



MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT

July – September 2024/25

28 OCTOBER 2024

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AGOA	Africa Growth and Opportunity Act
AI	Artificial Intelligence
CDSF	Community Development Special Fund
CLEAR AA	Centre for Learning on Evaluation and Results for Anglophone Africa
CP	Country Programme on Population and Development
CPs	Country Programmes
CSO	Central Statistics Office
DOAG	Development Objective Grant Agreement
EU	European Union
GET.invest	Global Energy Transformation [invest initiative]
GET.transform	Global Energy Transformation [transform initiative]
GoE	Government of Eswatini
HMCS	His Majesty's Correctional Services
IATI	International Aid Transparency Initiative
ICPD PoA	International Conference on Population & Development Programme of Action
IP	Internet Protocol
ITC	International Trade Centre
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MCC	Millennium Challenge Corporation
MICT	Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology
MLSS	Ministry of Labour and Social Security
MoET	Ministry of Education and Training
MOET	Ministry of Education and Training
MPCU	Microprojects Programme Coordinating Unit
MS	Member States
NDP	National Development Plan
NDS	National Development Strategy
NNR	Voluntary National Review
NPP	National Population Policy
NPU	National Population Unit
NTA	National Transfer Accounts
PEPFAR	President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
PFM	Public Financial Management
PPCU	Public Programme Coordinating Unit
PRMED	Poverty Reduction, Monitoring and Evaluation Division
PRSAP	Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Programme
PRSAP	Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Plan
PSHACC	Public Sector HIV/AIDS Coordinating Committee
RDF	Regional Development Fund
RDT	Regional Development Team

RISDP	Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan
ROC	Republic of China
RSTP	Royal Eswatini Technology Park
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SSDIG	Strategy for Sustainable Development and Inclusive Growth
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs
UNESWA	University of Eswatini
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
USA	United States of America
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VLR	Voluntary Local Review
VLR	Voluntary Local Review
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WHDP	Water Harvesting and Small Medium Dams Project
WHDP	Water Harvesting and Small Medium Dams Project
WiFi	Wireless Fidelity
WPD	World Population Day

1. PREAMBLE



1.1 Introduction

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity you have given me to present to this august house, the quarterly performance report of the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development (MEPD) for the second quarter of the fiscal year 2024/25. This report presents the Ministry’s performance during this quarter, evaluating it in terms of achievements and challenges encountered.

1.2 Recent Economic Developments

Honourable Chairperson, economic indicators have depicted a positive trajectory in the quarter under review. This is mainly on the back of moderating inflationary pressures, which has contributed to an improvement in global commodity markets, thus boosting export oriented sectors of the domestic economy, with exports growing by **12.1 percent**. Moreover, the adjustment of wages in an effort to cushion consumers against higher costs of living supported consumption during this period. In the medium term, growth prospects remain positive for the domestic economy. Growth in this period will mainly be driven by expansions in the manufacturing, mining, growing of sugarcane as well as the Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) sectors. Additionally, the construction of large public and private capital projects such as the Mkhondvo-Ngwavuma Water Augmentation projects (MNWAP) is also expected to boost growth. However, in view of the country’s openness to trade, external economic shocks and climate change remain a major threat to the country’s growth prospects.

Honourable Chairperson, following the elevated inflationary pressures observed in the past 2 years (2022 and 2023) in the global economy as a result of heightened geopolitical tensions and supply chain disruptions, domestic prices have stabilized, owing to moderating food and fuel prices. Hence, headline inflation averaged **4.2 percent** in the first 8 months of 2024 relative to **5.3 percent** in the same period last year. The fall in inflation is expected to continue in the short-to-medium term on account of the anticipated appreciation of the exchange rate and the fall in global fuel prices. This is likely to lead to the loosening of the monetary policy stance, which is expected to increase investment and further boost growth in the medium term.

Looking into the global and regional space, chairperson, the global economy is projected to grow by 3.2 percent in 2024, on account of the moderating inflationary pressures as well as resilience in the major economies such as the United States and some of the Emerging markets and Developing economies. Regionally, South Africa is projected to grow by 0.9 percent in 2024 relative to 0.6 percent in 2023, owing to the waning effects of load-shedding.

1.3 Key Activities Completed

Honourable Chairperson, I am pleased to report exciting developments in the mobilization of external grants to support the development of this country.

We have signed a US\$80,909,509 (about E1,425,204,819.00) additional grant with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to extend support of the multi-sectoral response to HIV/AIDS from 31 March 2024 to 1 October 2026.

We have also signed a JPY 1,613,000,000 (about E190,127,536) grant with the Government of Japan to finance the Improvement of Secondary Schools Project which will construct four (4) secondary schools at Ngwenyameni, New Thulwane, Maphungwane and Lavumisa.

We have also facilitated US\$1,300,000 (about E22,899,240) grant contribution from the Government of Japan for the feeding of Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Neighbourhood Care Points (NCPs) through the WFP-Eswatini programme.

Honourable Chairperson, the report also outlines government's efforts to improve the quality of life of Emaswati through the implementation of the National Population Policy. During the reporting period, the NPU in collaboration with UNFPA initiated an evaluation of the 7th Country Programme (2021-2025) as it comes to an end in 2025. As part of advocacy the country also successfully Commemorated World Population Day on July 11, 2024 and launched the State of the World Population Report whose theme was *"Embracing the Power of Inclusive Data Towards a Resilient Future for All"*.

Honourable Chairperson, The Central Statistical Office (CSO) continued with the production and dissemination of the country's key statistics. These include monthly statistical Consumer Price Index reports and the harmonised consumer price index which are submitted to COMESA and SADC Secretariats.

Quarterly statistics reports were also successfully compiled and disseminated. These quarterly reports are the Producer Price Index, Hotel & Accommodation and the Quarterly Gross Domestic Product reports. The CSO is also carrying out fieldwork and data collection for the Household Income and Expenditure Survey. Data collection for the Intercensal Survey has been completed and analysis and tabulation is ongoing.

Honourable Chairperson, the Ministry through the Poverty Reduction, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, engaged stakeholders to validate the Multidimensional Child Poverty Analysis report which presents an analysis of how poverty affects children at different stages of their lives in terms of deprivations in nutrition, health, child protection, education, water, sanitation and hygiene, housing and information. The report shows that 46.5% of the children (0-17 years) in Eswatini are multidimensionally poor meaning that they are deprived in at least 3 of the dimensions of well-being.

On monitoring the national development agenda, the Ministry is in the process of finalizing the National Monitoring and Evaluation Policy which will provide guideline on monitoring and evaluating programmes and projects in the public sector.

Honourable Chairperson, through the Microprojects Programme Coordinating Unit (MPCU) the ministry continues to contribute in improving access to social services, income, livelihoods and overall socioeconomic conditions for Eswatini through the delivery of infrastructure and Income Generating Projects (IGPs).

In the period under review, MPCU completed six (6) projects under the Community Development Special Fund (CDSF), which will benefit an estimated population of 32 010.

Honourable Chairperson, seventy-nine (79) capital projects were completed by Microprojects. These comprise of seventy-four (74) structures under the Ministry of Education and Training (MoET), a four tower and maximum security wall at Matsapha Correctional Facility for His Majesty's Correctional Services, and rehabilitated offices at Public Sector HIV/AIDS Coordinating Committee (PSHACC) for the Ministry of Public Service. Also work was completed in three (3) fire stations namely eNgabezweni, Big Bend and Siphofaneni.

Furthermore, Honourable Chairperson, under the Regional Development Fund (RDF), fifty-three (53) projects were completed comprising of forty-three (43) infrastructure and ten (10) Income Generating Projects (IGPs). These will directly benefit an estimated population of 8 730.

Honourable Chairperson, under the Millennium Projects Management Unit, we got Cabinet approval for the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the New Parliament Building and we now await the approval of the Exim Bank of India. The revised practical completion date for the ICC is now April 2025 whilst the overall completion rate is **84%**, including the interior fit out.

2.4 Overall Capital Budget Performance

Before I conclude Honourable Chairperson, please allow me to report on the overall performance of the capital budget. The overall national capital budget for **FY2024/25** is **E6,336 billion**. Of this budget local financing stands at **E 3,406 billion**, Loans stand at **E 2,438 billion**, and grants are at **E0.492 billion**.

Of this budget, the total amount released up to 30th September 2024 stands at **E2,944 billion**. Using the release to estimate the implementation rate gives a figure of about **46%** which is an improvement from the **15%** reported in the previous quarter.

2.5 Ministry's Capital and Recurrent Budget Performance

The Ministry received a capital budget of **E1,993 billion**. During the reporting period, **E0.659 billion** has been released, reflecting an estimated implementation rate of **33%**. This shows an increase of **17%** from **16%** in quarter 1.

Estimated recurrent budget for the Ministry for **2024/25** is **E 267,775,040.00**. **79%** of the budgeted amount was released amounting to **E212, 020,980.00** and **15%** of the released was expended leaving a variance of **E 180,000,000**.

I thank you,

Dr E.T. Gina
Minister for Economic Planning and Development

2. BACKGROUND

The Ministry of Economic Planning and Development is a central government agency guided by the following mission, vision, and mandate.

MISSION

To drive integrated planning, sustainable, economic growth, resource mobilization and utilization and sound macro-economic management by providing an enabling policy environment and quality data.

VISION

To be the lead agent for the provision of strategic policy direction in comprehensive and adaptive economic planning, inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development and effective project implementation in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

MANDATE

The mandate of the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development is to assist government in the formulation, co-ordination and implementation of economic policies and intervention measures that will effectively and efficiently accomplish the country's major economic and development objectives. The Ministry derives its mandate and portfolio responsibility from Legal Notice No 25 of 2009. In practice, the Ministry has three overarching roles:

- **Central Agency** – The Ministry is one of the three central agencies, together with the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Public Service. The Ministry assists in the formulation and monitoring of policies and has a key role in the budgeting process. Further, the Ministry plays a key coordination role in the development of priority development programmes and projects, with planning officers deployed at the central Ministry and across the whole of government.
- **Capital Projects Programme** – The Ministry is responsible for the coordination of the public investment programme (PIP), planning and budgeting and execution of some strategic projects, through the Millennium Projects Management Unit and the

Microprojects Coordination Unit, whose main area of focus is the implementation of community development projects to alleviate poverty.

- **Service Delivery** – The Ministry directly provides several services to the public, principally in the form of statistics and economic analysis. Further, the Microprojects Unit delivers projects for community development through the RDF and Community Development Special Fund (CDSF) as well as executing projects for ministries like health and education which serve communities.

3. DEPARTMENTS

The Ministry is comprised of the following departments, directorates and units which work together to effectively fulfill its mandate:

- **The Administration Department** which is made up of the Human Resources, Accounts, Transport, Registry and Library sections.
- **The Economic Planning Department** which is comprised of the following divisions:
 - Macroeconomic Analysis and Research Unit
 - Sectoral Unit
 - Aid Coordination and Management Section
 - Poverty Reduction, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit
 - The National Population Unit
 - Micro Projects Programme
 - The Millennium Projects Management Unit
 - The Southern African Development Community Unit
 - The Statistics Department which is made up of the following Divisions:

- Economic Statistics
- Demographic and Vital Statistics
- Agriculture and Social Statistics
- Statistical Services.

4. RECENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

4.1 Domestic Economic Development

Recent economic developments depict a positive trajectory in the domestic economy, supported by both domestic demand and supply factors. On the demand side, relatively easing inflationary pressures as well as adjustment of wages to cushion against the rising costs of living for both public and private sectors, supported domestic consumption. Similarly, on the supply side, increases in production capacities and improved market conditions benefited mostly export oriented sectors, with exports growing by an estimated **12.1 percent** in 2024Q3.

According to the country's latest projections (MFT, January 2024), real GDP growth for Eswatini will increase by 4.9 percent in 2024. Agriculture, mining, industry including construction and services such as wholesale and trade, tourism, ICT and professional services are expected to drive the short-term positive growth. Under agriculture, LUSIP II project and other expansions under the sugarcane industry will benefit agriculture production, specifically crop production, expected to increase by 9.3 percent in the period. Mining and quarrying activities on the other hand, have shown strong rebound supported by higher demand for coal in destination markets, capacity expansions in the coal industry, as well as higher quarry production in line with ongoing construction activity, mainly the Mpakeni dam.

Economic activity will remain positive in the medium-term, though risks such as climate change and external shocks continue to be a major threat to the country's economic outlook. These threats, which are likely to result in slow economic growth,

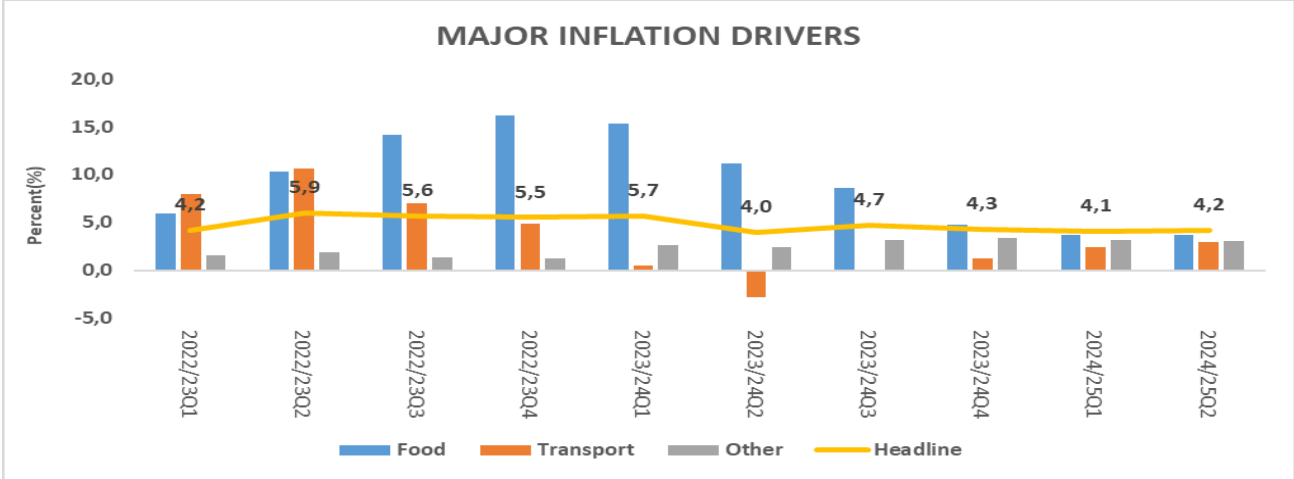
manifesting into poor revenue collection by the government, increasing unemployment and worsening social indicators such as poverty.

4.1.1 Domestic Inflation Developments

Consumer prices, as measured by the basket of goods and services in the domestic economy, reflected a slowing-down averaging **4.2 percent** in the first 8 months of 2024 compared to **5.3 percent** in the same period in 2023. Though remaining high, food prices moderated in the period relative to 2023, particularly for goods such as edible oils, bread and cereals as well as vegetables. Similarly, fuel and transport prices slowed reflecting a change of **0.4 percentage** points relative to 2023, in line with global crude oil prices. Housing and utilities on the other hand, which is the largest household expenditure item (accounting for **27.69 percent** of the total expenditure), reflected an increase compared to the previous period, following hikes in electricity and water tariffs, as well as housing rentals. However, the electricity tariff hike was approved at a rate of 8.02 percent in March 2024 compared to the 10.14 percent in March 2023.

Headline inflation is forecasted to reach 4.2 percent in 2024, moderating from 5.0 percent in 2023. In the medium-term, inflation is expected to remain within the country’s target band of 3-6 percent, which will mainly be supported by global developments, depicting improving sentiments as global inflation and monetary policies are easing.

Figure 1: Major Inflation Drivers *Source: Central Statistics Office*

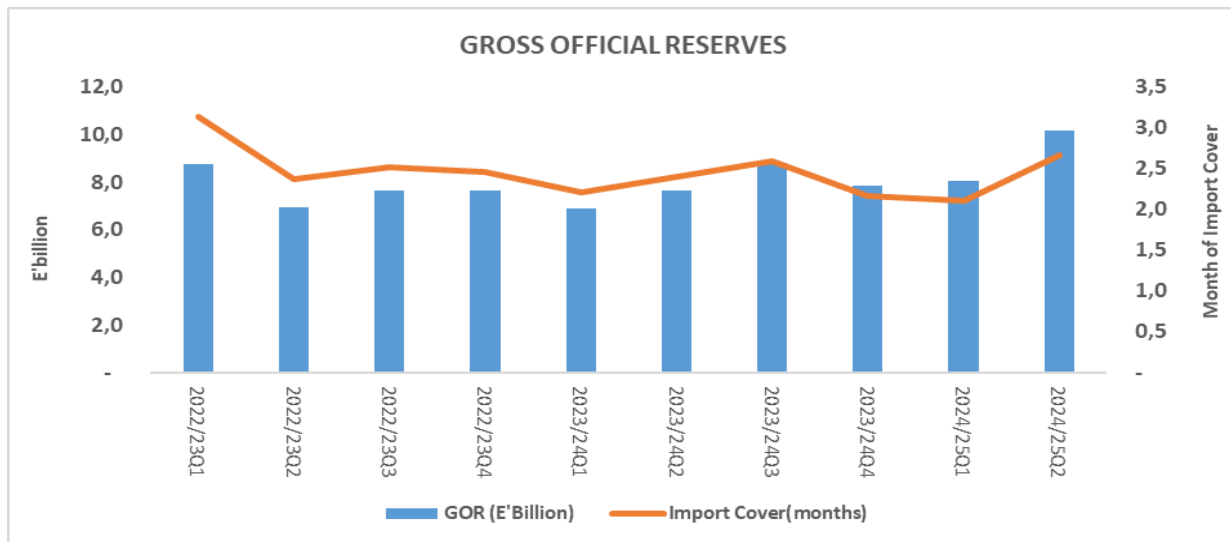


4.1.2 Monetary Policy Development

In FY2024/25Q2, the Central Bank, through the guidance of the Monetary Policy Consultative Committee (MPCC) cut the discount rate (the rate at which Central Banks lend to commercial banks) by 25 basis point to **7.25 percent**, which is indicative of an easing monetary policy stance, relative to the tightening stance that has been implemented since 2022. The prime lending rate was also cut by the same basis points to reach **10.75 percent**.

On the financial side, total credit extended to the private sector increased by **1.5 percent** in August 2024 to record E20.065 billion. Credit extension in the period reflected growth in credit allocated towards businesses, households as well as other sectors. Household credit was mainly driven by mortgage and motor vehicle loans, which grew by **3.5 percent** in the period.

Figure 2: Gross Official Reserves and Months of Import Cover



Source: Central Bank of Eswatini

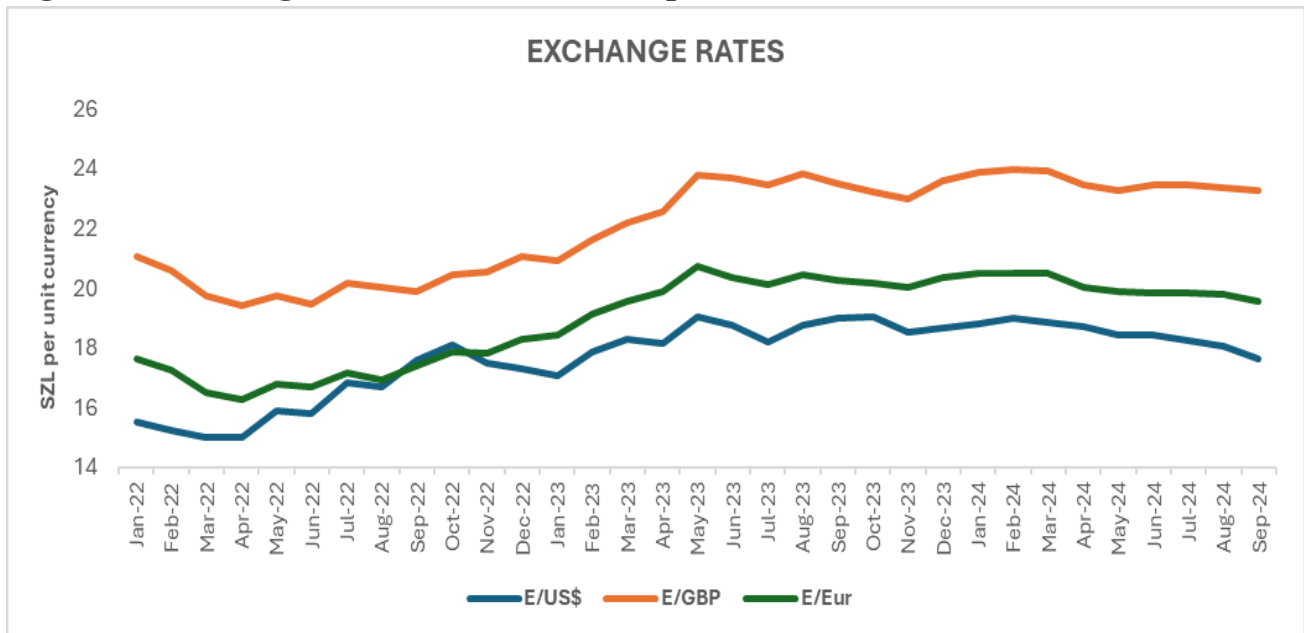
The stock of gross official reserves was recorded at **E10.140 billion** in August 2024 compared to **E8.663 billion** during the same period in 2023, supported by higher SACU receipts (estimated at 13 billion in FY2024/25). However, the reserves remained below the internationally recommended threshold to cushion the economy against any shocks. The reserves in August 2024 were adequate to cover **2.7**

months of imports. As part of reforms meant to cushion against SACU volatility, the government established the SACU stabilization fund.

4.1.3 Exchange Rate Developments

Following the formation of a coalition government in South Africa after the May 2024 elections, investor sentiments improved supporting the strengthening of the Rand, which is at par with the Lilangeni. In addition, the US Federal Reserve’s announcement on the commencement of the cutting cycle of the monetary policy, which supported aggregate demand in the US economy further strengthened the investment appetite in developing economies. In the second quarter of FY 2024/25, the Lilangeni appreciated by **0.5 percent** against the US dollar, averaging **E17.97** compared to **E18.51** in the previous quarter. Against the British pound, the local currency appreciated by **0.03 percent** and averaged **E23.35** per British Pound compared to **E23.38** in the preceding quarter. Similarly, the Lilangeni strengthened by **0.2 percent** against the Euro, trading at an average of **E19.73** per Euro compared to **E19.92** in the preceding quarter.

Figure 3: Exchange Rates 2023 - 2024 Sept



Source: Central Bank of Eswatini

4.2 INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

The global economy is projected to grow by **3.2 percent** in 2024, backed by moderating inflationary pressures as well as resilience in major economies such as the United States and several emerging markets and developing economies. In 2025, global growth is projected to reach **3.3 percent**, supported by continued fiscal support programs, particularly in China, and ongoing structural reforms across various economies, which are expected to enhance productivity and growth potential. Regionally, the Sub-Saharan (SSA) region is projected to grow by **3.7 percent** in 2024, owing to weak growth prospects in the Nigerian and South African economy. Growth in South Africa is projected at **0.9 percent** in 2024, rising to **1.2 percent** in 2025 due to the waning effects of load-shedding, thus supporting a rebound in economic activity.

5. GOVERNMENT CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Budget

The overall national capital budget for FY2024/25 is **E6,336 billion** which is more than that of the previous year (FY2023/24) by **E0.482 billion**. Of the total capital budget, local financing stands at **E3,406 billion**, grants at **E0.492 billion** and loans at **E2.438 billion**.

Expenditure

Total amount released during this reporting period stands at **E2.943 billion**, of which **E 1,554 billion** are local funds and **E0.156 billion** are external grants, while **E1.234 billion** are loans. This translates to an estimated overall implementation rate of **47 % in FY2024/25 Q2**, rising from **15 %** in the previous quarter. Loans are at **50%**, local financing at **46%** and grants at **32%**. The implementation rate is expected to further improve in **FY2024/25Q3**. *Please see Annex 1 for detailed budget and expenditure by Ministry/Head. The table below show the implementation rates sector by economic sector classification.*

Table 1: Implementation rates sector by economic sector project FY 2024-25 Q1-Q2

Sector	Budget	Released Q1	Actual Q1	Impl. Rate Q1	Released Q2	Actual Q2	Impl. Rate Q2
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	1,144,114,000	-	-	0%	324,845,944	304,925,734	28%
Education	220,935,000	69,700,000	20,000,000	32%	116,878,364	87,185,679	53%
Fuel and Energy	308,291,000	6,000,000	-	2%	299,177,000	52,048,277	97%
General Public Services	2,582,814,000	427,551,068	23,628,322	17%	962,636,821	500,217,866	37%
Health	205,192,000	89,949,870	-	44%	116,137,723	8,034,324	57%
Manufacturing	237,003,000	-	-	0%	9,536,527	3,604,200	4%
Public Order, Safety and Defence	156,216,000	32,210,601	-	21%	119,478,311	7,016,665	76%
Recreation and Culture	44,900,000	40,000,000	-	89%	40,000,000	-	89%
Social Security and Welfare	5,000,000	-	-	0%	-	-	0%
Transport and Communication	673,492,000	198,196,202	73,194,950	30%	412,716,469	399,951,096	62%
Water Resources Management	684,650,000	-	-	0%	520,850,000	165,368,976	76%
Housing and Community Amenities	73,605,000	-	-	0%	20,854,135	751,000	28%
TOTAL	6,324,212,000	863,607,741	116,823,272	14%	2,943,111,294	1,529,103,817	47%

Source: Government Commitment System, September 2024

6. THE MINISTRY'S CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

The Ministry received a capital budget of **E1,992,181,000** which is equivalent to **31%** of the total government capital budget. During the reporting period, **E659,120,444** has been released, reflecting an estimated implementation rate of **33%** in FY2024-25, Q2 rising from **16%** in Q1. The table below shows the budget and the implementation rate by projects under the Head 23, in Q1 and Q2.

Table 2: Ministry's Capital Programme Implementation Rates by project FY 2024-25 Q1-Q2

Project Title	Budget (E)	Impl. Rate Q1	Impl. Rate Q2
Implementation of Development Strategies	25,000,000	4%	4%
Millennium (Sikhuphe) Project	2,000,000	0%	0%
Support to UNDP Country Programme	23,105,000	0%	0%
The Eswatini Economic Census	1,200,000	0%	99%
Construction of new Parliament Building	320,000,000	0%	0%
Construction of new Parliament Building	60,000,000	1%	4%
Intercensal Survey	8,000,000	98%	98%
Construction of an International Convention centre - 67	360,693,000	62%	100%
Construction of an International Convention centre - 99	749,307,000	7%	7%
Eswatini Household Income and Expenditure Surveys	12,489,000	100%	100%
Microprojects - Infrastructure Development VI	40,702,000	0%	0%
Microprojects - Infrastructure Development VI	183,000,000	0%	98%
Construction of Five Star Hotel (FISH) - 67	140,025,000	17%	17%
Construction of Five Star Hotel (FISH) - 99	35,000,000	0%	4%
Support to Taiwan Country Programme	7,200,000	0%	0%
Procurement of Government Land	4,000,000	0%	27%
Capacity Building in Central Ministries	1,260,000	0%	28%
Construction of the National Referral Hospital	5,000,000	0%	0%
The Eswatini Agricultural Survey	14,200,000	45%	100%
TOTAL	1,992,181,000	16%	33%

Source: Government Commitment System, September 2024

7. MINISTRY'S RECURRENT BUDGET PERFORMANCE

Estimated recurrent budget for the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development for the year 2024/2025 is **E 267,775,040.00**. Released budget to date stands at **E212, 020,980.00** which is **79%** of the total budget. The Ministry has expended **15%**, of the released was expended leaving a variance of **E 180,000,000**.

Table 3: Recurrent Budget Expenditure Summary by Activity – FY 2024/25

ACTIVITY	Estimated Budget	Released	Expenditure & Commitments	Variance	Variance%
10 Minister's Office	3,097,712	3,325,322	1,706,051	762,988	23%
11 Ministry Administration	235,962,335	195,315,271	16,361,375	178,962,896	92%
12 EPO	14,371,370	7,616,166	7,368,359	247,807	3%
31 CSO	12,888,011	5,123,719	6,173,071	-1,049,352	-20%
32 ACMS	952,394	427,324	344,904	82,420	19%
34 POPULATION	503,218	213,178	197,511	15,667	7%
TOTAL	267,775,040	212,020,980	32,151,271	179,022,426	84%

Source: Government Commitment System, September 2024

Table 4: Recurrent Budget Expenditure Summary by Control Item – FY 2024/25 Q2

Control Item	Estimated Budget	Released	Expenditure & Commitments	Variance	Variance%
00 C.T.A. Charges	2,718,537	1,359,264	324,373	1,104,891	81%
01 Personnel Costs	33,485,682	15,272,227	16,776,813	-1,606,937	-11%
02 Travel & Comm	3,522,784	4,512,183	2,119,425	1,469,238	33%
04 Pof Services	2,480,809	1,240,398	996,096	244,302	20%
06 Consumbles	1,379,625	689,808	492,214	197,595	29%
10 Internal Grants	41,231,000	20,615,500	10,307,750	10,307,750	50%
11 External Grants	182,956,603	168,331,600	1,204,500	167,127,100	0%
Total	267,775,040	212,020,980	32,221,171	179,799,809	84%

Source: Government Commitment System, September 2024

00 CTA CHARGES

This item portrays an under expenditure of **81%**, the billing system for CTA charges is behind, hence the under expenditure.

01 PERSONNEL

There is an over expenditure of **42%** caused by salaries for temporal project employees under the Central Statistics Office. At the time of compiling the report,

funds were not released, and it is anticipated that by end of third quarter the funds will be released to off-set the over expenditure.

02 TRAVEL AND COMMUNICATION

This item translates an under expenditure of 33% reason being that the Ministry is in the process of paying outstanding communication bills. In addition to this, there will be external travel for the annual meetings for the world Bank and the IMF in the third quarter.

04 OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

20% under expenditure in this item. The Ministry is in the process of servicing its photocopiers, hosting of workshops for the wellness program and payment of utility bills and the funds will be utilized by the year end.

06 CONSUMABLES

Procurement processes for procurement of consumables are underway, which includes cleaning material, stationery and tea supplies, hence the under expenditure of **29 %** under consumables.

10 and 11 EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL TRANSFERS

The under expenditure under these items is due to system up date, otherwise the subventions were paid to Internal and External transfers.

8. MINISTRY'S PERFORMANCE BY DEPARTMENT

8.1. ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

The Administration Department is charged with the overall administration management and coordination of the Ministry's operations as elaborated under the functions and objectives.

OBJECTIVES

- Introducing sound systems for performance and supervisory management
- Ensuring an effective and efficient transport management system.
- Ensuring an effective and efficient financial and accounting management system.
- Ensuring the adherence to and efficient filing and record management system
- Improving communications and information flow system both internal and externally.

FUNCTIONS

- Coordinating all Departments, Sections and Units within the Ministry through fostering the overall administration and management of the Ministry's operations.
- Ensuring that all Departments, Sections and Units meet their targets as scheduled, and the Ministry's Mandate is adhered to in order to provide the public with efficient and effective service delivery.
- Directly supervising common services such as the Ministry's Human Resource Management, registry, switchboard, library, and transport and support staff.
- Administration of policies and the Ministry's Budget Process, including actively participating in the National Government Planning & Budgeting Process.
- Administration and Management of Human Resources related issues such as the facilitation of staff recruitment, appraisal, confirmation, promotions, deployment, discipline and welfare.
- Coordinating activities and reports as well as other issues that may be demanded by higher authorities.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Scholarship:** The Ministry has successfully awarded scholarships under the Republic of China Taiwan through the bilateral cooperation, capacity building for central agencies to 14 civil servants to further their academic pursuits.

- **Performance Management System (PMS):** The Ministry is in the processes of training Middle Management.
- **Management Audit:** The Ministry has received a final Management Audit report by Ministry of Public Service Management Service Division (MSD). The Management Audit conducted by the Ministry of Public Service sought to align skills with the requisite job description throughout the Public Service.
- **Survey Projects:** The Central Statistical Office through the Civil Service Commission is in the process of recruiting 137 temporary staff to execute the National Annual Agriculture Survey.

CHALLENGES

- The Circular No: 8 of 2018 that caused freezing of vacant positions has made it difficult for some departments to function properly. Staff is continually being depleted. Subsequently, staff in the affected departments are over-stretched which has negative effects on quality service delivery.
- In just over 6 months' period the Ministry has seen an increase in staff turnover as a result, four resignations were processed.
- The increasing cost of living has significantly impacted our staff, particularly regarding transportation expenses and their overall ability to sustain themselves and their families. We recognize the importance of addressing these concerns to ensure the well-being and productivity of our team.
- The continued uncertainties concerning the provision of fuel to the Ministry's pool of cars causes strain on service delivery, particularly in the department of Central Statistics Office which periodically conducts surveys.

Table 5: Budget Execution for the Administration Department – FY 2024/25 Q2

Details	Estimated Budget	Released	Expenditure	Commitments	Expenditure + Commitments	Variance	Variance %
00 C.T.A. Charges	1,833,820	916,908	229,166	21,299	250,465	666,443	73%
01 Personnel Costs	6,530,185	3,284,650	3,140,633	0	3,140,633	144,017	4%
02 Travel & Comm	1,477,563	1,172,037	670,137	0	670,137	468,898	40%
04 Pof Services	632,774	316,384	292,087	3,490	295,577	20,807	7%
06 Consumbles	1,300,390	687,192	244,067	248,146	492,213	185,979	27%
10 Internal Grants	41,231,000	20,615,500	10,307,750	0	10,307,750	10,307,750	50%
11 External Grants	182,956,603	168,331,600	1,204,600	0	1,204,600	167,127,000	99%
Total	235,962,335	195,324,271	16,088,440	272,935	16,361,375	178,962,896	92%

Source: Government Commitment System, September, 2024

8.2. ECONOMIC PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The Economic Planning Department has the overall responsibility of coordination & management of economic and social policies and strategies for the effective planning, implementation, resource mobilization & allocation, as well as monitoring and evaluation of development programmes, resource allocation for the public investment programme. The office is also responsible for multi-sectoral implementation of the national population policy and the coordination of SADC initiatives.

Objectives and Functions

- Provides overall economic advice on the management of the economy and related economic policy issues.
- Management of the long-term national development objectives, strategies, policies and their efficient operationalization to achieve development outcomes.
- Preparation of a series of development plans reflecting the national and sectoral development policies to be pursued in the medium term
- Strategic prioritization and allocation of resources to national policy objectives and priority development initiatives.

- Co-ordination and monitoring of the technical and financial implementation of all the development plans and programmes to achieve project outcomes cost-effectively and efficiently.
- Monitoring the technical and financial implementation of the capital budget through half-year and annual project progress reports and undertaking project site visits.
- In conjunction with the other government agencies, the private sector, the donor community and other stakeholders, co-ordinate and integrate all sectoral policies to align with the overall national economic development framework.
- Provide effective administration, coordination, and monitoring of grants - financial and technical assistance.
- Collaborate with the line ministries in the preparation and submission of program and project proposals to bid for the allocation of resources.
- Membership of the Planning and Budgeting Committee (PBC) and provide advice on the effective strategic allocation of resources among the numerous project proposals from the line ministries and other government agencies that are competing for the limited budget resources.
- Collate and analyse public expenditure data.
- Monitor and evaluate the impact of development programmes and projects.
- Monitoring the performance of the economy and carrying out macroeconomic analysis and advice on economic performance and related policy.
- Implementation of the Millennium Projects; and
- Implementation of the Population Policy.
- Strengthen the Planning Cadre and build capacity for development planning, implementation of the budgeting framework and other relevant tools for guiding resource allocation.

BUDGET EXECUTION

Table 6: Budget Execution for the Economic Planning Office - 2024/25 Q2

Control item	Estimated Budget	Released	Expenditure	Commitments	Expenditure & Commitments	Variance	Variance %
00 - C.T.A Charges	154,530	77,264	0	0	0	77,264	100%
01 - Personnel Costs	13,158,888	6,611,950	6,751,331	0	6,751,331	-139,381	-2%
02 - Travel & Comm	851,952	851,952	509,698	-71,150	438,548	271,104	32%
04 - Prof Servise	150,000	75,000	22,880	-13,300	9,580	38,820	52%
Total	14,371,370	7,616,166	7,283,909	-84,450	7,199,459	416,707	5%

Source: Government Commitment System, June 2024

8.2.1. SECTORAL DIVISION

The role of the Sectoral Division is to coordinate the planning, implementation, management, and monitoring of Government's capital investment programme as well as guide the formulation and revision of policy.

The Division allocates and consolidates capital expenditure to ensure that government programmes are fully supported to achieve national and sectoral development objectives. Public investment supports the delivery of key public services, connects citizens and firms to economic opportunities, and can serve as an important catalyst for economic growth.

OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

- Coordinate implementation of sector policies in line with the National Development Strategy and National Development Plan
- Conduct periodic site visits to all capital projects as part of the monitoring of projects so that required interventions can be taken timeously but also to inform budget preparation.
- Screen project proposals as part of the preparation of the annual capital programme which forms part of the National Budget.
- Coordinate and consolidate Annual Estimates for capital expenditure.

- Support the Planning Cadre and project managers through provision of assistance on proper completion of the planning tools for quality Public Investment Management (PIM).

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Developed Guidelines for Public **Investment Management (PIM)** which will help in the selection, management and evaluation of capital projects. The guidelines are now awaiting approval by Cabinet.
- The Division processed requisitions for capital project expenditures totaling **2,943,111,294** throughout the reporting period, this constituted **47%** actual expenditure overall.

CHALLENGES

- The ongoing fiscal challenges continues to affect the efficiency and effectiveness of public investment as government continues to delay payments for work already done by service providers. This results in delayed implementation of projects and increased project costs.
- There are missed opportunities of implementing growth-inducing projects due to lack of scope for new projects brought about by the high level of commitment on big projects.
- The risk of having incomplete and unusable projects is high as government continues to face cash flow challenges.
- Due to the ongoing fiscal situation government is battling to clear a sizable number of claims from the past year and accumulation of arrears continues to be a challenge given the persistent cash flow situation in government.

8.2.2. MACROECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH UNIT

The Macroeconomic Analysis and Research Unit (Macro-Unit) is mandated to monitor the performance of the economy through carrying out macroeconomic analysis and research as well as forecasting key macroeconomic aggregates. The analysis is used to advise government on how to pursue sustainable macroeconomic

management actions and achieve economic recovery, fiscal consolidation, private sector promotion, poverty reduction and human capital development. The major key objective is to ensure shared and equitable growth to be achieved as envisaged in the national vision.

- Monitor economic developments in the four sectors of the economy through Annual Company Surveys, modelling, research and data collection.
- Undertake quarterly, annual and periodic reviews on the performance of the economy.
- Macroeconomic modelling and forecasting of key macroeconomic aggregates e.g. GDP forecasts.
- Preparation of the macroeconomic framework for monitoring economic performance and as input in the national planning and budgeting process to ensure consistency of forecasts.
- Provide economic input to the budget process, budget speech, MTBPS, and Government Negotiating Team.
- Liaise with and provide information to national and international stakeholders such as IMF, World Bank, AfDB, and other stakeholders.
- Coordinate the activities of the Macroeconomic Forecasting Committee.
- Participate in the following committees: Investment Committee, Development Approval Order (DAO), Special Economic Zones Committee, and Trade Data Reconciliation among others.

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Economic Performance Monitoring:

- Produced and disseminated the Economic Bulletin for 2024Q2, providing detailed economic performance analysis for April to June 2024.

- Produced the 2024Q2 updates on the Eswatini Composite Indicator for Economic Activity (ESCIEA), This indicator provides insights on business cycle movements to inform policy direction.
- Presented to SACU member states, the country's economic performance, which is important for the determination of SACU shares to be allocated in the FY2025/26.
- Contributed economic analysis to the medium-term debt strategy to inform the government annual borrowing plan.
- Conducted a workshop with stakeholders on validation of the medium-term GDP growth assumptions.
- Participated in the workshop for revenue forecasting methods.
- Participated in the validation of the rebased national accounts.
- Participated in the IMF Article IV consultations for Eswatini.

2. Data collection, analysis, and database management

- Timely collected and disseminated economic data and ensured an up-to-date database, which include economic and social indicators.
- Continued with the development of a web-based online database application for the Ministry, which is at 90 percent completion, and will serve as a centralized data repository of all data and outputs.
- Drafted the 2024 Company Survey summary report.

3. Development and maintenance of modelling, forecasting, and analysis tools.

- Updated the country's Macroeconomic framework through the Financial Programming and Policy tool.

4. Data and information sharing

- Continued to disseminate and provide information as requested by Stakeholders.
- Presented recent economic developments to stakeholders, including presentation to the Mbabane Youth Forum.

5. Liaising with stakeholders

- Participated in the SADC Ministers of finance meetings.
- Participated in the Development Approval Order (DAO) committee and the assessments of applications for the granting of tax concessions.
- Participated in AGOA Technical Working Group as well as Trade Facilitation Working Group.

CHALLENGES

- Inadequate personnel in the department, due to high staff turnover, affecting the Unit's turnaround time.

8.2.3. AID COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT SECTION

The ACMS is responsible for mobilization, oversight, coordination, and monitoring and evaluation of external assistance (mainly grants) to the country. It serves as an entry point for current and prospective external Development Partners who provide or who are considering extending grant assistance to the country. The work of the ACMS is guided by the PFM Act 2017, the Development Cooperation policy 2019 and the specific agreements in place with individual development partners.

OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The detailed functions of the ACMS are to:

- Develop and implement the country's policy on development cooperation and advise government accordingly;
- Prepare and ensure effective development cooperation agreements are in place;
- Provide guidance to current and prospective development partners on national priorities, sectors, projects and programmes requiring external funding;
- Formulate and appraise proposed projects and programmes to be funded through grants and ensure their alignment to national priorities and needs;
- Ensure proper monitoring, evaluation and auditing of projects and programmes funded through grants;

- Undertake and lead on external resource mobilisation activities, domestically and internationally,
- Organize development cooperation forums between the government of Eswatini and its development partners;
- Report on external assistance received by Eswatini.

ESWATINI DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

The Kingdom of Eswatini has twenty-six (26) external development partners that reported to the ACMS as at 31st March 2024. Some of these partners are resident in the country and publish their data in the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) Registry, a voluntary, multi-stakeholder initiative to improve the transparency of aid spending. External assistance for the promotion of economic development and welfare is given in the form of grants and loans. Grant assistance remains predominant despite the country's middle-income status.

I. COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (USA)

The United States of America and the Kingdom of Eswatini enjoy good bilateral relations since 1968 when Eswatini got independence. The U.S.A. Government supports Eswatini in areas such as: health promotion and health systems strengthening; accountable governance; rule of law; economic inclusion and empowerment; entrepreneurship; youth development and education; security sector capacity-building; and trade promotion.

This support is delivered through programs such as the PEPFAR programme, Fulbright Foreign Student Program, Mandela Washington Fellowship, Pan African Youth Leadership Program, Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). The country also aspires to qualify for support under the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC).

Development Objective Grant Agreement (DOAG)

The DOAG is an instrument for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to provide funds to Eswatini over a five-year period, which

otherwise should have been utilized within one US fiscal year, in order to prevent loss of these funds back to the US Treasury.

The DOAG enables time for project design where stakeholders are engaged and collaborations established for efficiencies and building of ownership and sustainability of project initiatives. One of the gaps addressed by the DOAG is the setting up of a high-level steering committee to manage the multi-sector support provided by USAID and to provide strategic guidance to USAID on how best the funds could be utilized to support and align with country needs.

The DOAG was initially signed on March 7, 2019 and allocated a total US\$ 225,549,871.00 for use by the Kingdom of Eswatini until 31 March 2024. The DOAG was extended to end 31 October 2024 and further extended to end 1 October 2026. The extension of the grant agreement increased the grant allocation by US\$39,468,053 for utilization by October 2025 and further by US\$ 41,441,456.00 for utilization by October 2026. This makes the total grants provided to the Kingdom of Eswatini under the DOAG to be US\$ 306,459,380.00

II. COOPERATION WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION

The focus during the period under review was on the implementation of the following activities:

Water Harvesting and Small Medium Dams Project (WHDP) - €14.25 Million

The project started in December 2016 and aimed at developing 16 water schemes to extend the farming season and ensure food security at: Nkamazi, Mswati, Mkhovu, Mgubudla, Mavulandlela, Meleti, Sigombeni, Buhlungu, Mhlangeni, Manzamnyama, Nkalane, Nkwene/Nyelele, Mkhondvanyane, Mkhwenyane, Sgcineni/Mzumnene, and Mancubeni.

All construction works have been completed and the project is now at the defects and liability period with the contractor currently attending to the snags. The water schemes were officially handed over to the beneficiaries in August 2024 and the launch event was at Mkhwenyane Irrigation Scheme under the Nkwene Inkhundla.

Agriculture Value Chains via Sustainable & Inclusive Energy Project - €7.45M

The project seeks to contribute to inclusive economic growth and job creation by boosting the sustainable and inclusive development of Eswatini key agriculture value chains (sugar cane, livestock, horticulture) through renewable energy and energy efficient investments.

In the period under review, the project steering committee met, on 25 July 2024, to review progress. Also, following the call for proposals made in April 2024 for a Catalyser for Energy Transition in Eswatini, the evaluation of applications continued during the quarter under review and the report of the last evaluation step submitted for EU approval. A contract is envisaged to be signed before the end of November 2024.

Also, as part of the project, the project partnership (EU, Alliance for Rural Electrification, GET.invest and GET.transform, and Government) collaborated to host the EU Green Power Transformation Forum 2024 on 17-18 September 2024. The forum discusses renewable energy technologies and solutions in Eswatini and enables business partnerships and knowledge sharing to mobilise investments in renewable energy in Eswatini.

Eswatini Livestock Value Chains Development Project - €9.15M

The project was signed in May 2020 and seeks to contribute to economic growth and job creation, poverty reduction and gender equality through improving smallholder livestock productivity at community level, supporting the establishment of inclusive, efficient and transparent markets as well as the establishment of SME and job creation along the value chain. It is implemented through a UN agency, the International Trade Centre under a Contribution Agreement between the EU and the International Trade Centre signed on the 14th May 2023.

The period under review saw the official launch of the project at Lubulini Dip Tank on 18 July 2024. During the launch the EU donated to the Ministry of Agriculture, agricultural equipment including animal weighing scales which were used in the auction of cattle conducted at the venue during the launch.

III. COOPERATION WITH THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

The relation between the Kingdom of Eswatini and the Republic of China (Taiwan) dates back to 1968 when the country became independent. The two governments have over the years signed periodic agreements to guide cooperation in agreed areas of mutual interest. The current Cooperation Agreement came into effect on 1st January 2023 and will lapse on 31st December 2027.

In the period under review, the Ministry's focus under the cooperation were the following projects funded under the 2024 ROC – Taiwan budget:

- **Procurement and installation of IT and communication equipment at the Private and Cabinet Office- US\$ 150,000.00**

The project entails the procurement and installation of IT and communication equipment to set up a multi-language translating system with headphones for public address, to enhance communication efficiency at the Prime Minister's Office.

The procurement process was completed and a supply contract signed. Delivery and installation of the IT and communication equipment is envisaged in November 2024.

- **Construction of Potable Water Supply and Sanitation Schemes at Lubuyane, Sigombeni (Phase 3) and Ntuthwakazi (Phase 2) – US\$ 2,231,191.00.**

The project is implemented by the Micro-projects Programme and entails the construction of intake weirs, break pressure tanks, treatment plants, storage reservoirs, laying of transmission mains, distribution system to enhance potable water supply and sanitation in the three communities of, Sigombeni, Ntuthwakazi and Lubuyane.

Contractors were awarded during the quarter and some payments processed for the Sigombeni and Ntuthwakazi sites.

- **Executive Aircraft Hangar-Phase 2 - US\$ 7,500,000.00**

The project started in 2023 and entails the construction and supervision of: a hangar including a hangar apron to accommodate two aircrafts (Airbus 340-300 and MD-87); an office for aircraft maintenance staff and a storeroom.

Project implementation under the supervision of the Ministry of Public Works and Transport continued during the quarter and total disbursements now stand at US\$ 13,900,000.00. Project completion is scheduled for 31st October 2024.

- **Eswatini Government 5G Network and Smart City Development - US\$ 2,000,000.00**

The project is implemented by the Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology (MICT) and seeks to support the setup of a comprehensive 5G government and private network, with dedicated core and radio access networks, complimented by two 5G base stations; Installation of 50 IP cameras in 35 locations in Mbabane; Installation of 10 WiFi access points in 5 selected hotspot locations; Establishment and equipping of advanced intelligence operation centre.

Following a contract signed in April 2024 the preliminary assessment was carried out during the quarter and no disbursements have been made as yet.

- **Critical Information Infrastructure protection & Enhancement - US\$ 1000,000.00**

The project is implemented by the Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology through the Royal Eswatini Technology Park (RSTP). The support will cover the provision of consultancy services for: planning and establishment of a data centre disaster recovery site; expansion and operation of the national data centre; cyber security and government network security operations centre and capacity building of the national data centre.

The RSTP is currently engaged with the procurement processes for a suitable consultant for the project.

- **Deeds Registration and Information Management System (Phase 2) – US\$ 65,000.00**

This project is implemented by the Deeds Registry Office of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy. The current allocation continues from the last year's (2023) allocation and is intended to complete the creation and enable utilization of an electronic Deeds Registration System that facilitates effective, efficient and timeous receipt, examination and registration of transactions online.

The Prototype Deeds Registration System is at 60% completion and is currently being tested for gradual system rollout. No claim has been received as yet.

- **Upgrading and replacement of training equipment, furniture at the Nhlanguano Training Centre (Phase 2) = US\$ 154,131.00**

The project is implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS) and it entails the procurement of: IT equipment (computer stands, projectors, laptops and WiFi extension to cover all workshops); sewing equipment/machines; metal work equipment; electrical workshop equipment; Kitchen equipment; customized minibus (inclusive bus) for transporting learners.

The MLSS is currently engaged with the procurement processes for the above-mentioned components.

- **Computers and Accessories for rural Primary and Secondary Schools – US\$ 500,000.00**

The project is implemented by the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) and is for the purchase of 40 computers and 2 printers per school for 11 schools {2 Primary Schools (Esibuyeni, Mshingishingini Nazarene) and 9 High Schools (Langa, Mphundle, Sigombeni, Mbekelweni, Ezulwini Community, Mayiwane, Elulakeni, Nzongomane and Velebantfu)}.

A supplier of the computer equipment and accessories was engaged by the Ministry of Education and Training during the quarter and delivery and installation is set for November 2024.

- **Construction of Computer Laboratories for rural primary and secondary schools- US\$ 600,000.00**

The project is implemented by the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) through the Micro-projects programme and is for the preparation of designs, construction and supervision of computer laboratories in: Salem, Sidloko and Enhlanhleni Methodist Primary Schools; and Jerusalem, Ikhwezi, and Lobamba Lomdzala High Schools. The Project will be implemented by Microprojects on behalf of the Ministry of Education.

The Microprojects Programme is currently engaged in the procurement of contractors for the construction of laboratories in the above listed schools.

- **Ambulance Acquisition/Procurement for His Majesty's Correctional Services- US\$ 307,000.00**

The project is implemented by His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) and entails the procurement of 4 ambulances to support HMCS in-house clinics in the four regions. The specialised vehicles will be stationed in: Pigg's Peak, Matsapha, Nhlangano and Big Bend Correctional Centres. They are needed to transfer ill offenders to referral hospitals without putting others at risk.

HMCS has engaged a supplier of the ambulances and delivery is anticipated in the third quarter.

- **Establishment of digital law library at the Attorney General's Office- US\$ 80,000.00**

The project is implemented by the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (MJCA) to support the purchase and installation of an electronic library system, networking cabinet, brush panel, patch panel, wireless access point, RJ45

connectors, port switch, desktop computers (10); and electronic legal material; and printed law books, law reports and law journals.

The project supported the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs to engage on a benchmarking exercise in the Republic of South Africa with a view to determining the best electronic library system and supplier that will address their needs. The procurement of the supplier is currently ongoing.

IV. COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

Several socio-economic programs were implemented under the Technical Cooperation between the Government of Japan and Eswatini during the reporting period. These include the following:

A. JICA -Technical Cooperation Projects:

- **Improvement of Secondary Schools Project:** The Government of Japan approved a grant of JPY 1,613Billion (about E183 Million) for the Improvement of Secondary Schools Project where four (4) secondary schools will be constructed at Ngwenyameni, New Thulwane, Maphungwane and Lavumisa. An Exchange of Notes (E/N) and the Grant Agreement were signed between the two governments on 7 August 2024.
- **Food Assistance Grants: Homegrown School Feeding through the United Nations World Food Programme (UNWFP)** – the Government of Japan also approved and contributed US\$1.3 Million (about E23 Million) to WFP Eswatini to help feed Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Neighbourhood Care Points (NCPs). This is in support of the Government’s goal of Zero Hunger, the second of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Exchange of Notes (E/N) and Grant agreement for this project were also signed on 7 August 2024 by the WFP-Eswatini Country Director and the Ambassador of Japan in Eswatini.

- **JICA ABE/SDG Training Program** – the Government of Japan, through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) provides post-graduate degree training scholarships and internship programs under the African Business Education (ABE) Initiative and the SDG Global Leadership Program for the youth.

A call for the 12th batch of applicants to commence studies in 2025 was published invitng Emaswati from all sectors to apply for the scholarships. A total twelve (12) Applications were received and forwarded to JICA for review. The interviews are scheduled for October 2024 and the selection process is expected to be completed by February 2025.

B. TICAD Ministerial Meeting: 24 – 25 August 2024, Tokyo, Japan

The Ministry attended the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) Ministerial Meeting held in Tokyo, Japan from 24 to 25 August 2024. The meeting was attended by Ministers and the Japan delegation, African Union Member States and TICAD Co-organizers: United Nations (UN), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and African Union Commission (AUC). The delegation from Eswatini was led by the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister.

The main objective of the meeting was to preprepare for the Ninth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 9) to be held in Yokohama, Japan. The discussions were on three main pillars, namely:

- **Society- Realizing a sustainable future** – where the issues discussed included; focusing on youth and harnessing human capital for sustainable growth and development, which emphasizes the importance of aligning skills development with emerging market opportunities to leverage human capital effectively.
- **Peace and Stability - Ensuring Human Dignity** – which was characterized by discussions around: the role of women in peace building within the home and community; empowerment of women in addressing climate change; the role of women, peace, and security (WPS) in ensuring human dignity and human security; youth empowerment through innovation; promotion of humanitarian

development and peace nexus through innovation; Africa’s contribution to good governance; and strengthening of the rule of law.

- **Human Security and the Economy – Promoting Trade and Investment –** where the Government of Japan emphasised the improvement of cooperation and trade between Africa and Japan, especially in the private sector. The focus will be on start ups that aim to provide solutions to social issues and on using innovation and co-creation between Africa and Japan to scale-up businesses and trade

V. COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

The cooperation is guided by the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021–2025. The framework represents the UN Development System’s collective offer to support the Kingdom of Eswatini in addressing developmental priorities and gaps as mainly articulated in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Ministry’s main focus during the period under review was on the following:

- **Implementation of the UNSDCF 2021-2025**

The focus was the evaluation of the current cooperation framework (UNSDCF 2021-25) which is part of the preparations for the development the next cycle Cooperation Framework.

The Ministry coordinated meetings with key informants which included Government ministries and departments, Civil Society Organizations, the Private Sector, and representatives of people living with disability. The report with findings and recommendations will be validated during the third quarter and will be used to inform the development of the next Cooperation Framework.

VI. COOPERATION WITH THE WORLD BANK GROUP

A major activity that happened under the cooperation during the quarter was the 2024 Caucus Meeting for African Governors of the World Bank Group (WBG) and

the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which occurred in Abuja, Nigeria, from August 1-3, 2024, under the Patronage of the President of Nigeria.

The 2024 African Caucus was hosted and chaired by the Federal Minister for Finance and Coordinating Minister for the Economy who is the Governor of the IMF and WBG for the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Kingdom of Eswatini was represented by the Honourable Minister for MEPD (Eswatini Governor of the World Bank Group), Chief Operations Officer at the Central Bank of Eswatini (standing for Eswatini Governor of the IMF), General Manager Economic Policy Research and Statistics at the Central Bank of Eswatini; Principal Economist at ACMS and Senior Economist at the Central Bank of Eswatini.

The caucus was held under the theme “Facilitating Intra-African Trade, a Catalyst for Sustainable Development in Africa” where the African Governors recognized the importance of intra-African trade to unlock investments, production, and job creation in Africa while remaining cognizant that African countries continued to trade with the rest of the world more than they traded among themselves.

The Governors were also mindful that addressing both tariff and non-tariff barriers to intra-African trade—including, but not limited to, fragmented payment ecosystems, poor energy access, lack of infrastructure, lacking consistent common regulatory frameworks, divergent cross-border procedures, databases, and unique identification cards—is critical to bolster Africa’s share of global trade and stimulate sustainable and inclusive growth on the continent.

The African Governors underlined three key pathways to boosting intra-Africa trade to accelerate sustainable development in Africa, namely: Strengthening Pan-Africa Payment Ecosystem; Enhancing Energy Access and Connectivity; and Leveraging on Partnership with Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs).

8.2.4. POVERTY REDUCTION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION UNIT

The Poverty Reduction, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (PRMEU) is responsible for poverty reduction in the country which is facilitated through the country's National Development Strategy and the National Development Plans. It is also responsible for coordinating, monitoring and evaluation of the National Development Strategy and National Development Plans which integrates regional, continental and global development agenda.

OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The main function of the division is to serve as the Ministry's focal point on the monitoring and evaluation of poverty reduction strategies and programmes by;

- Initiating and facilitating the preparation of specific poverty diagnostic studies, analysis and research to increase knowledge and understanding of the nature and extent of poverty.
- Coordinating the monitoring and evaluation of poverty reduction programmes through regular consultations with Sector Working Groups, ensuring that sector programmes and projects are pro poor and are eligible for inclusion in the national budget.
- Facilitating the formulation of specific poverty reduction initiatives and assisting in the establishment of the information requirements of the national planning system and in the formulation and implementation of the strategies for data collection, analysis and dissemination.
- Designing, implementing and maintaining national monitoring and evaluation systems to assist in tracking progress in the implementation of national, regional and sectoral policies and programmes.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Unit successfully conducted a validation workshop for the Multi-dimensional Child Poverty Analysis which has been developed based on the 2023

Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey data. This is the second child poverty diagnostic study conducted in the country since 2018. The purpose of the analysis is to understand the poverty situation of children in the country. The study focused on eight dimensions of child poverty (nutrition, health, child protection, education, water, sanitation and hygiene, housing and information) and measured a number of indicators for children in the age groups 0-23 months, 24- 59 months, 5-14 years, 15- 17 years and 0-17 years. The report shows that 46.5% of the children (0-17 years) in Eswatini are multidimensionally poor meaning that they are deprived in at least 3 dimensions of well-being.

- Voluntary Local Review Webinars – The PRMEU in collaboration with the United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs (UNDESA) successfully conducted a 3-day capacity building webinar in September 2024 on the Voluntary Local Review. The webinars benefitted local government officers and Ministry of Economic Planning and Development involved in the monitoring of the SDGs. Following the webinars, the ministry and UNDESA plans to conduct a physical capacity building workshop in October 2024 to further build the capacity of national and local government officers to conduct a VLR. This is in preparation for conducting the 3rd National Voluntary Review to be produced in 2025.
- During the reporting quarter, the Division conducted a stakeholder consultation workshop for the draft **National Monitoring & Evaluation Policy**. The main objective of the M&E policy is to promote quality evaluations, which can be used for learning to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and impact of government interventions. The next step will be to present the final draft policy to stakeholders for validation and then submit it to Cabinet. This activity is supported by UNICEF who have provided technical assistance in the form of consultancy services
- In an effort to operationalized the National Development Plan (2023/24 - 2027/28), the Ministry is putting in place measures to institutionalize monitoring implementation through the development of the NDP M&E framework

and production of annual progress reports on the NDP. To this end, the Ministry has been able to secure a M&E expert to support the;

- a. Development of the NDP Monitoring and Evaluation Framework –the expert has presented his Inception Report and is expected to conduct stakeholder consultations to agree on NDP targets, indicators, baselines and data sources for each National and Sector Outcome that will be monitored in the remaining period of implementation.
- b. Support the finalization of the NDP Annual Progress Monitoring report - to engage in consultations with line ministries and finalize the report.

CHALLENGES

Some of the challenges encountered in the reporting period include;

- Limitations in timely availability of data and information which compromises timely production of reports that form a basis for decisions, policy formulation and resource allocation.

8.2.5. NATIONAL POPULATION UNIT

The National Population Unit (NPU) was created to effectively coordinate, the preparation, multi-sectoral implementation, review, monitoring and evaluation of the National Population Policy, and to facilitate the integration of population dynamics in development policies, plans and programmes and to inculcate a culture of evidence-based planning and programming. The goal of the policy is to improve the quality of life of Eswatini, by influencing population trends as well as responding to emerging challenges such as diseases and climate change.

FUNCTIONS

- Coordinate the preparation, implementation, review, monitoring and evaluation of the NPP. The goal of the policy is to improve the quality of life of the people of Eswatini, by influencing population trends as well as responding to emerging challenges such as HIV and AIDS and the COVID-19 Pandemic. The policy is one of the initiatives aimed at operationalizing the National Development Strategy (NDS), the Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Programme (PRSAP) as well as the

International Conference on Population & Development Programme of Action (ICPD PoA).

Ensure operationalization of the NPP through joint Government of Eswatini (GoE) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Country Programmes (CPs) within the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). The current Country Programme on Population and Development for 2021-2025 was approved by the Eswatini Government and UNFPA; and is being implemented by both governmental and non-governmental organizations and coordinated by the Ministry. The Country Programme is on its second year after its approval by the United Nations in February 2021. The goal of the CP is to contribute to an improved quality of life of the population and to reduce poverty by:

- ✓ Strengthening reproductive health, gender equality and equity;
- ✓ HIV prevention especially among young people;
- ✓ Covid-19 Pandemic infection prevention;
- ✓ Improving data collection, management and use and;
- ✓ Strengthening national capacity building and partnerships.

The successful implementation of the CP will directly contribute to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) specifically Goal 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages) and Goal 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls). It will also indirectly contribute to the attainment of Goal 1 (End poverty in all its forms everywhere), Goal 8 (Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all), Goal 10 (Reduce inequality within and among countries) and Goal 16 (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels).

ACHIEVEMENTS:

GOVERNMENT-UNFPA PROGRAMME PROGRESS REVIEW

The 7th joint Country Programme (CP) 2021-2025 is implemented in collaboration with government, civil society, bilateral and multilateral development partners including UN organizations, private sector and academia. The government and the UNFPA are

engaged in a process of evaluating the CP before it elapses in 2025. This evaluation will help inform the next country programme.

The evaluation is being done by a team of independent external evaluators. Furthermore, an evaluation reference group (ERG) was established to guide the process and the UNFPA Monitoring and Evaluation Officer will manage the process in conformity with the country programme evaluation terms of reference. During this reporting period the team of independent external evaluators designed and presented the draft design report wherein the ERG provided comments and feedback and the design report was finalized. Consultations with the ERG/ key informants were held to provide data/documentation to the evaluation team.

The Unit has successfully coordinated the quarterly progress review meeting attended by the programme implementers and stakeholders to reflect on achievements, challenges, opportunities and lessons learnt of the 4 outcome areas (Sexual reproductive health and rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, population dynamics and adolescents & youth). A financial report and M&E dashboard summary were presented.

ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

WORLD POPULATION DAY COMMEMORATION AND LAUNCH OF THE STATE OF THE WORLD POPULATION REPORT

World Population Day commemoration and the launch of the State of the World Population Report were held on the 11th July 2024 in the Lubombo Region. The event was graced by the Honourable Minister of Economic Planning and Development, Regional Administrator for Lubombo, UNFPA Head of Office; Regional Development Team members of the region, stakeholders and partners which was inclusive of People living with Disabilities. The theme was **“Embracing the Power of inclusive Data towards a resilient future for all”**.



The minister in his remarks highlighted the critical role of data collection in addressing challenges such as climate change, health care, multi-hazard early warning system to ensure no one is left behind.

Presentations were centered around the theme. The Central Statistics Office presented on the evolution of data collection up to the current digital era where the office is currently using GIS enhanced by satellite imagery to obtain information at household level and other methodological improvements in data collection where everything is digitized.

Students from UNESWA presented their projects where they used Artificial Intelligence, machine learning softwares to analyze demographic data. The highlight of the event was the launch of the State of the World Population Report by the Honourable minister.

INTEGRATION OF POPULATION ISSUES INTO DEVELOPMENT PLANNING WORKSHOP

The Unit successfully conducted a full day training workshop on integrating population issues into development planning. This training targeted Planners from the various sectors in government and those from non-governmental organizations. The main aim of the training was to sensitize the professionals on the importance of integrating population issues into the planning process at national, regional and local levels and to build capacity including the provision of relevant tools (Life cycle Approach, Population Situational Analysis).

The training was also done in collaboration with UNESWA who made a presentation on harnessing artificial intelligence (AI) in population issues. Participants were encouraged

to enroll on on-line courses at UNESWA to learn more on the use of AI to enhance productivity in the workplace.

FINALIZATION OF THE REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL POPULATION POLICY The National Population Policy has been presented to the Public Policy Coordinating Unit (PPCU) as part of the validation process in line with the Public Policy drafting guidelines. Upon completion of incorporating comments, it is envisaged that the final draft policy will be submitted to cabinet for approval.

POLICY BRIEFS

The unit through technical support from UNFPA is participating on a project where various African countries will be working towards producing National Transfer Accounts (NTA) estimates for their respective countries with the aim to develop policy briefs which will provide findings to strengthen evidence based planning and budgeting in order to guide policy direction. In this regard, UNFPA provided financial support for a team of experts from the National Population Unit and Central Statistical Office to participate in a capacity building workshop on National Transfer Accounts for Sub-Populations which was held in Johannesburg from 22-26 July 2024.

As part of this initiative the unit regularly participates in a series of webinars aimed at capacity building and knowledge sharing. The outcome of this project will be country briefs describing the findings and linking these to policy options in the context of demographic trends. This project is also aimed at promoting information and knowledge sharing among countries.

HARNESSING THE NATIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND

The Unit continues to coordinate various stakeholders across all sectors regarding accelerating sector-specific efforts towards the full realization of the Demographic Dividend. Issues raised during such presentations are taken up to the relevant fora for further consideration.

COORDINATION WITH OTHER SECTORS

The National Population Unit collaborated with other stakeholders on climate change training and the development of the Monitoring and Evaluation Policy. The unit also participated at the State of the Youth report validation workshop whose main focus was on fact checking data used in the report and making recommendations to ensure that the report serves the needs of the youth.

CHALLENGES

The National Population Unit has inadequate human and material resources which also includes transport and equipment for its operations.

8.3. MILLENNIUM PROJECTS MANAGEMENT UNIT

The Unit has the responsibility of planning, implementing and management of the Millennium Projects. The Millennium Projects Management Unit (PMU) is currently implementing five projects namely International Convention Centre, Five Star Hotel, New Parliament Building, Millennium (Sikhuphe) Projects and the National Referral Hospital.

OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

- To establish several projects which would promote faster economic growth and create new jobs in accordance with the National Development Strategy (NDS).
- To create an enabling environment and attract new domestic and international investment in infrastructure, tourism, and general business development.

G467/99 Millennium (Sikhuphe) Project

King Mswati III International Airport provides a viable alternative gateway into the region and seeks to set the benchmark for service and operational excellency regionally as well as internationally.

The Current Financial Year Budget allocated to the project is aimed at undertaking a study to ascertain the number of homesteads within the airport boundary that need to

be relocated. This will also entail developing a model for the resettlement as well as ascertaining the full cost of the resettlement.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Terms of Reference for a study to facilitate the resettlement of phase 2 of Malindza residents are being drafted. This is to deal with the resettlement of homesteads that were affected by the construction of the Sikhuphe International Airport.

G585/99/63 International Convention Centre (ICC) Project

The purpose of the project is to provide a world-class conferencing facility along with an associated five-star hotel. The long-term goal is to provide facilities that will be used by the private sector including regional and international organizations such as SADC, COMESA, WHO, WTO, SACU and Commonwealth meetings in which the country is a member. The ICC will accommodate a range of government, public and corporate activities including theatre, conferences, exhibitions, and private functions. The International Convention Centre's multipurpose hall, theatre and exhibition space have also been designed to allow flexibility in usage. The whole building has been designed according to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). The ICC consist of basement Level for storage and utilities, Theatre for 1800 patrons on 2 levels – ground and balcony, Meeting, Conference and Multipurpose rooms over 2 levels, VIP reception Rooms, Exhibition hall with Refreshment and coffee shop, Chamber Hall –sufficient to house AU and other conferences, Multipurpose Hall for 1500 people in ballroom seating and 3000 persons in classroom seating, Restaurant for 340 diners and Catering facilities for banquet receptions. The ongoing works onsite are primarily focused on the interior fit out of the facility, which includes the following trades;

- Ceiling works
- Wall (Acoustic Padding, Tiling and Painting)
- Boiserie/Wall Cladding
- Floors, Tiling and Carpets
- Fitting including sanitary and building services
- Supply of furniture, decorative fitting and chandeliers.

Table 7: G585 99/63 International Convention Centre Project Budget

Source Code	Annual Allocation (E)	Amount Warranted (E)	Actual Expenditure (E)
63	360 693 000	360 683 980	360 683 980
99	749 307 000	51 967 246	29 032 988
Total	111 000 000	412 651 226	389 716 968

Government Commitment System, September 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS

The revised practical completion date for the ICC is now April 2025. The overall completion rate is 84%, including the interior fit out. Justification for revised practical completion date on the ICC is that the interior sub-contractor for the high end finishes of the ICC is based in Italy and production is done in Italy hence the completion date for this sub-contractor is April 2025. This completion date includes assembly of the interior onsite.

- Works on both the high end and general areas are progressing well and these include; the ceiling boards installation, plastering, mouldings, ceiling decorative detailing and applying of base paint.
- Installation of the wall cladding/boiserie by Turri is complete in the small conference rooms and other important rooms.
- Wall and floor marble polishing is complete in most of the high end areas.
- Fittings including sanitary and building services is almost complete in all the rooms.

CHALLENGES:

- Late payments by government resulting in accumulation of interest charges.
- Inadequate budget allocation to the project resulting in increased costs and time overruns.

G616/99/63 Five Star Hotel Project

The Five Star Hotel is situated on the northern end of the site and is linked to the ICC by a pedestrian bridge. The hotel comprises a total area of 51 000 square metres. The hotel consists of 7 Floors including the basement with a total of 299 rooms. Out

of these rooms, 263 are standard rooms (54m²), 20 junior suites (110m²), 5 executive suites (200m²), 6 presidential Suites (300m²), 5 royal suites (1000m²), central foyer, all-day Café, Shopping and Coffee shop, restaurant/ballroom, gymnasium, multipurpose rooms, outdoor decks and entertainment, large swimming pool.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Five Star Hotel Grey box is substantially complete.
- The focus of works for Five Star Hotel is on the swimming pool and the cladding.

Table 8: G616/99/63 Five Star Hotel Project Budget

Source Code	Annual Allocation (E)	Amount Warranted (E)	Actual Expenditure (E)
63-Taiwn	140 025 000	24 233 759	24 233 759
99-Government	35 000 000	1 562 091	-
Total	175 025 000	25 795 850	24 233 759

Source: Government Commitment System September 2024

G548 Construction of New Parliament Building

The New Parliament Project aims primarily to provide for two (2) Chambers of Parliament, namely, House of Assembly and Senate. Each Chamber accommodates waiting areas, ablutions, stock room, digital studio, officials' booth, press gallery, Recorders' booth and Interpreters' booth. The project site is fifteen (15) hectares and situated at Lobamba.

Table9: G548/99/63 Construction of New Parliament Building

Source Code	Annual Allocation (E)	Amount Warranted (E)	Actual Expenditure (E)
63- EXIM BANK	320 000 000	3 672 552	3 672 552
99-Government	60 000 000	2 581 638	417 122
Total	380 000 000	6 254 190	4 089 674

Source: Government Commitment System-September 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Lot 1: Consultant Final Detailed Project Report (DPR) submitted and approved by Cabinet and submitted to EXIM Bank for approval and No Objection.
- Lot 2: Project Management Consultancy (PMC) - Consultancy Agreement signed between Voyants Solutions and the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini and has been submitted to EXIM Bank of India for a No Objection.
- Lot 2 Contract Inclusion submitted to Exim Bank and awaiting approval of the Detailed Project Report (DPR): Lot 1 approval.

8.4. MICRO-PROJECTS PROGRAMME

The Micro Projects Programme (MPP) augments government s' effort in the delivery of sustainable development projects. MPP implements community demand driven projects, capital projects for various Government Ministries and projects under the Regional Development Fund (RDF) for the Ministry of Tinkhundla Administration and Development (MTAD). MPP collaborates with Engineers In Action (EIA) Eswatini in implementing suspended and suspension footbridges. The Unit also collaborates with the Republic of China on Taiwan in implementing some of the community projects.

Community demand driven projects are initiated by beneficiaries while capital projects are implemented on instruction from relevant government ministries and departments. The approach employed in the identification of community demand driven projects promotes a proactive means towards development where individual communities are continually challenged to reflect on their potential and identify project areas which will meet their needs. The expected result is the improvement in the standard of living and well-being of benefitting communities.

Micro Projects Programme focuses on community demand sector projects which concentrate in the provision of clean safe water, education facilities, rural electrification, agriculture, health and social welfare, low level bridges, foot bridges

(suspended and suspension), road strip concreting among others. These interventions contribute to the realization of priorities set by the Government of Eswatini's National Development Plan in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Implementation is based on a participatory approach which also promotes capacity building, ownership and the sustainability of projects.

Appraisal and approval of community projects is the responsibility of committees; Projects Approval Committee (PAC), Regional Development Fund Committee (RDFC) and Regional Development Fund Technical Committee (RDFTC). These committees constitute senior government officials and representatives from other stakeholders.

OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The Programme is intended to enhance Government's national development efforts in addressing socio-economical needs thus addressing poverty alleviation. The following areas form the catalytic interventions:

- (i) Improved access to social infrastructure through increased number of completed infrastructure projects;
- (ii) Empowerment of local communities through training and full involvement of Project Committees in projects implementation;
- (iii) Implementation of infrastructure and income generating projects implemented under the RDF; and
- (iv) Construction of capital projects under various Government Ministries.

ACHIEVEMENTS

I COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SPECIAL FUND (CDSF)

In the period under review six (6) projects were completed while thirty-one (31) were practically completed. Completed projects will benefit an estimated 32 010 people. Below is an elaborate presentation of the different sector projects:

a. Agriculture Sector

One (1) veterinary office is complete and is expected to benefit an estimated population of 10 000 while twelve (12) dip tanks are practically complete. The

completed projects will promote animal health and welfare and improve access to livestock extension services.

b. Water Supply and Sanitation

One (1) water scheme was completed and awaits Eswatini Water Services Corporation (EWSC) connections and will benefit an estimated population of 710. Two (2) projects are practically complete. Water sector projects will reduce distances between water collection points, improve access to potable water and a decline in the incidence of water borne diseases.

c. Transport and Communication

Four (4) suspended footbridges were completed in collaboration with EIA Eswatini. The completed suspended footbridges will benefit a population estimated at 21 300. Fourteen (14) projects are practically complete, these comprise of; 1 suspension footbridge, 3 suspended footbridges, 1 footbridge, 4 low level bridges and 5 road strips. These projects will improve trade, communication and access to social centers.

d. Community Centres

Three (3) projects; 2 community halls and 1 community market are practically complete. Community halls will provide quality structures which enable beneficiaries to hold gatherings, cultural and social events in enclosed structures. Community markets will enable business operations to be conducted in decent structures where even stock will be protected from unfavorable weather conditions thus improving business performance.

II LINE MINISTRIES' CAPITAL PROJECTS

Presented below is a brief on completed and practically completed capital projects in the second quarter;

- The Unit completed seventy-four (74) structures under the Ministry of Education and Training (MoET), seventy-three (73) structures in schools and one (1)

structure in a tertiary institution. Completed structures comprised of; 40 classrooms, 6 staff houses, 12 emergency response structures, an administration block, 2 kitchens, carpentry fittings in 2 structures, 5 toilet units, perimeter fence installation in 5 schools and rehabilitation of an administration block at the Manzini Industrial Training Centre.

- Forty-nine (49) classrooms, 31 staff houses, 50 emergency response structures, 4 kitchens, 2 administration blocks, carpentry fittings in 7 structures, 1 agriculture laboratory, 2 computer laboratories, 7 toilet units and fence installation in 4 schools attained practical completion.
- In an initiative to provide potable water in schools, MPCU practically completed work in eleven (11) schools. The scope entailed; development of boreholes, installation of solar powered pumps, installation of palisade fencing, installation of pumping main and distribution pipelines, installation 2 x 10m 3 steel stands, installation of 2 x 10m 3 plastic tank and construction of standpipes.
- Construction of a storage facility at the Manzini Regional Education Office (REO) is almost complete pending settling payment for electricity connection which has been delayed because of unavailability of funds.
- Construction of a double storey office block with retaining wall at Ngwane Teacher Training College is practically complete.
- Remedial works at Mbabane Government Hospital Emergency and Referral Complex (MGHERC) were attended to. These entailed installation of the heat extractor system in the medical gas plantroom, equipment servicing in the plant room, servicing the latest installed theatre equipment, re-training of the user staff and fixing leakages in the hospital kitchen.
- Construction of a double-storey operation Centre/administration building a project funded by the World Bank is complete but it is still at the defect liability period stage as there are snags still to be attended. Components include the operation centre which will house offices for CMS staff, a board room, and a conference centre.
- MPCU practically completed construction of Ndunayithini Clinic and kaZondwako Clinic Maternity Department.

- Ward 4 at the National Psychiatric Centre has been rehabilitated but it is still at defect liability period stage.
- MPCU rehabilitated an ABECO tank at Mdzimba 2 Army Barracks, the project is practically complete.
- The complex for the physically challenged at Mankayane is practically complete. It entailed the following; construction of main administration & hostel building housing the reception, consulting rooms, common rooms, dining area, and dormitories. There was also provision and installation of furniture and air-conditioning. External works included construction of retaining walls, access road, driveway, parking and a guard house and development of a water supply system. There are snags which need to be attended before final handover.
- Three (3) police stations were rehabilitated and have attained practical completion, these are; Mafutseni, Malkerns and Siteki.
- Construction of Mtsambama Inkhundla is complete however there are snags still to be attended. Re-construction is practically complete in three (3) Tinkkhubdla Centres; Kwaluseni, Lamgabhi and Ndzingeni.
- MPCU completed the construction of an Aquaculture Research & Production Centre Phase 1 and 2 including an earth dam and cultivation ponds at the Malkerns Research Station. The structures are still at defect liability period stage.
- A four tower and maximum security wall was completed while two double storey cell blocks (Lot 4 and 5) have been practically completed at the Matsapha Correctional Facility.
- Perimeter fencing was installed at Vuvulane and Big Bend Labour Offices; the projects have attained practical completion.
- The Unit has practically completed a lecture theatre with basement at the Nhlangano National Library as phase 1 of the library re-construction work.
- Three (3) projects have attained practical completion, these are; renovation of the old PPCU building, construction of police holding structure with kitchen and ablution and re-construction of car ports at Cabinet Office.
- Two (2) projects Gamula and Hlathikhulu factory shells are practically complete and they are already functional.

- Rehabilitation work at the High Court of Eswatini in Mbabane is practically complete. The scope was on plumbing and electrical works.
- The Unit completed construction of eNgabezweni Fire Station and refurbishment of Big Bend Fire Station which as well as perimeter fence installation at Siphofaneni Fire Station.
- Public Sector HIV/AIDS Coordinating Committee (PSHACC) offices were rehabilitated to completion.

IV REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Fifty-three (53) projects were completed, forty-three (43) infrastructure and 10 Income Generating Projects (IGPs). These will directly benefit an estimated population of 8 730. One hundred and eighteen (118) project applications (86 income generating IGPs and 32 infrastructure projects) from Eswatini organized groups during the period under review. A total of eighty-seven (87) projects were both desk and field appraised (62 IGPs, 25 infrastructure projects).

CHALLENGES

- Implementation has been suspended for some ongoing projects due to unavailability of funds.
- Delayed transfer of funds into the relevant Units' accounts has had a negative effect in the overall project implementation process. This also attracts cost escalation on the projects.
- Service providers (contractors and suppliers) experience cash flow problems emanating from delayed payments on work done. This then affects their overall performances in the delivery of services.
- MPP experiences a high demand especially for community projects which cannot be implemented due to budget constraints.
- Community disputes mostly emanating from land issues have a negative effect in the implementation of some projects.

8.5. SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY UNIT

BACKGROUND

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Unit serves as the Secretariat of the SADC National Contact Point (NCP) responsible for coordinating all SADC responsibilities in the implementation of the SADC regional integration agenda.

The SADC Organization is a regional economic community bloc comprising sixteen (16) member states namely Angola, Botswana, Comoros, DR Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. This organization was established through a Treaty. Article 5 of the Treaty outlines the SADC objectives and they include amongst others, poverty alleviation with the ultimate objective to eradicate it; consolidation, defending and maintaining democracy, peace, security and stability; promoting self-sustaining development based collective self-reliance, interdependence of Member States and achievement of complementarity between national and regional strategies and programmes. The objectives also include promotion and maximization of productive employment and utilization of resources of the Region to achieve sustainable utilization of natural resources and effective protection of the environment as well as gender mainstreaming and support of the socially disadvantaged in the regional integration agenda.

OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The SADC Unit has the following objectives:

- Is responsible for ensuring that the implementation, monitoring and evaluating of SADC programmes at national level are executed timeously and ensuring broad and inclusive consultations to prepare inputs required by the organisation. As a SADC Member state, Eswatini participates in all the activities of SADC and is involved in the development of all SADC policies, plans, programmes and projects for the achievement of Regional Integration to eliminating poverty in the Region.
- Ensures that Eswatini participates effectively and efficiently in all SADC activities, by coordinating and facilitating the implementation of the Regional Integration (RI) agenda

and the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) as a blue print plan to guide SADC.

The RISDP and the various SADC Protocols and other Legal instruments for each sector are official documents that serve to provide SADC Member States (MS) with a strategic direction and guidance with respect to SADC programmes and activities. The national coordination function is derived from the regional policies and programmes coordinated from the five (5) Directorates and core focal areas of the SADC Secretariat, namely; (i) Industrial Development and Trade (IDT), (ii) Finance, Investment and Customs (FIC), (iii) Infrastructure and Services (I&S), (iv) Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR), and (v) Social and Human Development and Special Programmes (SHD&SP).

There is also an Organ for Peace and Security cooperation, coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation.

ACHIEVEMENTS

44th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government, 17th August, 2024

The Unit coordinated the country's preparations for participating in the 44th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government, which took place on the 17th August 2024, in Harare, Zimbabwe. Eswatini successfully participated in the Summit, represented by His Majesty King Mswati III. The Summit was preceded by preparatory meetings of the SADC Senior Officials Standing Committee and, the SADC Council of Ministers, respectively. The Theme for the 44th Summit is 'Promoting innovation to unlock opportunities for sustained economic growth and development towards an industrialized SADC'

Highlights of the Summit include the reminder for Member States (MS) with outstanding annual contributions and additional assessed contributions to expedite the remittance of the amounts due. During the time of reporting, Eswatini had an outstanding MS contribution amounting to USD10,272,295.60.

Furthermore, the Summit appreciated the SADC Secretariat's report for 2023/24 implementation of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP), which starts by reflecting on global and continental economic trends, and the regional (SADC)

economic performance. Overall performance in the implementation of the RISDP's thematic areas (Foundation, Pillar I, Pillar II, Pillar III, Cross-cutting issues and, Strategic & Corporate Management of the RISDP2020-30) indicates that the region is performing well, with an average score of 5.6 out of 10. However, there is room for improvement, as other sectors remain below 5, like Pillar I (Industrial Development and Market Integration) and Pillar III (Social and Human Capital Development), with scores of 4.3 and 4.5, respectively.

SADC Secretariat Recruitment Exercise

The SADC Secretariat, in a bid to fill eight (8) vacant positions in the Secretariat office, extended an invitation to Eswatini to invite, shortlist and forward qualifying candidates (at most four (4) per position) during the period under review. The Unit, through government communication channels extended this invitation, and the response was massive. Hopeful Emaswati responded to the call in high numbers. However, only eleven (11) applicants met the stated qualifications/requirements, in four (4) of the eight (8) advertised positions. The shortlisted applicants were forwarded to the Secretariat for consideration and the outcome is still.

2025 SADC Secondary School Essay Competition

During the period under review, the Kingdom of Eswatini, received invitation from the Secretariat to participate in the 2025 annual SADC Secondary School Essay Competition. The topic for the 2025 essay competition is 'How can innovation enhance SADC industrialization and sustainable economic growth and development?', and the deadline for submission of top-three essay entries to the SADC Secretariat was 31st May 2025. The essay topic is derived from the theme of the 44th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government, as mentioned above. The Unit duly extended this invitation to the Ministry of Education and Training to launch it and manage the shortlisting process, emphasizing that all high schools be afforded an opportunity to participate in the competition. The regional top-three winners will receive USD1,500.00; USD1,000.00; USD750.00, respectively. At national level, the top-three will receive USD500.00; USD300.00; USD200.00, respectively.

Youth Awareness on SADC Structures and Activities

The Unit randomly receive requests from schools to provide short lectures to school going children on the SADC organization and its activities. During the period under review, the Unit hosted Ngcina Primary School, whereby 130 learners were presented the SADC organization structures, the activities undertaken in the cooperation and, the benefits of being a member of the regional community as a country.

CHALLENGES

- There is a need to align the Unit's staff complement as stated in the SADC National Operating Model Blueprint, for effective implementation of SADC programmes. Currently, the Unit is understaffed and compromised to effectively carryout its mandate.
- Eswatini is currently in arrears in the payment of annual and additional contributions. If the arrears are not paid by 31st March, 2025 Eswatini will be put under level 1 sanctions where the country will not be allowed to participate in meetings or receive any documentation. The country will do all it can to settle the arrears.

8.6. CENTRAL STATISTICS OFFICE

The Central Statistical Office (CSO) is empowered by the Statistics Act of 1967 to collect and analyze statistics.

MISSION

The mission is “to effectively coordinate the National Statistical System, provide high quality statistical data and information required for evidence based policy, planning and decision making for national socio-economic development, administration, accountability, and to promote a culture of using statistics”.

SECTIONS

The Central Statistics Office is made up of the following divisions and sections:

Economic Statistics Division

The main role of this division is to conduct economic surveys / census to measure the performance of the economy and maintain the business register. It is comprised of the following sections:

National Accounts Section – which compiles and produces economic indicators such as the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) figures which are produced quarterly and annually. Data collection is done in the country's establishments covering all the economic sectors. However, follow ups are done by field staff who visit businesses found to have not responded.

Price Statistics Section – The section currently has the following on-going activities:

Consumer Price Index Survey: this survey is conducted on a monthly basis and the aim is to produce Consumer Price Indices (CPI) as well as inflation rates or the changes in prices of consumer goods and services in the country. Prices collection for this activity is carried out in various outlets across the country. These indices are one of the critical indicators in the monitoring of the country's economy.

Harmonised Consumer Price Index (HCPI) for SADC and COMESA: The main objective of the HCPI is to have one Consumer Price Index (CPI) and inflation rate for the SADC and COMESA regions respectively. It also facilitates comparison of indices within these regions through the adoption of one standard of classification and harmonised acceptable methods of compilation. At present, the CSO submits HCPI indices to SADC and COMESA Secretariats on a monthly basis.

- **Producer Price Index (PPI):** A Producer Price Index is a measure of the rate of change in the prices of goods and services produced in an economy in a specified period of time. The CSO compiles this indicator on a quarterly and annual basis. Data collection for this activity is carried out in various sampled economic establishments across the

country in the following economic sectors: Manufacturing, Agriculture, Mining and Utilities (Water and Electricity).

- **Hotel Tourism Statistics Section (Accommodation statistics)** - This section compiles accommodation statistics from tourism related establishments in the country. Over and above the lodging statistics, an estimation of tourists' expenditures in the country is compiled on a quarterly and annual basis.
- **Demographic and Vital Statistics Division** – The role of this Division is to conduct population censuses and surveys in order to provide socio economic and population indicators. The division also provides vital events statistics (births, deaths and marriages) which are derived from civil registration. The Population and Housing Census, the Demographic and Housing Surveys and Civil registration are major sources of data that is compiled and analysed within this division. The Population and Housing Census (PHC) is conducted decennially whereas the Demographic and Housing Survey (DHS) also known as the Inter-censal survey is conducted five (5) years after the PHC whilst Vital statistics is compiled annually, mainly using administrative data.
- **Agriculture and Social Statistics Division** - The role of the Division is to conduct annual agriculture surveys, agriculture censuses, and Household surveys in specialized areas such as the Household Income & Expenditure Survey and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS). This is done in order to produce agriculture production figures in Swazi Nation Land (SNL) and Individual Tenure Farms, timber statistics and other socio-economic indicators. Health related indicators, Poverty and other Sustainable Development Goals indicators are compiled within this division from the household surveys.
- **Statistical Services Division** – This division is made up of the Information Technology (IT), Geographic Information System (GIS), SWAZI INFO and Publications & Dissemination sections. The role of the division is to provide IT services for the department in particular in the processing of Censuses and Surveys and the SWAZIINFO database for the monitoring of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and disseminates the outputs of the department.

- **The GIS section** is responsible for capturing, managing, analysing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced data. The unit assists other units within the department of Statistics by providing enumeration maps for data collection. The unit also collaborates with other government departments that deal with spatial data.
- **The Publication & Information Dissemination section** deals with dissemination of CSO outputs and promotes CSO activities including marketing the office's products.
- The Division is also developing a **National Data Coordination Centre (NDCC)**. The NDCC is a centralized solution for the management of multiple data sources with the purpose of synchronizing and organizing information to provide a robust resource for responding to needs and questions.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Consumer Price Index (CPI): Production and dissemination of the consumer price indices and inflation reports on a monthly basis have been achieved during the year under review.

Harmonized Consumer Price Index (HCPI): Production and submission of monthly HCPI to COMESA and SADC Secretariats for the compilation of the COMESA and SADC HCPI respectively have been achieved during the year under review.

Hotel and accommodation statistics: The first quarter report of 2024/25 has been compiled and disseminated and the second quarter report of 2024/25 is currently being compiled and is expected to be disseminated by the last week of December 2024.

Producer Price Index (PPI): Production and dissemination of this index on a quarterly basis is ongoing. The first quarter report of 2024/25 has been compiled and disseminated, while the second quarter report of 2024/25 is currently being compiled and is expected to be disseminated by last week of December 2024.

Inter censal survey: This is the population and housing survey that is undertaken in between population censuses and its purpose is to update population indicators derived from a population census. Main data collection has been concluded during the first quarter and data cleaning and tabulation processes have begun.

Eswatini Household Income and Expenditure Survey: The main objective of the EHIES is to provide extensive and up to date information on the conditions under which the Eswatini populace live, the activities which they engage in, their levels of incomes and patterns of expenditures, their demographic characteristics, and other variables which influence their behaviour. EHIES also provide revision of weights for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The results from the EHIES are also considered one of the important sources of national accounts data. Data collection for this survey is currently ongoing and it is expected to be concluded by the end of November 2024.

Annual Agriculture Survey: The annual agriculture survey is conducted in the rural areas of the country. It is conducted during the farming season of each year. Information from this survey is mainly used to calculate the food balance sheet of the country. Data collection for Phase 2 (Main survey) has been concluded and data cleaning and tabulation is ongoing.

CHALLENGES

- Rationing of fuel at government bowsers.
- The Statistics department has a limited number of vehicles / fleet which are old and prone to mechanical failures / breakdowns.
- Fieldwork interruptions due to shortage of fuel
- Delays in granting of Surveys and Censuses related authorities (engaging fieldwork staff, overtime / flat rate allowances, etc.)
- Inadequate technical staff (unfilled vacancies etc.

8.7. ANNEXURES

Annex 1: Government Capital Expenditure by Head FY2024-25Q2

Head	Budget Q2	Released Q1	Actual Q1	Impl. Rate Q1	Released Q2	Actual Q2	Impl. Rate Q2
3	7,493,000	-	-	0%	5,577,300	5,577,300	74%
4	33,716,000	-	-	0%	1,620,000	1,620,000	5%
5	50,000,000	4,250,356	-	9%	40,751,000	1,056,422	82%
6	6,080,000	-	-	0%	1,080,000	1,080,000	18%
7	22,000,000	-	-	0%	3,261,000	-	15%
8	70,000,000	5,960,245	-	9%	53,979,930	5,960,243	77%
9	14,735,000	-	-	0%	6,751,000	751,000	46%
10	970,611,000	6,000,000	-	1%	831,192,843	217,417,253	86%
20	1,179,114,000	-	-	0%	324,845,944	304,925,734	28%
23	1,992,181,000	328,016,500	23,628,322	16%	659,120,444	406,539,930	33%
24	51,200,000	-	-	0%	2,937,292	-	6%
26	9,216,000	-	-	0%	2,747,381	-	30%
29	171,242,000	6,296,527	-	4%	9,176,527	3,244,200	5%
30	199,900,000	69,700,000	20,000,000	35%	106,618,364	85,925,679	53%
34	106,722,000	38,897,000	-	36%	78,941,000	27,163,255	74%
40	10,775,000	-	-	0%	-	-	0%
43	261,833,000	-	-	0%	17,000,000	-	6%
45	200,192,000	89,949,870	-	45%	116,137,723	8,034,324	58%
46	8,390,000	4,119,279	-	49%	6,124,779	-	73%
49	32,526,000	22,000,000	-	68%	25,315,600	3,315,600	78%
50	20,000,000	-	-	0%	-	-	0%
51	160,000,000	55,000,000	-	34%	160,000,000	55,000,000	100%
53	704,492,000	198,196,202	73,194,950	28%	448,414,878	399,974,588	64%
56	40,000,000	40,000,000	-	100%	40,000,000	-	100%
58	1,794,000	1,518,289	-	85%	1,518,289	1,518,289	85%
	6,324,212,000	869,904,268	116,823,272	14%	2,943,111,294	1,529,103,817	47%

Source: Government Commitment System, September, 2024

Annex 2: Government Capital Expenditure by Project FY2024-25Q2

Sector Code	Sector	Budget	Released Q1	Actual Q1	Impl. Rate Q1	Released Q2	Actual Q2	Impl. Rate Q2
A	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	1,144,114,000	-	-	0%	324,845,944	304,925,734	28%
E	Education	220,935,000	69,700,000	20,000,000	32%	116,878,364	87,185,679	53%
F	Fuel and Energy	308,291,000	6,000,000	-	2%	299,177,000	52,048,277	97%
G	General Public Services	2,582,814,000	427,551,068	23,628,322	17%	962,636,821	500,217,866	37%
H	Health	205,192,000	89,949,870	-	44%	116,137,723	8,034,324	57%
M	Manufacturing	237,003,000	-	-	0%	9,536,527	3,604,200	4%
P	Public Order, Safety and Defence	156,216,000	32,210,601	-	21%	119,478,311	7,016,665	76%
R	Recreation and Culture	44,900,000	40,000,000	-	89%	40,000,000	-	89%
S	Social Security and Welfare	5,000,000	-	-	0%	-	-	0%
T	Transport and Communication	661,492,000	198,196,202	73,194,950	30%	412,716,469	399,951,096	62%
W	Water Resources Management	684,650,000	-	-	0%	520,850,000	165,368,976	76%
X	Housing and Community Amenities	73,605,000	-	-	0%	20,854,135	751,000	28%
TOTAL		6,324,212,000	863,607,741	116,823,272	14%	2,943,111,294	1,529,103,817	47%

Source: Government Commitment System, September, 2024

Annex 3: Government Capital Expenditure by Project FY2024-25Q2

Project Code	Project Title	Budget	Impl. Rate Q1	Released Q2	Actual Q2	Impl. Rate Q2
G64170	Improvement of Security Surveillance at Prime Minister's Office	4,097,000	0%	3,687,300	3,687,300	90%
G64670	Procurement & Installation of IT & Communications Equipment	2,700,000	0%	1,890,000	1,890,000	70%
G63699	New Game Park (BIG 5 Merger)	25,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
M36670	Reconstruction of Ngwenya Mine Interpretation Centre	3,816,000	0%	1,620,000	1,620,000	42%
R23999	Rehabilitation of National Parks	2,900,000	0%	-	-	0%
R24299	Designs of Africa Museum	2,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
P44799	Construction of Institutional Housing for Police Phase 1	11,000,000	0%	11,000,000	-	100%
P44899	Equipment for State Security and Police Services Phase II	20,000,000	15%	20,000,000	-	100%
P44999	Rehabilitation and Security Fencing of Police Buildings Phase II	19,000,000	7%	9,751,000	1,056,422	51%
G64270	Procurement of IT Equipment for the Deputy Prime Minister's Office	1,080,000	0%	1,080,000	1,080,000	100%
S35499	Social Registry Development	5,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
G62499	Procurement of Diplomats' residences in missions abroad	22,000,000	0%	3,261,000	-	15%
P28699	Replacement of Army Barracks	70,000,000	9%	53,979,930	5,960,243	77%
G65399	Tinkhundla Development Plan	5,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
X46670	Rehabilitation of Development Training Centre's for Women (WID)	3,735,000	0%	751,000	751,000	20%
X51299	Reconstruction of Tinkhundla Centre's	6,000,000	0%	6,000,000	-	100%

Project Code	Project Title	Budget	Impl. Rate Q1	Released Q2	Actual Q2	Impl. Rate Q2
F02799	Cooperation in Energy and Mineral Resources Exploitation	6,000,000	0%	6,000,000	-	100%
F03167	Shiselweni Network Re-inforcement and Access Project	293,177,000	0%	293,177,000	52,048,277	100%
F03352	Agriculture Value Chain via Sustainable & Inclusive Energy	9,114,000	0%		-	0%
W37099	Feasibility Study-Mkhondvo & Nondvo Dams	3,650,000	0%	3,650,000	-	100%
W37755	Manzini Region Water and Sanitation	200,000,000	0%	200,000,000	107,729,000	100%
W37799	Manzini Region Water and Sanitation	75,000,000	0%	75,000,000	-	100%
W37899	Eswatini water supply and sanitation project (Hosea, Zombodze, Shiselweni 1 - Tinkhundla)	122,200,000	0%	122,200,000	57,639,976	100%
W37899	Eswatini water supply and sanitation project (Hosea, Zombodze, Shiselweni 1 - Tinkhundla)	120,000,000	0%	120,000,000	-	100%
X50199	Rural Water Supply XIII	10,000,000	0%	9,995,843	-	100%
X50999	Sustainable Land Administration and Management	1,500,000	0%	-	-	0%
X51170	Deeds Registration and Information Management	1,170,000	0%	1,170,000	-	100%
W38054	Lomahasha Namaacha Transboundary water project	112,000,000	0%		-	0%
W38099	Lomahasha Namaacha Transboundary water project	16,800,000	0%	-	-	0%
A37299	Water & Irrigation Infrastructure Development	7,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
A38155	Lower Usuthu II Extension- Downstream Development	35,000,000	0%	18,109,672	18,109,672	52%
A38163	Lower Usuthu II Extension- Downstream Development	182,324,000	0%	19,539,764	19,539,764	11%

Project Code	Project Title	Budget	Impl. Rate Q1	Released Q2	Actual Q2	Impl. Rate Q2
A38199	Lower Usuthu II Extension- Downstream Development	200,000,000	0%	99,999,997	99,999,997	50%
A39552	Eswatini Livestock Value Chain Development Project (ELVCDP)	40,000,000	0%		-	0%
A39799	Mkhondvo-Ngwavuma Detailed Feasibility Studies	30,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
A39870	Construction of Aquaculture Research and Production Centre	16,981,000	0%	16,981,000	-	100%
A40099	Cordon Fencing	3,000,000	0%	2,939,210	-	98%
A40455	Construction of Mpakeni Dam	504,809,000	0%	107,276,301	107,276,301	21%
A40499	Construction of Mpakeni Dam	125,000,000	0%	60,000,000	60,000,000	48%
W37699	Water Harvesting, Small and Medium Dams	35,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
G42299	Implementation of Development Strategies	25,000,000	4%	890,000	643,521	4%
G46799	Millennium (Sikhuphe) Project	2,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
G50999	Support to UNDP Country Programme	23,105,000	0%	-	-	0%
G52699	The Eswatini Economic Census	1,200,000	0%	1,188,400	-	99%
G54863	Construction of new Parliament Building	320,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
G54899	Construction of new Parliament Building	60,000,000	1%	2,685,918	521,402	4%
G57699	Intercensal Survey	8,000,000	98%	7,834,158	2,552,226	98%
G58563	Construction of an International Convention center (ICC)	360,693,000	62%	360,693,000	360,693,000	100%

Project Code	Project Title	Budget	Impl. Rate Q1	Released Q2	Actual Q2	Impl. Rate Q2
G58599	Construction of an International Convention center (ICC)	749,307,000	7%	51,967,246	29,032,988	7%
G60199	Eswatini Household Income and Expenditure Surveys	12,489,000	100%	12,427,484	6,228,576	100%
G60970	Microprojects - Infrastructure Development VI	40,702,000	0%	-	-	0%
G60999	Microprojects - Infrastructure Development VI	183,000,000	0%	180,000,000	-	98%
G61663	Construction of Five Star Hotel (FISH)	140,025,000	17%	24,233,759	-	17%
G61699	Construction of Five Star Hotel (FISH)	35,000,000	0%	1,562,091	-	4%
G63570	Support to Taiwan Country Programme	7,200,000	0%	-	-	0%
G64099	Procurement of Government Land	4,000,000	0%	1,091,418	-	27%
G64770	Capacity Building in Central Ministries	1,260,000	0%	354,000	354,000	28%
H36299	Construction of the National Referral Hospital	5,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
G57599	The Eswatini Agricultural Survey	14,200,000	45%	14,192,970	6,514,217	100%
X20299	Urban Development Project	16,200,000	0%	-	-	0%
X48099	Inter-governmental Capital Development Fund	20,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
X51099	Development of Buhleni Local Authority	15,000,000	0%	2,937,292	-	20%
P30599	Rehabilitation of Fire Service Department	2,748,000	0%	2,747,381	-	100%
P30699	Replacement of Firefighting Equipment & Specialised Vehicles	6,468,000	0%	-	-	0%

Project Code	Project Title	Budget	Impl. Rate Q1	Released Q2	Actual Q2	Impl. Rate Q2
E46770	Entrepreneurship Training for youth in tertiary institutions	1,260,000	0%	1,260,000	1,260,000	100%
M34699	Construction of Factory Shells	141,362,000	0%	-	-	0%
M35199	Market Access & Trade Facilitation	7,000,000	90%	-	-	0%
M35499	Rehabilitation of National Handicraft Training Centre and Co-operative Development and Education Centre (NHC and CODEC)	5,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
M35770	Enhancing Junior Achievement Eswatini Capacity Phase II	1,620,000	0%	1,620,000	1,620,000	100%
M34099	Design of Sidvokodvo Industrial Estate	15,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
E34399	Water Supply to Schools VII	2,000,000	100%	2,000,000	1,996,315	100%
E39799	Emergency Response and Rehabilitation of storm damaged Government Schools and Public Institutions Phase I	20,000,000	100%	20,000,000	20,000,000	100%
E43799	Construction of Storage Facilities and Rehabilitation of Regional Offices in the Four Regions of the Country	6,000,000	100%	6,000,000	6,000,000	100%
E44999	Rehabilitation of Sebenta Institute	3,000,000	100%	3,000,000	3,000,000	100%
E45099	Extension of Eswatini Skills Center at Piggs Peak	1,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
E46099	Schools Infrastructure Enhancement Project	20,000,000	100%	20,000,000	20,000,000	100%
E46199	Purchase of equipment, tools and furniture for schools throughout the country.	15,000,000	0%	1,989,000	-	13%
E46299	Tertiary Infrastructure and Equipment Enhancement Project	18,700,000	100%	18,700,000	-	100%
E46570	Purchase of computers and accessories	9,000,000	0%	6,300,000	6,300,000	70%
E46670	Construction of computer laboratories in rural primary and secondary schools	10,800,000	0%	-	-	0%

Project Code	Project Title	Budget	Impl. Rate Q1	Released Q2	Actual Q2	Impl. Rate Q2
E46867	Strengthening early childhood development & Basic Education System to Support Human Capital Development	92,600,000	0%	28,629,364	28,629,364	31%
E46970	Construction of school feeding kitchens	1,800,000	0%	-	-	0%
G60099	Installation of the Integrated Financial Management Information System in Eswatini(IFMIS)	38,897,000	100%	38,897,000	-	100%
G62261	Financial Inclusion Cluster Development (FINCLUDE)	40,044,000	0%	40,044,000	27,163,255	100%
G62299	Financial Inclusion Cluster Development (FINCLUDE)	8,907,000	0%	-	-	0%
G64599	Implementation of Eswatini Electronic Government Procurement System	18,874,000	0%	-	-	0%
E45770	Renovation of Nhlngano, Mbabane and Malkerns VTRS Centres	2,775,000	0%	-	-	0%
E45799	Renovation of Nhlngano, Mbabane and Malkerns VTRS Centres	8,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
E46499	Reconstruction of Eswatini National Library at Nhlngano	9,000,000	0%	9,000,000	-	100%
G61799	Rehabilitation of ETVA	8,000,000	0%	8,000,000	-	100%
G62763	Construction of a Disaster Recovery Site	22,528,000	0%	-	-	0%
G62770	Construction of a Disaster Recovery Site	3,600,000	0%	-	-	0%
G62799	Construction of a Disaster Recovery Site	69,500,000	0%	-	-	0%
G64399	Procurement of Outside Broadcasting Studio	13,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
G64999	Development of an Integrated Online E-Service Platform	30,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
G65070	Settling up a 5G Government Network	36,000,000	0%	-	-	0%

Project Code	Project Title	Budget	Impl. Rate Q1	Released Q2	Actual Q2	Impl. Rate Q2
M33199	Construction of Biotechnology Park at Nokwane.	63,205,000	0%	-	-	0%
T52499	Installation of an Automated Biometric Identification System	7,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
H30899	Construction and Re-purposing the TB Hospital	20,000,000	100%	20,000,000	-	100%
H31199	Lubombo Regional Hospital Phase I	17,000,000	100%	17,000,000	-	100%
H33099	Rehabilitation of Mbabane Government Hospital	10,000,000	100%	10,000,000	-	100%
H33799	Provision of Equipment to Hospitals, Clinics and Health Centres	26,000,000	10%	21,587,723	834,324	83%
H33899	Institutional Housing for Newly built Health Facilities	6,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
H33999	Water and Sanitation Project II	1,500,000	100%	1,500,000	-	100%
H34199	Provision of Security at Health Facilities	1,000,000	100%	1,000,000	-	100%
H34599	Provision of Water in Health Facilities	2,000,000	100%	2,000,000	-	100%
H34699	Rehabilitation of Primary Health Care Facilities	15,000,000	100%	15,000,000	-	100%
H36570	Strengthening Cancer Diagnosis & Treatment in Eswatini	7,200,000	0%	7,200,000	7,200,000	100%
H36867	Health Systems Strengthening	62,500,000	0%	-	-	0%
H36899	Health Systems Strengthening	7,050,000	100%	7,050,000	-	100%
H37099	Reconstruction of Health Facilities	13,800,000	100%	13,800,000	-	100%
H37170	Construction of Clinics	11,142,000	0%	-	-	0%

Project Code	Project Title	Budget	Impl. Rate Q1	Released Q2	Actual Q2	Impl. Rate Q2
G63299	Electronic Case Management System	6,950,000	59%	6,124,779	-	88%
G65170	Establishment of a Digital Law Library at the Attorney General's Office	1,440,000	0%		-	0%
P31299	Improvement of Prison Facilities	3,000,000	100%	3,000,000	-	100%
G65270	Ambulance Acquisition	5,526,000	0%	3,315,600	3,315,600	60%
P31399	Radio Communication System and Remote Remand II	1,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
P31599	Rehabilitation of Prisons	20,000,000	95%	19,000,000	-	95%
P33899	Irrigation Infrastructure for Correctional Farms	3,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
G63099	Modernization of Civil Registration and Immigration Systems	20,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
G08299	Rehabilitation, Maintenance and Construction of State Houses	160,000,000	34%	160,000,000	55,000,000	100%
G50099	Rehabilitation of Government Buildings VI	13,100,000	0%	4,318,000	-	33%
G53399	Wiring of Government Buildings V	3,900,000	0%	1,310,000	-	34%
G57099	Separation of Meters in Government Houses	3,000,000	0%	70,409	23,492	2%
G64599	Construction of Arena and Grand Stand at Hlane	30,000,000	0%	30,000,000	-	100%
T36399	Rehabilitation and Maintenance of the Feeder Roads Network and Rehabilitation of Armcos and Culverts	79,000,000	48%	71,706,313	69,154,452	91%
T49799	Mphandze-Mbhadlane (MR3 Lot 2)	45,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
T50099	Design Review, Supervision and Construction of Nhlngano-Sicunusa Road	80,000,000	0%	80,000,000	80,000,000	100%

Project Code	Project Title	Budget	Impl. Rate Q1	Released Q2	Actual Q2	Impl. Rate Q2
T50599	Preliminary Designs for Lothair Matsapha Railway Line	30,000,000	100%	30,000,000	30,000,000	100%
T51556	Manzini-Mphandze (MR3 Lot1)	9,000,000	0%	4,555,607	4,555,606	51%
T52070	Construction of Hangar and Workshop at KMIII airport	135,000,000	47%	92,439,297	92,439,297	68%
T52155	Manzini Golf-Course Interchange	62,100,000	3%	12,888,277	12,888,277	21%
T52199	Manzini Golf-Course Interchange	30,000,000	0%	5,535,047	5,117,582	18%
T52370	Expansion of Matsapha Inland- Dry Port	2,000,000	0%	1,939,789	1,939,789	97%
T52599	Emergency Maintenance programme for roads	160,000,000	40%	105,260,139	95,464,093	66%
T52770	Technical Support to RENAC	8,392,000	0%	8,392,000	8,392,000	100%
T52899	Construction of Siphofaneni -Nsoko MR14 & Maloma -Siphambanweni Road MR21	14,000,000	0%	-	-	0%
R22499	Upgrading of Somhlolo National Stadium Phase II	35,000,000	100%	35,000,000	-	100%
R23099	Construction of Recreational Facilities in the Four Regions	5,000,000	100%	5,000,000	-	100%
G63970	Institutional Capacity Development	1,794,000	85%	1,518,289	1,518,289	85%
	Grants	492,204,000	13%	156,073,882	137,922,881	32%
	Locals	3,387,312,000	16%	1,553,949,748	519,099,850	46%
	Loans	2,438,000,000	17%	1,226,791,137	411,484,122	50%
	Grand Total	6,317,516,000	14%	2,943,111,294	1,529,103,817	47%

Annex 4: Microprojects - Detailed Projects - FY2024-25Q2

Sector	Fund Name and Project	Number	Number of Beneficiaries
	Community Development Special Fund (CDSF)		
Agriculture	veterinary office	1	10 000
Water	water supply scheme	1	710
Transport & Communication	suspended footbridges	4	21 300
Total		6	32 010
	Line Ministries' Capital Projects		
MoET MoET	Structures in schools -classrooms (40); staff houses (6); emergency response/storm damaged structures (12); administration blocks (1); kitchens (2); carpentry fittings (in 2 structures); toilet units (5); perimeter fencing installation (in 5 schools)	74	8 864
	Structures in tertiary institution- administration block (1) rehabilitated at the Manzini Industrial Training Centre		
Correctional Services	four tower and maximum security wall at Matsapha Correctional Facility	1	
Ministry of Public Service	(PSHACC) offices	1	
National Fire & Emergency Services	construction of eNgabezweni Fire Station	3	
Total		79	8 864
	Regional Development Fund (RDF)		
Infrastructure projects	classrooms (3); staff houses (9); administration blocks (2); kitchens (2); toilet units (3); perimeter fencing installation (in 2 schools); science laboratories (2); computer laboratories (2); electricity schemes (5);dip tanks (10); community halls (2); water schemes (1)	43	8 413
	quantum kombis(3); mobile money (1); trucks (2); tent and chairs (1); sewing machine and material (1); peanut butter making machine (1); grocery shop stock (1); truck and implements (1)	10	317
Income generating projects	quantum kombis(3); mobile money (1); trucks (2); tent and chairs (1); sewing machine and material (1); peanut butter making machine (1); grocery shop stock (1); truck and implements (1)	53	730



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