

EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN LESOTHO

**Paper presented by
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Decentralization

Benefits of decentralization

1. Deepening Democracy

- Training in political leadership and political education
- Promoting citizen participation in democratic governance
- Promoting participation of women in governance
- Improving capacity in governance

Decentralization (cont.)

2. Improving Service Delivery

- bringing services closer to the people
- Involving people in planning
- Involving people in implementation of plans

Decentralization (cont.)

3. Enhancing Economic Development

- Employment generation
- Participation of communities in economic activities

Local Government in Lesotho

Enabling Legislation

1. The Constitution of Lesotho, 1992
 - Section 106 provides for the establishment of local government (leaves details to an act of Parliament)

Local Government in Lesotho (cont.)

Enabling Legislation (cont.)

2. Local Government Act, 1997

3. Local Government Elections Act, 1998

Local Government in Lesotho (cont.)

Enabling Legislation (cont.)

Amended in 2004 to operationalize the inclusion of women in local government elections.

Empowerment of women

1. Reservation of Seats

30% seats for women

- Local Government Act amended in 2004 to provide for the election of at least 30% women into councils
- Local Government Elections Act amended in 2004 to operationalize the inclusion of women in local government elections.

Empowerment of women (cont.)

2. Building the capacity of women (training)

3. Married persons equality Act, 2008

58% women were elected in the local government elections of 2005

Achievements 2009/2010

Land Management and Administration

Produced 54 village settlement layouts in districts:

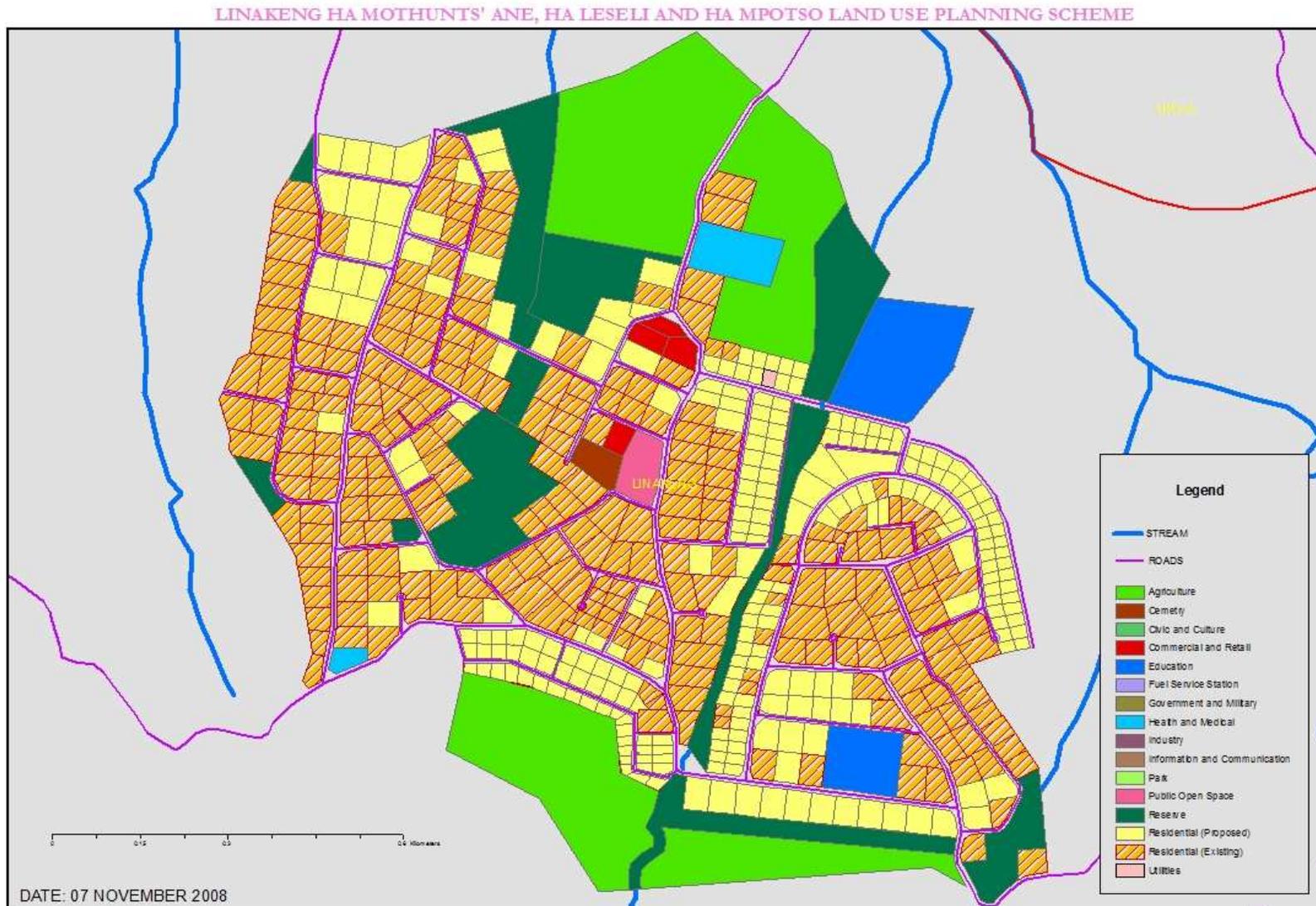
- Botha-Bothe district - 7
- Leribe district – 11
- Berea district – 7
- Maseru district - 7

Achievements 2009/2010

Land Management and Administration (cont.)

- Mafeteng district – 7
- Mohale'hoek district – 5
- Quthing – 8
- Qacha's Nek - 2

Land Use Planning Scheme for Ha Leseli and Ha Mpotso at Linakeng Community Council (Motete #3) in Botha-Bothe



Achievements (cont.)

Identification of Development Plans

Councils have mobilized communities in identifying development plans in the:

- Construction of Roads
- Water supply
- Communication networks
- Forestry
- Land reclamation

Achievements (cont.)

Heavy Plant and Machinery

- Procured road construction plant for councils

Caterpillar D8R Bull-Dozer





Motor Grader



Drum Roller



Excavator

Achievements (cont.)

Construction and maintenance of roads:

(a) Rural access roads:

(i) Gravel Roads constructed with heavy plant

Completed 350.7km gravel roads in the following districts:

- Maseru: 35km
- Botha-Bothe: 28km
- Leribe: 40km
- Berea: 31.8km
- Mafeteng: 35.6km
- Mohale's Hoek: 59.1km
- Quthing: 41.5km
- Qacha's Nek: 61.6km
- Mokhotlong: 13.8km
- Thaba-Tseka: 5.3km

**Ha Sarele to Ha Maoela road (4.5 km), in Thaba-Phechela Constituency,
Mafeteng**



**Tšakholo - Litšoeneng road(18 km), in Thaba-Phechela Constituency,
Mafeteng**



On-going road , Ha Mohlakoana to Ha Mokhosi (28 km) connecting Mount Moorosi and Qhoali Constituencies - Quthing



‘Melikane to Mosenekeng road (30 km), connecting Tsoelike and Lebakeng Constituencies – Qacha’s Nek



**‘Melikane to Mosenekeng road (30 km), connecting Tsoelike and
Lebakeng Constituencies – Qacha’s Nek**



On-going construction of Nyatso to Sekokoaneng road (66km) in Tsoelike Constituency – Qacha's Nek



On-going construction of Nyatso to Sekokoaneng road (66km) in Tsoelike Constituency – Qacha’s Nek



Achievements (cont.)

(b) Urban roads:

- (i) **Qacha's Nek.** Constructed and upgraded to bitumen standard 12.25km roads with storm water drainage and street-lighting.
- (ii) **Mohale's Hoek.** Construction and upgrading of 10km urban roads with storm water drainage and street-lighting is in progress and due for completion in May, 2010.
- (iii) **Thaba-Tseka.** Construction and upgrading of 4.5km urban roads with storm water drainage and street-lighting is in progress and due for completion in April, 2010.

Achievements (cont.)

(b) Urban roads:

- iii) **Maseru.** Construction and upgrading of 12km urban roads with storm water drainage and street-lighting at Ha Thamae is in progress and due for completion in May, 2010.
- iv) **Quthing.** Completed design of Quthing 6.6 km roads with storm water drainage and street-lighting.
- v) **Thaba-Tseka.** Completed design of additional 6.2 km roads.
- vi) **Maseru.** Completed design of 15 km roads at Ha Mabote.

Upgrading of Thamae Urban Roads from Gravel to Bitumen Standard



Upgrading of Thamae Urban Roads from Gravel to Bitumen Standard



Upgrading of Thaba-Tseka Urban Roads from Gravel to Bitumen Standard



Achievements (cont.)

Construction of Council Centres

- (i) Completed construction of seven council centres at Tajane, Ramoetsana, 'Malakeng, Malumeng, 'Makholane, Qibing and Makaota in Mafeteng.
- (ii) Completed construction of all eleven council centres in Qacha's Nek.
- (iii) Construction of ten council centres at Mashaleng, Motlejoeng, Teke, Mootsinyane, Phamong, Qhobeng, Seroto, Likhutloaneng, Nkau and Qabane in Mohale's hoek is almost complete pending finishes that are due for completion by end of April 2010.

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Makaota Community Council Centre - Mafeteng Constituency



Qibing Community Council Centre – Qalabane Constituency Mafeteng



Mashaleng Community Council Office (Mohale's hoek)



Achievements (cont.)

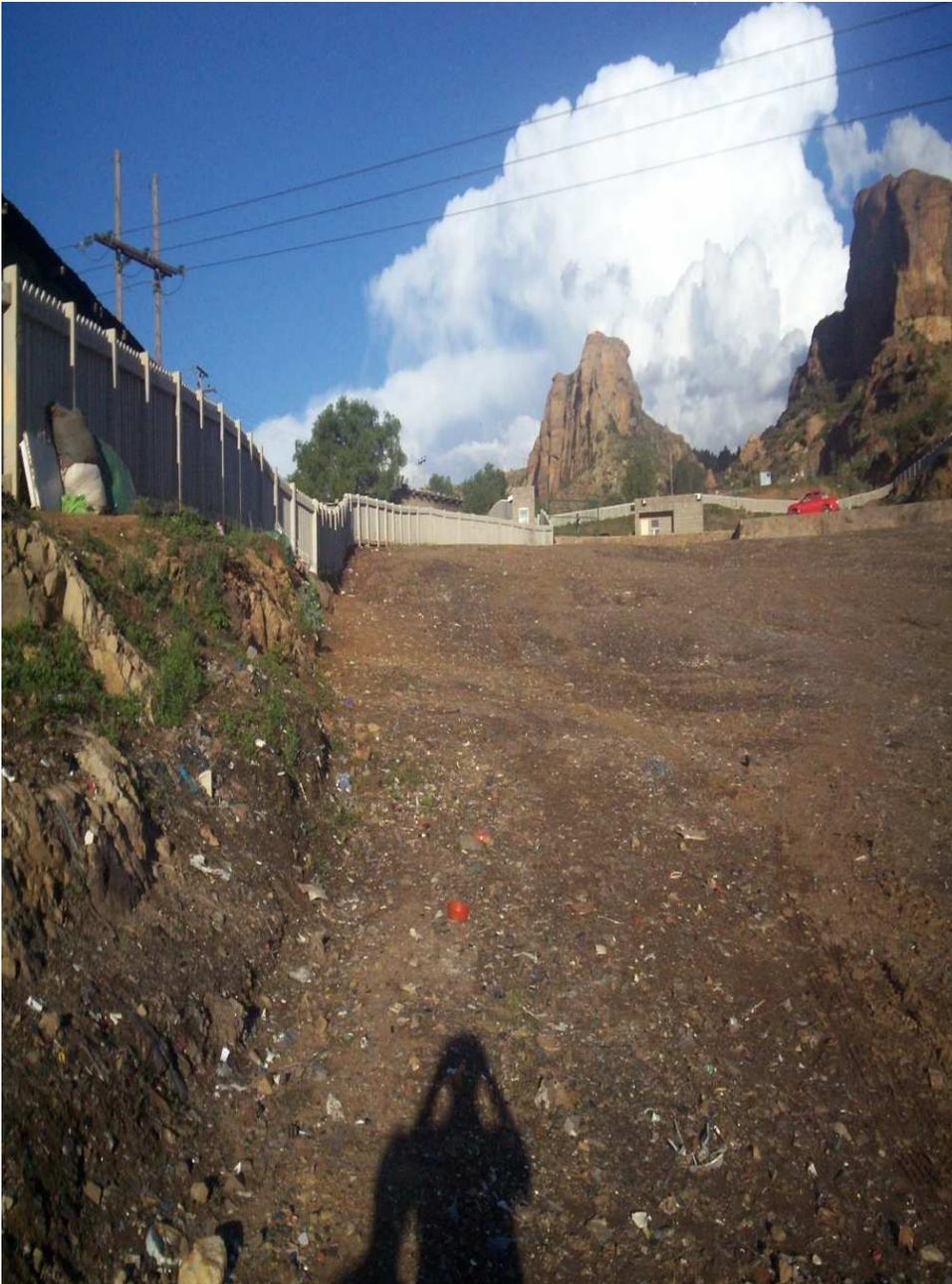
Waste Management and Landscaping

- Management of waste through Public-Private-Partnership Strategy.
- Rehabilitation and improved management of Tšosane dump site.
- Laid out gardens in urban centres.

Tšosane dumpside as was commonly known



A newly improved dumpsite at Tšosane



Maseru Municipal Council: Makoanyane Park Landscape



Maseru Municipal Council: Moshoeshoe I Statue Landscape



Round-about Landscape at Makaota Community Council in Mafeteng



Linare Community Council in Leribe





I THANK YOU