricity for lighting purposes, followed by Big 5 False Bay (42.57%) (Census 2011). This differs on a ward level (Figure 13), and a number of the wards in the study area have a low incidence of access to electricity.

The incidence of refuse removal varies across municipalities and according to wards, and in many areas people have their own refuse dumps (Figure 14). In municipalities like Ntambana (2.19%), Nongoma (4.25%), Hlabisa (5.39%), and Mfolozi (7.18%) the incidence of refuse removal once a week by local authorities or a private company is less than 10%.

Figure 10: Water source – regional/local water scheme, wards (shown in percentage, source: Census 2011)

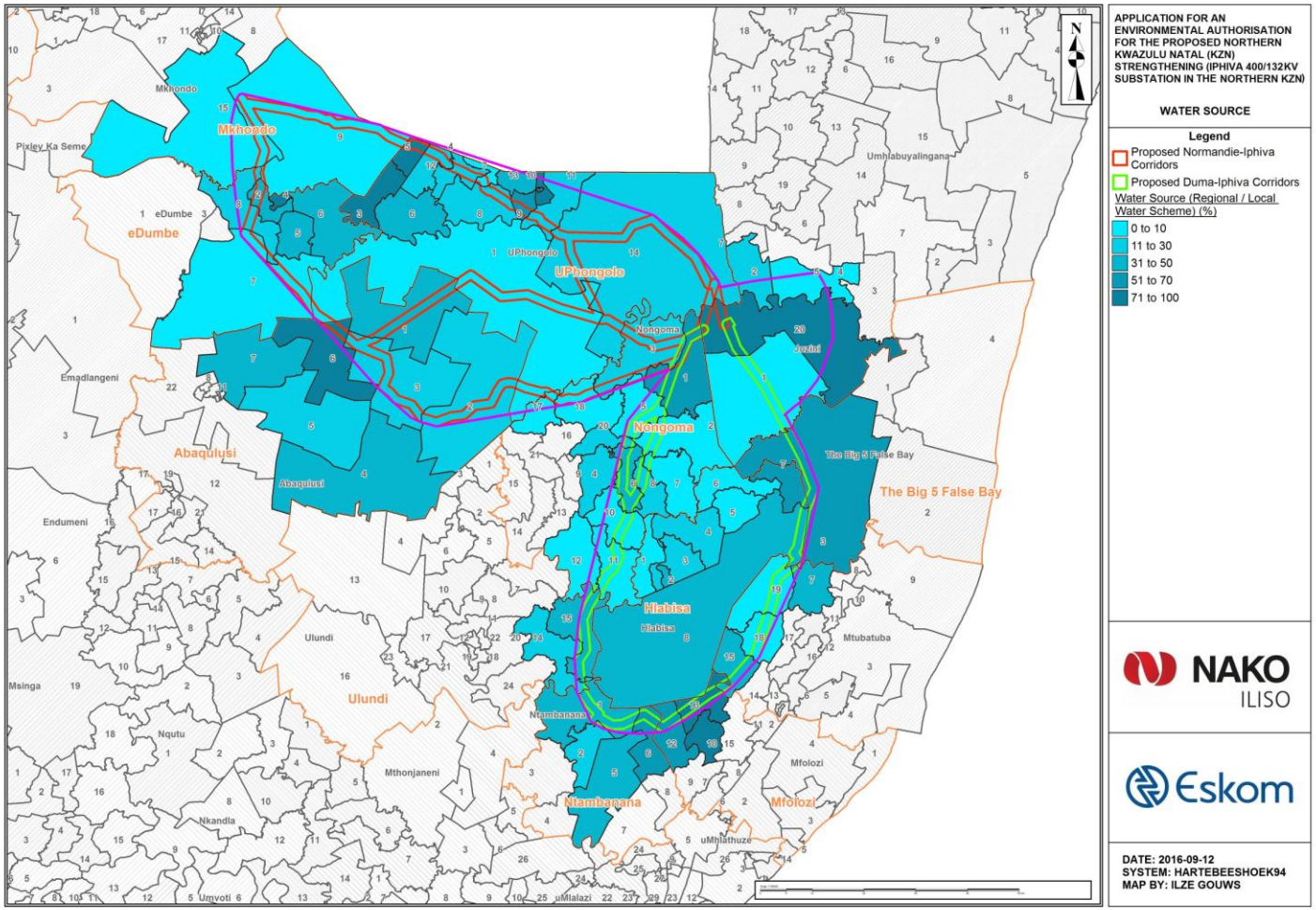


Figure 11: Piped water inside dwelling or yard - wards (shown in percentage, source: Census 2011)

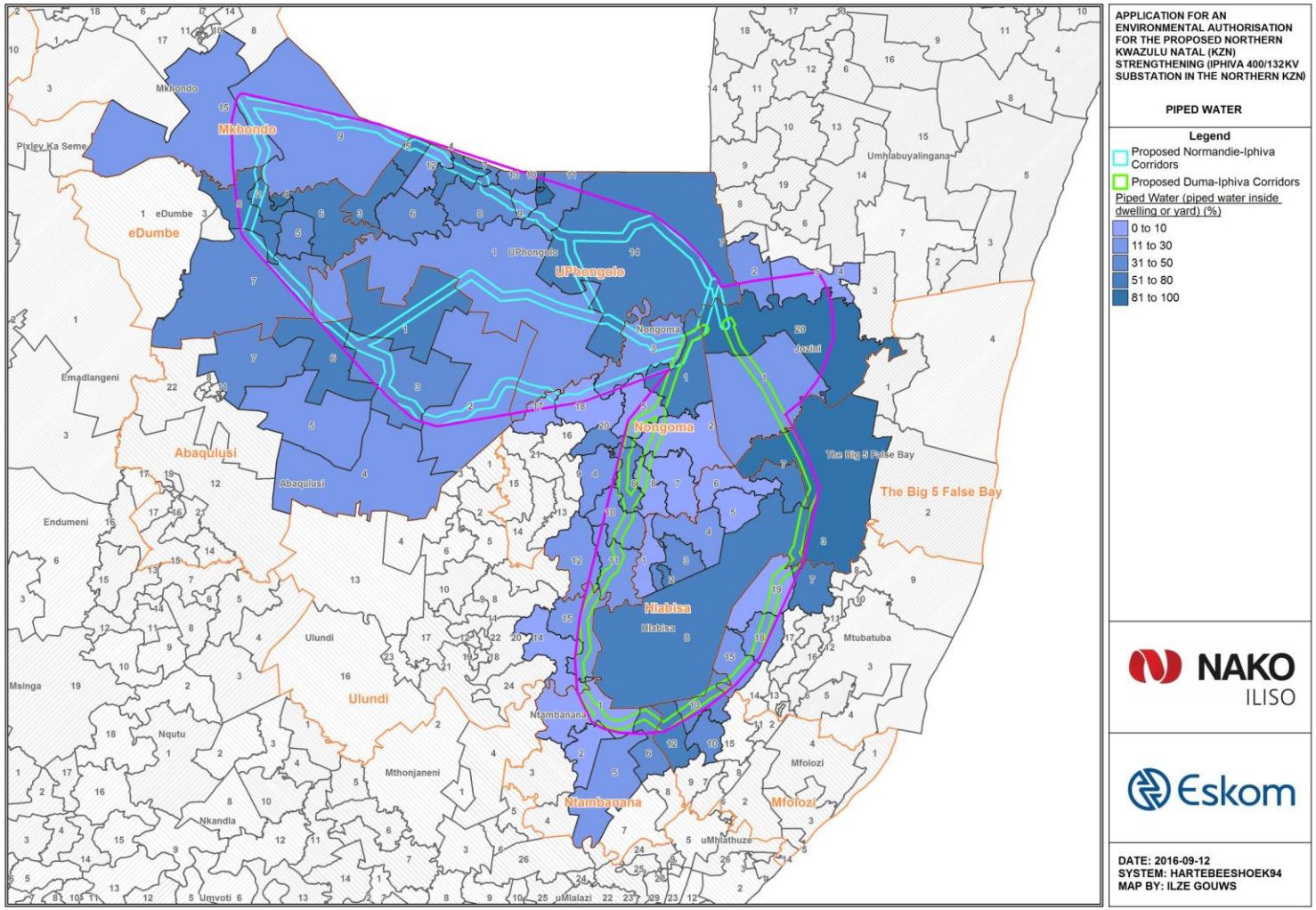


Figure 12: Sanitation – no toilet facilities, wards (shown in percentage, source: Census 2011)

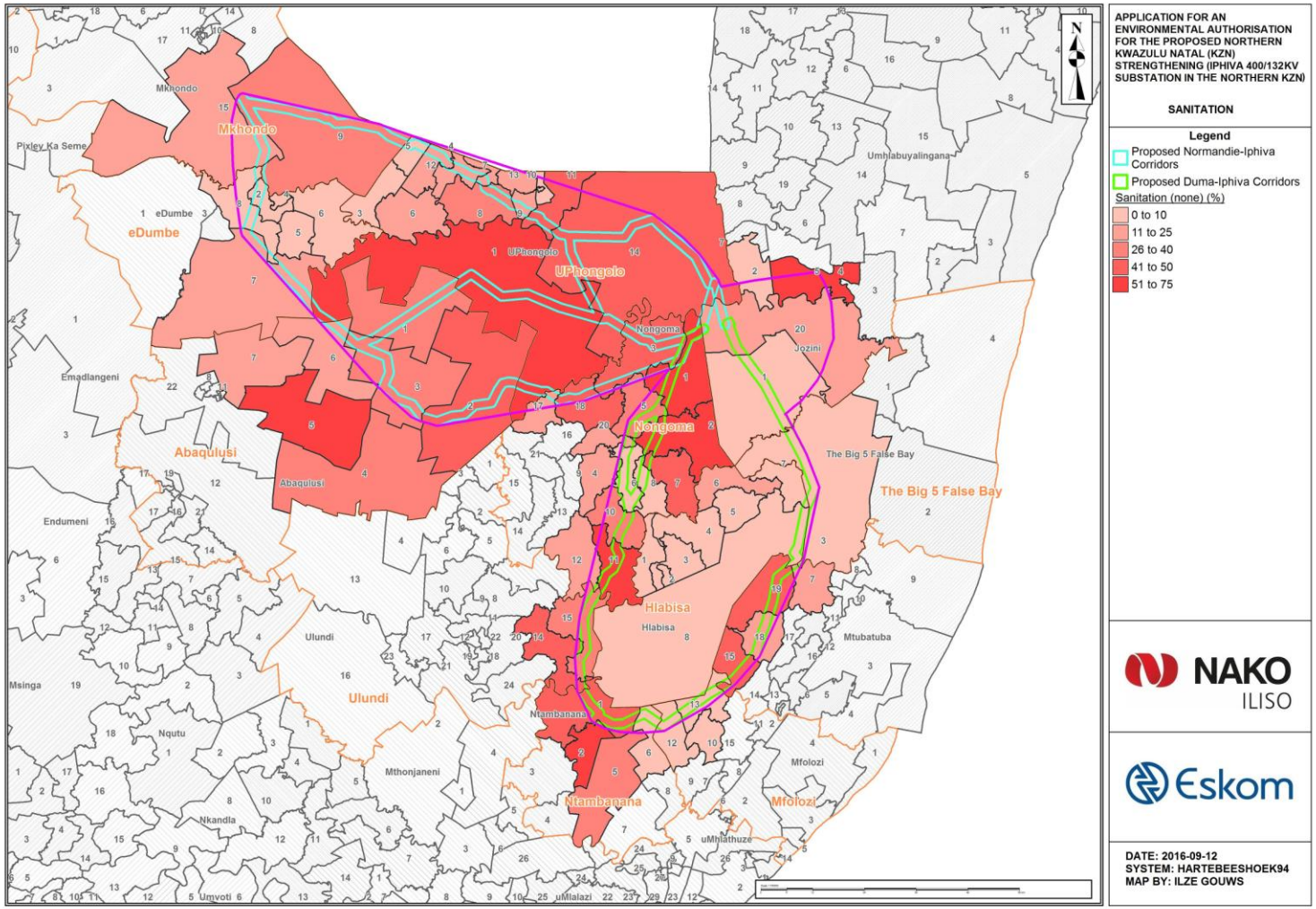


Figure 13: Energy source for lighting – electricity, wards (shown in percentage, source: Census 2011)

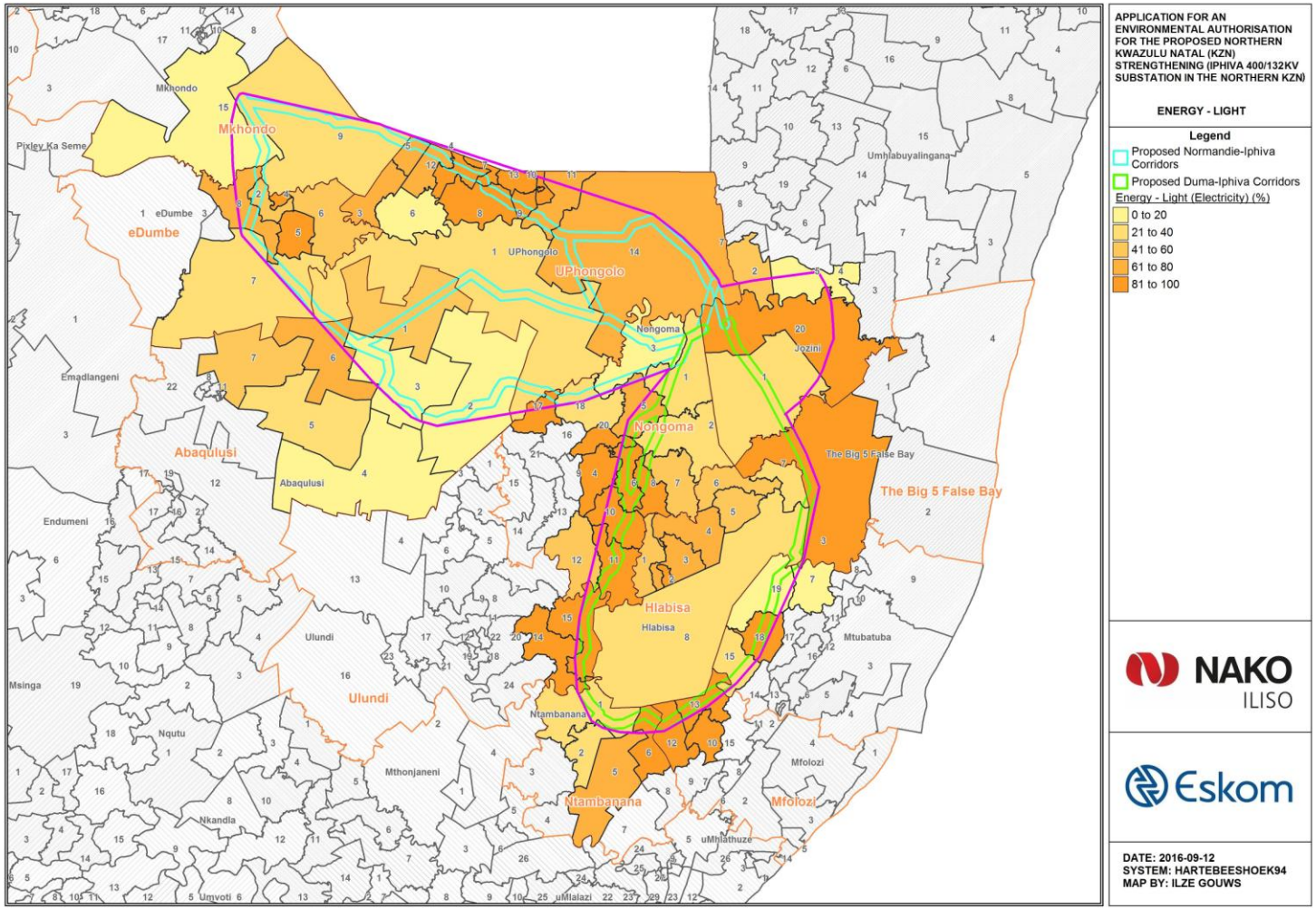
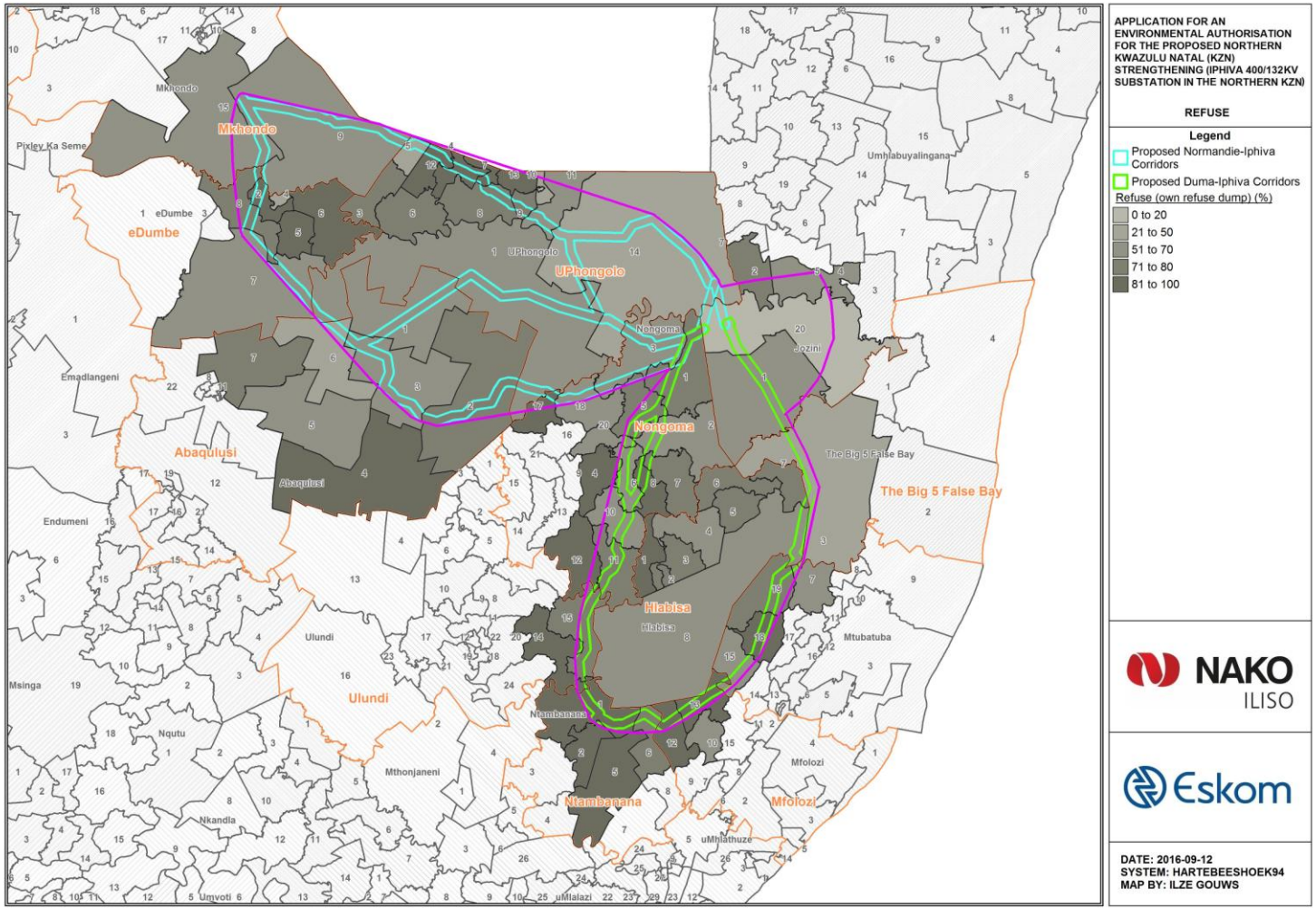


Figure 14: Refuse removal – own refuse dump, wards (shown in percentage, source: Census 2011)



5.3 Discussion of receiving environment

The receiving environment is mostly located in the KwaZulu-Natal province, with a small portion located in the Mpumalanga Province. There are only a few large towns in the area. The rest of the area consist of settlements in areas under traditional leadership, commercial farms as well as some game reserves. The land under traditional management belongs to the Ingonyama Trust. Settlement patterns are scattered. Dwellings consist mostly of brick structures or traditional structures. Most people have isiZulu as home language.

Basic and social infrastructure is limited and do not meet the needs of the entire population in the area. Municipalities in the area are faced with challenges that urban municipalities do not have. The settlement patterns make it extremely challenging to provide infrastructure such as piped water and sanitation. Road infrastructure in general need some upgrading and the conditions of the roads make it challenging to reach the communities that need to be served. In some areas relationships with traditional leadership provides an additional challenge. As there are few employment opportunities in these areas, many males have migrated to urban areas in search of employment, resulting in a community that stays behind with more females than males, as well as a very young population group. Other challenges include poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and skills levels and crime.

Most of the municipal areas have shown an increase both in the number of people as well as the number of households. In most areas the household sizes have decreased. This can be due to children leaving their parents' house to stay on their own and start families of their own.

The area is characterised by high levels of poverty as well as deprivation on a number of dimensions which mostly related to access to basic services. Education levels are low and there are very few employment opportunities. In areas under traditional leadership, subsistence farming is a very important livelihood strategy and informal trading plays a much greater role in survival than in urban areas.

In terms of commercial farming, sugar cane and forestry are concerns when it comes to the presence of power lines. Sugar cane need to be burnt, and as such cannot be planted below power lines. Although there are other methods to harvest sugar cane, those are more expensive and labour intensive. Fire is a great risk in terms of forestry, and a spark or a snapped power line could cause extensive damage. Fire is often use as a retribution measure in some areas, and this might also cause damage to power lines.

The detailed description of the area highlights the following important aspects for Eskom:

- Documentation used for communicating about the project should be available in English and isiZulu;
- High levels of illiteracy means that written word will not in all cases be the best way to communicate with some of the communities. Additional ways to communicate with the communities that are culturally appropriate must be found;
- Traditional leadership and the Ingonyama Trust are key stakeholders that need to be consulted with in certain areas. Sufficient time should be allowed for doing this in the correct way, meeting the cultural requirements.
- Recent changes in terms of municipal boundaries should be taken into consideration.
- Basic infrastructure in the area vary and Eskom should take into consideration the characteristics of the specific area when planning the project, as there might, for example not be water available in the area.
- Areas where there is a low incidence of access to electricity may have expectations in terms of getting access to electricity as one of the benefits of the project.

- Finding the required skills in the area might be a challenge and using local labour might be a challenge. This must be taken into consideration when planning the project and it may be necessary to include a skills development component.

- There might be greater expectations in terms of job opportunities in poorer, more deprived areas and there is also greater potential for social unrest in these areas as there might be greater competition for a scarce resource like a job.

- Given the characteristics of the area, the locations of the construction camps will have to be planned very carefully to ensure that the required infrastructure is available, and if not, how that will be dealt with.

- Opportunistic theft of materials might be more of a challenge in some areas than in others, but the safety of materials and stock must be considered in planning.

- Tourism and agriculture are the main forms of livelihoods in most areas, and anything that adversely affect these livelihoods will have a negative impact on an area that is already battling poverty. Care must be taken when planning the detailed route of the power lines.

- Sugar cane and forestry will provide a challenge given their unique requirements and characteristics.

6 Stakeholder Identification and Analysis

6.1 Approach

Stakeholder analysis in the context of SIA is the process of identifying and describing the individuals or groups that are likely to affect or be affected by the proposed activity. These stakeholders are then grouped according to their impact on the proposed activity and the impact the proposed activity will have on them. This information is used to assess the social impacts on each stakeholder group.

A stakeholder for this project is defined as any person or organisation that can be positively or negatively impacted on, or causes an impact on the proposed project. Types of stakeholders are:

- **Primary stakeholders** - those ultimately affected, either positively or negatively by the proposed project.
- **Secondary stakeholders** - the 'intermediaries', that is, persons or organisations who are indirectly affected by the proposed project.
- **Key stakeholders** (can also belong to the first two groups) – those have significant influence upon or importance within the proposed project. (Adapted from WWF, 2005 and Gawler, 2005).

The goal of stakeholder analysis is to develop a strategic view of the human and institutional landscape, and of the relationships between the different stakeholders and the issues they care about most.

The stakeholder analysis will help the project identify:

- The interests of all stakeholders who may affect or be affected by the project;
- Potential conflicts or risks that could jeopardise the initiative;
- Opportunities and relationships that can be built on during implementation;
- Groups that should be encouraged to participate in different stages of the project;
- Appropriate strategies and approaches for stakeholder engagement; and
- Ways to reduce negative impacts on vulnerable and disadvantaged groups (WWF, 2005).

Although the full participation of stakeholders in both project design and implementation is a key to successful project implementation, success cannot be guaranteed, as external aspects outside the control of the project team such as

political will, the economic climate and other development also influence the social environment. Stakeholder participation:

- Gives people some say over how the project may affect their lives;
- Is essential for sustainability;
- Generates a sense of ownership if initiated early in the development process;
- Provides opportunities for learning for both the project team and stakeholders themselves; and
- Builds capacity and enhances responsibility (WWF, 2005).

Stakeholder participation should therefore be encouraged during the construction and operational phases of the proposed project.

6.2 Preliminary list of stakeholders

The following preliminary stakeholders that may have an interest in or affected by the proposed project have been identified:

- Government and parastatals
    - Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal Provinces;
    - District and local municipalities;
    - Traditional authorities;
    - Spoornet;
- Civil society
    - Ingonyama Trust;
    - Surrounding towns and communities;
    - Private landowners;

- Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife;
- NGO's;

- Business
  - Commercial farms and associated industry (e.g. sugar milling, timber processing);
  - Private game reserves and other tourism attractions;
  - Other business,

- Internal stakeholders
  - Eskom.

It must be noted that this list can change during the SIA phase and more stakeholders that emerge may be added.

7 Description of potential impacts

7.1 Social changes versus social impacts

It is important to understand the difference between a social change process and a social impact. For the purpose of the SIA report both these categories will be investigated. For the purpose of this report, only possible social impacts will be mentioned.

Social change processes are set in motion by project activities or policies. Social change processes can be measured objectively, independent of the local context. Examples of a social change process are increase in the population, relocation or presence of temporary workers. Under certain circumstances these processes may result in social impacts, but if managed properly these changes may not create impacts. Whether impacts are caused will depend on the characteristics and history of the host community, and the extent of mitigation measures that are put in place (Vanclay, 2003).

The following categories of social change processes should be investigated in a SIA:

- Demographic processes;
- Economic processes;
- Geographic processes;
- Institutional and legal processes;
- Emancipatory and empowerment processes;
- Socio-cultural processes.

A social impact is something that is experienced or felt by humans. It can be positive or negative. Social impacts can be experienced in a physical or perceptual sense. Therefore, two types of social impacts can be distinguished:

- Objective social impacts – i.e. impacts that can be quantified and verified by independent observers in the local context, such as changes in employment patterns, in standard of living or in health and safety.
- Subjective social impacts – i.e. impacts that occur "in the heads" or emotions of people, such as negative public attitudes, psychological stress or reduced quality of life.

It is important to include subjective social impacts, as these can have far-reaching consequences in the form of opposition to, and social mobilisation against the project (Du Preez & Perold, 2005). The following categories of social impacts will be investigated:

- Health and social well-being;
- Quality of the living environment;
- Economic impacts and material well-being;
- Cultural impacts;

- Family and community impacts;
- Institutional, legal, political and equity impacts;
- Gender impacts.

In conclusion, it is very likely that a number of social changes processes will be set in motion by the project. Whether these processes cause social impacts will depend on the successful implementation of suggested mitigation measures. Having said that, it must be considered that the social environment is dynamic and constantly changing, making it difficult to predict exact impacts. External processes not related to the project, like political changes or global economic changes can alter the social environment in a short period of time, and therefore alter the predicted impacts.

7.2 Preliminary social impacts

Sources of social impacts are often not as clear-cut as those in the biophysical environment. Social impacts are not site-specific, but occur in the communities surrounding the proposed site – where the people are. The following is a list of some of the possible impacts that may occur as a result of the project. It must be stated that the list is not exhaustive and should be expanded on in the EIA phase when consultation with stakeholders will take place. Mitigation measures are context specific and the mitigation measures in this report should be viewed as guidelines and may change once consultation with stakeholders has taken place. These impacts should be investigated further in the Environmental Impact Assessment phase of the project. Table 12 shows impacts that can occur in the different phases of the project and suggests possible mitigation measures. These measures can be refined once further stakeholder consultation has taken place.

Table 12: Preliminary impacts in the different phases of the project.

Possible impacts	Possible mitigation measures
PLANNING AND DESIGN PHASE	
Expectations regarding social and economic benefits (e.g. that	Eskom must put a community relations programme in place through which it communicates with the public as

Possible impacts	Possible mitigation measures
community will get access to electricity)	well as stakeholders, and through which the public and stakeholders can communicate with them. Information should be shared openly and honestly, even if it is negative. Even something like a delay in a milestone would be important for some stakeholders to know.
Expectations regarding creation of opportunities (Jobs etc.)	Eskom must put a communication strategy in place that will communicate in an open and honest way what kind of jobs will be created, who will qualify and how the recruitment process will work.
CONSTRUCTION PHASE	
Impacts of **traffic** on people – dust, noise, safety – from a social and nuisance perspective.	Heavy vehicles should travel during off peak times and should be clearly marked. Relevant mitigation proposed in the biophysical studies should be adhered to.
Impacts on **livelihoods** – of landowners.	Where possible, try to avoid productive land. Forestry and sugar cane have limitations in terms of overhead power lines. Where unavoidable, the landowners should be compensated for their land as well as their business activities depending on the land that they will be losing. A compensation plan should be compiled with their input.
Relocation of people currently living on the proposed route. (This impact will only occur if relocation has to take place).	Currently relocation of people is not envisaged, but should this become an option this impact should be dealt with according to international best practise.
Safety of community – possible increase in crime due to increased number of strangers in community.	Contractors should wear some form of identification that will make them easily recognizable as representatives from Eskom. Eskom should liaise with the communities

Possible impacts	Possible mitigation measures
	to draft an action plan against potential crime.
Negative **community relations** due to conduct of contractors / representatives from Eskom.	A protocol must be put in place that stipulates how contractors / Eskom representatives should conduct themselves when they move around in the area, especially when they need to perform tasks on private property. This would include finding out what the community will expect of them, for example making appointments, being clearly identifiable, etc. The protocol should also state the consequences of not adhering to the rules.
Impacts of **construction camp** – HIV/AIDS, movement of people etc. (This impact would only occur if there is a construction camp).	The construction camp must be established in accordance to the IFC guidelines for Workers' Accommodation. The location of the construction camp must be agreed on with surrounding neighbours. Life skills education should be presented to all Eskom employees and at local schools and community centres close to construction camps. This should include HIV/AIDS, prostitution, teen pregnancy, etc.
Influx of people – also possible social disintegration and cultural differentiation, increase in HIV/AIDS etc.	Develop and implement an Influx Management Strategy as per IFC Guidelines on Influx Management.
Creation of jobs and other economic opportunities.	Contractors should be required to make use of a certain proportion of local labour – it is acknowledged that not all skills will be available locally. Jobs should be advertised in a way that is accessible to all members of

Possible impacts	Possible mitigation measures
	society and labour desks should be established in accessible areas.
For some stakeholders their **sense of place** may change.	It is mostly not possible to mitigate impacts on the sense of place. Doing a Visual Impact Assessment and implementing its recommendations can assist in lessening the impact on the sense of place. Input should be obtained from current landowners.
Visual – the landscape will look different.	There are many game reserves and game farms in the area. The visual landscape is a key aspect of their sense of place as well as earning their livelihoods. The mitigation in the visual impact assessment must be adhered to. It is furthermore suggested that professional land valuators establish the current land values of the directly affected properties to establish a baseline for future references.
OPERATIONAL PHASE	
Negative **community relations** due to conduct of contractors / representatives from Eskom.	A protocol must be put in place that stipulates how contractors / Eskom representatives should conduct themselves when they move around in the area, especially when they need to perform tasks on private property. This would include finding out what the community will expect of them, for example making appointments, being clearly identifiable, etc. The protocol should also state the consequences of not adhering to the rules.
Creation of jobs and other economic	Preference should be given to local labour that is within

Possible impacts	Possible mitigation measures
opportunities	easy travelling distance from the site of work. It may be necessary to put skills development programmes in place to develop local skills. Jobs should be advertised in a way that is accessible to all members of society and labour desks should be established in accessible areas.
Fire hazards (caused by people) – high risk area due to forestry activities	Fires (if needed) should be made in controlled areas and workers and contractors should be made aware of the danger and consequences of fires. They should for example be aware not to throw cigarette butts next to the road, as these may start a fire.
For some stakeholders the **sense of place** will change	Sense of place cannot be mitigated. Social change is a natural process that will occur over time regardless of whether the powerlines are built or not and the presence of the powerlines will just accelerate this process.
Visual – the landscape will look different.	It is mostly not possible to mitigate impacts on the sense of place. Doing a Visual Impact Assessment and implementing its recommendations can assist in lessening the impact on the sense of place. Input should be obtained from current landowners. It is furthermore suggested that professional land valuators establish the current land values of the directly affected properties to establish a baseline for future references.

8 Detailed plan of study for the EIA and EMP

In terms of the way forward, it is believed that a participatory approach is the best way to approach social impact assessment in the South African context. The World Bank Social Standards, Equator Principles, International Principles for Social Impact Assessment and the SIA Guidance document published by the IAIA will be applied in the study. It must be noted that international standards and principles will be adapted to ensure that it can be applied in the local social context. The methodology proposed focuses on involving the affected public in the research and planning where it is realistically possible and executable. Different methodologies will be utilised to ensure the affected communities are consulted in the way that is most appropriate to the community.

The following activities will form part of the process forward:

- Fieldwork will be conducted to obtain additional information and communicate with key stakeholders. Key stakeholders are likely to include:
    - Authorities: local municipalities that fall in the project area.
    - Affected parties: communities that will be affected by the project, farm labourers and farmers.
    - Interested parties: local business in the area, community-based organisations and non-governmental organisations within the affected communities, trade unions, and political groups.
- Methodologies will include in-depth interviews, participatory rural appraisal, in-the-moment discussion groups, focus groups and immersions. Field notes will be kept of all interviews and focus groups. Initial meetings have been conducted.
- An interview schedule might be utilised instead of formal questionnaires. An interview schedule consists of a list of topics to be covered, but it is not as structured as an interview. It provides respondents with more freedom to elaborate on their views.

- The final report will focus on current conditions, providing baseline data. Each category will discuss the current state of affairs, but also investigate the possible impacts that might occur in future. The impacts identified in the scoping report will be revisited and rated accordingly. New impacts that have not been identified will be added to the report. Recommendations for mitigation will be made at the end of the report.

- The SIA process will have a participatory focus. This implies that the SIA process will focus strongly on including the local community and key stakeholders.

- The public consultation process needs to feed into the SIA.

- Impacts will be rated according to significance (severity), probability, duration, spatial extent and stakeholder sensitivity.

Information obtained through the public processes will inform the writing of the final SIA and associated documents.

9 Conclusion

The aim of this report is to give a baseline description of the social environment and to identify preliminary impacts to be used in the scoping phase of the Environmental Impact Assessment. A more in-depth assessment of social impacts and possible mitigation measures will be possible once further stakeholder consultation has taken place. A number of potential impacts has been identified. None of these possible impacts is seen as a fatal flaw in the possible successful execution of the proposed project, but this can only be confirmed once fieldwork has been done and the potential impacts have been finalised and assessed. Most of the potential impacts can be mitigated. The importance of addressing the potential impacts as early in the project cycle as possible must be underlined, since failure to do so may result in the development of risks and an exponential increase in project cost.

10 Assumptions, uncertainties and gaps in knowledge

The following assumptions and limitations were relevant:

1. The socio-economic environment constantly changes and adapts to change, and external factors outside the scope of the project can offset social changes, for example changes in local political leadership. It is therefore difficult to predict all impacts to a high level of accuracy, although care has been taken to identify and address the most likely impacts in the most appropriate way for the current local context within the limitations.
2. Social impacts can be felt on an actual or perceptual level, and therefore it is not always straightforward to measure the impacts in a quantitative manner.
3. Social impacts commence when the project enters the public domain. Some of these impacts are thus already taking place, irrespective of whether the project continues or not. These impacts are difficult to mitigate and some would require immediate action to minimise the risk.
4. There are different groups with different interests in the community, and what one group may experience as a positive social impact, another group may experience as a negative impact.

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