



Department of Local Government
Western Cape Disaster Management Centre

Provincial Disaster Management Centre Annual Report

01 April 2022 - 31 March 2023

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ACRONYMS

CADRI :	Tanzanian Capacity for Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative
DFFE:	Department of Firestry, Fisheries and the Environment
DOC:	Disaster Operations Centre
DRR:	Disaster Risk Reduction
DST:	Decision Support Tool
EFF:	Economic Freedom Front
EMS:	Emergency Medical Services
FBS:	Fire Brigade Services
HOC:	Head of Centre
JOC:	Joint Operations Centre
KNPS:	Koeberg Nuclear Power Station
KZN:	Kwazulu-Natal
MDRG:	Municipal Disaster Relief Grant
MOU:	Memorandum of Understanding
MRCC:	Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre
NDMC:	National Disaster Management Centre
NECSA:	Nuclear Energy Corporation South Africa
NSRI:	National Sea Rescue Institute
OCHA:	United Nations Office for the Coordination
PDMC:	Provincial Disaster Management Centre
PHMERP:	Provincial Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan
SALGA:	South African Local Government Association
SANCCOB:	South African Foundation for the Conservation of birds
SANDF:	South African National Defence Force

ACRONYMS CONTINUED

SARZA:	Search and Rescue South Africa
SAMSA:	South African Maritime Safety Authority
SAPS:	South African Police Service
SARZA:	Search and Rescue South Africa
SAWS:	South African Weather Services
SDR:	Spatial Data Repository
SOP:	Standard Operating Procedure
TNPA:	Transnet National Ports Authority
UNDAC:	United Nations Disaster Assessment and coordination
UN: IDRR:	United National International Day for Risk Reduction
UNOCHA:	United National Office for the Coordination of Human Affairs
WCDLG:	Western Cape Department of Local Government
WCDoA:	Western Cape Department of Agriculture
WCED:	Western Cape Education Department
WCG:	Western Cape Government
WC: PDMC:	Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management Centre
WCSRAM:	Western Cape Standardised Risk Assessment Methodology
WOF:	Working on Fire
WHO:	World Health Organisation

FOREWORD BY MINISTER



Figure 1: Mr AW Bredell: Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

I am privileged to present the Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management (WC: PDMC) Annual Report. This report is a testament to our commitment to inspiring hope and resilience in our communities.

Although our country faces challenging economic conditions compounded by various hazards such as droughts, floods, fires, and the energy crises, our department remains dedicated to supporting municipalities and empowering communities to manage these risks effectively. We aim to build well-governed municipalities that prioritise disaster resilience, and we are proud to be leaders in this field.

We recognise that addressing the energy crisis is a top priority, and we have allocated significant resources towards reducing and mitigating its adverse effects on the economy and citizens. Our Western Cape, Disaster Management Centre, has developed the country's first Major Electricity Disruption Plan to prepare for national blackouts. We continue to work with critical stakeholders to find collective solutions to this national crisis.

The WC: PDMC stands out as a top-performing centre, and many stakeholders collaborate and benchmark its best practices. During the reporting year, the Department engaged international members from various countries and organisations, demonstrating its global leadership. Stakeholder engagements are vital in driving collaboration and reducing disaster risks. We have held several stakeholder engagements during the reporting period and benchmarked with Ethiopian Country on locust infestations to inform our risk reduction strategies.

Our risk assessment methodology has been updated and benchmarked against best practices in order to improve its usability and to capacitate municipalities. Additionally, we have supported municipalities with fire capacity and drowning prevention strategies.

Despite our challenges, our team remains committed to developing a risk avoidance and resilience culture. Let us continue to work together to provide an enabling environment for growth and hope in our communities.

MR AW BREDELL

**MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

FOREWORD BY HEAD OF DEPARTMENT



Figure 2: Mr G Paulse: Head of Department: Local Government

The WC: PDMC's 2022/23 Annual Report details the Department's unwavering efforts in disaster management. In today's Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous (VUCA) world, the Government is taking decisive action to meet the needs of communities. The Department is fully committed to supporting and building capacity and resilience at the local municipal level, bringing exceptional service delivery to the people. Throughout the province, the Department has implemented various initiatives to build capacity, such as fire capacity-building grants, training and awareness campaigns, and the appointment of disaster management interns.

To provide unparalleled service delivery and ensure a positive client experience, continuous human resource development and upskilling are non-negotiable. The Department has partnered with the Provincial Training Institute and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) to create agile and emotionally intelligent disaster leaders. In September 2022, the Department provided four days of Team

Development and Management Training, ensuring its team has the necessary skills to tackle any disaster.

The Department takes pride in sharing its expertise and bravery beyond its borders. During the KwaZulu Natal floods caused by Tropical Storm Issa in April 2022, the Department rapidly deployed a team (Mr C Deiner, Ms J Pandaram, Ms L Nicholson and Mr E Mangwengwende) to support the KwaZulu Natal Province. Ms Nicholson, an active United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) emergency response member, participated in a Tanzania Capacity for Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative (CADRI) mission. In February 2023, an earthquake struck southern and central Turkey and northern and western Syria. Mr M. Rust joined the UN Delegation to assist with the disaster relief efforts as the only South African selected to participate in the United Nations Disaster emergencies.

The Western Cape faced various disaster incidents, such as locust infestation, drought, severe weather events, and the impacts of electricity disruption. The Disaster Management Centre, the IGR structures, and Joint Operations Centre (JOC) provided unwavering support and facilitated a multidisciplinary approach.

We facilitated the allocation of R290 million in national disaster grant funds to support the Overberg, Cape Winelands, and Garden Route District Municipalities to recover from the 2021 flooding disaster incidents. The funds paid in March 2023 are ring-fenced to reconstruct and rehabilitate damaged infrastructure.

The Department is fully committed to strengthening local governance and contributing to building provincial and international disaster resilience.

MR G PAULSE

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT

OVERVIEW BY THE HEAD OF PROVINCIAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT CENTRE



Figure 3: Mr C Deiner: Head: Provincial Disaster Management Centre

The Western Cape Department of Local Government herewith presents the Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management Centre's (WC: PDMC's) annual report for the 2022/23 financial year in compliance with Section 36 of the Disaster Management Act 57, 2002. The report provides an overview of the activities undertaken by the WC: PDMC across the province during the period under review.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Looking back on this year, we faced many challenges, such as recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, fires, flooding, drought, locust infestations, social unrest, and ongoing power outages. To respond to these disasters

with limited government funding, it is crucial to collaborate and streamline resources through partnerships and coordination. This approach is fundamental to the WC: PDMC mandates since our people, environment, and economy depend on it.

Our team takes a holistic approach to data collection to ensure credible risk identification in the province. We reviewed the Standardised Risk Assessment Methodology and capacitated local, district, and provincial role-players to undertake risk assessments independently.

We partnered with SAWS and district municipalities to institutionalise the impact-based severe weather warnings as a standard operating procedure for meaningful messaging and decisive response. Our approach was benchmarked as best practice for all provinces in the country at the Impact-based Forecast Conference.

Our team is dedicated to building capacity and resilience by integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into spatial developments and programmes. We developed user-friendly risk reduction planning guidelines to aid municipalities in developing their risk reduction plans. We also supported five municipalities in the Garden Route District by developing a disaster management chapter in the IDP.

We are passionate about building a risk-avoidance culture in our children through fun and impactful activities. Our team reached grade R-5 learners at Hawston Primary through a multi-stakeholder awareness campaign incorporating road safety, pollution, and fire awareness. Grade 8 and 9 learners at three high schools in the Cape Winelands

participated in a high school debate on the causes and effects of climate change and mitigation measures.

We placed three disaster management interns in the Cape Winelands, Central Karoo, and West Coast district municipalities to address the human capacity constraints at local disaster management centres. This programme strengthened human capacity at the local level, making the youth more employable and creating job opportunities that positively impact their lives and households.

Our team produced and updated two strategic disaster management plans requiring extensive consultation and review namely; the Provincial Disaster Management Plan and the Provincial Preparedness, Response, and Relief Plan (PRRP). These plans represent our strategic intent and how we coordinate the provincial response.

The National Disaster Management Framework of 2005 highlights the importance of conducting comprehensive studies after significant events and disasters. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, my team prepared debriefing reports after each wave, consolidated into one publication. This document serves as a valuable resource for identifying gaps in disaster research and integrating findings into future policy frameworks.

Our fire rescue team provided innovative solutions to reduce and mitigate the high fire risk in the province, including grants to municipalities, awareness campaigns, smoke alarms in informal dwellings, and ground-breaking procedures and apps.

We continued to build resilience in the province through good partnership forum meetings, monitoring the implementation of the DMA and Fire Act, updating risk assessments, various awareness campaigns, responsive support and activation of the centre, post-

disaster recovery, debriefing sessions, and various capacity building initiatives, as shared in the Annual Report.

We delivered excellence despite high staff turnover due to external promotion opportunities during this reporting period. We thank our previous employees for their legacy and know they continue to be disaster management ambassadors in their new environments. We thank all staff for their exceptional commitment under abnormal circumstances and look forward to another year of outstanding achievements.

We thank our local and global partners for building resilience in our province and collectively investing in building and recovering our communities from withstanding future disaster shocks.

MR C DEINER

HEAD OF CENTRE: PROVINCIAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT CENTRE

OFFICIAL SIGN-OFF

It is hereby certified that this Annual Report:

- Was developed by the management of the Provincial Disaster Management Centre under the guidance of the HOD: Local Government, Mr G Paulse and Provincial Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Mr A Bredell.
- Was prepared in line with the current APP of the WC DLG and Section 36 of the Disaster Management Act 2002 as amended.



MR C DEINER

HEAD OF CENTRE: PROVINCIAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT CENTRE



MR G PAULSE

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT



MR AW BREDELL

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

CHAPTER 1: GENERAL INFORMATION



1.1. INTRODUCTION

This section provides general information on the Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management Centre's (WC: PDMC) legislative mandate concerning the programme's strategic overview and basic organisational structure.

1.2. PURPOSE

The Chief Directorate: Disaster Management and Fire Rescue Services aims to promote an integrated, coordinated, and multi-disciplinary Disaster Management and Fire Rescue Service.

1.3. LEGISLATIVE MANDATE

The WC: PDMC draws its legislative mandate from the amended Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002 and the Fire Brigade Services Act 99 of 1987. Below are some of the central legislations applicable to Disaster Management.

1.3.1. Constitution of South Africa 1996

1.3.1.1. Chapter Two of the Constitution of South Africa

All spheres of government are obligated to ensure its citizens' social and economic development while preserving the ecosystem for future generations. If these rights are achieved, it will increase the livelihood of the most vulnerable, protect the environment from degradation and stimulate economic development that will contribute to the necessary infrastructure that could reduce the risk of disasters or the impact of disasters. The WC: PDMC must promote DRR initiatives that ensure sustainable ecological development in the Western Cape while promoting economic and social development.

1.3.1.2. Chapter Three of the Constitution of South Africa

This chapter involves the cooperative government function concerning intergovernmental relations. The WC: PDMC must ensure that it observes and adheres to the principles of this chapter concerning disaster management. The WC: PDMC should conduct its activities within the parameters outlined in this chapter concerning disaster management.

1.3.1.3. Chapter Five of the Constitution of South Africa

This chapter examines the national intervention in provincial administration when a province cannot or does not fulfil an executive obligation in the Constitution or legislation. The WC: PDMC needs to ensure that support is rendered to the province where applicable to ensure delivery of the deliverables of its disaster obligations.

1.3.2. Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act 57 of 2002)

This Act provides for an integrated and coordinated approach to disaster management, focused on rapid and effective response; recovery from disasters as well as the reduction of disaster risk; the establishment of provincial and municipal disaster management centres; and a framework under which the WC: PDMC operates and liaises with municipalities and relevant stakeholders on disaster-related matters.

1.3.3. Disaster Management Amendment Act, 2015 (Act 16 of 2015)

The Disaster Management Amendment Act seeks to, amongst others,

- Clarify the policy focus on rehabilitation and functioning of Disaster Management Centres;
- Align the functions of the Provincial and National Disaster Management Advisory Forum to accommodate the South African National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR);
- Provide for the South African National Defence Force, South African Police Service (SAPS) and any other organs of state to assist the disaster management structures; and
- Strengthen the disaster risk reporting system to improve the country's ability to manage potential disasters.

1.3.4. Western Cape Disaster Management Framework 2010

The framework is a legal instrument specified by the Act to address the need for consistency across multiple interest groups by providing a coherent, transparent, and inclusive policy on disaster management appropriate for the Western Cape.

1.3.5. Fire Brigade Service Act (Act 99 of 1987)

The Act provides for establishing, maintaining, employing, coordinating, and standardising Fire Brigade Services (FBS) and related matters.

1.3.6. Public Finance Management (Act 1 of 1999)

- To regulate financial management in the national government and provincial governments;
- To ensure that all revenue, expenditure, assets, and liabilities of governments are managed efficiently and effectively;
- To provide for the responsibilities of persons entrusted with financial management in those governments; and
- To provide for matters related in addition to that.

1.3.7. Local Government: Municipal Finance Management (Act 56 of 2003)

- To secure sound and sustainable management of the financial affairs of municipalities and other institutions within the local sphere of government;
- To establish treasury norms and standards for the local sphere of government; and
- To provide for matters related in addition to that.

1.3.8. Local Government: Municipality Systems (Act 32 of 2000)

- To provide the core principles, mechanisms, and processes necessary to allow for progressive municipal growth towards the social and economic upliftment of local communities and ensure affordable universal access to essential services for all;
- To provide for how municipal authority and functions are exercised and performed;
- To provide for community participation;
- To establish a simple and enabling framework for the core process of planning, performance management, resource mobilisation and organisational change, which underpin the notion of developing local government;
- To provide a practical framework for local public administration and human resource development;
- To empower the underprivileged and ensure municipalities put service tariffs and credit control policies in place while considering their required needs and provide a framework for the provision of services, service delivery agreements and municipal service districts;
- To provide for credit control and debt collection;
- To establish a framework for support, monitoring, and standard setting across all spheres of government to progressively build local government into an efficient, frontline development agency capable of seamlessly integrating all spheres of government activities with their local natural environment and for the overall social and economic upliftment of communities.

- To provide for legal matters about local government; and
- To provide for matters incidental to that.

1.3.9. The Intergovernmental Relations Framework (Act 13 of 2005)

- To facilitate the coordination between the three spheres of government through the implementation of policy and legislation;
- It is a framework Act, which allows flexibility between the three spheres in meeting challenges concerned with the conduct and practices of cooperative government; and
- It also provides for the basic architecture of intergovernmental structures and for processes to guide the settlement of intergovernmental disputes.

1.4. STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

1.4.1. Vision

The vision of the WC: PDMC is to promote Safer, Resilient and Sustainable Development as per Provincial Strategic Objectives.

1.4.2. Mission

The Mission of the WC: PDMC is:

- To establish and maintain integrated systems and structures for disaster management;
- To conduct, identify and prioritise hazards and vulnerabilities in the province;
- To develop and implement Disaster Risk Reduction (prevention mitigation and preparedness) projects and programmes;
- To develop and implement effective and rapid emergency/disaster response and recovery mechanisms.

1.4.3. Values

The values of the WC: PDMC, similar to the Western Cape Government, are:

- Caring;
- Competency;
- Accountability;
- Integrity;
- Responsiveness; and
- Innovation.

1.4.4. The Strategic Objectives

Strategic Objectives of the WC: PDMC, as stipulated in the WCDLGs Annual Performance Plan, is depicted in Tables 1 and 2. The National Prescribed Indicator is described in Table 3. All projects have specific project plans, with 31 March 2023 as the completion date for deliverables.

The projects are as follows.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	To co-ordinate effective disaster management preparedness, intergovernmental fora and recovery. To co-ordinate the reduction of potential risks posed by hazards. To improve the Fire and Rescue Services capability.
PURPOSE	To manage disaster management at provincial and local level to ensure the establishment of effective and efficient disaster management mechanisms.
STRATEGIC GOAL	A disaster-resilient Province.

Table 1: Strategic Objectives

PROGRAMME 3: DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING SUB-PROGRAMME 3.2: DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND FIRE SERVICE								
Outcome	Outputs	Output Indicators	Audited Actual Performance 2020/21	Audited Actual Performance 2021/22	Planned Annual Target 2022/23	Actual Achievement 2022/23	Deviation from planned target to Actual Achievement for 2022/23	Reason deviations/General comments
Safer, Resilient communities and Sustainable Development	<p>3.2(a) Integrated systems and structures for disaster management established and maintained</p> <p>3.2(b) Effective and rapid emergency/disaster response and recovery mechanisms</p>	<p>3.2.1(a) Facilitate co-ordination of disaster management partnerships</p> <p>3.2.2(a) Monitor & evaluate the implementation of Disaster management</p> <p>3.2.3(a) Development and review of WC Disaster Management Policy Provisions</p>	13	12	10	10	-	The department facilitated various disaster management engagements with stakeholders.
		<p>3.2.1(b) Support organs of state to ensure disaster readiness and response</p>	5	5	1	1	-	The Department produced Annual Disaster Management report and distributed to stakeholders.
Safer, Resilient communities and Sustainable Development			2	2	1	1	-	The Western Cape Disaster Management Framework was drafted.
			6	6	4	5	1	Organs of State were supported with various preparedness plans such as winter, summer readiness plans, as well as other preparedness initiatives such as the Electricity Disruption Exercise, Disaster Management Information System and Western Cape Preparedness, Response and Relief Plan. The Electricity disruption exercise was prioritised due to the ongoing load-shedding hence the additional achievement.
								Recovery projects implemented were: Disaster Declaration Classifications/ Assessments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Theewaterskloof flood funding ● Risk Assessments Overberg District Disaster funding applications and monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Outshoorn Blossmons Wellfilled ● Drought Funding Outshoorn and Breede Valley ● Severe weather damage applications

Table 2: Strategic Performance Indicators: Outcomes, Outputs Performance Indicators, Targets and Actual Achievements

**PROGRAMME 3: DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING SUB-PROGRAMME
3.2: DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND FIRE SERVICE**

Outcome	Outputs	Output Indicators	Audited Actual Performance 2020/21	Audited Actual Performance 2021/22	Planned Annual Target 2022/23	Actual Achievement 2022/23	Deviation from planned target to Actual Achievement for 2022/23	Reason deviations/General comments
Safer, Resilient communities and Sustainable Development	3.2 (c) Institutionalisation and advocacy of Disaster Risk Reduction	3.2.1(c) Number of Risk and Vulnerability Assessments conducted	1	3	1	1	-	Risk and Vulnerability Assessment was completed for the Overberg District Municipality. The Department also conducted online risk register training online all municipalities and undertook an intensive project to review and update our standardised risk assessment methodology for the province.
		3.2.2(c) Upgrade & maintain Disaster Management Spatial Data Repository	1	1	1	1	-	The Department supported Overberg District Municipality with maps on Biomes, growth Potential, Land Cover, Population Density, and Protected Areas Conservation amongst others.
		3.2.3(c) Number of municipalities supported in developing Disaster Risk Reduction measures in their IDPs	1	1	1	5	4	The Garden Route District Municipality with all 4 Local Municipalities were supported with Disaster Management (DM) Chapters within IDPs. The deviation from initial output can be attributed to the new approach of developing 'Disaster Risk Reduction Guidelines' that aids the inclusion of DM Chapters in IDP in both Districts and Locals simultaneously.
		3.2.4(c) Hazard Awareness Programme	1	2	1	1	-	The 2022-23 Hazard Awareness Campaign was expanded to include programmes on Hazard Awareness in Schools, Working on Fire in Middle/High Schools and Lifesaver Awareness competition in Middle/High Schools.
Safer, Resilient communities and Sustainable Development	3.2(d) Fire and Rescue Services Capability improved	3.2.1(d) Number of training programmes to improve fire & life safety in the province	4	6	6	6	-	Training programmes such as Examination of Building Plans, Fire Risk Assessments, High Voltage Electric Car, Fundamentals of Fire Investigation, Interpretation of By-Laws and Design & Evaluation Solution Training were provided to municipalities.
		3.2.2(d) Number of training programmes to improve Emergency & Special Capacity capability in the province	2	4	3	4	1	Training programmes to improve Emergency and Special Capacity in the Province were Incident Command Systems Supervisor Divisional, Fireline Safety, and Incident Systems Command training provided to municipalities. An additional Incident Command training provider to supervisors caused the deviation from original target.
		3.2.3(d) Aerial Firefighting and Ground Support Programme implemented	1	1	1	1	-	A 3-year tender for aerial support was awarded to Kishugu aviation and 3-year ground crew tender was awarded to NCC environmental services.

Table 2: Strategic Performance Indicators: Outcomes, Outputs Performance Indicators, Targets and Actual Achievements

PROGRAMME 3: DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING SUB-PROGRAMME 3.2: DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND FIRE SERVICE							
Output Indicator		Audited Actual Performance 2020/21	Audited Actual Performance 2021/22	Planned Annual Target 2022/23	Actual Achievement 2022/23	Deviation from planned target to Actual Achievement for 2022/23	Reason deviations/ General comments
SPI:13	Number of municipalities supported to maintain functional Disaster Management Centres	6	6	6	6	-	All Disaster Management Centres in the Province are functional, the Department conducts quarterly monitoring on all District Municipalities and the Metro.
SPI:14	Number of municipalities supported on Fire Brigade Services	7	14	5	6	1	The Department supported 3 Municipalities with Pre-Attack Planning and 3 with Fire Capacity Building Grant. Increased in financial capacity allowed for additional support to be provided.

Table 3: Performance in Relation to Standardised Outputs and Output Indicators for Sectors with Concurrent Functions

1.5. Organisational Structure

The WC: PDMC is a Chief Directorate within the WCDLG. Figure 4 displays the organisational structure of the Chief Directorate: Disaster Management and Fire Rescue Services.

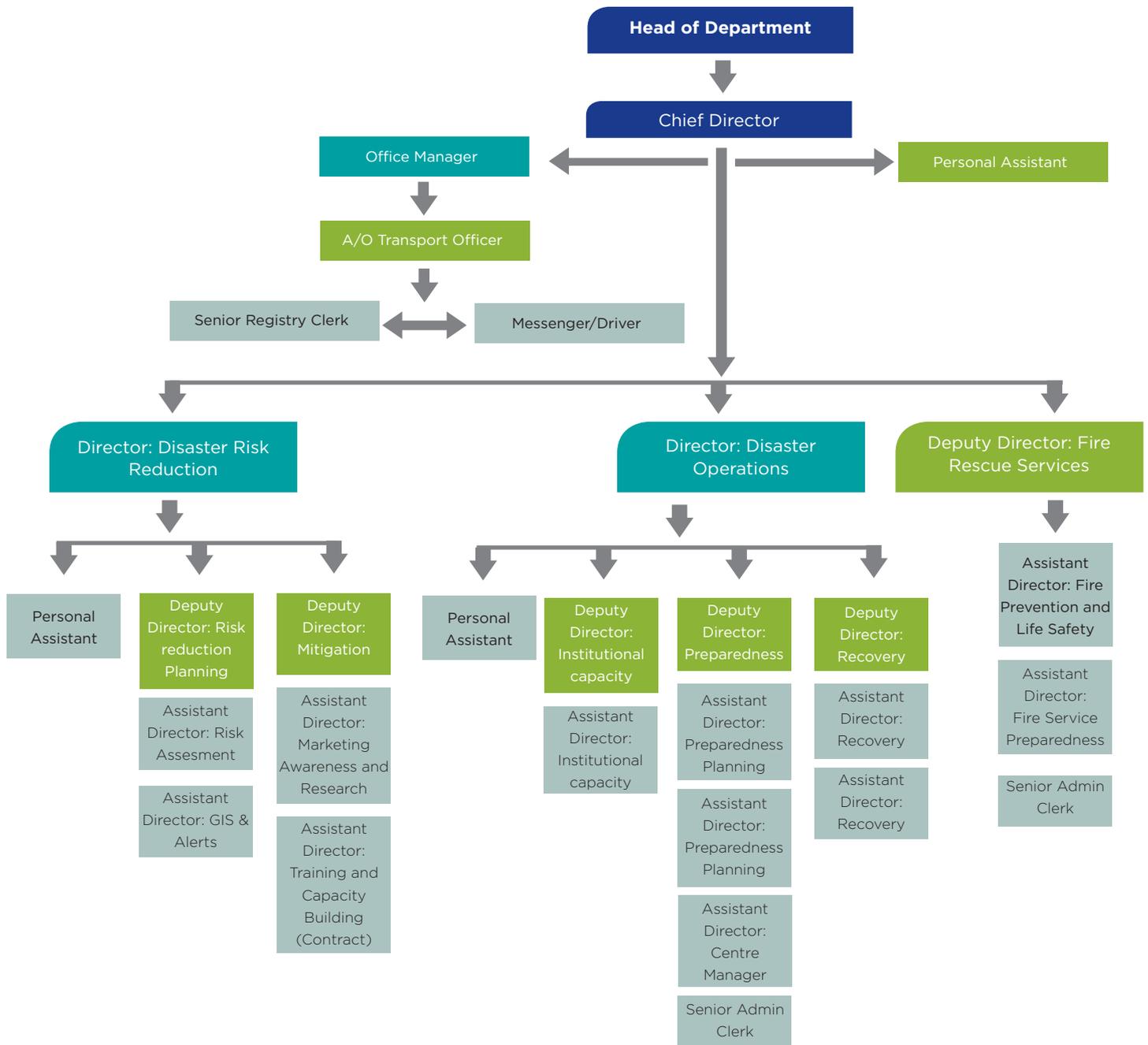


Figure 4: Organisational Structure

1.6 Expenditure Trends

The expenditure for the WC: PDMC is reported in the Annual Financial Statements of the WCDLG. The provision of immediate relief for disasters transferred

to Provincial Departments and Municipalities affected by disasters is provided through the Disaster Relief Conditional Grant funding processes. The WC: PDMC monitors these funds: as reported in Chapter 5: Disaster Response and Recovery of the Annual Report.

CHAPTER 2: INTEGRATED INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY



2.1 Introduction

Integrated Institutional Capacity focuses on establishing the necessary institutional measures for implemented disaster risk management within the Western Cape. This chapter explicitly addresses applying cooperative governance principles for disaster risk management in policy formation and implementation; stakeholder engagements; capacity building; international cooperation; monitoring and evaluation activities; and challenges.

2.2 Disaster Management Policy

The Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management Centre has a Western Cape Disaster Management Framework, which outlines the implementation of the

Act and the National Disaster Management Framework of 2005.

The Western Cape, Disaster Management Centre, embarked on the fourth phase of reviewing and updating the Western Cape Disaster Management Framework, considering the amendments to the Disaster Management Act 16 of 2015.

The WC: PDMC sought input from 44 critical internal and external stakeholders through focus group discussions in the previous reporting cycle. An internal workshop took place with the SMS and Middle managers on 17 May 2022 to discuss the comments made by the 44 internal and external stakeholders for further amendment. A meeting with the Sub-directorate: Mitigation took place, which led to further refining the Disaster Risk Reduction key performance area. The below figure depicts the review process to date.

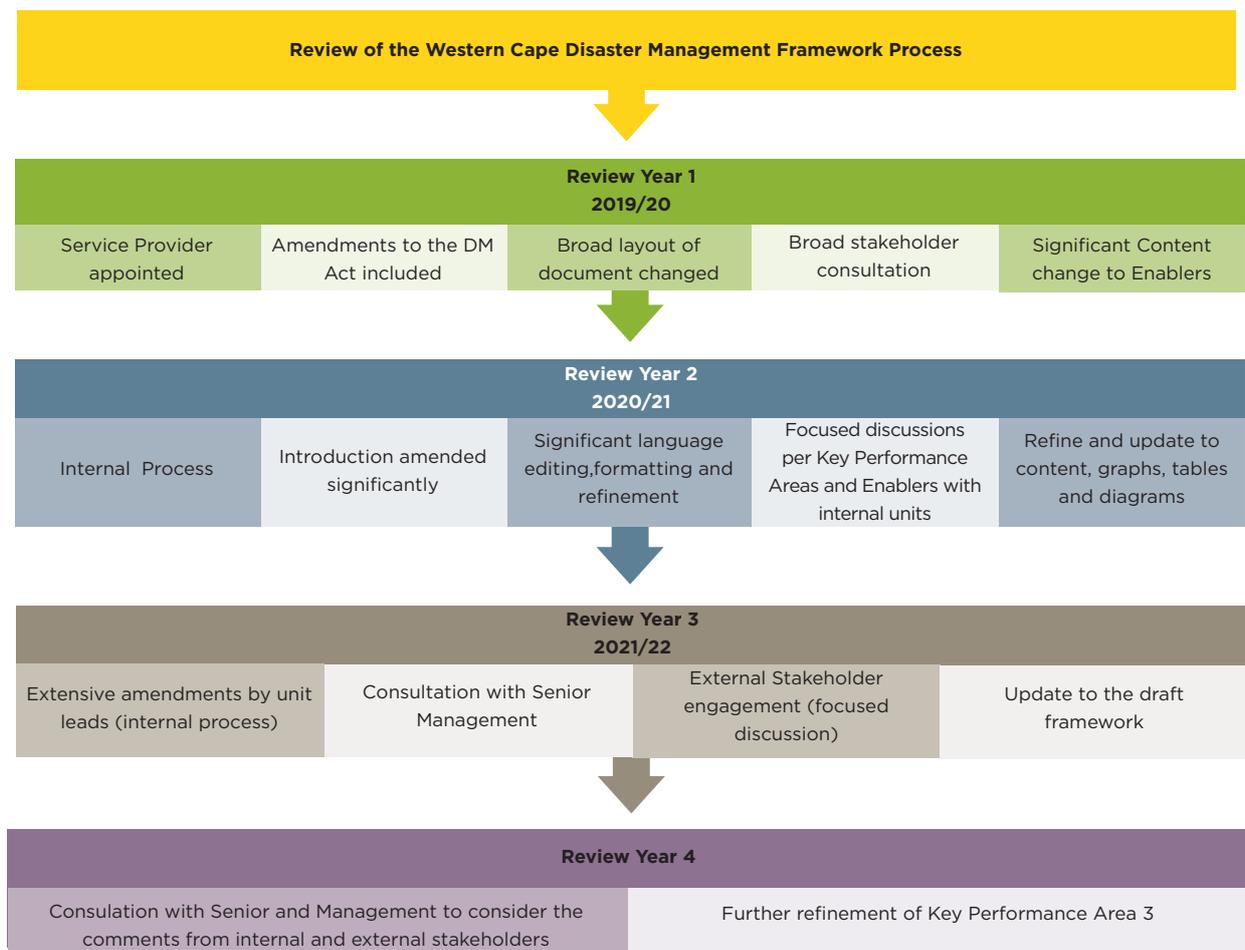


Figure 5: Western Cape Disaster Management Framework: Review process

2.3 Stakeholder engagements

During the reporting period, various forum meetings took place to ensure cross-functional and multi-stakeholder engagements. Such engagements include the Heads of Centre Forum, Provincial Disaster Management Advisory Forum and Coastal PDMC forum meetings.

2.3.1 Heads of Centre Forum Meetings

The Heads of Centre Forum meeting aims to ensure a strategic institutional mechanism for the integrated direction and execution of Disaster Management policy in the Western Cape. The Heads of Centres across the province meet quarterly at the Heads of Centre Forum. The forum, chaired by the Provincial Disaster

Management: Head of Centre (HOC), is attended by the WC: PDMC's senior and middle managers as well as the Metro and District Heads of Centre across the province. This forum provides a platform to share best practices, escalate challenges, and receive advice and support from strategic partners.

During the reporting year, four Heads of Centre Forum meetings occurred in May 2022, August 2022, November 2022 and February 2023. The WC: PDMC rotated the sessions in the various district municipal areas to include the showcase of benchmarking projects. To strengthen the partnership with the National Disaster Management Centre, the newly appointed Head of the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC), Dr E Sithole, attended the February 2023 meeting, which addressed strategic challenges and opportunities of the province which require national intervention. See Figure 6 for the topic discussions of the forum:

Key disaster management activities of the Metro and various district municipalities	PDMC support requirements from the Metro and various district municipalities and the alignment to the annual performance plans	Reflection on the social conflict incident and mediation in the Overberg District Municipality	Standardising response through the Multi-Agency Coordination System
Leveraging community safety projects for disaster management	Finalisation of the WC: PDMC early warning Standard Operating Procedure	Impact Base Forecast weather warning translation	Disaster Risk Reduction Integration into the IDP guideline
Disaster risk intervention: Informal Settlement	Reflection on the United Nations Training Programme	Provincial Electricity Disruption Planning	Guidance on the disaster grant funding allocations for the flooding events
	Collaboration and strategic discussion with the Head of the National Disaster Management Centre, Dr Elias Sithole	Benchmarking Site visits: West Coast District Municipality's Disaster Management Centre and Mossel Bay Municipality Disaster Management Centre	

Figure 6: Head of Centre Forum meeting: Annual topics



Figure 7: Dr Elias Sithole attends the Western Cape HOC Forum Meeting



Figure 8: Benchmarking: West Coast District Municipality Disaster Management Centre



Figure 9: Benchmarking: Mossel Bay Municipality Disaster Management Centre



Figure 10: HOC Forum members: Teambuilding: Mossel Bay Hike

2.3.2 Provincial Disaster Management Advisory Forum meeting

The WC: PDMC held four Provincial Disaster Management Advisory Forum meetings for May 2022, August 2022, November 2022, and February 2023. Based on the member survey, the WC: PDMC adopted the hybrid approach for all meetings, allowing approximately 70

members' attendance per session. The forum aims to give effect to Section 37 of the Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002 as amended to ensure the integration of disaster management activities across the province. It allows the various disaster management stakeholders to consult one another and coordinate the necessary action on disaster management-related matters in the Western Cape. See Figure 11 for the topic discussions of the forum:

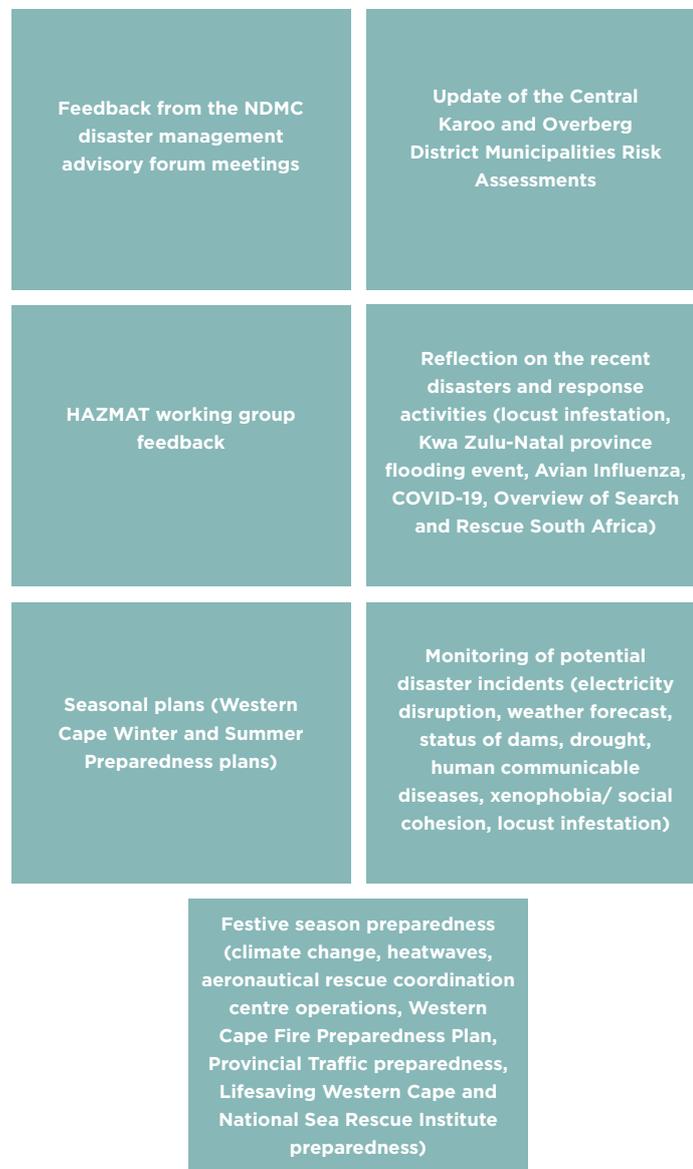


Figure 11: PDMAF meeting Topics



Figure 12: PDMAF: Award to Lieutenant Colonel A Lotriet, SANDF, Support to the Province

The Western Cape invited the Ethiopian Country to share their lessons in responding to the locust infestation. Mr Belayneh Nigussie, Director of the Plant Protection Directorate from the Ministry of Agriculture, shared their lessons learnt with the PDMAF members.



Figure 13: PDMAF Meeting

The Coastal PDMC Forum aims to forge closer working relationships between the four coastal PDMCs and create a platform to share experiences, expertise and resources that support and assist one another where

required. The forum met twice during the reporting year and benchmarked with Garden Route District Disaster Management Centre. See Figure 14 for the topic discussions of the forum



Figure 14: Coastal PDMC Forum: Annual Topics



Figure 15: Coastal PDMC Forum members & Chairperson, Ms J Pandaram, Director: Disaster Operations



Figure 16: Coastal PDMC Forum: Benchmarking: Garden DM

2.3.3 Metro, District and Municipal Disaster Management Advisory Forums

The WC: PDMC supported the metro and district municipalities' stakeholder engagements intending to render support and foster partnerships.

All District Municipalities in the Western Cape, namely, Cape Winelands, Garden Route, Overberg, West Coast and Central Karoo District Municipalities, as well as the City of Cape Town, have established Disaster Management Advisory Forums and committees to drive the implementation of disaster management within their respective jurisdictional areas. The WC: PDMC attends advisory forums and supports the various platforms with the requested interventions.

During the 2022/2023 reporting period, COVID-19 was still high on everyone's radar. Several other disasters,

such as the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer Beetle, the locust outbreak, the measles outbreak and electricity disruptions, were also of great concern, and ongoing attention had to be given to these.

2.4 Western Cape Capacity Building Initiatives

The WC: PDMC has embarked on various capacity-building initiatives in its oversight and support role to the local municipalities. This section shares these projects as the Graduate Disaster Management Internship programme, training of the NDMC Compliance online tool in the West Coast and Garden Route district municipalities and the publication of the Eagles View Newsletter.

2.4.1 Disaster Management Graduate Internship Programme

During the 2019-20 performance year, WC: PDMC piloted the first Disaster Management Graduate Internship programme. The Department of Local Government transferred funds to four district municipalities (Central Karoo, Cape Winelands, West Coast and Garden Route) towards the appointment of four Disaster Management graduate interns. Although fiscal challenges have impacted financial resources, the Department has

assisted with the funding and selecting of three disaster management graduate interns in the Central Karoo, West Coast and Cape Winelands District Municipality for the 2021-22 financial year.

For the 2022-23 financial year, the Department of Local Government transferred funds to five district municipalities (Central Karoo, Cape Winelands, West Coast, Overberg and Garden Route) towards appointing five Disaster Management graduate interns. See the Disaster Management Graduate Internship Programme Project Timeline below:

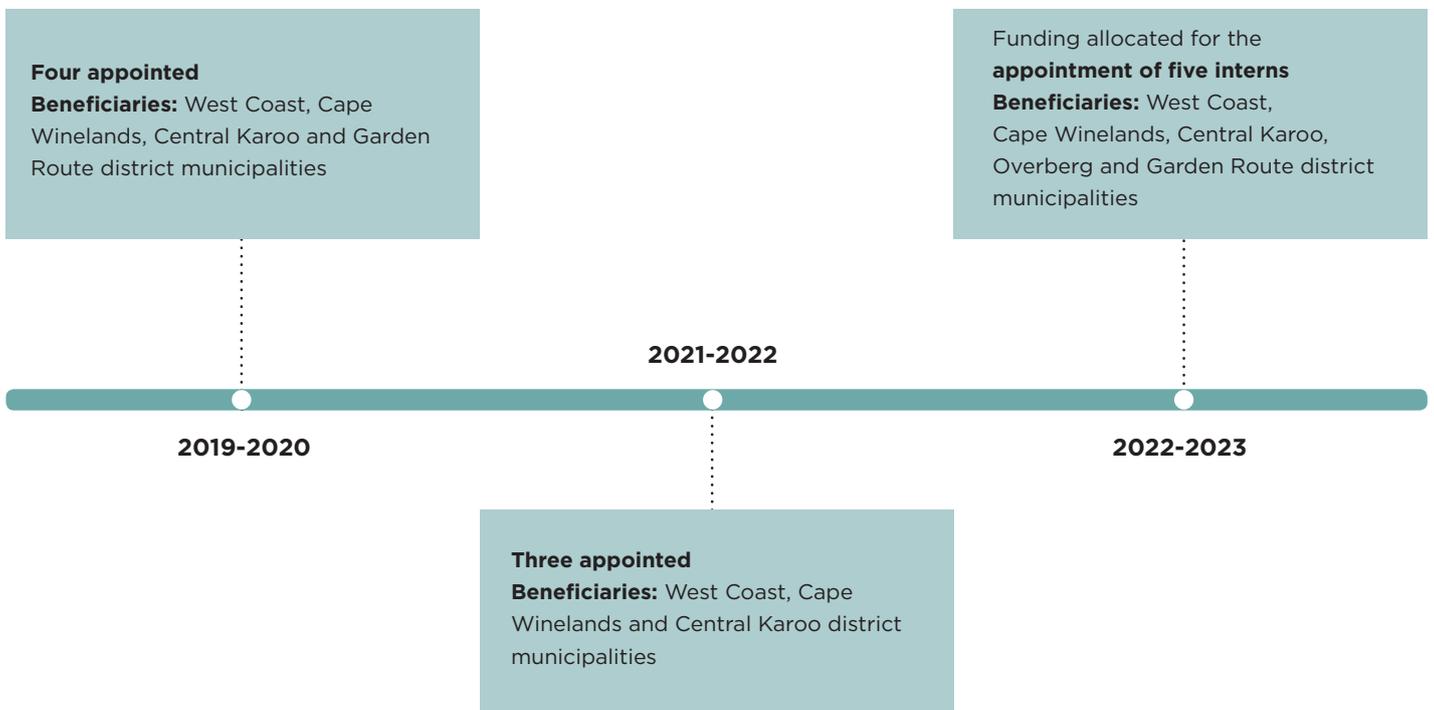


Figure 17: Disaster Management Graduate Internship Programme Project Timeline

All the interns made extraordinary contributions during their internship, such as establishing and supporting local Disaster Management advisory forums and updating risk assessment and disaster management plans. This exposure allowed them to build their confidence as young professionals and expand their skill sets.

Not only did the programme improve the lives of the interns, but it also provided additional funding for their households. The programme, therefore, decreased the unemployment rate among youth.

Students are more employable

Obtained buy-in and commitment from District & Local municipalities for the programme and retainment

Strengthened the human capacity at local level and invested in a pool of competent human capacity for Disaster Management

Figure 18: Key Successes: Disaster Management Graduate Internship Programme



Mr Nkosinathi Mpame
Central Karoo District DMC
Period 01 Dec 2021 - June 2022



Mr John DeKock
Cape Winelands DMC
Period 01 March 2021 - 31 Dec 2022



Ms Kim Lategan
West Coast DMC
Period 01 Feb 2022 - 31 March 2023

Figure 19: Disaster Management Interns: 2021-22



Figure 20: Disaster Management Interns: Certificate Handover: West Coast DMC

2.4.2 NDMC Compliance Reporting Tool training

The National Disaster Management Centre implemented the NDMC Compliance Reporting Tool to monitor the implementation of the Disaster Management Act in the

Country. The system aims to ease reporting at the local and provincial levels and provide an online space for comprehensive compliance analysis.

The WC: PDMC provided training at the Garden Route and West Coast Disaster Management Centres:



Figure 21: NDMC Compliance Reporting Tool: Training session

2.4.3 Eagle's View Newsletter

The Eagle's View newsletter aims to generate newsworthy disaster management articles to increase disaster awareness, communication, and stakeholder

engagement and promote disaster management principles with topics pertinent to current developments. The WC: PDMC issued a newsletter in October 2022.

EAGLES VIEW

OCTOBER 2022



FROM THE DESK OF THE HOC

Our province experienced diversified disaster incidences this year. The commitment, dedication, and passion of our disaster management partners always humble me and remain our truest weapon of resilience. I sincerely thank our partners who have become our disaster management family.

This newsletter reflects on disasters affecting our country. Recent years have taught us the reality of the boundlessness of disasters and our interconnectedness. The articles of the locust infestation, the KwaZulu-Natal floods, and drought in the Eastern Cape reflect this. I am proud of our Coastal Provincial Disaster

Management Centre's forum that continues to foster inter-provincial collaboration and of the team that was deployed to assist during the flooding in KwaZulu-Natal.

With limited resources being our new reality, we are required to collaborate, innovate and join forces to build resilience for our communities. Leadership development and building capacity are key elements for success. We are proud of the United Nations' Team Development and Management training provided by the United Nations Coordination and Support team, who equipped our practitioners with the tools to become emotionally intelligent in managing themselves and their teams during disasters (a first of its kind). Our newly appointed Assistant Director: Mr L Luthango further explains the importance of risk reduction.



With August having been Woman's Month, we celebrate some of our women for their unique leadership and tenacity. I thank all our women leaders for the valuable contributions made by bringing the much-needed warmth, humanistic and servant leadership approach to our disaster management community and strategies. In this edition, we celebrate various women and reflect on their personal journeys.

We hope that you enjoy this edition.

Thank you

IN THIS ISSUE

From the desk of the HOC	1	The United Nations Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) training	6
How prepared are we for the locust outbreak	2	The importance of Disaster Risk Reduction	7
'Day Zero' looms in the Eastern Cape	3	Celebrating our Women	8
MEC Siphso Hlomuka thanks Western Cape Government for assistance during KZN floods	4	A walking miracle and ray of hope	9
		The PHD journey of Dr Sabela-Rikhotso.....	10

Figure 22: Eagles view: October 2022

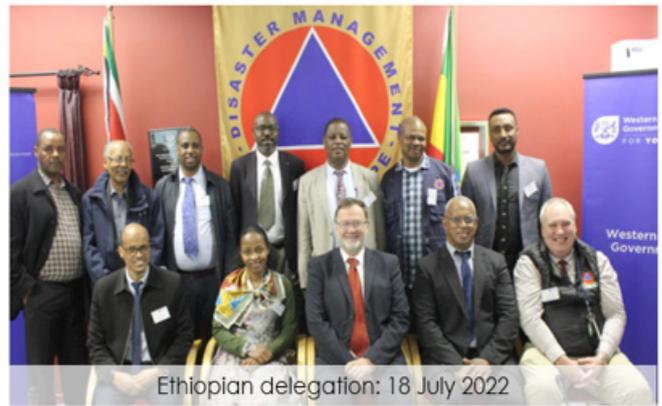
2.5 International Cooperation

The WC: PDMC must seek membership and establish links with international bodies, professional institutes, DM centres and professionals performing similar tasks in other countries, to remain current with the latest global developments and initiatives in DM and related fields and be able to make valuable contributions.

The WC: PDMC has close working arrangements with the Director of International Relations, who facilitates international cooperation in the Western Cape Province. During the reporting year, The WC: PDMC engaged the various countries' Consul Corps and Diplomatic Corps regarding Provincial Electricity Disruption Preparedness. The WC: PDMC also held sessions with international members from Portugal, Canada, Ethiopia, International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and United Nations High Commission for Refugees



IOM and UNHCR delegation: 1 July 2022



Ethiopian delegation: 18 July 2022



Canadian delegation: 22 September 2022



Portuguese delegation: 16 March 2023

Figure 23: International Cooperation Engagements



Figure 24: Consul Corps and Diplomatic Corps: 10 March 2023

2.6 Monitoring and Evaluation

The WC: PDMC monitored the implementation of the Disaster Management Act and the functionality of

the Disaster Management Centres in the province using the NDMC Compliance Tool. A summary of the implementation of the DM Act in the Cape Town Metro as well as the district municipalities are as follows:

MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARD	CITY OF CAPE TOWN	CENTRAL KAROO	CAPE WINELANDS	GARDEN ROUTE	OVERBERG	WEST COAST
HOC	Appointed	Head of Centre in the process of being appointed. Acting HOC in place	Appointed	Appointed	Appointed	Appointed
ANNUAL REPORT	Submitted	Submitted	Submitted	Submitted	Submitted	Submitted
ACTIVE ADVISORY FORUM	Active and meets Quarterly	Active and meets bi-annually	Active and meets bi-annually	Active and meets Quarterly	Have a functional Advisory Forum	Quarterly
RISK ASSESSMENT (RA)	A comprehensive Disaster Risk Assessment was completed by Luticento Pty Ltd in 2020	Risks updated as per District Risk assessment as reviewed by WC: PDMC in March 2022	Priority risks were identified in risk assessments	Disaster Risk Assessments (DRA) were completed at all local municipalities. Busy with an update on District DRA	ODM Risk Assessment completed and updated in March 2023	RA for specific known hazards undertaken and documented as per national standards
FRAMEWORK	Has a framework	Has a framework	Has a framework	Has a framework	Has a framework	Has a framework
DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN	Has a disaster management plan in place	Has a disaster management plan in place	Has a disaster management plan in place	Has a disaster management plan in place	Has a disaster management plan in place	Has a disaster management plan in place

Table 4: Summary of the implementation of the DM Act in the Cape Town Metro and District Municipalities

2.7 Institutional Capacity Challenges

The Disaster Management Act of 2002, amended in 2015, requires the Disaster Management Provincial Framework to be amended and aligned with the National Disaster Management Framework. The WC: PDMC commenced with the fourth phase of review and update of the Disaster Management Provincial Framework. Further refinement will be completed upon the finalisation of the National Disaster Management Framework review process.

The lack of human capacity, as well as the appropriate positioning of Disaster Management staff at a municipal level, has been a well-debated topic since the implementation of the DM Act. Thus, the amended

DM Act took into consideration the capacity required at the municipal level, which provides municipalities with the required legal mandate to make provisions for Disaster Management officials. The need for capacity at the local level has become critical to manage compound disasters across the Western Cape.

Despite the challenges, the WC: PDMC used the opportunity to expand its institutional arrangements in the province. The Provincial Disaster Management Advisory Forum meetings were held using a hybrid approach to ensure collaboration, coordination, partnership and minimise travelling costs. The WC: PDMC assisted three district municipalities with financial support towards the appointment of three Disaster Management interns. The District Municipalities further invested in the programme and appointed interns in their various areas.

CHAPTER 3: DISASTER RISK ASSESSMENTS



3.1 Introduction

Within the National Disaster Management Framework, Key Performance Area 2 sets out a uniform approach to assessing and monitoring disaster risks that will inform Disaster Risk Management Planning and Disaster Risk Reduction undertaken by organs of state and other role-players. Within this framework, the Provincial Disaster Management Centre developed a Standardised Risk Assessment Methodology.

The WC: PDMC developed the first Western Cape Standardised Risk Assessment Methodology (WC: SRAM) in the 2011/2012 performance year and aimed to ensure that all disaster risk assessments were completed uniformly and could be aligned to the Western Cape Provincial Indicative Disaster Risk Profile. This WC: SRAM provided a comprehensive disaster risk assessment approach by incorporating two components:

- 1) a community-based/stakeholder-based risk assessment; and
- 2) a scientific-based disaster risk assessment.

Given the dynamic nature of the disaster management field, the WC: PDMC acknowledged the need to ensure that the province continued to follow the latest risk assessment best practices; resultantly, efforts to review and update the WC: SRAM were initiated in the 2021/22 performance year. The updated WC: SRAM was completed in March 2023 through a highly participative review process with all relevant sector departments, municipalities and other stakeholders. The new WC: SRAM provides innovative approaches to developing practicable risk assessments and capacitating municipalities to perform risk assessments independently.



Figure 25: Risk assessment methodology workshop: Stakeholder Engagement



Figure 26: Risk assessment methodology workshop: Break-away group discussion

Prior to the updated WC: SRAM being finalised, the WC: PDMC initiated the process to provide support to the Overberg District Municipality in reviewing and updating their disaster risk assessment during the 2022/2023 reporting year. Utilising the 2012 WC: SRAM, but incorporating new best practices identified for risk assessments during the methodology review, the WC: PDMC assisted the district in developing a risk assessment that provides practical recommendations for implementing disaster risk reduction interventions. This was achieved through two area-specific risk assessment workshops, held on 20 and 23 September 2022, followed by a disaster risk reduction meeting in

December and verification sessions with stakeholders between December and February to verify findings and amend where needed. The report was successfully completed on 31 March 2023.

Between 2015 and 2020, the WC: PDMC's focus was on providing financial and technical support to district and local municipalities in the province to undertake disaster risk assessments; to date, all district municipalities and local municipalities have been assisted. Over the next five years, the WC: PDMC seeks to shift its support to focus on the Institutionalisation of risk reduction in municipalities.

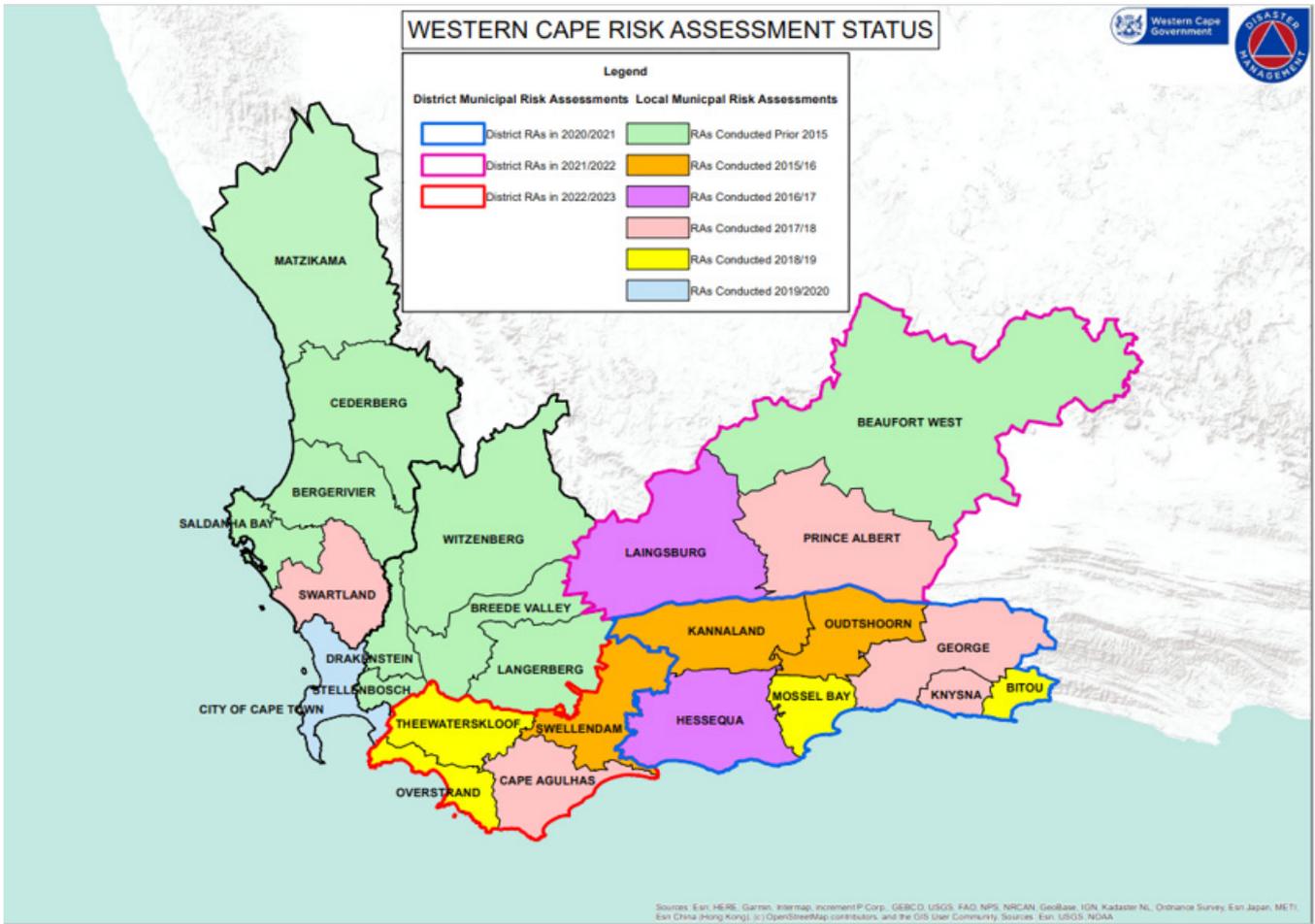


Figure 27: Western Cape Risk Assessment Status

3.2 Development and Maintenance of the Spatial Data Repository

The WC: PDMC has a fully functional and well-maintained Spatial Data Repository (SDR) that includes a web-based Decision Support Tool (DST); this provides decision-makers with accurate and credible information. All operational datasets are updated, maintained, and uploaded onto our central data repository.

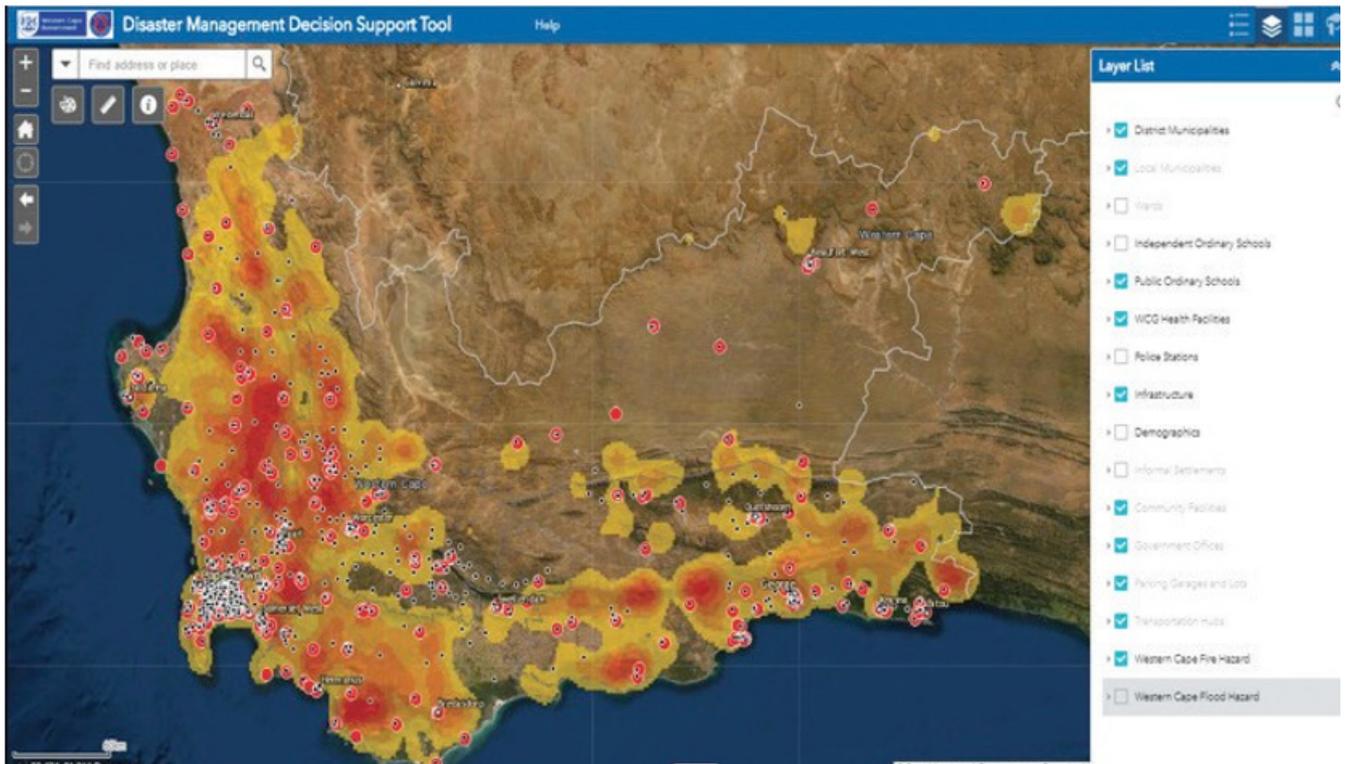


Figure 28: Disaster Management Decision Support Tool Preview

3.2.1 Institutional arrangements and GIS support

- The Western Cape has moderate GIS-related human resources across the province, specifically within the Department of Local Government. Nevertheless, to harness capacity during a disaster, it is critical to plan by identifying potential activities to assess capacity requirements adequately.
- Collaboration within the Department identified the need for GIS support for the Overberg District Municipality. As such, the WC: PDMC supported the District in developing a GIS policy and a GIS web viewer to enable the municipality to access all the disaster management-related datasets. Some of the datasets identified for this process include the following:
 - Socio-economic vulnerability;
 - Spatial distribution of informal settlements;
 - Protected areas for conservation;
 - Spatial distribution of biomes; &
 - River systems.

3.3 Risk Assessment Challenges and Opportunities

In recent years, the WC: PDMC has become increasingly aware of the need for more capacity at a Local Municipal level to conduct disaster risk assessments independently. Requests from municipalities for support were the catalyst for undertaking an intensive review of the risk assessment methodology and developing Hazard, Vulnerability and Capacity Tool training for all municipalities in the Western Cape.

Throughout the 2022/23 Financial Year, the WC: PDMC offered several online training sessions to municipalities on using risk assessment tools while the methodology was under review. This allowed municipalities to be capacitated to maintain their risk profile throughout the year independently. During the 2023/24 Financial Year, the WC: PDMC plans to roll out training on the new risk assessment methodology. This will further capacitate municipalities to independently conduct risk assessments and play a vital role in understanding the Western Cape's risk profile and implementing targeted risk reduction interventions.

CHAPTER 4: DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



4.1 Introduction

The Disaster Risk Reduction aims to ensure that all disaster management stakeholders develop and implement integrated disaster management plans and risk reduction programmes, i.e., the Disaster Management Chapter in the Municipal Integrated Development Plan. These include long-term Risk Reduction Intervention Strategies and short-term Mitigation Intervention Strategies to alleviate the impact of disasters on communities.

4.1.1 Early Warning Systems

The South African Weather Service (SAWS) is the legally mandated authority in South Africa responsible for determining and distributing Impact Based Severe Weather Warnings. The Western Cape, Disaster Management Centre, plays a crucial role in ensuring that

early warnings are disseminated to broader stakeholders to ensure they can take the necessary steps to avoid or reduce the risk and prepare for an effective response.

In August 2020, the SAWS officially implemented its Impact-Based Weather Warning System to warn the public of possible impacts due to hazardous weather. It is the movement from communicating “what the weather will be” to informing the public of “what the weather will do”.

4.1.2 Impact- Based Weather Warning Scale

The SAWS Impact-Based Weather Warning Scale is used to help forecasters and disaster managers determine the warning level based on its potential impacts.

Likelihood	High		2	6	10
	Medium		1	5	9
	Low			4	8
	Very Low			3	7
		Minimal	Minor	Significant	Severe
Impact					

Figure 29: Impact-Based Weather Warning Scale

The colour coding and the numbering are determined by combining the level of impact with the likelihood of that impact occurring. It means that the forecaster will decide the possible result because of a particular hazard (rainfall, for example), with input from the local disaster managers. Then, the likelihood of that impact is established using the numerical weather prediction models as well as local knowledge of antecedent conditions (any previous rainfall) (SAWS, 2021).

4.2 Impact Based Severe Weather Early Warning Dissemination

The WC: PDMC has developed a standard operating procedure for disseminating impact-based severe weather warnings in the province. This was developed in collaboration with the South African Weather Service (SAWS) and District Disaster Management Centres.

The province held workshops with each District municipality to understand their approach to early warning dissemination; based on these discussions, a standard operating procedure (SOP) for each District was defined and agreed to, recorded in the province's Severe Weather Early Warning SOP.

This document was presented to all provincial centres at the South African Weather Service's IBF Conference in Gauteng as an example of 'What Has Worked in Early Warnings' for the Western Cape.

4.3 Mitigation Intervention Strategies

4.3.1 Hazard Awareness Programme

The hazard awareness programme is a multifaceted awareness programme that aims at educating the public about reducing the risks in their communities.

4.3.1.1 Disaster Awareness Campaign

The 2022/2023 financial year saw the revival of the Disaster Awareness Campaign following a COVID-19-induced hiatus. This break allowed the WC: PDMC to investigate a new approach to this awareness campaign.

A multi-stakeholder approach was undertaken, aligned with the JDMA, and saw Departments and organisations working together to educate primary school learners about hazards in their communities and the environment. The WC: PDMC rolled out the awareness campaign with the assistance of the Western Cape Department of Education's Safer School programme. The awareness campaign occurred on 17 February 2023 at Hawston Primary School in the Overstrand Municipality. Eight hundred and twenty (820) learners from grade R to grade 5 attended the campaign. The campaign included the following:

- Road safety was presented by ChildSafe, where learners were educated on how to use roads safely;
- South African Foundation presented pollution and its effect on the marine environment for the Conservation of Coastal Birds (SANCCOB);
- EMS raised awareness of the emergency number;
- The Overstrand Municipality's Fire Services provided fire awareness and fire demonstration;
- Introduction of Gerry the Giraffe (WC: PDMC's mascot) to learners; and
- Awareness materials and teaching resources were provided to learners and teachers.



Figure 30: Disaster Awareness Campaign and Fire Drill: Overberg Municipality’s Fire Services

4.3.1.2 High School Debating Competition

The WC: PDMC has a long-standing collaboration with Working on Fire (WoF) to bring a high school debating competition to communities. The debating competition aims to allow grade 8 and 9 learners to discuss environmental issues that harm their social livelihood and natural environment. The theme for this

year’s debate was ‘climate change, biodiversity and conservation’, and the participating schools highlighted the causes and effects of climate change and how they could be mitigated.

This year’s debate occurred in the Cape Winelands District Municipality, with Paarl Girls’ High School, Makapula Secondary School and Kayamandi Secondary School taking the top three honours.

EDUCATION

Paarl Girls’ High wins annual climate debate

KRISTIN ENGEL
kristin.engel@inl.co.za

AS the severity of climate change increases, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment in the Western Cape is doing its part to develop a more responsible nation by engaging youngsters in its annual environmental educational debates, which formed part of its Working on Fire (WOF) programme.

Under the theme of “climate change, biodiversity and conservation”, six schools in the province gathered in Stellenbosch on Monday where Grade 8 and 9 learners participated in riveting debates on environmental issues.

WOF community fire awareness officer Rayganah Rhoda said: “The primary objective of the debate is to create an opportunity for these learners to debate on environmental issues that have a negative impact on their social livelihood and natural environment. It also covers the key fire messages and the core focus areas of the WOF Department of Fire Awareness.”

The participating schools drove

PAARL Girls’ High School (PGHS) claimed first place in the Western Cape Working on Fire programme’s annual environmental educational debate in Stellenbosch on Monday. | WOF

their arguments home by highlighting the effects and causes of climate change and how they could be mitigated.

Paarl Girls’ High School (PGHS) came in first place with Makapula Secondary School in second place and Kayamandi Secondary School in third place.

PGHS entered a team of five Grade 9 learners who were were immediately interested in the topic and agreed to participate when asked by PGHS

strategic manager Karen Swart.

“The learners, through their research, also realised that conservation and land degradations are fields that one can study and carve out a future career in (they are at the age when they must make subject choices).

“They also learnt that there are different viewpoints on conservation and climate change, realising that a holistic approach to this global crisis is necessary,” Swart said.

In judging the debate, Department

of Education school enrichment official Kurt Lenders said: “I encourage more schools to participate in the future because the topics the learners had to prepare and talk about our hot topics like climate change. It is good they are becoming part of the discussion about burning issues at this level.”

Schools interested in participating next year could contact Rhoda on rayganah.rhoda@wofire.co.za by end of January for more information.

Figure 31: Newspaper article covering the high school debating competition

4.3.2 Commemoration of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is commemorated annually on the 13 October. This day promotes a global culture of risk awareness and disaster reduction. The 2022 theme focused on Target G of the Sendai Framework: ‘Substantially increase the

availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030’.

The WC: PDMC collaborated with the National Disaster Management Centre and the City of Cape Town’s Disaster Risk Management. As part of the collaboration, the WC: PDMC provided a supporting role for the two-day workshop.



Figure 32: Commemoration of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction

4.4 Disaster Management Research Programme

The Western Cape, Disaster Management Centre, is mandated by Enabler 2 of the National Disaster Management Framework of 2005 to conduct and support research proposals that strengthen the strategic research agenda in the province. Within this mandate, the WC: PDMC has established relations with universities to collaborate in terms of research and information sharing; and, as such, has availed itself for the benefit of postgraduate students conducting research, as well as sharing information through lectures as well as Honours and Master’s students.

WC: PDMC has also further initiated a process to establish Disaster Management research needs database primarily influenced by research requirements

from which the District Disaster Management Centres and their municipalities can benefit.

The WC: PDMC continued its support of tertiary institutions with an educational visit by students from Stenden University on 5 July 2022. The purpose of the visit was to inform the students studying Disaster Relief Management of the functions and activities of the WC: PDMC. The programme included presentations by the various sub-directorates and a tour of the Disaster Management Centre and Emergency Management Call Centre. The engagement allowed the students to get career advice from officials working in Disaster Management.

4.5 Disaster Management and IDP in the Western Cape

The departure points for all Disaster Risk Reduction activities are that resources invested today can prevent human and financial losses that outweigh the initial investment many times over. One of the priorities of the WC: PDMC is to support municipalities in realising that this approach can be materialistically achieved by focusing on incorporating Disaster Risk Reduction within the IDP, as well as by coordinating Disaster Risk Reduction through the IDP's phases, mechanisms, and processes.

Integrated Development Planning is also an approach to planning involving the entire municipality and its citizens

in finding the best solutions to achieve good long-term and sustainable development (social, economic, and environmental development). This approach also applies to Disaster Management planning and how it interacts and synergises with the Integrated Development Plan. It mainly applies to the IDP process, mechanisms, and phases, where Disaster Management planning should run parallel with the IDP cycle.

During the reporting period, the WC: PDMC supported the Garden Route District Municipality and four of the local municipalities by developing a disaster management chapter in the IDP. The WC: PDMC held a workshop with the Garden Route District Municipality, George Municipality, Kannaland Municipality, Knysna Municipality and Mossel Bay Municipality.



Figure 33: Integration of Disaster Management into the IDP Workshop: Garden Route DM

The Department of Local Government, through the Directorate: Integrated Development Planning, coordinates and facilitates annual assessments of municipal IDPs. Sector departments assess the IDPs' content, relevance, and quality per their IDP indicators, which are based on legislative requirements.

The WC: PDMC specifically assesses the Disaster Management Chapter in the IDP instead of only evaluating the Disaster Management Plan. Annual reviews of the five-year IDP should reflect on the progress made on institutional arrangements, risk assessment updates, risk reduction projects and interventions, and any changes to the disaster management preparedness, response, and contingency plans.

KEY ELEMENT	PROCESS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	Disaster Risk Assessments consist of a Scientific-based Disaster Risk Assessment and a community-based Risk Assessment, where the latter forms part of the Public Participation process, namely during the actual risk assessment and during the Public Participation phase of the IDP cycle.
STRATEGIC FOCUS	The final Risk Assessment document contains strategic information that has developmental implications.
INTEGRATION	Both the IDP and the Disaster Management planning processes seek to integrate the respective approaches within the final IDP document.
PRIORITISING	Disaster Risk Assessments categorise and prioritise risks which can then be linked to the prioritised areas in the IDP.
DELIVERY ORIENTATION	Risk reduction activities should primarily be carried by means of service delivery.

Table 5: Key elements of Integrated Development Planning in relation to Disaster Management

4.6 Development of a Disaster Risk Reduction Planning Guideline

The WC: PDMC developed a Disaster Risk Reduction Planning Guideline to guide the development of a disaster risk reduction plan. The guideline was informed

by inputs from the stakeholders who participated in a workshop held in the Garden Route District. The guideline is a comprehensive tool that details the step-by-step process for risk reduction planning. It is envisioned that this guideline will provide a blueprint for municipalities to develop their own disaster risk reduction plans.



Figure 34: Workshop to develop a Disaster Risk Reduction Planning Guideline

4.7 Preparedness and response

This section shares the preparedness strategies implemented as well as the response activities of the WC: PDMC.

4.7.1 Disaster Management Plans

Disaster management plans incorporate elements of preparedness, response, and recovery appropriate to the respective functional areas of the different organs of the state. All finalised plans are uploaded onto the UNITI software, making them easily accessible.

During the reporting year, the WC: PDMC supported the development and updating of the following plans:

DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLANS: UPDATED/DEVELOPED/ COMMENTED ON	TYPE	DATE OF PLAN
Winter Readiness Plan	Seasonal Plan	2022
Summer Readiness Plan	Seasonal Plan	2022
Central Karoo District Municipality Draft Disaster Management Plan	Disaster Management Plan	2022
George Municipality Disaster Management Plan	Disaster Management Plan	2022
Reviewed the Preparedness, Response and Relief Plan	Contingency Plan	2022
Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management Plan	Disaster Management Plan	2022
Department of Agriculture: Locust Preparedness Plan	Contingency Plan	2022
Provincial Koeberg Nuclear Power Station Plan	Contingency Plan	2018
City of Cape Town: Koeberg Nuclear Power Station Radiological Release Hazard Disaster Risk Management Plan	Contingency Plan	2015
Rheinmetall Denel Munition Draft Plan	Contingency Plan	2022

Table 6: Disaster Management Plans: Updated/Developed

Due to the extensive work and consultative process, plans worth mentioning include the review of the Western Cape Preparedness, Response and Relief Plan 2009 (Generic Plan), which undertook extensive consultations through workshops from November 2021 to February 2023. The plan has been finalised, and it is

envisaged to take the plan through a design process in the 23/24 financial year.

The Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management Plan was also completed during 2022.

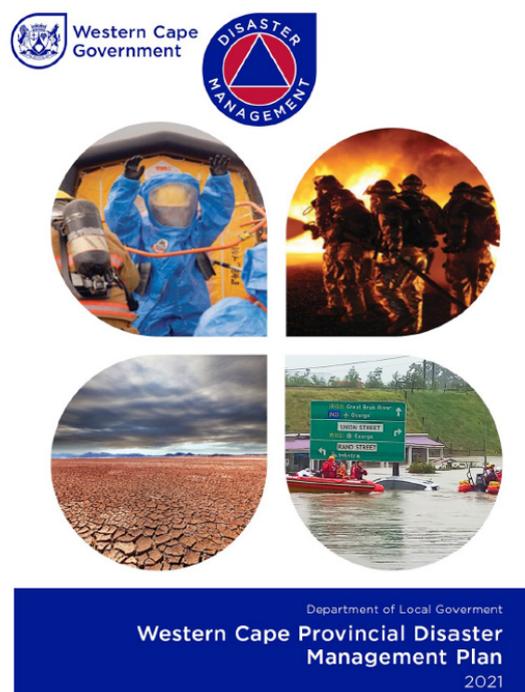


Figure 35: Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management Plan

The WC: PDMC completed both these plans using internal human resources, which not only saves on financial costs but also allows staff to take ownership and strengthen their capacity.

In addition to the above two (2) plans, the Western Cape Disaster Management Centre facilitated various sessions regarding the involvement of Provincial and National Disaster Management in the City of Cape Town's Koeberg Planning, such as the following:

- Late Phase Planning Engagements with the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)
- Koeberg Joint Media Communications Procedure Workshop with Minister Bredell's Media Spokesperson and the Department of Local Government: Communications
- Koeberg Overview and Information Workshop with the National Disaster Management Centre
- Review of the City of Cape Town's Disaster Declaration and Classification Procedures
- Input and comments to the City of Cape Town's Personal Protective Equipment Procedure
- Engaged neighbouring municipalities and updated the mass cares centres list for the City of Cape Town's Koeberg Planning

4.7.2 World Drowning Prevention Day

On Monday, 25 July, the Western Cape Department of Local Government commemorated World Drowning Prevention Day by hosting a webinar with the theme "Building Resilience around Floods due to Climate Change".

The Western Cape Strategic Framework for Drowning Prevention and Water Safety recommends promoting

multi-sectoral partnerships and water safety collaborations. Consequently, this webinar aimed to create a platform for interested organisations to share their insights and experiences to learn from each other. The goal was to share key lessons learnt and to foster future collaboration.

Seventy-three (73) online attendees attended the webinar.

The presentations were delivered by speakers from Lifesaving SA, the National Sea Rescue Institute, Search and Rescue South Africa and the City of Cape Town. The insights, lessons learned, and best practices shared spoke to drowning prevention and the impacts of climate change in terms of increase flooding incidents. The topics were as follows:

- Lifesaving South Africa: The importance of multi-sectoral approaches in implementing the WC Strategic Framework for Drowning Prevention and Water Safety;
- City of Cape Town: Climate change and the impact on drowning risks;
- National Sea Rescue Institute (NSRI): Drowning Prevention Intervention: Survival Swimming; and
- Search and Rescue South Africa (SARZA): Search & Rescue response to flooding incidents.

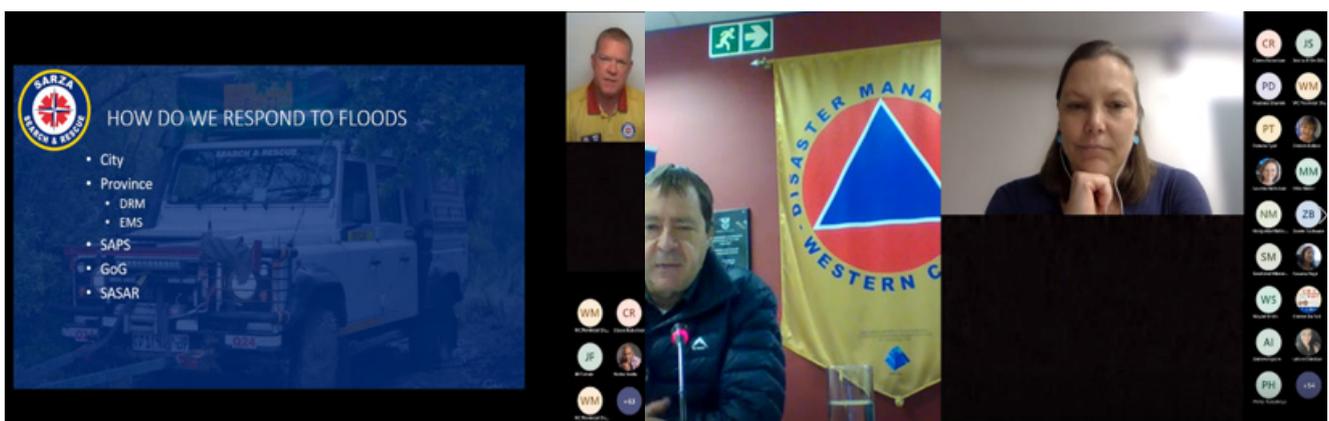


Figure 36: Presentation by Mr Mike Muller (SARZA)

Figure 37: Facilitator, Mr Colin Deiner (WC: PDMC) & Dr Colleen Saunders (Lifesaving SA)

4.7.3 United Nations Training: 13-16 September 2022

The Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management Centre, the Provincial Training Institute and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), hosted a dynamic and interactive four (4) day Team Development and Management Training, from 13-16 September 2022.

The training was aimed at enhancing team performance for all disaster management officials whilst addressing the challenges associated with disaster incidents such

as COVID-19-related stresses, amongst others. All the attendees participated in pre-training virtual e-learning modules and completed tasks before the training commenced.

The training was the first of its kind in the Country and is modelled and based on tried and tested principles from the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) training approach. Team Management in UNDAC focuses on team dynamics, team coordination and leadership models that are critical to develop functional teams that can deliver results within a challenging disaster context.



Figure 38: UN Training Coordinators and participants



Figure 39: UN Training participants activity session

4.7.4 Training on the Koeberg Radioactive Waste Transportation

Vaalputs is the only South African radioactive waste-disposal facility operated by the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation (NECSA). The facility is located in the Northern Cape province and is 450 km from the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station.

Eskom is required to perform biennial training for various local authorities & emergency services on the Koeberg radioactive waste transport process en route through the West Coast District to the Vaalputs radioactive waste repository.

Koeberg personnel conducted a training presentation from 14-18 November 2022 with all first responders along the N7 route. The training targeted fire managers, disaster managers, and the Emergency Medical Services operating within the Swartland, Matzikama, Cederberg and Saldanha municipalities. The training entailed the emergency response procedure for an incident involving the Koeberg radioactive waste transportation vehicle. Eskom held a total of nine (9) training sessions.

The training aims to enhance the preparedness level of emergency services and first responders in the event of an emergency, should such an incident occur. The WC: PDMC participated in the training and ensured the dissemination of invitations to the various stakeholders for a successful roadshow.



2022 VAALPUTS FIRST RESPONDERS TRAINING

14 – 18 November 2022

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Monday, 14 November	09h00 - 10h00	Disaster Management Centre, Moorreesburg (17 Station Street)
	11h30 - 12h30	Council Chambers, Citrusdal (12 Muller Street)
	14h30 - 15h30	South Sports Hall, Vredendal (Dam Street)
Tuesday, 15 November	09h00 - 10h00	SAPS Office, Van Rhynsdorp
	11h30 - 12h30	SAPS Office, Nuwerus
	13h30 - 14h30	SAPS Office, Garies
Wednesday, 16 November	09h00 - 10h00	Disaster Management Centre, Springbok (Airport Road)
	11h30 - 12h30	SAPS Office, Kammieskroon
Thursday, 17 November		Visit to Vaalputs (Eskom employees only)
Friday, 18 November	10h00 - 11h00	Traffic Services Office, Piketberg (Bergrivier Municipality Protection Services)

Figure 40: Vaalputs training program



Figure 41: Vaalputs First Responder Training

CHAPTER 5: DISASTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY



5.1 Introduction

This key performance area includes the implementation of priorities concerned with disaster response, recovery, and rehabilitation in the province of the Western Cape. It addresses the requirements in the Act for an integrated and coordinated policy that focuses on rapid and effective response to disasters and post-disaster recovery. When a significant event or disaster occurs or is threatening to occur, there must be clarity in roles and responsibilities and the necessary procedures to be followed. It describes measures for effective disaster response, recovery, and rehabilitation planning.



5.2 Disaster Response

Besides other responses during the 2022 to 2023 period, the focus has been on Major Electricity Disruption Planning and Response.

Extensive Joint Operation Committee meetings were held with stakeholders such as Departmental Safety and Security officials, the Provincial Cabinet, Consulate Generals, and Heads of Departments.

In addition, to the Major Electricity Disruption, the Western Cape Disaster Management Centre played a vital role in responding to the KwaZulu-Natal Flood Disaster from 15 to 21 April 2022.



Figure 42: WC: PDMC response to the KZN Province Flooding

Three (3) officials from the WC: PDMC (Mr C Deiner, Ms J Pandaram and Ms L Nicholson) together with an engineer from Municipal Infrastructure Grant Unit (Mr E Mangwengwende) were deployed. Messrs Pandaram and Nicholson and Mr Mangwengwende were based at the PDMC in Pietermaritzburg, and Mr Deiner headed up the Search and Rescue team at Virginia Airport in Durban.

5.2.1 Major Electricity Disruption

The Western Cape: Provincial Disaster Management Centre has been proactive in its major electricity disruption planning, ensuring departments and various stakeholders know their responsibilities. The Provincial Major Electricity Disruption Plan 2021 has been utilised as a catalyst throughout the province and the Country.

One of the significant challenges when dealing with higher stages (6-8) and a major blackout is emergency

communications. Coming out of Joint Operations Committee during June and July 2022, it became apparent that a Technical Communication Task Team be established to address the communication challenges. The Task Team, headed by the WC: PDMC, drew up the current availability and capability of communications and is represented by Hamnet, Emergency Medical Services, Provincial Branch for E-Innovation, South African Police and South African Defence Force. One of the recommendations was for the WC: PDMC to appoint a business analyst to assess and investigate a solution

for the Western Cape Province. The Centre has received R1 million for the 23/24 financial year to establish a business analyst and procure satellite connectivity.

5.2.2 Severe Weather

Localised flooding affecting the City of Cape Town, Overberg, and Cape Winelands Municipalities occurred from Sunday, 12 June 2022, to Wednesday, 15 June 2022.



Figure 43: City of Cape Town: Informal Settlement: Flooding

Widespread showers and thundershowers over the Western Cape occurred from 11 to 12 and 16 to 17 December 2022. The severe weather was coupled with major electricity disruptions (Stage 6 load-shedding).

Severe weather resulted in localised flooding across the province from 5 to 6 March 2023 and 23 to 24 March 2023.



Figure 44: Gordon's Bay: Flooding



Figure 45: R44 Clarence Drive in Gordon's Bay

5.2.3 Other response

The WC: PDMC assisted with the following response activities and ensured the necessary situation reporting where applicable:

- Following the Avian Influenza outbreak in the province during 2021-2022, various authorities and entities involved in the response and management of the Avian Influenza in seabirds engaged in a workshop for the Avian Influenza in Seabirds Contingency Plan on 01 June 2022. The WC: PDMC jointly facilitated this workshop with the Provincial Department of Agriculture (DOA) and the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the

Environment (DFFE). The workshop focused on the lessons learned during the response, intervention plan on the short-, medium- and long-term activities, funding model, and the development of the Avian Influenza in Seabirds Contingency Plan by the DFFE.

- The WC: PDMC played an ongoing role in coordinating the locust outbreaks, which occurred from March to May 2022. Ongoing Joint Operation Committee meetings were held with stakeholders up until the end of May 2022. One of the activities emanating from the Intervention/Recovery Plan was to ensure the development of a Provincial Agriculture Locust Preparedness Plan. The WC: PDMC assisted the Provincial Department of Agriculture in developing the plan and provided input to their draft plan.

- The National Shutdown (24 August 2022): The WC: PDMC received reports that COSATU and SAFTU are planning a National Shutdown to halt the economy in a halt nationwide strike on 24 August 2022. The WC: PDMC alerted and informed the Head of Centres to report any incident in their area.
- The City of Cape Town 3-Day Bulk Water Disruption (16 - 18 September 2022): The WC: PDMC was notified of the planned water disruption in Pelican Heights, Peacock Close and Schaapkraal area. The WC: PDMC participated in the activation of the City of Cape Town's Joint Operations Centre.
- Farmworker unrest (2 November 2022): The WC: PDMC was alerted to a farm worker protest on the N1 at De Doorns. Protesting farmworkers disrupted the N1 highway on the morning of 02 November 2022. The protesters highlighted the lack of support for farm workers and dwellers to improve their living conditions since the last farm worker uprising in 2012.
- Red/Crayfish Tide (8 February 2023): The WC: PDMC received reports of a West Coast Red Tide Incident. West Coast Red Lobster walked out on the beach near Passasie in Elands Bay. All role-players provided support in terms of the Red Tide Contingency Plan.
- Participated in the activation of the City of Cape Town Disaster Operations Centre (DOC) for the National Shutdown called by the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) on Monday, 20 March 2023. The EFF urged South Africans to take to the streets in protest against load-shedding and to demand the President's resignation. It also strongly urged businesses to remain shut or risk being looted.



Figure 46: West Coast Rock Lobster walk out: Elands Bay

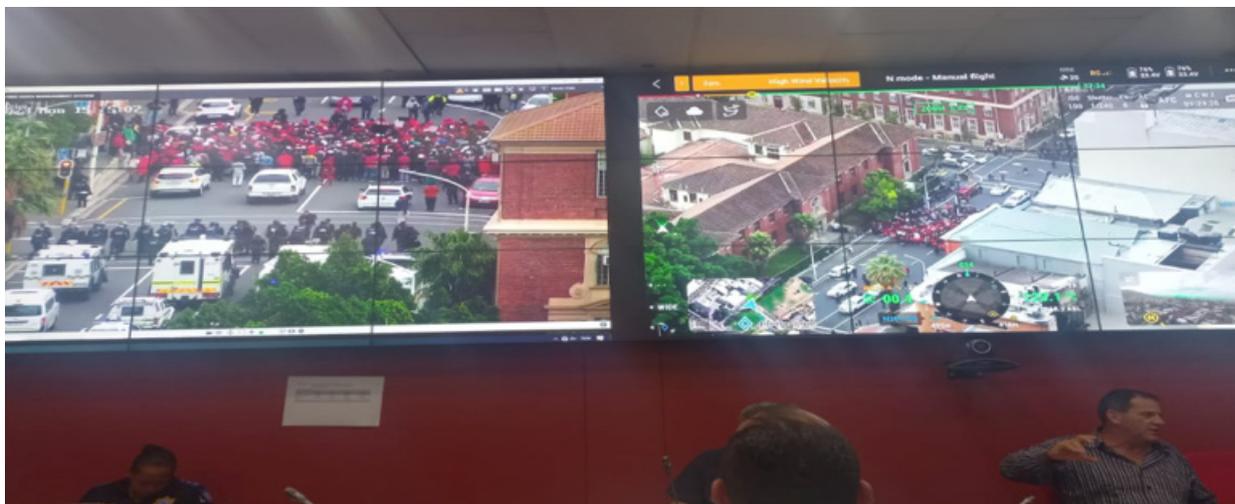


Figure 47: City of Cape Town DOC activation: EFF National Shutdown: 20 March 2023

5.3 Stakeholder Exercises

5.3.1 Koeberg Nuclear Power Station (KNPS) Exercises

Annually, the City of Cape Town conducts a full-scale Koeberg Nuclear Power Station (KNPS) Emergency Exercise and a biennial National Nuclear Regulator

(NNR) Exercise to test the City of Cape Town's Radiological Release Response Procedure, which describes the arrangements made to safeguard the public and minimise the impact to the people of any consequences of a nuclear incident at KNPS.

The KNPS exercise occurred on 22 September 2022, followed by the NNR Exercise on Friday, 04 November 2022. The WC: PDMC participated in both activities.



Figure 48: Koeberg Station Exercise: 22 September 2022

5.3.2 Robben Island Maritime Tabletop Exercise

The WC: PDMC participated in the Robben Island Maritime Tabletop Exercise on 08 April 2022, which followed a hybrid session. It involved role-players from the City of Cape Town, Robben Island Museum, WC: PDMC, South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA), Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre (MRCC), Emergency Medical Services (EMS), South African Police Services (SAPS), South African National Defence Force (SANDF), Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) and the National Sea Rescue Institute (NSRI). The exercise themes were:

- Testing fire-fighting capacity on board the Robben Island Museum Ferry;
- Mayday/distress call and cascading notification/activation;
- Rescue coordination at sea;
- Capacity to rescue persons at sea;
- Medical response coordination on land;
- Setting up passenger receiving centre/family and friends receiving centre / meet & greet area/trauma counselling &
- Testing media liaison and coordination.

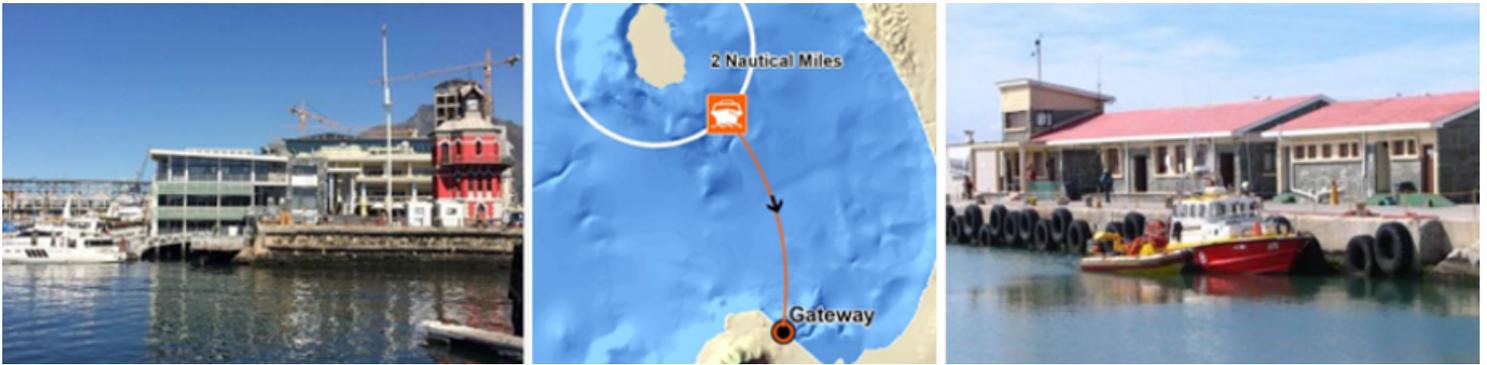


Figure 49: Robben Island

5.3.3 Western Cape Electricity Disruption Planning Exercise

The WC: PDMC recently conducted a simulation exercise to prepare for a national blackout. Through the activation of the Centra and communication with various role-players, the WC: PDMC staff tested

emergency procedures and roles and management and communication systems. The exercise culminated in creating filing and reporting systems on UNITI, with a JoC meeting and joint media release testing also taking place. The coordination of response actions following a blackout was also tested, making the exercise a comprehensive and effective preparation measure.

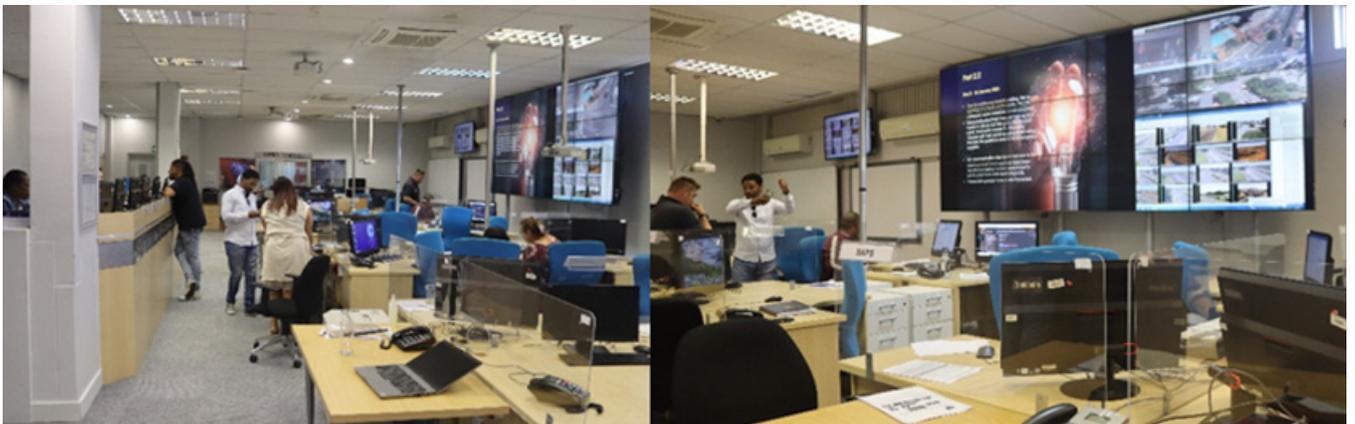


Figure 50: WC:PDMC: Back-out Exercise

5.3.4 5th National Exercise: Bank Cormorant

The WC: PDMC participated in a two-day full-scale Joint Industry-Government Marine Oil Spill Response Deployment Exercise funded by The Benquela Current

Commission from 12 to 13 May 2022. The Interim Incident Management Organisation (IMorg) Steering Committee was part of the project management team.

Various resource providers deployed equipment and personnel to the field.



Figure 51: Fence boom deployed

The scenario involved a collision between a container ship and a tanker in the shipping lane leading to the entrance of Cape Town harbour.

The scenario was developed to trigger the following response elements: Salvage, Search and Rescue, Firefighting, Spill response (offshore and onshore), and Oiled wildlife response.

The exercise brought together key stakeholders that have been instrumental in the development of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan as well as representatives from government agencies, non-government organisations and industry who could be called upon to form an Incident Management Team (IMT) and deploy resources in the event of a shipping incident in South African maritime waters.



Figure 52: Incident Management Group Picture

5.4 Disaster Response Planning Committees

5.4.1 Operation Phakisa

The WC: PDMC is an active Operation Phakisa Interim Incident Management Organisation Workgroup member. Extensive interaction, as well as training, has taken

place concerning the Incident Management/Command System. The WC: PDMC is represented by various other working groups, namely, the Training working group, the National Oil Spill Plan working group and the Incident Management System Manual working group.

Furthermore, the WC: PDMC participated in the quarterly Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Planning Steering Oversight Committees, which deal

with Nuclear Preparedness and the Road Incident Management Committee meetings (RIMS). The WC: PDMC also participates in the City of Cape Town’s Flood and Storm Task Team and any ad-hoc Provjoc meetings held by SAPS.

5.4.2 International Disaster Response

Ms Nicholson, an active United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) emergency response member, participated in a Tanzania Capacity for Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative (CADRI) mission. The mission took place from 18-28 October 2022. The team conducted an in-depth assessment of Tanzania’s

national and local disaster risk management capacities and the progress and challenges in implementing the existing disaster risk management policies. Ms Nicholson was a leader for the Zanzibar National System team.

In addition to the above mission, Ms Nicholson currently serves on the UN OCHA INSARAG flexible working group - “Disaster Assessment Coordination Centre”. This working group is responsible for developing a Structural Safety Assessment Coordination Handbook for international engineers. The handbook outlines the coordination and integration of international engineers to support local engineers who assess the safety of structures for reoccupation in the aftermath of major earthquakes or other events that cause significant structural damage.



Figure 53: Tanzania Police Services and the Zanzibar Fire and Rescue Force Engagement



Figure 54: Presentation: Preliminary finding: Zanzibar 2nd Vice President’s Office

5.5 Readiness of WC: PDMC

During 2020/21, the WC: PMDC followed a process through the State Information Technology Agency (SITA) to replace the audio-visual equipment; however, the Department halted the appointment of a service provider due to the incorrect procedures that were followed. The Centre has since 21/22 re-commence with an alternate procurement process which entailed the appointment of a Departmental Bid Specifications Committee. However, due to the technical nature of the specifications, it remains a challenge to complete.

5.5.1 Standard Operating Procedures

With the activation of the Centre for COVID-19, an in-depth internal debrief was carried out. The internal debrief addressed lessons learned from the activation of the Centre for COVID-19. One of the recommendations was the need to update, review and develop additional Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the management and activation of the Centre.

From 2021 to March 2023, the Preparedness and Response unit completed the necessary review and updates. An internal training session was held with all WC: PDMC staff, followed by an internal exercise. The finalised SOPs has been submitted for the Head of Department's approval.

5.5.2 Disaster Management Information system

In February 2020, the WC: PDMC appointed the service provider, Spinning Your Web, to supply and deliver the information management system, UNITI. However, this contract ended in January 2023. The Centre was able to advertise new specifications through the Electronic Procurement System and Spinning your Web was subsequently appointed for a 12-month contract with the option to extend for an additional 12 months. With the new agreement, additional features were added, such as the occurrence book on the dashboard, auto-save and different search options under contacts.

The screenshot displays the 'Occurrence Book' interface. At the top, there are two toggle switches and a printer icon. Below this is a header bar with 'Create New Entry Adding to Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management Centre' and a 'Select Report' dropdown. A search bar contains 'Date & Time' and an 'Enter to Save' button. The main content area shows two sections of updates:

- Updates for Friday, 17 March 2023**
 - 08:17 (SH) Nceba Kwela | SH-WCDMC-230317-01 | View
 - The following aspect need to be noted:
 - Cellphone at 98% charged with (9.86Gb)
 - 4G + Charging Cable Set
 - Screen of the cell is still cracked as before
- Updates for Friday, 10 March 2023**
 - 07:14 (SH) Leilani Christian | SH-WCDMC-230310-01 | View
 - Standby handover:
 - Cellphone device - screen guard cracked
 - No ear/headphones
 - Cellphone charger
 - MTN 4G
 - Data at 9.92 GB

Figure 55: UNITI system: Occurrence Book

saps				+	↓
Name	Primary Location	Contact Details	👁	✎	🗑
ACKER, P.L	📍 SAPS Laaiplek	✉ laaipleksaps@saps.gov.za ☎ 0827786956 ☎ 0227838020	View	Edit	Delete
ADAMS, G.J.I	📍 SAPS Hopefield	✉ hopefield.saps192@saps.gov.za ☎ 0827786955 ☎ 0227238000	View	Edit	Delete
ALI, Tasnim	📍 Hawks	✉ alitasnim@saps.gov.za ☎ 0828509743 ☎ 0219183492	View	Edit	Delete
BADERNHOST, Edian	📍 SAPS Moorreesburg	✉ moorreesburgsaps@saps.gov.za ☎ 0798941814 ☎ 0224338661	View	Edit	Delete
BARRON, DD	📍 South African Police Services	✉ malmesburysaps@saps.gov.za ☎ 0798941731 ☎ 02248278500	View	Edit	Delete

Figure 56: UNITI system: Contact search option under organisation

The WC: PDMC will, during the 23/24, undertake to investigate the procurement process for the supply and delivery of a disaster management software system for an additional three (3) years.

The WC: PDMC provided a UNITI software child license to West Coast and Central Karoo District Disaster Management Centres. All the remaining district municipalities in the province have procured their own UNITI licenses.

5.6 Assistance to Municipal Disaster Management Centres

Ongoing engagements took place with Central Karoo District Municipality with the drawing up of their Standard Operating Procedures for the management and activation of their centre. Finalising their SOPs has been challenging due to their lack of disaster management officials.

5.7 Centre activities

Over and above the low activation of the centre throughout the year for the electricity major disruptions, the centre was utilised hosting various activities and for coordinating major events.

The below depicts the events and activities hosted throughout the year.

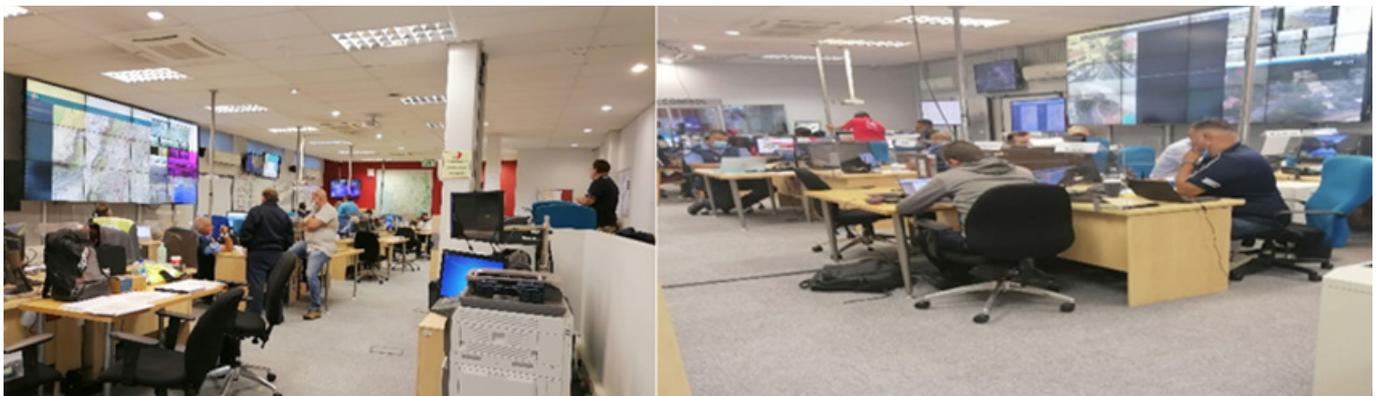


Figure 57: Two Oceans Marathon:15 to 16 April 2022



Figure 58: Minister Bredell briefing the media on Winter Preparedness 20 May 2022

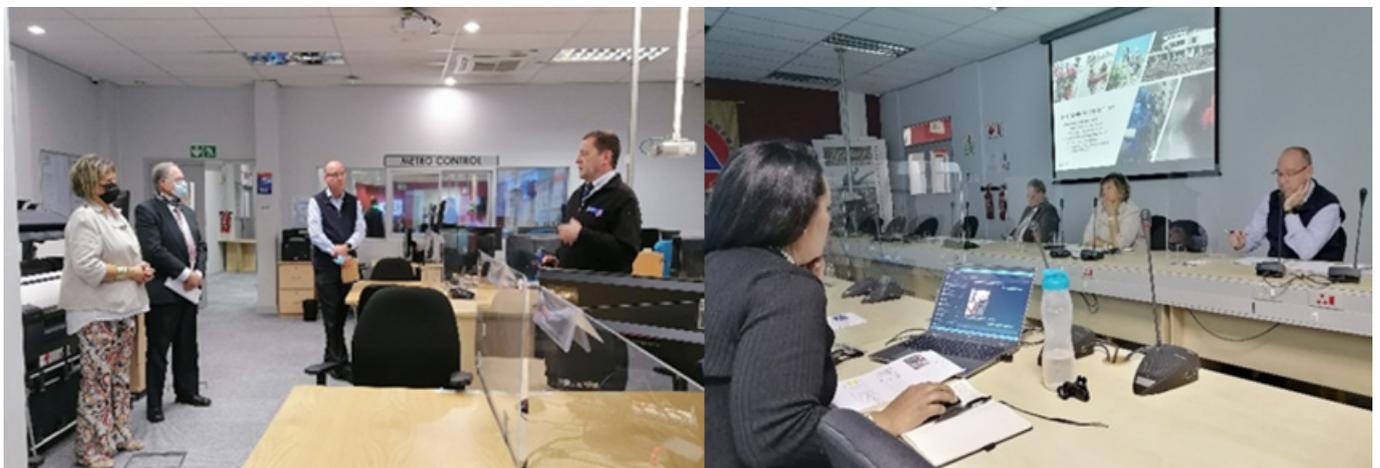


Figure 59: Standing Committee oversight visit: Past fire-related disasters incidences occurred and winter readiness: 7 June 2022



Figure 60: Ethiopian delegation visited the Centre: 18 July 2022

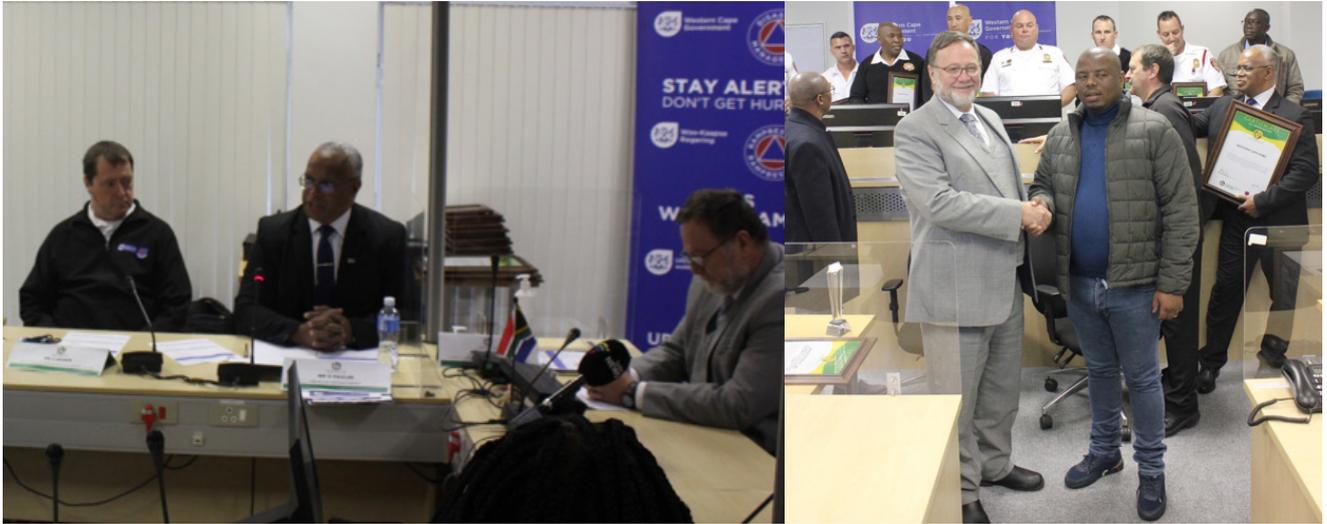


Figure 61: KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) minister and delegation appreciation ceremony: 29 July 2022



Figure 62: KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) minister and delegation appreciation ceremony: 29 July 2022



Figure 63: Portfolio Committee 26 August 2022: Western Cape Electricity Disruption Planning



Figure 64: Committee Portfolio Committee 26 August 2022: Western Cape Electricity Disruption Portfolio Planning



Figure 65: Voortrekker Cultural Based Group: 10 September 2022



Figure 66: Provincial Cabinet: 18 September 2022: Western Cape Electricity Disruption Planning



Figure 67: Stenden University student visit: 11 October 2022



Figure 68: Sanlam Cape Town Marathon: 16 October 2022

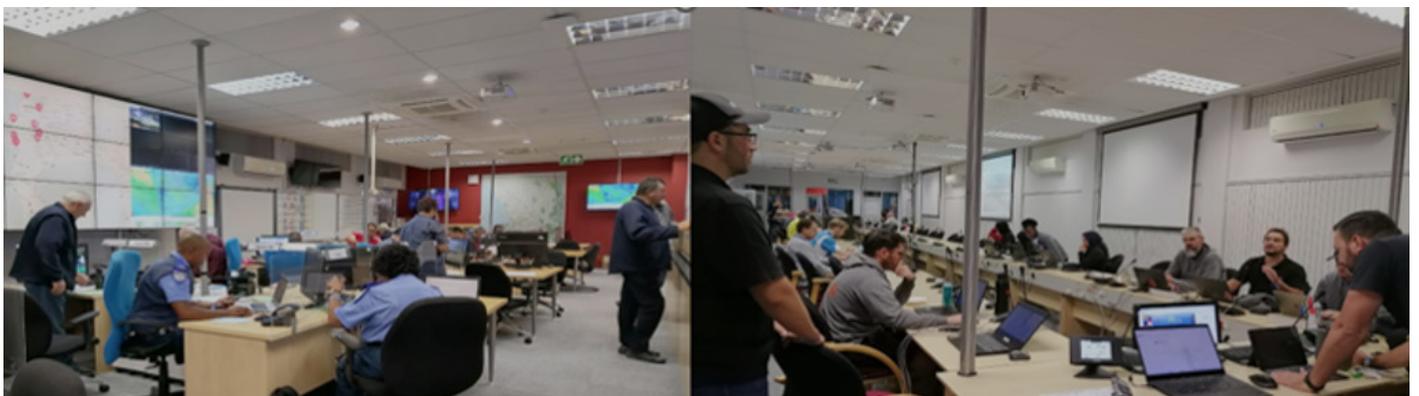


Figure 69: Cape Town Cycle Tour: 45th annual event: 12 March 2023



Figure 70: Premier Alan Winde, Mr Alwie Lester & Mr Colin Deiner: Western Energy Risk Reduction and Preparedness measures Digicon: 16 March 2023

5.8 Disaster response challenges

Major electricity load-shedding has enormously impacted municipalities and service delivery. It is vital for National Disaster Management Centre to ensure planning at the national level should the entire country experience a major electricity disruption or a prolonged load-shedding incident. This means that all provinces compete for the same national resource.

One of the critical outcomes of the exercise held jointly by NDMC and ESKOM on 18 March 2021 was the unavailability of communication systems during a blackout.

An additional challenge is the alignment of disaster management information systems. Due to the National Disaster Management Centre not implementing an information system, the WC: PDMC procured the above UNITI software; however, any newly procured or utilised systems must be interoperable.

5.9 Disaster Recovery

5.9.1 Damage Assessments

A fire was experienced in Theewaterskloof Municipality, Waterworks Informal Settlement in Grabouw on 01 July 2022. Due to the strong wind conditions, a fire broke out in the Elgin Fruit Juice factory. The fire caused damages to the Elgin Fruit Juice Factory and Gaffleys busses and swept through the Waterworks Informal Settlement in Grabouw. Approximately sixty-seven (67) informal structures and four (4) formal houses were destroyed. The Overberg District Municipality and City of Cape Town Fire Emergency Services extinguished the fire.

The WC: PDMC, in collaboration with other organs of state, is mandated to conduct damage assessments to verify the severity and impact of any significant incident with the potential of becoming a disaster (Section 23 of the DMA 57 of 2002). Following the verification meeting, the National Department of Human Settlements, the Theewaterskloof Municipality and the Provincial Department of Social Development conducted a site

assessment visit on 18 July 2022 within the affected settlement of Waterworks.

Based on the assessment mentioned above and in line

with the Department of Human Settlement Emergency Housing Grant criteria, the WC: PDMC supported the Theewaterskloof Municipality's Emergency Housing Grant application with an estimated cost of R4.6 million.



Figure 71: Damages at Waterworks Informal Settlement, Grabouw, Theewaterskloof Municipality

The National Department approved R4.6 million for the Emergency Housing Grant of Human Settlements in January 2023. The funds transferred to Theewaterskloof Municipality are for the provision of Temporary Residential Units (TRUs) for the affected households.

Furthermore, the Provincial Minister of Local Government and Environmental Affairs and Development planning tasked officials of the Provincial Management Centre to assist with the drought initiatives of Kouga Municipality in the Eastern Cape.

5.9.2 Winter and Summer floods of 2021: Recovery Grant Funding

The WC: PDMC analysed the business plans detailing rehabilitation and recovery infrastructural projects the entities intended to implement per the disaster grant framework. The assessment criteria, among others, specified that in requesting national disaster funds, the entity must ensure that the calculations are concise and only include damages incurred due to that specific event, not damages resulting from poorly maintained infrastructure. Moreover, it was imparted to stakeholders that funding applications should only be for additional funds following the reprioritisation of budgets and emergency repairs that the line functions must undertake.

To this extent, all potential beneficiaries had significantly reprioritised and redirected funds to the extent possible, coupled with responses to mitigate other flood and fire incidents, violent protest actions, wildfires, and drought in certain parts of the province. In addition, the province also dealt with the outbreak of avian influenza in sea birds and the recent locust infestation outbreak. As a result, the province reprioritised its existing budgets to deal with these occurrences. The applicants excluded damaged infrastructure losses with adequate insurance from the funding requests.

Below are the summaries of funds requested from the National Disaster Management Centre due to the summer and winter floods that plagued the Province in the previous reporting period of 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022.

Regarding the two severe weather (winter and summer) events of 2021, the confirmed financial shortfall for municipal and provincial infrastructure amounted to R397 812 493 and R333 587 142, respectively, for the two events.

In the Division of Revenue Act Bill published on 14 October 2022, the Minister of Finance announced the allocation of disaster grants to the Western Cape for R 289,964,214. See Table 7 below for a breakdown of the funding.

MUNICIPAL DISASTER RECOVERY GRANT – 2022/23	
Overberg District Municipality	
Theewaterskloof Municipality	R11 940 000
Swellendam Municipality	R3 552 620
Cape Winelands District Municipality	
Breede Valley Municipality	R10 940 000
Garden Route District Municipality	
Oudtshoorn Municipality	R26 664 137
George Municipality	R237 497 584
TOTAL	R289 964 214

Table 7: Municipal Disaster Recovery Grant: 2022/2023

The WC: PDMC directed the provincial departments to approach its national departments to cover the shortfall for their damaged infrastructure.

Municipality/Department	Initial Total Damages	Preliminary Shortfall	Verified Total Damages	Contribution/Reprioritized	Shortfall
Local Government					
Theewaterskloof	R13 656 815	R9 090 000	R11 940 000	R2 305 000	R11 940 000
Swellendam	R3 627 620	R3 627 620	R1 800 000	R1 827 620	R3 552 620
Breede Valley	R10 309 873	R10 309 873	R10 309 873	R0	R10 309 873
Oudtshoorn	R26 664 137	R26 664 137	R26 664 137	R0	R26 664 137
George	R301 639 385	R301 639 385	R238 117 584	R44 395 625	R238 117 584
TOTAL	R355 897 830	R351 331 015	R288 831 594	R48 528 245	R290 584 214

Table 8: Costs of damages resulting from the Winter and Summer floods

5.9.3 Disaster Classifications and Declarations

No new disasters were classified or declared during this reporting period for the province. However, the NDMC classified the electricity constraints as a national disaster classification as promulgated on 09 February 2023 and published in Government Gazette No. 3019. Regulations in terms of this classification were issued and enacted on 27 February 2023 in the Government Gazette No. R. 3089. The WC: PDMC directed the provincial departments to approach its national departments to cover the shortfall for their damaged infrastructure.

5.9.4 Monitoring of funded projects

R47,150,000.00 was allocated to Oudtshoorn and R48,100 000.00 to the Western Cape Department of Agriculture for drought intervention through the Municipal Disaster Relief Grant (MDRG) and the Provincial Disaster Relief Grant (PDRG), respectively, in 2021/22 financial year. The Oudtshoorn Municipality submitted a rollover application in August 2022 to National Treasury amounting to R37 887 431.35, which was approved.

MUNICIPAL DISASTER RELIEF GRANT (MDRG)		
MUNICIPALITY	DESCRIPTIONS FOR RECOMMENDED PROJECTS	APPROVED FUNDS
Oudtshoorn Municipality	We are equipping existing boreholes (drilled as part of the exploration program) into Table Mountain aquifer and constructing a 23km pipeline with a diameter of 315mm extending it from the Blossoms wellfield to the network in Oudtshoorn.	R47 150 000
Total	1 project	R47 150 000

Table 9: Break down of disaster relief grant allocated to the municipalities within the province during the financial year 2021/2022



Figure 72: Booster Pump Station and Reservoir: Testing of borehole water pressure: Oudtshoorn Municipality

PROVINCIAL DISASTER RELIEF GRANT (PDRG)			
DEPARTMENT	DISTRICTS	DESCRIPTION	APPROVED FUNDS
Department of Agriculture	Garden Route	Provision and distribution of livestock feed	R15 000 000
	Overberg (Barrydale)		R1 500 000
	West Coast (Matzikama)		R15 000 000
	Central Karoo		R15 000 000
	Cape Winelands (Ceres Karoo)		R1 600 000
Total			R48 100 000

Table 10: Break down of disaster relief grants allocated to the sector departments within the province during the financial year 2021/2022.

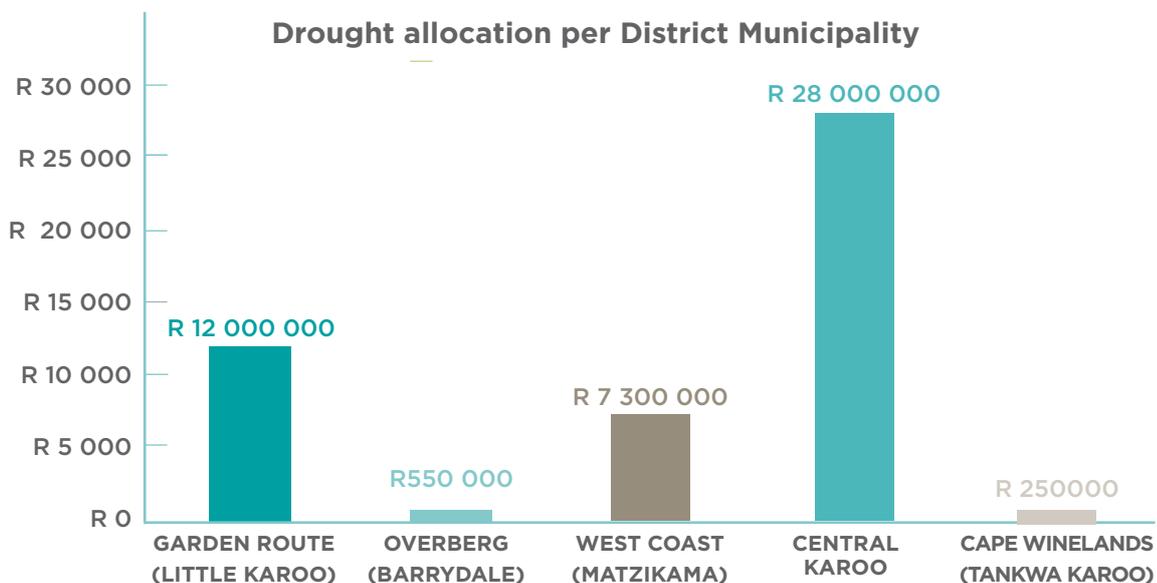


Figure 73: Drought Allocation

The disaster recovery grant funds allocated to the Department of Agriculture and Oudtshoorn Municipality in February 2022 were monitored and evaluated by analysing the implementation plans and compliance certificates. Moreover, the WC: PDMC regularly submitted monthly expenditures, quarterly and annual progress reports and close-out reports to the NDMC for all funded projects.

The Western Cape Department of Agriculture (WC: DoA), to ensure an integrated drought, undertakes bi-annual disaster assessments to determine, amongst others, the status of the prevailing drought through the evaluation of the natural veld conditions. The renewed focus on disaster risk reduction initiatives aims to ensure that farmers in the affected regions are better prepared to deal with the province's increase and intensity of disasters. The bi-annual assessments will form a critical part of the department's early warning system and capacitate the farmers to contribute to a more resilient agriculture sector in the province. Ultimately, the risk assessments allow all relevant stakeholders to exchange ideas and share knowledge and best practices.

Participants in the bi-annual risk assessments included the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Local Government: Western Cape Disaster Management Centre, and the Heads of the District Disaster Management Centres for the Central Karoo and Overberg District Municipalities. The visits aimed to determine the progress of the funded projects and the spending of the allocated funds and provide assistance with potential challenges likely to be encountered in the timeframe, as per the conditional grants. These are crucial requirements for fulfilling the Disaster Grant Framework conditions. Monitoring funded projects also included visits with the Western Cape Department of Agriculture (WCDoA) to farms that received fodder relief.

Several bi-annual assessments and monitoring processes were undertaken in collaboration with the Western Cape Department of Agriculture and relevant stakeholders during the reporting period, viz: 19-22 April 2022 and 29-31 August 2022 in the Central Karoo District Municipality, 23-24 May 2022 in the Overberg District Municipality and 27-28 July 2022 in the West Coast respectively.



Figure 74: Engagement with emerging farmers: Hoekskuil, Beaufort West & Celd condition of farm: Gansevle, Barrydale



Figure 75: Engagement with emerging farmers: Hoekskuil, Beaufort West & Veld condition of farm: Gansevle, Barrydale



Figure 76: Meeting with Commonage farmers in Van Rhynsdorp, West Coast District Municipality

The WC: PDMC Recovery unit, in conjunction with the Breede Valley Municipality, conducted a site visit of the Zwelethemba access road on 13 February 2023. In summary, the access road to Zwelethemba was damaged during the severe weather event from 29 June 2021 to 01 July 2021. As a result, the Hex River that flows adjacent to Zwelethemba washed the soil away under

the access road (Raymond Pollet)/ bridge leading to Zwelethemba. Raymond Pollet Road is the only access road to Zwelethemba from Worcester. The repairs to reinstate the access to Raymond Pollet Road/ bridge amounted to R9 909 872.98, excluding the operational cost.



Figure 77: Damaged and repaired Zwelethemba bridge, Breede Valley Municipality

5.9.5 Post Disaster Debriefings

The National Disaster Management Framework of 2005, states that comprehensive studies must be conducted routinely after all significant events and events classified as disasters. COVID-19 debriefing has been the focus during this reporting period. The WC: PDMC compiled four reports following each pandemic wave and later combined them into one publication.

According to the National Institute for Communicable Disease of South Africa (NICID) and the South African resurgence plan, a wave can be defined as the period from when COVID-19 weekly transmissions are equal to or greater than 30 cases per 100 000 persons until the weekly incidence is equivalent to: or below cases per 100 000 persons. As such, the debriefing programme

followed this trend. Per the National Disaster Declaration promulgated in March 2020, several extensions to the declaration were implemented by the NDMC with variable adjusted alert levels based on the severity and resulting behaviour of the pandemic on transmissions. Thus, regulatory adjustments ensued in the trajectory of the pandemic.

These debriefings provided the WC: PDMC with an opportunity to record lessons learnt, challenges and successes and innovations that the province implemented in managing the effects of the pandemic. The WC: PDMC distributed the four reports to the disaster management fraternity to reflect on the work carried out while advancing future response and readiness strategies. This document further forms the catalyst for identifying research gaps on disasters and,

ultimately, findings incorporated into future policy frameworks.

The following findings and recommendations are summarised from the four reports as follows:

Institutional arrangements

Establishing command councils and activating PROVJOINTS to coordinate the pandemic created unnecessary confusion, complexities and misalignment to the provision of the Disaster Management Act. The institutional arrangements implemented before and during the disaster response stages must be considered and clarified through the amendment process of the disaster management policies, laws and framework regarding the powers, functions and coordination role.

Reporting burden

Multiple structures required reports in different formats, although the content needed was essentially the same. This was identified to be unnecessarily tedious and time-wasting. The informants recommended that the cluster approach will be a suitable model to foster partnerships and collaborations and should be adopted for all planning and tackling of socio-economic issues. Moreover, there is a need to streamline reporting lines through innovation and ensure that the disaster management centre is the nodal point for coordination and communication.

Relationships

There needed to be better communication across spheres of government, especially regarding the development of regulations. Thus, there should be a meaningful consultation to expand the pre-disaster planning to ensure a multi-sectoral approach, uniform communication strategy and meaningful talks.

Figure 78: COVID-19 debriefing: Summary Finding

5.9.6 Disaster Recovery Challenges

The Reconstruction and Rehabilitation disaster grant allocation on the two severe weather events (2021 winter and summer floods) was a lengthy and drawn-out process. The funding allocation was delayed nearly two years after the first severe event in May 2021. The numerous requests for municipalities to provide already submitted business plans and presentations linked to identified projects were frustrating.

The roll-over application process of unspent funds requires funds to be drawn to the Adjustment Budget before beneficiaries spend the monies. Furthermore, supply chain processes stipulate that municipalities can only use the funding after it is approved by Council and included in their budgets. This process delays the advertising of tenders for the appointment of contractors and, subsequently, the implementation of Disaster Grants funded projects.

5.9.7 Disaster Recovery Successes

The method deployed during this process allowed cost-saving through travelling and service providers. Due to the debriefing team of personnel of the disaster management Centre, the project is not being outsourced, unlike similar projects of this nature, thus substantially saving costs for the department.

The four debriefing reports on the COVID-19 pandemic that were produced during this reporting period and the previous reporting period were combined into one glossy book report and will be disseminated to all the relevant stakeholders and other interested parties on how the Western Cape Province and its partners managed the COVID-19 pandemic. The lessons learned in this report will address future readiness strategies for managing a pandemic.

CHAPTER 6: FIRE BRIGADE AND RESCUE SERVICES



6.1 Provincial Fire Brigade and Rescue Services Capacity

The Fire Brigade Services Act, 1987 (Act No. 99 of 1987) (FBA) is the primary legislation regulating fire services and provides for establishing, maintaining, employing, coordinating, and standardising fire brigade services.

Fire Rescue Services is a dedicated sub-directorate within the Chief Directorate of Disaster Management and Fire Brigade and Rescue Services in the WCDLG of the Provincial Government of the Western Cape. A Deputy Director is responsible for the Sub-directorate: Fire Brigade and Rescue Services reporting

in terms of line function to the Chief Director of Disaster Management and Fire Brigade and Rescue Services.

The WC: PDMC, as the competent authority, provided for the administration of the FBS Act and concomitant legislation for and on behalf of the Provincial Government of the Western Cape.

6.2 Fire Rescue Services Forums

The Sub-Directorate Fire Rescue Services supports the secretariat function of the following committees:

NAME	DATE	VENUE/ ONLINE PLATFORM	CHAIRPERSON
Chief Fire Officers Committee	02 May 2022	WC: PDMC	J Johnson
	02 August 2022	WC: PDMC	J Johnson
	02 November 2022	WC: PDMC	J Johnson
	02 February 2023	WC: PDMC	J Johnson
Training Workgroup	15 June 2022	Beaufort West	M Rust
	22 September 2022	George	C Manual
	15 March 2023	Bredasdorp	C Manual
Western Cape Fire Education & Awareness	16 May 2022	MS Teams	R Page
	09 September 2022	MS Teams	R Page
	02 March 2023	MS Teams	R Page
Hazmat Workgroup	24 May 2022	MS Teams	F Munnik
	23 August 2022	WC: PDMC	F Munnik
	02 November 2022	WC: PDMC	F Munnik
	21 February 2023	WC: PDMC	F Munnik
Provincial Veld Fire Workgroup	27 May 2022	WC: PDMC	R Geldenhuys
	26 August 2022	WC: PDMC	R Geldenhuys
	26 October 2022	WC: PDMC	R Geldenhuys
	02 February 2023	WC: PDMC	R Geldenhuys
Ground Operations Workgroup	08 May 2022	WC: PDMC	M Rust
	12 August 2022	WC: PDMC	M Rust
	26 October 2022	WC: PDMC	M Rust
	02 February 2023	WC: PDMC	M Rust
Aerial Fire Fighting Workgroup	05 December 2022	MS Teams	E Du Toit
	29 December 2022	MS Teams	E Du Toit
	03 January 2023	Bellville	E Du Toit
	05 January 2023	West Coast	E Du Toit
	27 January 2023	MS Teams	E Du Toit
	30 January 2023	MS Teams	E Du Toit
	06 February 2023	MS Teams	E Du Toit
	20 February 2023	MS Teams	E Du Toit

Table 11: Fire Service Forums

CURRENT MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING AND MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS		
BETWEEN		PURPOSE
WCDLG	Breede Valley Municipality	Urban Search and Rescue Cooperative agreement
WCDLG	Cape Nature	Fire awareness campaign
City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality	West Coast District Municipality	Fire and other large-scale events
	Cape Winelands District Municipality	Fire and other large-scale events
	Overberg District Municipality	Fire and other large-scale events
	Eden District Municipality	Fire and other large-scale events
	Central Karoo District Municipality	Fire and other large-scale events
City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality	Chevron	Fire and other large-scale events
City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality	Port of Cape Town	Fire and other large-scale events
City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality	ESKOM (Koeberg)	Fire and other large-scale events
City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality	ACSA-Cape Town international Airport	Fire and other large-scale events
City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality	Denel-munitions	Fire and other large-scale events
City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality	South African National Parks	Fire and other large-scale events
Cape Winelands District Municipality	Mountains to Oceans/Cape Nature	Fire and other large-scale events
Mossel Bay Municipality	Petro SA	Fire and other large-scale events
WCDLG	Volunteer Wildfire Services NPC	Support services to WCDLG in the event of fires and large-scale events
WCDLG	Fire Protection Association of Southern Africa (FPASA)	On site Surveys of the Fire Stations of the Western Cape

Table 12: MOUs and Agreements Between WC: PDMC and Municipalities

CURRENT SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS		
BETWEEN		PURPOSE
WCDLG	NCC Environmental Services	Ground Fire Fighting (3-month contract)
WCDLG	Kishugu Aviation (Pty)Ltd	Aerial Fire Fighting (3-year contract)

Table 13: Service Level Agreements

6.3 Institutional Arrangements for Veld Fire Management

Fire is a natural and essential ecological process in most of Western Cape's fynbos. However, as vividly illustrated during the past fire- seasons, it can also have undesirable social and economic impacts, threatening human health, safety, and property. Balancing the potential benefits and risks of veld and forest fire is complex for land, natural resource, and fire managers. It is also a task that is vital to public safety and the sustainable management of fynbos and catchment areas in the province.

To this end, the Witzenberg Municipality's Pre-Attack Plan was developed, focusing on the "Agter Witzenberg Vallei" Areas. The West Coast District Municipality's Pre-Attack Plan was designed to focus on the Chatsworth & Riverlands Areas.

The main objective of this plan is to prepare for an out-of-control wildfire in the defined area. Operational and Safety briefing; General Plan; Objectives; General Command considerations, and Specific Command considerations are just some of the topics the plan covers.



Figure 79: Cape Winelands DM: McGregor

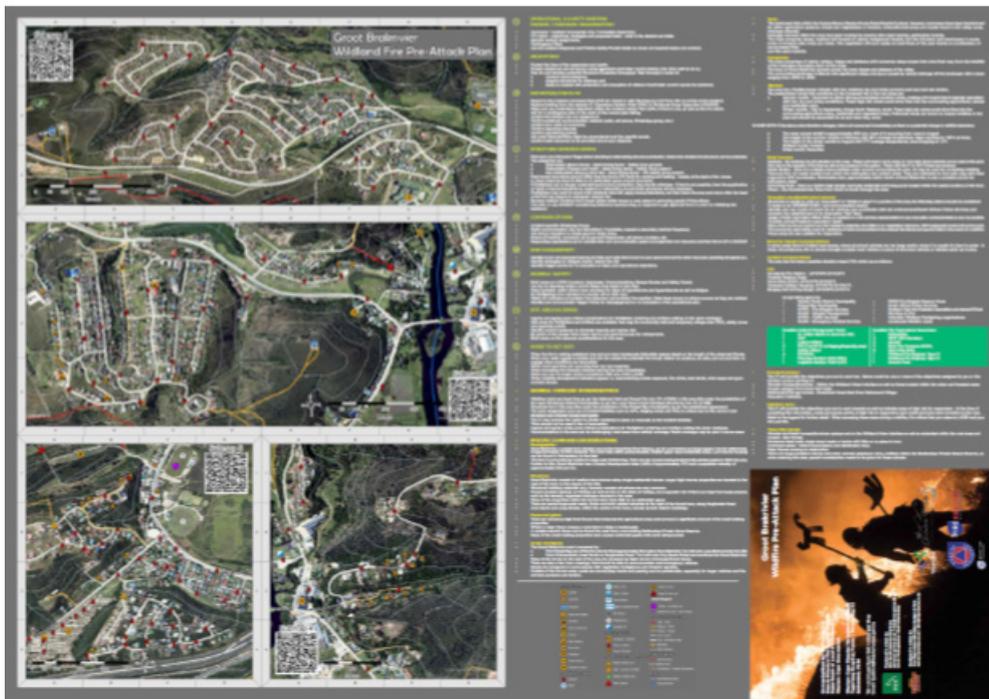


Figure 80: Groot Brakrivier Wildfire Pre-attack Plan

- Commitment to and understanding of critical safety issues, thus minimising the potential for injury and death;
- Increased sense of pride and satisfaction in a job well done;
- Solid knowledge base from which increasingly sophisticated and advanced understanding of fire behaviour and suppression strategies will be possible; and
- An awareness and understanding of the need for organising fire protection on a larger coordinated basis.

Firefighters cannot only be involved in fighting fire alone; they must also be part of a fully developed system that sees firefighting as only one leg of fire services while considering personnel development and firefighting training as the other leg of the system. Today's firefighters need to consider fuel breaks, prevention, education, silviculture, values at risk, and the environment.

The training manual has been utilised extensively to train firefighters before the fire season.

The project outcome will include the professional development of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Response staff and agreements with key partners. It will also

investigate and propose alternative arrangements to accomplish the institutionalisation of training for Fire Services staff in the province. Therefore, the programme's objective is to address the gap identified in the specialised training of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services personnel and to institutionalise Fire, Rescue and Emergency Service training at a Provincial Academy. The following training was provided:



Figure 82: Training manual: Veld & Forest Firefighters

COURSE NAME	FROM	TO	VENUE	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS
Interpretation and Application of Local Authority By-Laws	19 September 2022	23 September 2022	Online	25
Fire Line Safety	03 July 2022	17 July 2022	Online	25
Division/Supervisor Fire Officer	13 September 2022	16 September 2022	Online	25
Fundamentals of Design and Evaluation of Engineered Solutions	17 October 2022	24 October 2022	Online	20
Fire Risk Assessment	08 November 2022	11 November 2022	Online	25
Examination of Building Plans	15 August 2022	19 August 2022	Online	25
Fundamentals of Fire Investigation	09 February 2023	10 February 2023	Online & Practical	9
Type 2 - Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Incident Management Team (IMT) Scenario Based Training Exercise (SBTE)	29 November 2022	02 December 2023	Practical Exercise	30

Table 15: Fire Training Statistics

The sub-directorate also assists with coordinating the first training course held for firefighting high voltage electric vehicle training. The Fire Brigade Services of Porsche (Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen, Germany) hosted the course from 22 to 23 February 2023 in Green Point, Cape Town.

The aim was to understand electric vehicles' fundamentals and technical specifications, how they can safely apply the high voltage disconnection procedures to standard electrical vehicles, examine rescue data sheets (operations), and apply the information to their incident action plan and safety analysis (strategies & tactics).

Firefighters also needed to know different tactics to extinguish vehicle high-voltage battery fires and select the best strategy for their local fire and emergency service.



Figure 83: Fire Fighting High Voltage Electric Vehicle Training

6.4 Incident Command System Development Project

The project seeks to build and develop the command-and-control discipline within Integrated Fire Management by integrating the Incident Command

System (ICS) into one framework. The project will determine a sustainable institutionalised arrangement to ensure the ICS is standardised throughout the Western Cape. The programme’s objective is, first and foremost, to integrate current incident command processes to provide effective command, control, and coordination of all risks.

NAME	DATE FROM	DATE TO	VENUE	ATTENDEES
ICS 200	10 October 2022	10 October 2022	Overstrand	10
ICS 200	17 October 2022	18 October 2022	Pringle Bay/Betty’s Bay	10

Table 16: ICS Training

The sub-directorate conducts an Incident Management Team (IMT) training exercise annually to improve the capabilities of firefighters and other stakeholders in the

fire fraternity on Incident Command Systems (ICS). The sub-directorate hosted the training in the Witzenberg in the Tulbagh area.



Figure 84: IMT Training Exercise Witzenberg, Tulbagh Area

6.5 Integrated Fire Management Project

The project seeks to provide aerial support and ground firefighting support to the District Fire Services. The objective is to develop and maintain a specialised,

proactive, and reactive response capability to wildfires in the Western Cape. The sub-directorate also hosts the opening of a Summer Fire Readiness event during the first week of December of each year. We hosted one at Newlands Fire Base and another at the Stellenbosch Airstrip this year.



Figure 85: Opening of Fire Readiness Event

6.6 Fire Response

The Western Cape Government, through its Chief Directorate: Disaster Management and Fire and Rescue Services, has embarked on a proactive approach to managing veld fires occurring in certain parts of the province, mainly between the months of December and April each year. The intended approach to proactively manage these fires include the rapid response of aerial fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters which can be deployed to respond to fires in their incipient stage and begin an early attack on the fire to prevent lengthy firefighting operations and the major spread of fire.

This strategy was successfully carried out during the 2022/23 summer fire season.

The Western Cape Veld Fire Plan provides various responsible fire authorities and agencies with an overview of the province's current measures for managing veld and forest fires. The plan includes an overview of veld fire preparedness, prevention, and response arrangements. It also includes an integrated approach and shared roles and responsibilities for veld and forest fire management between government, agencies, communities, and individuals.



Figure 86: Western Cape Veld Fire Plan 2022- 23

6.7 The development of the veld fire suppression during COVID-19

The Provincial Fire Work Group: Ground Operations Sub-Committee developed a Response Plan. The COVID-19 task team was tasked by the Western Cape Ground Operations Work Group to research, design, and present implementable SOPs with critical actions that everyone can quickly implement without too much effort but adequate to prevent or minimise the spread of COVID-19 when fire personnel are at the station, at the base, in training, en route to or from fires. Therefore, this document aims to keep stakeholders, role-players, first responders and Incident Management Teams (IMTs) as safe as possible during incidents. This plan will stay in effect during a COVID-19 pandemic and will be reviewed yearly.

The plan provides an integrated and coordinated approach that focuses on mitigating the severity of incidents, emergency preparedness, rapid and effective response to incidents and post-incident recovery and rehabilitation. The plan provides general guidelines that emergency responders can modify as deemed appropriate.

6.8 Provincial Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan (PHMERP)

The Dangerous Goods Working Group of the Western Cape Chief Fire Officer's Committee developed the Provincial Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan (PHMERP) to identify and implement hazardous materials emergency preparedness and response responsibilities per the Western Cape Disaster Management Framework, Disaster Management Act (Act No. 57 of 2002) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998).

The PHMERP details the purpose, policy, concept of operations, direction/control, actions, and responsibilities of primary and support agencies to ensure a mutual understanding and a coordinated action plan is implemented with appropriate agencies within the Western Cape.

The Department of Provincial and Legal Government Notice 143 of 2003: Manual of Incidents Involving Chemical and Biological Agents or Radio-Active Materials classify in a manner that will indicate the level of response required to manage a specific incident. The Concept of Operation is, therefore, entirely based on this document.

The Western Cape Government's Chief Directorate Disaster Management and Fire & Rescue Services directs each municipality, department, and agency to study the PHMERP and prepare or update, as needed, the supporting plans and operating procedures required to implement the PHMERP in the event of a hazardous material event.

The Western Cape Government's Chief Directorate Disaster Management and Fire & Rescue Services is responsible for publishing and distributing this PHMERP and will issue changes as required. See below image of Western Cape Government Provincial Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan (PHMERP) front cover: -



Figure 87: Western Cape Hazmat Response Plan 2021-2022

6.9 The Fire Station Survey App

To assess the status of fire stations in the Western Cape, the Fire Services of the Western Cape Government (WCG) developed an application to assist in undertaking this assessment. The application was developed in the Environmental Systems Research Institution (ESRI) environment of the WCG and captured the following information pertaining to fire stations in the province:

- Location;
- Available Resources;
- Fire Fighting Resources;
- Hazardous Materials Resources;
- Search and Rescue Resources;
- Special Risk Areas;
- Top Callouts; &
- Photos of resources and structures.

The App contains two components, namely:

- The Collector Smartphone App, which is based on ArcGIS-Survey123, being open access software hosted by Environmental Systems Research Institute (“Esri”); and
- The desktop component is also based on ArcGIS: Fire Service area assessment, allowing viewing and modelling information captured via the mobile application.



Figure 88: Fire Station Survey App

6.10 Fire Prevention, Education & Awareness

Fire Prevention is a statutory function of Fire & Rescue Services. Fire Prevention, or Fire Safety as it may also be referred to, aims to educate the public on precautions to prevent fires and enforce codes and relevant legislation. It is a proactive method to reduce fires and the associated damage and loss of life. Each year the WCG focuses on new ideas for awareness campaigns to educate the public on fire safety and prevention to reduce the risk of fires and save lives in the Western Cape.

6.10.1 Fire Awareness Campaign: Fire Safely

The Fire Safely campaign is a proactive approach which focuses on three key elements namely: Be alert, BESAFE, be prepared.

The focus was also kept on the existing B.E.S.A.F.E programme, but with a slight twist to not steer away from programmes already in place.

The Basic Emergencies, Safety and Fire Education (B.E.S.A.F.E.) programme is a fire safety and disaster

preparedness curriculum containing lesson plans for educators. It is designed to help children and families create safer homes and communities by teaching them the skills and knowledge they need to make positive choices about their personal safety and well-being. The BESAFE programme seeks to prevent the major, unintentional injuries that threaten children in South Africa.

See below a few images from our WCG website on our Fire Safely Campaign & our BESAFE campaign: -



Figure 89: Fire Safety Campaign



Figure 90: BESAFE Campaign

6.11 PROVINCIAL MUTUAL AID

There was a request from the Chief Fire Officer's Committee meeting and the Provincial Fire Workgroup that the Mutual Aid Agreement between various District Municipalities, and the City of Cape Town with the Provincial Government be readdressed. The below content refers to the reviewed and finalised Mutual Aid Agreement:

6.11.1 Mutual Aid Concept

Mutual aid is the voluntary sharing of personnel and resources when an agency cannot deploy its resources sufficiently to respond to an unusual occurrence. The affected agency requests resources through the Western Cape Provincial Mutual Aid Agreement. This cooperative system may be executed on a local, district, metropolitan and provincial basis. The Western Cape

has been divided into six mutual aid regions to apply, administer, and coordinate mutual aid more effectively. Mutual aid can become mandatory following provincial

and national disaster declarations. Generally, there is no reimbursement for providing mutual aid.

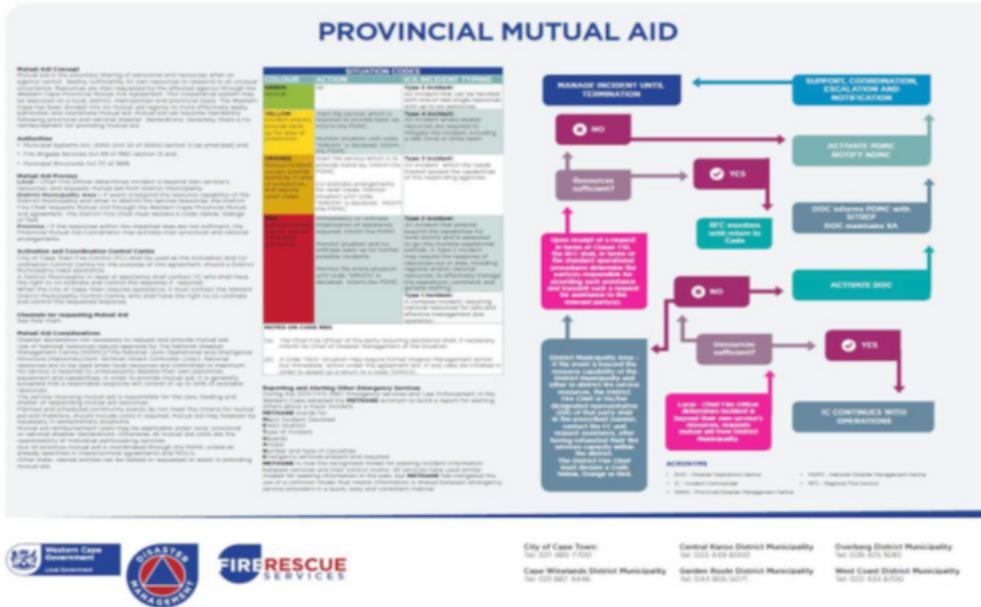


Figure 91: Provincial Mutual Aid

6.12 FIRE SERVICE CAPACITY BUILDING

response capacity along the major routes and firefighting capacity across the province. The WC: PDMC provided the following funding during the reporting year:

The Fire Service Capacity Building initiative aims to provide funds to municipalities for hazardous material

MUNICIPALITY	PROVINCIAL GAZETTE	PROJECT MANAGER	PROJECT NAME
West Coast District Municipality Langeberg Municipality Mossel Bay Municipality	8566 dated 14 March 2022	Bertus Senekal Nkosinathi Mdluli Joseph Johnston	To ensure functional emergency communication, mobilisation systems and Fire Services
Breede Valley		Theo Botha	Maintenance of Sort Vehicle

Table 17: Fire Service Capacity Building

6.13 UNDAC Deployment to Turkey Earthquake

Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC), part of the international emergency response system for sudden onset in response to the massive earthquake in Turkey and Syria that left more than 5,860 people deceased

and more than 20,000 injured, Mr M. Marthinus Rust has joined the UN Delegation to assist with the disaster relief efforts. Mr M. Rust was the only South African selected to participate through the United Nations Disaster emergencies. He attended UNDAC Training in Kenya two years ago and subsequent training in Cyprus, gaining valuable experience in the global crisis and disaster coordination.

The earthquake, which hit near the town of Gaziantep, was closely followed by numerous aftershocks - including one quake, which was almost as large as the first. It was a large-scale earthquake - registered as 7.8,

classified as “major” on the official magnitude scale. It broke along about 100km (62 miles) of the fault line, causing severe damage to buildings near the fault. See below images of Mr M. Rust, the sleeping quarters where



Figure 92: 2022 Africa UNDAC deployment to Turkey Earthquake

the Incident Command Team (IMT) stayed and of the map of the location affected:

ensure everything runs smoothly and that each team member knows their role and responsibilities.

6.14 Bidding farewell to the City of Cape Town Fire Chief

During 2022 we bid farewell to Mr Ian Schnetler, Chief Fire Officer: City of Cape Town. The commitment and legacy of the firefighting fraternity will bear fruit for generations.

Over the years, Mr Ian Schnetler has served in different positions at several fire stations across the City. However, he said, the two years spent as a training officer from 1986 were some of his best years in the service.

Cape Town’s Fire Chief, Mr Ian Schnetler, joined the fire department a day after writing his final matric exam on December 3, 1979, and the rookie faced his first big fire - a double-storey house in Tamboerskloof - a few weeks later, on New Year’s Eve.

“Besides active firefighting, that was probably the best time of my career because you could teach people and see that they were learning.” Mr Schnetler was appointed Cape Town’s fire chief on April 1, 2007.

Mr Schnetler, of Edgemoed, is now retiring after 43 years with the department. After completing his formal training, in 1980, Mr Schnetler was stationed at the Wynberg fire station for four years. He was promoted to fire officer in 1985 as the youngest officer in Cape Town. Fire officers are responsible for the internal organisation of the fire department. It’s up to them to

“I’ve had the honour and privilege of managing one of the best fire services in the country at the moment for the past 15 years,” he said. He said the position had been quite challenging initially, but he had been supported by a knowledgeable team that had helped ease the load. The success of a fire service department depends not on the station chief, but on the entire staff, he said. Mr Schnetler said he had lived his dream and would miss the fire services, but he is also looking forward to enjoying a Cape Town summer, which is usually one of the fire department’s busiest times of the year. See below image of Mr. Ian Schnetler:



Figure 93: Retirement of Mr. Ian Schnetler of City of Cape Town

6.15 Development of Special Operations Response Capacity

Special Operations Response Teams provide specialised tactical intervention for many incidents. This is an essential component of the Provincial and National response strategy. The objective of this project is, first and foremost, to develop and maintain a specialised response capability in the Western Cape.

To this end, the Provincial Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan (PHMERP) was developed and circulated to all Fire Services within the Western Cape.

The response plan is an integrated and coordinated Western Cape Provincial Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan (PHMERP) that focuses on mitigating the

severity of incidents, emergency preparedness, rapid and effective response to incidents and post-incident recovery and rehabilitation.

The Dangerous Goods Working Group of the Western Cape Chief Fire Officer's Committee developed the Provincial Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan (PHMERP) to identify and implement hazardous materials emergency preparedness and response responsibilities per the Western Cape Disaster Management Framework, Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act no 57 of 2002) as well as The National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998).

The PHMERP details the purpose, policy, concept of operations, direction/control, actions, and responsibilities of primary and support agencies to ensure a mutual understanding and a coordinated action plan is implemented with appropriate agencies within the Western Cape.



Figure 94: Provincial Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan Logo

6.16 Western Cape Strategic Framework: Fire and Burn Injury Prevention

The Western Cape Strategic Framework for Fire and Burn Injury Prevention has been developed to support and prioritise programmes to help prevent fires and burn injuries in the Western Cape. This framework is a strategic effort toward changing critical environmental, social, and behavioural factors contributing to the cause of fires and burns. The Strategic Framework highlights evidence-led recommendations to the Western Cape Local Government Department on developed operational plans for fire and burn injury prevention interventions. The framework draws on the public health and disaster risk perspectives, which have been successfully applied across settings to integrate the efforts of multiple sectors in the implementation of evidence-led injury prevention strategies.

The framework highlights the most common fire and burns injury settings and affected populations in the Western Cape. While it targets the prevention of risk factors specific to these priority groups and settings, it also emphasises the promotion of supportive institutional factors.

This framework is at the forefront of the coordinating role of the WCDLG, which manages the Department of Fire and Rescue Services tasked with controlling fires. The WCDLG, however, does not hold the sole mandate for preventing burns or managing their consequences. As informed by the framework, the advocated campaigns in terms of the above project are Fire and Life Safety Awareness and the Smoke Alarm projects.

6.16.1 Fire and Life Safety

This project developed from the recognition that fire-related injuries significantly contribute to premature death, disability, harm, and loss of property to the citizens of South Africa. It emphasises preventing fire-related injuries before they occur. It further highlights the need to bring together government departments to strengthen the implementation of evidence-based fire safety and injury prevention interventions through strategic, evidence-led and coordinated efforts to

change the social, behavioural, and environmental factors that cause fire injuries. Integral to this is the development of effective policies and identification of evidence-based programmes to be implemented that contribute to reducing fire-related deaths and injuries.

Furthermore, this project integrates the efforts of diverse scientific disciplines, organisations and communities. It implies that the combined participation of the government is essential for successful and sustained fire prevention efforts at all levels of society. The prevention of fire deaths and injury, for which there is no single solution, requires a concerted and coordinated inter-sectorial response. During the reporting year, public awareness material was disseminated across the province to various stakeholders, including municipalities, schools, South Africa Lifesaving, Cape Nature, and Working on Fire, to name a few.

6.16.2 Smoke Alarm Campaign

The project's main objective is to identify, purchase and install the most appropriate smoke alarm for high-risk environments and occupancies. Municipal Fire and Rescue Services staff will develop operational guidelines for the individual smoke alarm installation programmes consistent with the municipality's fire prevention policy. The activities associated with the smoke alarm installation programme include a combination of the following:

- Providing smoke alarm and home fire escape planning information;
- Providing or replacing smoke alarms and/or batteries;
- Promoting regular testing and maintenance of smoke alarms;
- Encouraging residents to regularly maintain their smoke alarms;
- Educating residents about the smoke alarms;
- Effectively tracking and evaluating the smoke alarm installation programme; and
- Modifying the programme where necessary to ensure success.

The aim was to optimise prospects for improving the sustainability of the project interventions. The project will promote institutional and financial sustainability by focusing project outputs and activities on strengthening

local municipalities' capacities to manage the strategic Framework's implementation effectively. It will primarily achieve this by supporting the capability of local Fire and Rescue Services to establish and maintain a functional capacity that identifies high-risk communities, implements the interventions, and monitors and evaluates the impact.

Based on the above requirements, the following municipalities and entities were assisted with smoke alarms over the past financial year:



Figure 95: Smoke alarm project: Garden Route DM

ENTITIES	AMOUNT OF SMOKE ALARMS
Garden Route District Municipality	1000

Table 18: Entities Assisted with Smoke Alarms

The following municipalities were provided with financial support to increase their fire safety capacity:

MUNICIPALITY	AMOUNT	CAPACITY BUILDING RESOURCE DETAILS
West Coast	821 000	Procurement of firefighting appliances, Hazardous Materials and Response capacity
Mossel Bay	824 000	Procurement of firefighting appliances, Hazardous Materials and Response capacity
Langeberg	821000	Procurement of firefighting appliances, Hazardous Materials and Response capacity

Table 19: Fire Service Capacity Building Grant Allocation

MUNICIPALITY	AMOUNT	CAPACITY BUILDING RESOURCE DETAILS
Breede Valley	118 000	Maintenance of Sort Vehicle

Table 20 Disaster Management Grant Allocation

Western Cape Government: Local Government

Chief Directorate: Disaster Management & Fire Rescue Services

Address: Tygerberg Hospital, Francie Van Zyl Drive, Parow, 7530

Postal Address: Disaster Management Centre, Private Bag X3, Sanlamhof, 7532

Tel: +27 21 937 6300 Fax: +27 21 931 9031

Email: disaster.management@westerncape.gov.za

www.westerncape.gov.za



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