

GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI



GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

2025/26 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE SYNOPSIS

Today, I present the 2025/2026 Government Performance Report, which sets out the progress made by Government in implementing the Nkwe Programme of Action across Ministries and Departments. This report reflects our continued commitment to keeping the nation informed and to ensuring that Government remains accountable for the commitments it has made to the people of Eswatini.

Prepared by the Policy and Programme Coordination Unit (PPCU), the report provides a comprehensive assessment of Government performance during the 2025/26 financial year. It reviews implementation of national priorities, measures progress towards the country's 2029 development targets, and identifies key achievements, challenges, and areas requiring urgent intervention.

Government performance was assessed through a three-pillar framework: Execution of Plans, weighted at 80%; Quality of Execution, weighted at 15%; and Timeliness of Reporting, weighted at 5%. While the report recognises constraints relating to funding, external dependencies and legislative processes, it provides a credible picture of implementation performance and service delivery across Government.

The assessment indicates that overall Government performance improved steadily over the financial year, rising from 22% in the first quarter to an annual performance score of 48%. This improvement

demonstrates meaningful progress as Ministries accelerated implementation during the year. At the same time, it underscores the need for renewed urgency if we are to achieve the ambitious targets set under the Nkwe Programme of Action.

Ministerial Performance

Among Ministries and Departments, His Majesty's Correctional Services recorded the highest overall performance at 75%. It was followed by the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs at 60%, the Ministry of Health at 58%, and the Prime Minister's Office at 56%. These institutions performed above the national average and demonstrated that effective planning, strong leadership and disciplined execution can produce meaningful results, even in a constrained operating environment.

The assessment also measured progress against the six Programme of Action objectives. Social Protection and Security was the best-performing objective, with a score of 56%, followed by Food Sovereignty and Sustainable Development at 55%, and Economic Growth at 50%. Human Capital Development, which includes education and health, recorded the lowest performance at 37%, highlighting the need to intensify delivery in these critical sectors.

Key Achievements

Despite implementation challenges, Government registered several important achievements during the year. These achievements are enunciated in detail in this report.

Implementation Challenges

The assessment also identifies a number of systemic challenges that continue to affect service delivery. These include delayed budget

releases, procurement bottlenecks, inter-ministerial coordination challenges, legislative delays, dependence on external funding partners, and weaknesses in planning and reporting processes. These issues contributed significantly to slower implementation of several planned outputs across Ministries.

The report also raises concern about compliance with reporting requirements. Only six Ministries submitted their annual performance reports within the prescribed timelines, while sixteen submitted after the deadline. Delayed reporting weakens Government's ability to monitor implementation in real time, make informed decisions, and undertake early corrective action.

Way Forward

Government has accepted the recommendations contained in the report and will implement a comprehensive programme of reforms to strengthen delivery and improve performance. These reforms include accelerating implementation of resolutions adopted during the 2026 Cabinet Retreat, prioritising high-impact Programme of Action targets, ring-fencing resources for strategic projects, strengthening quarterly performance monitoring, improving inter-ministerial coordination, enforcing consequence management to reward excellence and address underperformance, and enhancing the quality, timeliness and alignment of performance reporting through mandatory reporting workshops and SMART planning.

While the overall performance score is a clear call for accelerated action, Government remains confident that the lessons drawn from this assessment will strengthen implementation across all sectors. By scaling successful models, front-loading implementation, improving coordination

and reinforcing accountability, Government is determined to deliver measurable improvements in service delivery and to realise the aspirations of the Programme of Action.

Conclusion

The findings of this report provide a clear roadmap for strengthening Government performance and ensuring that national development commitments translate into tangible benefits for the people of Eswatini.

His Majesty's Government remains committed to continuously improving implementation performance and ensuring that public programmes translate into real improvements in the lives of emaSwati. The lessons from this assessment will inform planning, resource allocation and performance management so that we deliver national development priorities with greater speed, discipline and impact.

RUSSELL MMISO DLAMINI

Prime Minister

12 August 2026