

5.4 INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME

5.4.1 Results of the Environmental Analysis

The environmental analysis indicates that Lesedi is predominantly rural, with only two significant urban settlements, namely Heidelberg/Ratanda and Devon/Impumelelo. There are two important environmental resources in the sub-region namely the Blesbokspruit Wetlands [RAMSAR site] and the Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve. The rural areas in Lesedi are mostly utilized for commercial farming purposes.

Environmental problems and constraints include:

- Poor living conditions in the informal settlements and on some of the farms.
- Pollution [limited].
- Past mining activities.
- Environmental strengths and opportunities include:
- Suikerbosrand and Alice Glockner Nature Reserves and surrounding hills.
- The various watercourses, water bodies and wetlands.
- Agricultural potential of the rural areas.
- Unique character of Heidelberg town.

5.4.2 Environmental Focus Areas

The following environmental focus areas have been identified in the localized strategic environmental guidelines;

- The nature reserves.
- The various water bodies and wetlands.
- The previously disadvantaged areas.
- The informal housing settlements.
- The rural farming areas.
- The small holding areas.
- The old mining areas.
- Heidelberg CBD.

5.4.3 Compliance with NEMA Principles and National Environmental Norms and Standards

A comprehensive Environmental Management Plan for the whole of Lesedi will be drawn up [see project PI 9/19] which will prescribe detailed guidelines and procedures to be followed pertaining to development in the various areas.

In the interim all development in Lesedi is strictly controlled in terms of the prescriptions of the relevant environmental legislation.

5.4.4 Projects which will Require Environmental Scoping/EIA

The following identified projects will require an environmental scoping or EIA:

- Construction of Ratanda/ R42 link road.
- Development of Devon/Impumelelo Refuse Disposal Site.
- Feasibility Study: Vischkuil mini dumping site.
- Housing development in the Heidelberg “Zone of Integration”. [EIA Competed]
- Tokolohong Agri-Village [Scoping completed].
- KwaZenzele Agri-Village.
- Township Establishment Heidelberg Zone of Opportunity.
- Refinement of the SDF.