

2000 Local Government Elections Manifesto

In the last six years, the ANC has worked hard to change local government to serve the interests of all our people, in cities, towns and villages. Many changes have happened, but much more needs to be done.

Together with the ANC, you can make local government work to fight poverty, provide free basic services, build our communities into non-racial areas, and create a better life for all.

You can take part in these changes by voting ANC in the upcoming local government elections and, after that, helping us set up ward committees in every city and village.

ANC councillors must and will serve the people. They are dedicated to the improvement of people's lives. If ANC councillors do not work in the interest of the people, the ANC will remove them. Every ANC councillor will sign a pledge that they will report to the people and listen to them.

I urge you to join us in the fight for faster change. Vote ANC for strong, democratic local government.

Together we can make sure that local government works for us all.

Together we can fight poverty and speed up change where we live.



Thabo Mbeki

VOTE ANC IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS, AND..

- Take charge of your destiny and shape the future of your children
- Join the fight against poverty and underdevelopment by:
 - Improving services to all communities
 - Providing a free basic level of services like water and electricity to every household
 - Creating jobs where we live
 - Working for social and economic development
 - Build safety and security in our communities
 - Fight the spread of HIV/AIDS

ANC-led local government will give the people power to build our communities and our nation



TOGETHER WE WILL SPEED UP CHANGE!

The ANC has led the struggle for the creation of non-racial, non-sexist, united and democratic local government. The ANC has ensured:

- That you can take part in democratic local government elections in line with our principle of giving power to the people
- The creation of integrated residential areas across race and status
- Stronger women's participation in local government

The ANC recognises the relevance of the institution of traditional leadership, and affirms the role of traditional leaders in line with co-operative governance.

Together let us create strong democratic and accountable local government

The ANC has introduced new laws - the Municipal Structures Act and the Municipal Systems Act - to ensure that councillors serve their communities with loyalty and dedication. Under these laws, all councillors shall sign a code of conduct requiring them to:

- Regularly report back to their constituencies
- Fight corruption in tendering, hiring and other government functions
- Declare all their assets and business interests

If councillors violate the code of conduct, they will be recalled.

Rules, regulations and budgets are being simplified to let the people participate more fully. ANC-led local government shall ensure full participation in policy formulation and implementation. Councillors are obliged to hold regular feed back meetings with communities.

- Unite around your common demands
- It is your right to know what your councillors are doing

- It is your duty to participate in local government decision-making and to support local government programmes and policies
- It is your right to demand efficient local government

ANC councillors will:

- Help you build ward committees as a key channel for participation and accountability
- Work with communities to fight crime and strengthen solidarity
- Eliminate corruption and nepotism from local government

ANC-led local government will:

- Ensure that disadvantaged people, especially women, youth, disabled and aged people and workers, have a strong voice in decision-making
- Draw up Integrated Development Plans and budgets on the basis of broad consultation to reflect and meet community needs
- Embark on people-driven local development initiatives
- Take firm measures to combat corruption and nepotism
- Ensure that the public sector adheres to the principles of Batho Pele, serving our people.

National and provincial government will:

- Enforce our new laws for clean, accountable and transparent local government
- Define standards for municipal services
- Keep the public sector as the preferred provider of municipal services, to ensure adequate service for all communities.
- Ensure local government has the powers and resources to serve you adequately, in part by reviewing and strengthening the system of subsidies to local government
- Ensure the integration of local government into national and provincial policy initiatives
- Speed up the delivery of basic services to the people in our fight against poverty

TOGETHER WE WILL FIGHT POVERTY!

As your movement, the ANC shares your experiences of poverty, squalor, disease and underdevelopment. That is why since 1994 we have delivered electricity and clean water to millions, built clinics, classrooms and houses, and improved other government services.

While we register these monumental achievements, we know that many of you -especially in our rural communities - still don't have adequate and affordable housing, water, electricity or transport.

Vote ANC so that with your mandate, we can continue the work we have started.

ANC-led local government will:

- Provide all residents with a free basic amount of water, electricity and other municipal services, so as to help the poor. Those who use more than the basic amounts will pay for the extra they use
- Strengthen the Masakhane campaign, with improved services for all to inculcate the culture of payment

- Forge social partnerships in the fight against HIV/AIDS by accelerating the implementation of our "Together We Can" Campaign, with a focus on prevention, large-scale provision of condoms, development of treatment strategies, research and the creation of a supportive, sound and caring social environment
- Shape plans and programmes to meet the needs of the aged and people living with disabilities. Services and buildings will be made increasingly accessible to them

IMPROVE SERVICE DELIVERY FOR ALL!

The introduction of Free Basic Services will vastly improve life for poor households.

It means that every family in the distribution system will always have at least some basic amount of services. This will reduce the burden of household labour, especially gathering water and wood, which usually falls on women and children.

ANC-led local government will invest even more to extend services like electricity, roads, water, cultural and health facilities to the poorest communities.

It will work with national and provincial government to speed up delivery.

The public sector is the preferred option to provide services. Where a local government lacks the necessary capacity, it may engage in partnerships with other government institutions, such as state-owned enterprise or other local governments, as well as community organisations and/or the private sector.

If strictly regulated in order to guarantee continued and sustainable services, especially for the poor, partnerships of this kind can increase the capacity and resources available for municipal services.

In six years we have brought:

- A million new houses
- Over 500 clinics and free medical care for pregnant women and children under 6
- 24 000 better classrooms; 1 million more children in school
- Electricity to 2.5 million houses
- Pensions and child welfare grants for all
- Tarred roads in former black and rural areas
- Clean water to 6 million people
- Land distribution programmes in place
- Over 1.8 million new telephone lines



**TOGETHER WE WILL CREATE JOBS AND
SUPPORT LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

ANC-led local government will:

- Ensure local economic growth that benefits the majority of our people and creates jobs
- Improve public transport and build houses closer to economic centres, so that people can work close to home
- Strengthen local economies by upgrading water, electricity, roads, healthcare and security
- Support national job creation programmes, such as the Community-Based Public Works Programmes and the Department of Labour's Employment Centres
- Support community-based enterprises, including co-operatives, micro-enterprises and small businesses
- Redesign policies on procurement, banking, investment and so on, to support community-based and co-operative enterprises

In restructuring to serve the majority, ANC-led local government will protect and create jobs by:

- Developing their plans with participation of all stakeholders, including labour, in line with the National Framework Agreement for Restructuring Local Government
- Reviewing existing plans and policies that could reduce employment, and finding alternatives
- Providing equitable pay and benefits, including pensions, for all their workers
- Expanding opportunities for skills development for their employees, with fair assessment systems and career paths based on skills and abilities, including for historically disadvantaged workers

A local government summit will define the role of local government in job creation, and establish measures to protect and create jobs.

WE WILL BUILD SAFETY AND SECURITY FOR ALL!



The national government is responsible for the police, courts and prisons. Still, local government must work with the people and national and provincial government in building safe and secure communities.

ANC-led local government will:

- **Make sure that the traffic police and municipal security services, including city police, support the police in improving community safety**
- **Design community infrastructure, especially street lights, buildings and public transport, to ensure the safety of all people, particularly women, children and the aged**

- **Ensure that farm workers' rights are protected**
- **Attack crime at its roots by developing more prosperous, integrated and dynamic communities**

You have a crucial role to play

Your community must help build transparent and accountable local government. That means you must mobilise your community to vote ANC and make sure your local government meets your needs.

VOTE ANC

Build non-racial, non-sexist, democratic and united municipalities in all parts of our country!

Vote for free basic amounts of services for all communities!

Vote ANC for strong local government

