



gauteng tourism economic development agency



2023/24 ANNUAL REPORT

CONTACTS:

TELEPHONE: 015-307 3296

FAX NO: 015 307 4954

EMAIL: info@gteda.co.za

WEBSITE: www.gteda.co.za



Mr. MW Mulaudzi

Acting Chief Executive Officer

Date: 23/12/2024

Mr. MZ Mawasha

Board Chairperson

Date: 23/12/2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
ABBREVIATION/ ACRONYMS	3
INTRODUCTION	4
LEGISLATIVE/ REGULATORY FRAMEWORK	5
CHAPTER 1: STRATEGIC OVERVIEW	6
1.1. <i>VISION AND MISSION</i>	6
1.2. <i>VALUES</i>	6
1.3. <i>PERSPECTIVES AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</i>	7
1.4. <i>CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S OVERVIEW</i>	8
CHAPTER 2: CORPORATE GOVERNANCE	9
2.1. <i>BOARD GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE</i>	9
2.2. <i>COMPLIANCE WITH CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND GOOD PRACTICE</i>	11
2.3. <i>RISK MANAGEMENT</i>	15
CHAPTER 3: HUMAN RESOURCE STATISTICS	17
CHAPTER 4: ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE	20
4.1. <i>PROJECT MANAGEMENT</i>	20
4.2. <i>ANNUAL PERFORMANCE</i>	39
CHAPTER 5: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	68
5.1. <i>AUDITED ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS and AGSA AUDIT REPORT</i>	68

ABBREVIATION/ ACRONYMS

AFS	ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AGSA	Auditor-General of South Africa
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
COGHSTA	Department of Cooperative Governance, Housing, Settlements and Traditional Affairs
FRC	Finance and Risk Committee
GRAP	Generally Recognised Accounting Principles
GTEDA	GREATER TZANEEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
GTFSC	Greater Tzaneen Financial Services Cooperatives
GTM	GREATER TZANEEN MUNICIPALITY
HR & REMCO	Human Resource and Remuneration Committee
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LDA	Limpopo Department of Agriculture
LED	Local Economic Development
MFMA	Municipal Finance Management Act
MSCOA	Municipal Standard Chart of Accounts
MSA	Municipal Systems Act
PA	Personal Assistant
PIC	Project and Investment Committee
PMU	Project Management Unit
SETA	Sectoral Education Training Authority
SDBIP	Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan
SMME	Small Medium Micro Enterprise
SALGA	South African Local Government Association
SALGBC	South African Local Government Bargaining Council
SEC	Social and Ethics Committee
SCM	Supply Chain Management

INTRODUCTION

We are honoured to submit the Annual Report of the Greater Tzaneen Economic Development Agency (GTEDA) for the period 01 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, in accordance with Chapter 12 (Section 121) of the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA), 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003).

GTEDA as a Municipal entity is required to prepare an Annual Report in accordance with the provisions of Section 121 of its founding legislation, the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, Act 56 of 2003 (MFMA) read with Municipal System Act. .

In terms of Section 121, the purpose of this Annual Report is:

- a) To provide a record of the activities of GTEDA during the Financial Year 2023/24;
- b) To provide a report on performance against the budget of GTEDA for the same period; and
- c) To promote accountability to the local communities of Greater Tzaneen Municipalities for the decisions made throughout the year by GTEDA.

It is through the Annual Report that GTEDA is able to foster transparent governance and accountability by submitting the following for the Year Ending 30 June 2024:

- i. Audited Annual Financial Statements;
- ii. Auditors Report; and
- iii. Annual Performance Report.

LEGISLATIVE/ REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

GTEDA as a Municipal Entity of the GTM, established to implement economic development within the GTM area, derives its legislative mandate first and foremost from Chapter 10 of the *Municipal Finance Management Act*, 2006 (Act No. 53 of 2003) and its Regulations read with Chapter 8A of the *Municipal Systems Act*, 2000 (Act No. 32 of 2000) and its Regulations. GTEDA also ensures compliance, to the extent applicable, to other legislation governing local government including, but not limited to the following:

- The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act. 108 of 1996);
- Local Government: Municipal Demarcation Act, 1998 (Act No. 27 of 1998);
- Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 (Act No. 6 of 2004);
- Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, 1998 (Act No. 117 of 1998);
- Basic Conditions of Employment Act, 1997 (Act no. 75 of 1997);
- Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act, 2003 (Act No. 53 of 2003);
- Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) and its Regulations;
- Division of Revenue Act, 6 (Act No. 6 of 2012);
- Employment Equity Act, 1998 (Act No. 55 of 1998);
- Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations Act, 1997 (Act No. 97 of 2005);
- Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act, 2005 (Act No. 13 of 2005);
- Labour Relations Act, 1995 (Act No. 66 of 1995);
- Municipal Fiscal Powers and Functions Act, 2007 (Act No. 12 of 2007);
- National Archives Act of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996);
- Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993);
- Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2000 (Act No. 5 of 2000) and its Regulations;
- Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004 (Act No. 12 of 2004);
- Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No. 2 of 2000);
- Promotion of Administration to Justice Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000);
- Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act, 2000 (Act No. 4 of 2000);
- Skills Development Act, 1998 (Act No. 97 of 1998);
- Skills Development Levy Act, 1999 Act No. 9 of 1999;
- Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Act, 2003 (Act No. 41 of 2003);

CHAPTER 1: STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

1.1. VISION AND MISSION

VISION

"To be an effective agent of inclusive, thriving and sustainable socio-economic development for the people of Greater Tzaneen Municipality"

MISSION

"We strive to drive local economic development in Greater Tzaneen, facilitate in innovative and efficient ways, development of an economy that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient. We believe in the potential of our people to drive their own development".

1.2. VALUES

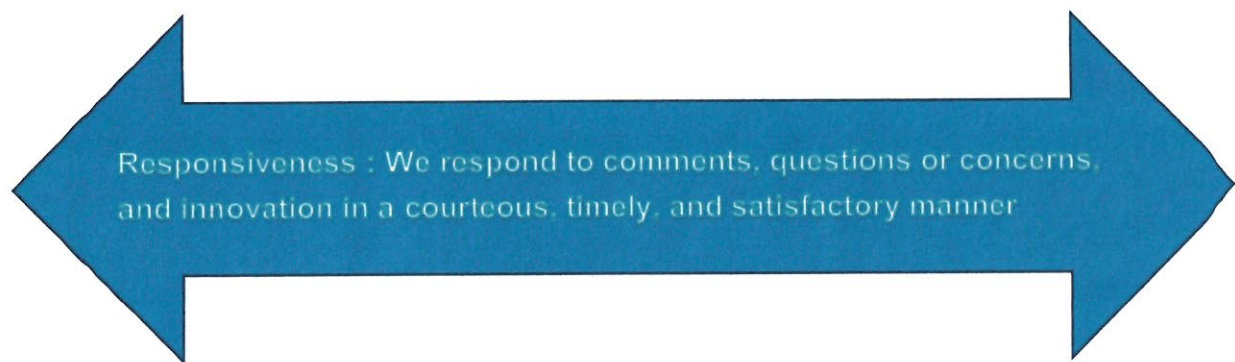
Accountability: Board and employees take individual and/or collective ownership when rendering services to stakeholders

Empowerment: Our organisation provides its employees with skills, resources, and opportunities, as well as makes them responsible and accountable

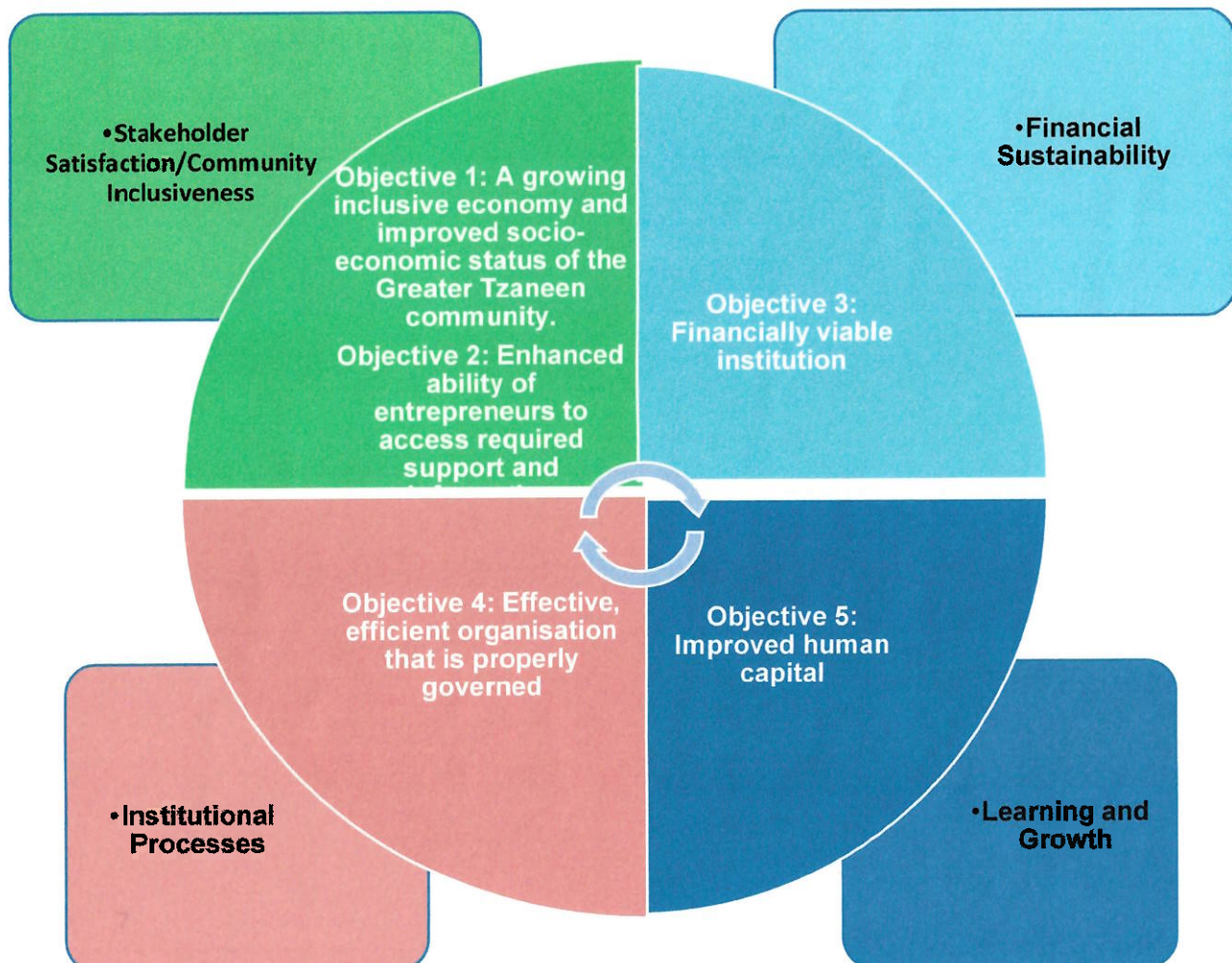
Integrity: The Board and employees perform responsibilities with honesty, trust, and Constance

Innovation : Our objectives are reviewed on an annual basis to be in line with current trends and projects are implemented innovatively

Transparency : Our services are available for public scrutiny



1.3. PERSPECTIVES AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



1.4. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S OVERVIEW

The most difficult fiscal year in the Agency's history was 2023–2024. The Council formally decided to disband GTEDA and gave the Municipal Manager six months to complete the process. This decision had significant consequences because it prevented the Board from carrying out its fiduciary duties for six months, which is against the applicable legislation.

The Agency continued to implement the Business plan and Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) as approved by the Board. The performance information has improved from 87% from the previous financial year to 92% for the year under review.

By empowering women, SMMEs, and jobless youth, the organization is still a force for change. The combined GTEDA Annual Performance Report provides a summary of the accomplishments and challenges. We are pleased to report that GTEDA has continuously practiced sound financial management for the previous 12 years and obtained a clean audit opinion in the 2023-24 financial year.

This is a significant accomplishment that demonstrates the staff's dedication despite the Agency's difficulties. In order to prevent a regression in the organization's financial and performance outcomes, management is focusing on creating plans and strategies. All decision-makers must take full advantage of GTEDA's enormous growth potential and contribution to the socio-economic advancement of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality's residents; therefore, Council's role is crucial in accomplishing this goal since GTEDA has a huge potential to expand and support the socio-economic development of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality's residents. All decision makers must take full advantage of this opportunity.

Progress on the implementation of the LED projects is satisfactory; we continue to support over 412 SMMEs and 54 Co-operatives that contributes to job and wealth creation for our people.

On staffing: five positions were budgeted for; however, the positions were not filled due to the disestablishment process. As we move through the fiscal year 2024–2025, which would be GTEDA's last year of operation. I want to express my gratitude to GTM for establishing the Agency and providing resources for over 17-years of its existence. The Board's leadership and support over the years have been incalculable.

In conclusion, I take this moment to thank the staff who worked hard throughout the year and ensured that we deliver all the plans, words cannot express how I feel about leading such a team of highly qualified, professional and dedicated people.

The work we have achieved together could not have been possible if it was not for the Small Businesses that we work with daily. These men and women are the core of our business, and we owe them our success, words cannot express how we value them.

On oversight: I would like to convey our gratitude to the Audit and Risk and Compliance committees respectively for the guidance and support offered throughout the year.

Re a leboga,

Ha khensa.

Thank you,



Mr. MW Mulaudzi
Chief Executive Officer (Acting)

CHAPTER 2: CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

2.1. BOARD GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



The Board is committed to ensuring that the Agency is governed appropriately. The Board recognises the responsibility of the Agency to conduct its affairs with

prudence, transparency, accountability, fairness and in a socially and environmentally responsible manner.

The Agency complies with the provisions as set out in the code of conduct for directors, referred to in section 93L of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act No. 32 of 2000) Code of Corporate Governance Principles and Practices as recommended in Companies Act, the King IV Report on Governance for South Africa 2016.

BOARD STRUCTURE

The general powers of the board of directors are conferred in the Memorandum of Incorporation and the Service Level Agreement entered between the Agency and the Parent Municipality. Terms of reference for the Board are set out in the Board Charter which is reviewed annually.

To ensure conflicts of interest are avoided Board members annually provide a general disclosure of their personal financial interests in terms of section 75 of the Companies Act 2008 and are required to declare any material personal financial interests that they may have in contracts entered or in any matters to be discussed at meetings, as well as any changes to their interests as previously declared.

The Board has adopted a unitary structure, and no individual member of the Board has unfettered powers of decision making. The responsibility for running the Board and executive responsibility for the conduct of the business are differentiated in the Board Charter. Accordingly, the roles of the Chairperson of the Board and of the Chief Executive Officer are separated.

The Charter covers the powers and authority of the Board and provides a clear and concise overview of the responsibilities and accountability of Board members, collectively and individually. It includes the policy and procedures for Nomination and Appointment of Committees.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

For the year under review the Board comprised of four (4) non-executive Directors (3 females and 1 male), who are independent as defined by King IV Report on Governance for South Africa 2016. The Parent Municipality's consideration is given to gender and racial diversity, as well as diversity in business, geographic and academic backgrounds, in the process of Directors' appointment. The particulars of the Directors are set out in the Board of directors' section of this Integrated Annual Report.



Mr. MZ Mawasha
Board Chairperson



Ms MI Moakamela
Board Member



Ms BL Mathebula
Board Member



Mrs. MF Mushwana
Board Member

MINIMISE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Board operates within the powers conferred on it in the Board Charter; bases deliberations, decisions and actions on strategic objectives and ethical and moral values; considers the legitimate interests of all stakeholders; and aligns its conduct to drive the Agency's mandate accordingly.

The Agency has a Code of Conduct and ethics which is communicated internally and externally, and the importance of ethical behaviour is emphasized in all of the Agency's engagements.

MINIMISE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Board operates within the powers conferred on it in the Board Charter; bases deliberations, decisions and actions on strategic objectives and ethical and moral values; considers the legitimate interests of all stakeholders; and aligns its conduct to drive the Agency's mandate accordingly.

The Agency has a Code of Conduct and ethics which is communicated internally and externally, and the importance of ethical behaviour is emphasized in all of the Agency's engagements.

2.2. COMPLIANCE WITH CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND GOOD PRACTICE



For the period under review, the Board met on six occasions. Attendance at these meetings is summarized in the table below.

Board Meetings Attendance:			
Initials and Surname	Position Held	Ordinary Meetings	Special Meetings
Mr. MZ Mawasha	Board Chairperson	1 of 1	5 of 5
Ms MI Moakamela	Board Member	1 of 1	5 of 5
Mrs. MF Mushwana	Board Member	1 of 1	5 of 5
Ms BL Mathebula	Board Member	1 of 1	5 of 5



BOARD COMMITTEES

The Board is assisted to discharge its duties and responsibilities by the following Committees:

- Projects and Investments Committee.
- Finance and Risk Committee.
- Human Resource and Remuneration Committee

The ultimate responsibility for Board duties and responsibilities, however, resides in the Board and it does not abdicate its responsibilities to the Committees.

The Committees operate within formalized terms of reference which have been approved by the Board and which reflect the Agency's application of the principles embodied in the King Report, the statutory requirements of the Company's Act and relevant legislation.

The terms of reference set out each Committee's purpose, membership requirements, duties, and responsibility. Relevant legislative requirements, such as those as prescribed in the Companies Act, are also incorporated in the Committee Charters.

When appropriate, ad hoc committees are formed to facilitate the achievement of specific short-term objectives. There is full disclosure, transparency and reporting from these Committees to the Board at each Board meeting.



The Projects and Investments Committee is responsible for, but not limited to the following:

- ❖ Performing such other investment and/or fund-raising related functions as may be determined by the Board from time to time;
- ❖ Developing and reviewing the Annual Strategy/Plan with quarterly milestone.
- ❖ Assisting the interface with research programmes.
- ❖ Identifying key information dissemination activities for project results.
- ❖ Ensuring that all economic development opportunities are identified and assessed and assist in balancing conflicting priorities and resources.
- ❖ Ensuring that viable and sustainable economic development opportunities are brought to the attention of potential investors and funders.
- ❖ Ensuring that interested investors are provided with all necessary support to ensure implementation of viable new projects.

- ❖ Developing and reviewing feasibility studies and business plans that may have been commissioned by or presented to GTEDA and packaging these opportunities in various attractive ways that will appeal to potential investors.
- ❖ Reporting on project progress to stakeholders such as the Greater Tzaneen Municipal Council, Oversight Committee/Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC), Auditors, Banks, funders etc.
- ❖ Assisting with investment promotional events or direct sales calls on target investors; and

Ensuring that all necessary support is provided to potential investors in terms of local information, introductions and other actions that will ensure speedy implementation of new projects.



Mr. MZ Mawasha

Chairperson: Projects and Investments



FINANCE AND RISK COMMITTEE (FRC)

For the period under review the Finance and Risk Committee comprised of the following Members:

1. Mrs. MF Mushwana: Chairperson
2. Ms MI Moakamela: Member
3. Ms BL Mathebula: Member

The Finance and Risk Committee is responsible for the consideration of key financial and operating control risks and in particular assists the Board in the following matters:

- ❖ Monitoring the financial reporting process.
- ❖ Recommending the appointment of an internal auditor, determining the terms of engagement and approving fees for audit and non-audit work undertaken.
- ❖ Monitoring the operation and effectiveness of internal control systems, including information technology controls.
- ❖ Overseeing the internal audit function, monitoring its effectiveness, and reviewing corrective action in relation to findings.
- ❖ Overseeing the implementation and effective operation of a structured risk management process; and
- ❖ Reviewing and recommending to the Board for approval the interim and annual financial statements, the going concern status of the Agency, and other special payments.

The office of the Auditor General of South Africa (AGSA) conducts external audits for the Agency as required by the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA). Internal audit resources were provided via a service provision arrangement with Tladi and Associate Consulting at the recommendation of Management. The internal auditor does not perform the function or undertake the role of management.

The Finance and Risk Committee discharged the functions assigned and complied in all material respects with its mandate and the responsibilities prescribed to it in the Terms of Reference.



Mrs. MF Mushwana
Chairperson: Finance & Risk Committee

2.3. RISK MANAGEMENT

Whereas the Board Charter, the Board is responsible for the governance of risk, which is delegated to the Finance and Risk Committee but without abdicating the Board's responsibility.

Section 62 (1) (c) (1) of the MFMA (Act No. 56 of 2003), requires the Accounting Officer to maintain effective, efficient, and transparent systems of risk management and internal control.

Risks are reviewed and prioritised regularly and assessed on an ongoing basis as part of normal operational management processes. The following five-(5) Strategic Risks were identified:

1. RISK DESCRIPTION: Failure to fully implement the three LED Projects (Agro processing, farming support, waste management)

- **RESIDUAL RISK EXPOSURE:** High
- **MITIGATION MEASURE:**
 - Establish partnerships for implementation of LED projects
 - Conduct quarterly information sharing seminars and networking sessions with funding institutions per sector
 - Provide access to marketing platforms for LED projects/SMMs
- **RISK OWNER:** Accounting Officer
- **ACTION OWNER:** Senior Project Coordinator

2. RISK DESCRIPTION: Loss of access: ICT systems hosted by an outsourced service provider.

- **RESIDUAL RISK EXPOSURE:** High
- **MITIGATION MEASURE:** Integration of GTEDA ICT services into the Municipality.
- **RISK OWNER:** Accounting Officer
- **ACTION OWNER:** Human Resource Officer



3. RISK DESCRIPTION: Theft of entity's assets

- **RESIDUAL RISK EXPOSURE:** Medium
- **MITIGATION MEASURE:**
 - Develop asset control register
 - Develop asset movement register
 - Conduct Periodic inspections
- **RISK OWNER:** Accounting Officer
- **ACTION OWNER:** Accountant

4. RISK DESCRIPTION: Improper usage of internet

- **RESIDUAL RISK EXPOSURE:** Medium
- **MITIGATION MEASURE:** Development of Internet Usage policy
- **RISK OWNER:** Accounting Officer
- **ACTION OWNER:** Human Resource Officer

5. RISK DESCRIPTION: VAT liability

- **RESIDUAL RISK EXPOSURE:** High
- **MITIGATION MEASURE:** Application for VAT exemption
- **RISK OWNER:** Accounting Officer
- **ACTION OWNER:** Accountant



HUMAN RESOURCE AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE (HR & REMCO)

For the period under review the Human Resource and Remuneration Committee comprised of the following Members:

1. Ms MI Moakamela: Chairperson
2. Mrs. MF Mushwana: Member
3. Ms BL Mathebula: Member

The Human Resource and Remuneration Committee assists the Board by overseeing the following matters:

- ❖ Ensuring that the Agency's directors and Chief Executive Officer are competitively rewarded for their individual contributions to the overall performance.
- ❖ Ensures that the remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer is set by a committee of Board members who have no personal interest in the outcomes of their decisions and who will give due regard to the interests of shareholders and to the financial and commercial health of the Agency.



Ms MI Moakamela

Chairperson: Human Resource & Remuneration Committee

- ❖ Succession planning within the organisation.
- ❖ Reviewing performance assessment of the Chief Executive Officer and entire organisation.
- ❖ Recommending appropriate remuneration packages for employees.
- ❖ Reviewing the composition of the Board committees with respect to skills and experience; and
- ❖ Developing sound corporate governance policies.

Human Resource and Remuneration Committee complies in all material respects with its mandate and the responsibilities prescribed in its charter.

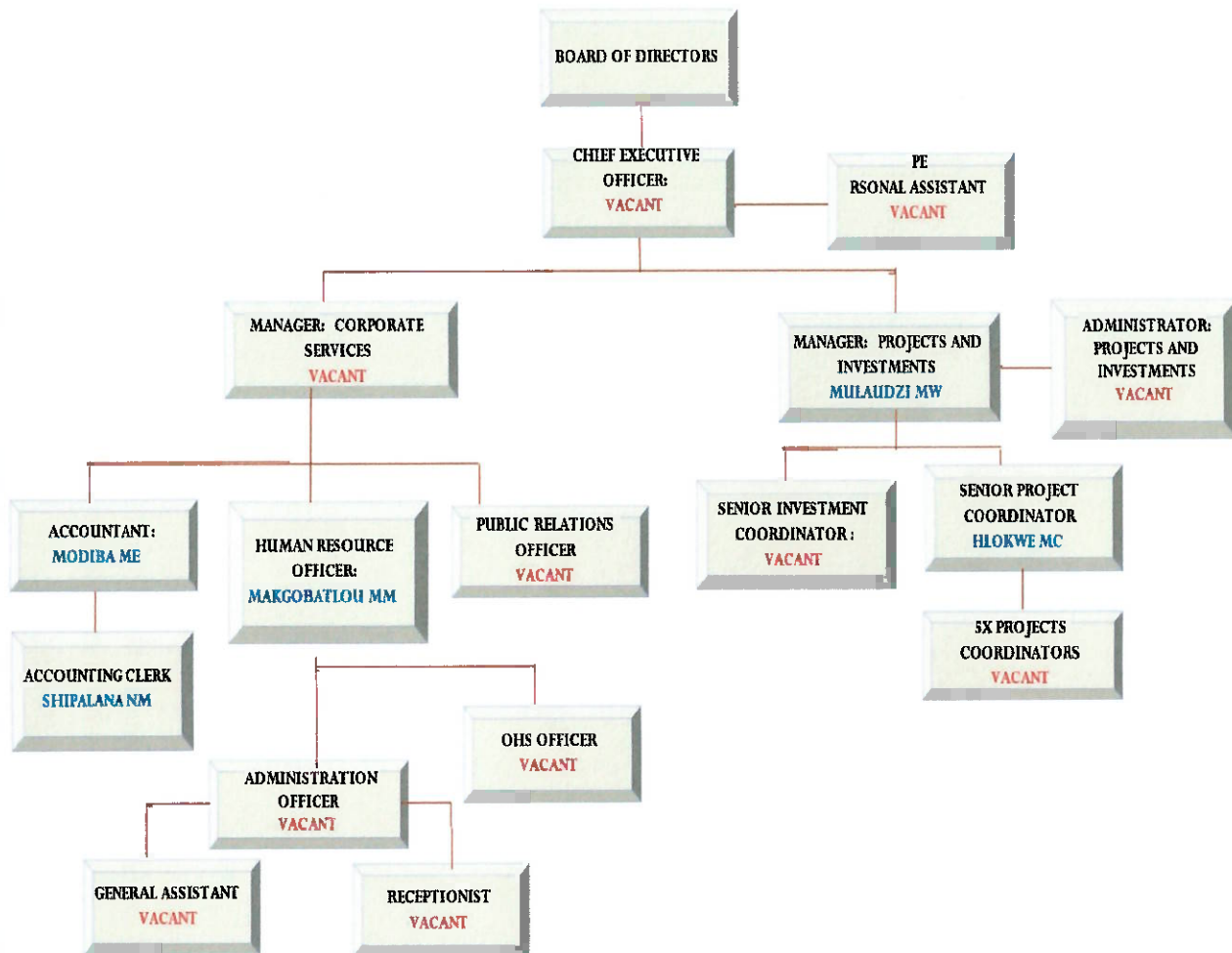
CHAPTER 3: HUMAN RESOURCE STATISTICS

The Municipal Systems Act of 2000, Section 67 requires municipalities to develop and adopt appropriate systems and procedures to ensure fair, efficient, effective, and transparent personnel administration in accordance with the Employment Equity Act of 1998. However,

For the year under review, the workforce of GTEDA was constituted as:

Category	Male				Female					Total
	African	Indian	Coloured	White	Total Male	African	Indian	Coloured	White	
Executive Management	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Senior Management	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Middle Management	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
Lower Level	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	5
Disabled	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	1	—	—	—	1	8	—	—	—	9

APPROVED ORGANOGRAM.



GTEDA strives to ensure that it employs and maintains a staff complement consisting of the highest calibre of individuals who subscribe to its values and are committed to delivering sustainable long-term performance.

MANAGEMENT TEAM



Mr. MW Mulaudzi
Acting Chief Executive Officer



Ms. ME MODIBA
Accountant



Ms. MM Makgobatlou
Accountant



Ms. MC Hlokwe
Senior Project Coordinator

CHAPTER 4: ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE

4.1. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

At the core of GTEDA's mandate is the Project Management Unit (PMU) which oversees the implementation of strategic objectives of the Agency geared towards resource mobilisation, SMME support and investment attraction in the GTM area. Key to driving the Agency's mandate is strategically aligned focus areas which have the potential to drive economic development in the GTM area.

1. INVESTMENT ATTRACTION

For the 2023/24 financial year, the Agency secured funding of R 1 475 000.00 (One Million Four Hundred and Seventy-Five Thousand Rand) Discretionary Grant was facilitated and approved by the Local Government Sector Education Training Authority (LGSETA) for a learnership programme on Local Economic Development (National Certificate) for 25 unemployed youth to be implemented in the 2024/25.

2. PARTNERSHIPS SECURED

During the 2023/24 financial year, GTEDA facilitated and secured the following partnerships:

- a. GTEDA concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with Letaba TVET College to implement skills development initiatives for students and SMMEs. Through the partnership, a funding application for non-pivotal discretionary grant funding was submitted to the Wholesale & Retail Sector Education Training Authority (W&RSETA) for 35 SMMEs, 200 informal traders/hawkers and 65 Cooperatives. **18 SMMEs** under retail were approved and were trained on Personal Finance by the W&RSETA, the SMMEs each received a startup funding of R 6 500.00.
- b. GTEDA entered a Memorandum of Understanding with FABCO to support farmers in terms of technical support as well as skills development.

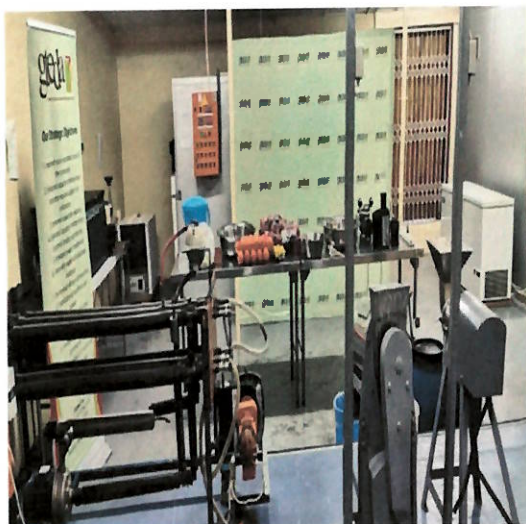
3. GTM LED PROJECTS

3.1. Agricultural Business Incubator

The objective of the project is to establish a business incubator that creates employment opportunities and stimulate local economic growth for the marginalized people of Greater Tzaneen Municipality. A funding application was submitted to AGRISETA for 80 unemployed youth on Plant Production.

The following trainings have been undertaken through the existing partnership with the University of Limpopo Agro-food Station. for SMMEs participating in the incubation programme:

- a) Agro-processing orange jam for 19 businesses.
- b) Mango Atchar production for 30 SMMEs
- c) Peanut Butter for 20 SMMEs
- d) Food Safety training for 20 SMMEs and Cooperatives
- e) Mango Atchar production for 30 SMMEs
- f) Financial Management for 40 SMMEs
- g) Business Management 20 SMMEs



3.2.. Tzaneen Farmer Support Facility

GTEDA provides ongoing support to over 400 local farmers and has a standing partnership with FABCO to assist farmers with input support, mechanization support, training, and market access. Two respective funding applications were packaged and submitted to AGRI-SETA, one for mixed farming targeting 100 unemployed youth and the other for plant production targeting 100 unemployed youth. Management partnered with FABCO during the outreach programme focusing on the value chain and commercialization of Casava, the programme reached farmers around Khujwana, Mariveni, and Mogapeng.



The following trainings interventions were implemented for Farmer Support Facility through partnerships with accredited skill development providers:

- a) Theoretical training on financial management for 24 farmers: 14 - 15 September 2023 (Bulamahlo cluster). The aim of this training was to capacitate members of the Cooperative with the requisite skills and knowledge to make sound financial decisions in their businesses.
- b) Chemical handling training was conducted for 26 emerging and subsistence farmers, 04 to 05 October 2023 at Mawa village (Runnymede Cluster). These training programs are essential for promoting best practices in agrochemical handling, ensuring that farmers can protect their crops while minimizing risks to the environment and human health.
- c) Plant Production training was conducted for 28 farmers operating in Wards 03 and 04 at Xihoko (Runnymede Cluster) on 19-20 March 2024. The training provides the basis of the establishment of sustainable farming operations through the inclusion of a wide spectrum of competencies and techniques.
- d) Poultry Production training was conducted for 26 farmers operating in Ward 24, Petanenge Village (Bulamahlo Cluster) on 19-20 March 2024. The Purpose of the training was to give the opportunity for trainees to learn about raising chickens for their meat and eggs in order to manage a small-scale, commercial poultry enterprise that will be profitable.
- e) Plant Production training was conducted for 20 farmers operating in Wards 06 Joppi (Runnymede Cluster) on 15-16 May 2024. The training provides the basis of the establishment of sustainable farming operations through the inclusion of a wide spectrum of competencies and techniques.







Handover of certificates for plant production

3.3.Waste Management Support Programmes for SMMEs

Implementation of the LG SETA Environmental Practice Learnership was successfully concluded and was culminated by a graduation ceremony for the 24 participants which was hosted by GTEDA at the Greater Tzaneen Municipality on the 09th of April 2024.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of the Acting Mayor Cllr Sophie Raganya, MPAC chairperson Cllr Ngwako Given Maunatlala, PED Portfolio Chairperson Cllr Sophy Matiane, PED Director Benjamin Mathebula, the Acting CEO Mr. Velly Mulaudzi. The graduates were added into the GTEDS SMME Development and Support Database and provided with support i.e. business registrations, mentorship, and access to funding opportunities and skills development.

A networking session on funding opportunities for 70 Waste Management SMMEs i.e. recyclers and collectors were facilitated on the 30th of November 2023 at Ivory Tusk Lodge. The purpose of the session was to facilitate access to funding opportunities for SMMEs. The representatives from the following funding and support institutions made presentations on the various funding opportunities for recycling and waste collectors as well as requirements needed to apply for funding: PETCO, Ardagh glass package, SYDAH solutions, Plastic SA, National Movement of Rural Women, NYDA and SEFA. Maggy Machumele, Manager: Solid Waste (GTM), also presented on legislative requirements for working with/handling solid waste. On the day of the session PETCO provided 10 SMMEs with collector bags for collection and sorting different kinds of waste products.



***Networking Session on Funding opportunities for Waste Management SMMEs
(handover of waste Collector/bulk bags)***

Incubation programme

16 Waste Management SMMEs (collectors and recyclers) were incubated through GTEDA, the incubation programme includes provision of the following services:

- Skills development;
- Regular monitoring visits;
- Provision of business advisory services
- Assistance with access to finance, markets and required material.
- Support in terms of required equipment

Through the partnership with PETCO, 16 SMMEs were provided with 30 waste collector bags in order to store and preserve the material collected. A total of 500 bags were provided by PETCO for the incubation programme.

SMMEs Training

The following trainings interventions were implemented for Waste Management SMMEs through partnerships with accredited skill development providers:

- a) 25 Waste Management SMMEs were trained in Financial Management from 16 to 17th September 2023 at Tivumbeni Multi-Purpose College (Lesedi Cluster). The aim of this training was to capacitate members of the SMMEs with the requisite skills and knowledge to make sound financial decisions in managing their businesses.

- b) Waste Management training was conducted for 20 participants, the training was held over a period of 2 days, from 23-24 April 2024 at Tickyline Village (Lesedi Cluster).

- c) Management successfully conducted a Waste Management training for 25 participants, the training was held over a period of 2 days, from 23-24 May 2024 at Tzaneen Old fire station boardroom (Relela Cluster).

The purpose of the Waste Management training was to provide skills for SMMEs and Co-operatives that operate or aspire to establish waste management businesses. The training involved understanding critical elements integrated in sustainable waste management to give support and guidance to attendees on funding opportunities available for the sector. The training focused on hygienic processes, efficient and economic solid waste storage, collection, transportation, treatment, or disposal of waste in an environmentally friendly manner.



SMME's during delivery of bulk bags

Provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

GTEDA supported 40 SMMEs previously trained and currently working in the waste management sphere with a complete set of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to ensure that SMMEs comply with occupational health and safety requirements in their day-to-day operations.



GTEDA Acting CEO, Cllr Sophy Matiane, Cllr Tracy Phiri during handover of PPEs



SMME's after receiving PPES

4. INFORMATION SHARING SEMINARS CONVENED

For the 2023/24 financial year, the Agency conducted a total of 18 sessions as reported below:

4.1. Information Sharing Sessions as indicated below:

Over and above the GTM-wide outreach programmes conducted, GTEDA being cognizant of the challenges surrounding youth i.e. unemployment, poverty etc. and uses any opportunity to engage and provide support, development as well as provide funding opportunities to youth owned businesses in order to positively respond to the issue of high unemployment among the youth. With this said, GTEDA participated in the following sessions targeting youth:

b) GTM Youth Council Launch – 05 October 2023

GTEDA participated together with sister agencies i.e. SEDA and NYDA during the GTM Youth Council launch which was held on the 05th of October 2023 at Ivory Tusk Lodge,

the information shared related to how the youth can benefit in terms of growing their businesses from support and finding opportunities offered by development Agencies such as GTEDA, NYDA, SEDA.

a) Youth commemoration career and opportunity expo – 28 May 2024

GTEDA participated during Greater Tzaneen Municipality's Youth Month Career and Opportunity Expo, which was held on Friday, 28 May 2024 at All Birds Sports ground. The purpose Expo was to provide a platform for youth to explore various career opportunities, gain insights into different industries, and connect with potential employers and funders for those interested in entrepreneurship. The event sought to empower the youth by offering them access to information, resources, and networks that can help them make informed decisions about their career paths and future endeavours. GTEDA was afforded an opportunity to present on its services and how youth can benefit from such. This was also a marketing/visibility platform for GTEDA.

5. NETWORKING SESSIONS FACILITATED WITH FUNDING AGENCIES

GTEDA facilitated four (4) networking sessions with funding agencies and institutions on funding opportunities for SMMEs. The sessions collectively benefited over 300 SMMEs and Cooperatives. The Greater Tzaneen Municipality through the PED Department, Director Benjamin Mathebula and LED Manager Freddy Rammalo and the PED Portfolio Head Cllr Sophy Raganya and Chairperson Cllr Sophy Matiyane showed continued support to this initiative. Representatives from the following funding institutions made presentations on various funding opportunities offered as well as to outline compliance requirements to be in place to qualify to apply for funding: Small Enterprise Finance Agency (SEFA), Mintiro Foundation (a subsidiary of the Coca-Cola Company), Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA), National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), Department of Agriculture, Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), National Movement of Rural Women, Petco, SABS, University of Limpopo, The DTIC, Greater Tzaneen Tourism Association (GTTA), Ardagh glass package, SYDAH solutions, Plastic SA, Maggy Machumele, Manager: Solid Waste (GTM) presented on legislative requirements for working with/handling solid waste.

- a) SMME funding Workshop: Agriculture and agribusiness SMME (farmers and agri-processors)- 22 September 2023
- b) SMME funding Workshop: Waste Management SMMEs (recycling and waste collectors) - 30 November 2023
- c) SMME funding Workshop: Tourism SMMEs (Hospitality, Heritage, Arts and Crafts) – 15 March 2024
- d) SMME Funding Workshop: Trade and Manufacturing SMMEs – 10 May 2024

5.1. Thirteen (13) Community Outreach Programmes were conducted

GTEDA took a decision to conduct an intensive outreach programme across all 4 Wards on the municipality being Lesedi, Bulamahlo, Relela and Runnymede Clusters to share information on GTEDA services and support provided to SMMEs, Cooperatives and farmers, this was as a result of a need identified through engagements with communities for information on GTEDA's role in supporting SMMEs. The sessions were conducted with the support of Ward Councillors who provided significant support in coordinating participants as well as other logistics to ensure that the sessions were conducted successfully.

Presentations on how small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs from different parts of Tzaneen can benefit from support provided by the Agency were made, covering the following focus areas: agriculture, agro-processing, trade, manufacturing, tourism and waste management. A total of thirteen (13) Wards within the Greater Tzaneen Municipality were reached during the period under review i.e. Ward 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 16, 22, 24, 25, 28, 29, 35 with over 600 existing and aspiring SMMEs in attendance. The sessions were successful through the support and participation of Ward Councilors.



GTM Youth Launch



information sharing session at ward 24



information sharing session at ward 16



Information sharing ward 28



Networking session on Funding for trade& manufacturing SMMES