



Innovative Governance. Open Cities



31 DAYS OF PROMOTING A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

NATIONAL OBSERVATION OF WORLD CITIES DAY 2017

Date: 31 October 2017
Venue: Mixed Zone- Moses Mabhida Stadium
City: DURBAN, Republic of South Africa







BACKGROUND

The United Nations has designated every 31st of October as World Cities Day. The Day is expected to greatly promote the international community's interest in global urbanisation, push forward cooperation among countries in meeting opportunities and addressing challenges of urbanisation, and contributing to sustainable urban development around the world. World Cities Day was established on 27 December 2013 by the General Assembly in its resolution A/RES/68/239, in which the General Assembly "decides to designate 31 October, beginning in 2014, as World Cities Day, invites States, the United Nations system, in particular UN-Habitat, relevant international organisations, civil society and all relevant stakeholders to observe and raise awareness of the Day"

The general theme of World Cities Day is *Better City, Better Life*, while each year a different sub-theme is selected, to either promote successes of urbanisation, or address specific challenges resulting from urbanisation. The theme for World Cities Day 2017 is *Innovative Governance, Open Cities*.

The Commemoration of World Cities Day forms part of the eThekweni Urban Week, which also comprises the SA Cities Urban Conference on 30 October organised by SACN, SACPLAN, SALGA, DCOG, DHS and National Treasury; and the 2nd Africa Forum for Urban Safety Learning Exchange (AFUS) taking place on 1-3 November 2017.

Towards a South African Implementation Framework for the New Urban Agenda

In 2016, the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urbanisation (Habitat III) opened international discussions on important urban challenges and questions, such as how to plan, govern and manage cities, towns and villages for sustainable development in the context of rapid urbanisation. After over two years of intensive preparations, the New Urban Agenda was adopted in Quito, Ecuador. South Africa must now create an Implementation Framework for the New Urban Agenda that ensures that we tackle urbanisation collectively – as 'government as a whole', with our partners and stakeholders - acknowledging that

urban management and human settlements development are intricately linked to the economic and social development of the country. The national urban policy, the IUDF, is therefore the key 'framing' element for this important task, informed by our national context and priorities, outlined also in the National Development Plan.

During the recent Human Settlements Development Summit in Ekurhuleni, it was agreed that a draft South African Implementation Framework for the New Urban Agenda would be developed by the Department of Human Settlements, the Department of Cooperative Governance, the South African Local Government Association and the South African Cities Network, based on the 'Integrated Urban Development Framework' and bracket (IUDF) and its implementation plan. Other key national departments would also be involved, in particular the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform. The Summit felt that it was important that a South African Implementation Framework for the New Urban Agenda should be developed, to:

- establish a localised agenda
- establish where we are
- confirm where we want to get to
- establish how we get there, in context of scarce resources
- track implementation
- form the basis of a collaboration compact
- form the basis for report back to the United Nations on implementing the New Urban Agenda

South Africa's New Urban Agenda Implementation Framework should be an opportunity to galvanise all efforts to address urbanisation and leverage more coordination. It should look at ways to harness the urban dividend of people – place – economy, and find better ways to empower communities, including the vulnerable, to co-create liveable spaces.

World Cities Day provides an opportunity for the draft Implementation Framework to be shared with relevant urban and human settlements role players and actors, for discussion and inputs. After this consultation, further opportunity will be provided for comments and inputs with a view to finalising and



approving the Implementation Framework in time for the 9th Session of the World Urban Forum, in Kuala Lumpur in February 2018.

Link to Transport Month

Since the World Cities Day is observed on the last day of Transport Month, it is proposed that a link with the activities organised for the Transport Month be established.

Cities are engines of growth and prosperity. In expectation of many people moving to cities, it is important for cities to put plans in place to address connectedness of the city through relevant transport infrastructure which will allow for the easy, cost effective, affordable and timeous movement of people and goods. Inherent to this is to accept that cities are designed to support livelihoods and vibrant communities. It is for this reason that any transport initiatives should incorporate non-motorised transport (walking and cycling) as a key element of the design.

The transport of the future should as its core objective address the entrenched marginalisation and exclusion, which has led to more poor people staying far away from areas of economic opportunities (40 km) (sprawl), spending 40% of their income in transport fees and at most 40% of their time while transiting to and from work/home. This contributes to very heavy socio-economic impact for households and a high cost of providing of services. There is also evidence to indicate that this marginalisation and exclusion contributes to crime and poor social and educational outcomes.

Transport is an enabler of economic activity and social connectivity; and for South African cities, the objective should be to curb sprawl, and create compact, walkable and safe neighbourhoods. The compact city form (densification) enables people, particularly the poor, to access jobs, educational and health services more readily, reduces fuel consumption and provides more opportunities for social interaction.

Inherently important to mobility is how the cities develop and implement land policies to support transit orientated development. City strategies and policies must unlock the land which could be used

for different housing typologies. Linked to this is the provision of interconnected and safe public spaces which meet the needs of all community members (young, old, women and people living with disabilities).

Proposed Approach

The 2030 sustainable development agenda in the form of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) especially SDG 11, "Make Cities and Human Settlements Safe, Inclusive, Resilient and Sustainable", requires government, especially local government, to implement integrated and multi-disciplinary approaches to development. At a global level, the implementation of the sustainable development agenda is guided by New Urban Agenda while nationally, the Integrated Urban Development Framework (IUDF) seeks to guide sustainable development as envisaged in the National Development Plan (NDP) through nine policy levers. The IUDF aims to guide development of inclusive, connected resilient, liveable and safe urban settlements

Localisation of the New Urban Agenda is now a priority for countries globally, and this entails integrating and consolidating urban development and human settlement national priorities into an Implementation Framework for the New Urban Agenda.

The key objective for the commemoration of World Cities Day is, therefore, to present the draft New Urban Agenda Implementation Framework to stakeholders across government and civil society as a consultative process, which will support its finalisation before presentation to UN Habitat and partners at the 9th World Urban Forum, in Malaysia, in February 2018.

The implementation of the Framework will need to be monitored as a country endeavour, and a first report is to be produced for UN Habitat by 2019. Coordination of the implementation of the IUDF and the New Urban Agenda will thus be an international obligation of South Africa going forward.

The deliberations will be followed by a tour to allow delegates to experience what eThekweni Municipality is doing to bring about a connected and compact city.

MESSAGE FROM CLLR ZANDILE GUMEDE MAYOR OF ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY



The adoption of the New Urban Agenda at the Habitat III Conference in Quito, 2016 presents the world with a framework to advance the 2030 sustainable development agenda. Local government as the sphere of government closest to the people has a central role to engage diverse stakeholders to facilitate the delivery of service to meet the peoples' needs at a local level, while providing options for people to live fulfilling lives.

The adoption of global sustainable development frameworks was very timely for local government in South Africa since it was just before the new term of local government post our 2016 local government election. We, in eThekweni Municipality are positive that the guidance provided by global commitments in the form of Sustainable Development Goals, New Urban Agenda, Paris Climate Change Agreement, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction amongst others; and nationally the National Development Plan (NDP) and Integrated Urban Development Framework

(IUDF) inform the current term of Council's Integrated Development Plan (IDP). While we accept that we have made effort to deliver on the needs of our people within the context of 2030 sustainable development agenda, there are a number of areas that need continuous improvement. Amongst the key areas of improvement is the development of local capabilities to monitor and report on the localisation of SDGs and the New Urban Agenda. We also need to accelerate the innovation around how we collectively govern the cities so as to improve local governance where all stakeholders are actively engaged and contributing towards building a liveable and caring city which is our shared and compelling vision.

Another area of innovation is how we promote access to and use of data which is collected by the government as well as non-state players to advance evidence-based policy, strategy and practice. The desire to promote evidence-based policy, strategy and practice requires access to data. This is important for decision making and we need not to miss the opportunities presented by technological advancement.

The two areas I have raised link directly to the 2017 theme for World Cities Day, 'Innovative Governance-Open Cities', which is nationally being observed for the first time in South Africa; and is hosted in the iconic Moses Mabhida Stadium.



MESSAGE FROM CLLR PARKS TAU PRESIDENT OF SALGA, PRESIDENT OF UCLG

The New Urban Agenda is both our vision and guide for addressing urbanisation and pursuing sustainable growth and the development of cities through to 2036. In the words of the document itself, the New Urban Agenda represents “a historic opportunity to leverage the key role of cities and human settlements as drivers of sustainable development in an increasingly urbanised world.”

As such, the New Urban Agenda includes specific international commitments by member states regarding local government in the following respects: to ensure appropriate fiscal, political and administrative decentralisation based on the principle of subsidiarity and to recognise the role of local governments in the follow-up and review of the New Urban Agenda.

The New Urban Agenda is one component of a wider global developmental agenda — including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) — which clearly places local government front and centre in the achievement of sustainable development and the delivery of integrated human settlements.

Now, one year after Habitat III in Quito, Ecuador, we are faced with the challenge of bringing home the New Urban Agenda. Together, we must clarify what the application of its principles will look like for us, and spell out together what its implementation requires in our South African context.

We are already two steps ahead of many of the other countries present at Quito. Our national urban policy, the Integrated Urban Development Framework (IUDF) aligns well with the global development agenda which calls for a greater role for cities in driving economic growth, ensuring social cohesion and effecting spatial transformation.

The IUDF gives us the framework to manage urbanisation and achieve economic development, job creation and improved living conditions. All three spheres of government and all public entities must embrace the IUDF and use its principles when developing plans, programmes or approving projects. Furthermore, the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA) sets out those core principles for planning (e.g. spatial justice, spatial sustainability, spatial resilience) which are the necessary underpinnings for land use management schemes that can effectively transform our urban spaces.

This gathering today on World Cities Day is therefore part of a critical process of localising the New Urban Agenda. We must ask ourselves: In order to meet the developmental imperatives of spatial, social and economic transformation, what needs to happen here at home? If there are gaps or roadblocks to fulfilling the objectives set out in the New Urban Agenda, what are they? And how do we quickly and efficiently tackle them so that we can get on with the work of implementation?



The successful execution of these international imperatives is, largely, reliant on a strong role assigned to municipalities in human settlements planning and delivery. Increasingly, the international consensus tells us that devolution and location of the built environment functions at the local level is critical to effectively manage urbanisation. Decentralisation of housing and human settlements functions is thus a key lever for South Africa's implementation of the New Urban Agenda. In this regard, local government must ideally possess the appropriate powers and requisite functions to fulfil its developmental mandate as well as its critical role in spatial and economic transformation.

Implementation of the New Urban Agenda also relies heavily on strong and effective intergovernmental relations and partnership. In the South African context, the principle of cooperative governance is established in our Constitution and provides the central tenant and reference point for how we

must engage and jointly problem-solve. Our collaboration is strengthened and supported through clear contracting, decentralisation, and strong institutions and platforms for intergovernmental engagement, planning, reporting and monitoring.

Another crucial imperative of the New Urban Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) is the need to expand the scope, depth and nature of the funding framework for development, in order to unlock more resources for local and regional governments. Bold thinking is needed to recraft our funding instruments and expand our potential revenue base.

Above all, we are joined as diverse stakeholders in a common commitment to ensure the implementation of the New Urban Agenda at a local level, thus putting us on an accelerated track towards spatial transformation, inclusive economic growth, and reduced inequality.





MESSAGE FROM MR ANDRIES NEL, MP DEPUTY MINISTER OF COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE



First of all, I would wish to express my sincere appreciation to eThekweni metropolitan municipality for hosting this year's World Cities Day in South Africa. This important event provides an excellent platform for government and its stakeholders to meet and dialogue on how we implement our urban agenda, and what our priorities are for localisation of the international commitments we have pledged to support.

This year's theme – 'Innovative Governance-Open Cities' is a thought-provoking one. It raises many questions concerning how we interpret and respond to the governance of city-regions, as well as smaller metro and urban spaces, in a time of rapid urbanisation and change globally.

The significance of innovative urban governance should not be under-estimated. Cities must lead and manage the global, national and sub-regional interface of development – and importantly, cities and towns will be localising the New Urban

Agenda; so part of our dialogue during this important event, will be on what this means for urban governance. The Habitat III Paper on Governance has described urban governance as the 'software that enables the urban hardware to function' - the 'enabling environment' for the necessary multi-level governance initiatives for the definition, and implementation of public policies.

Well-managing urbanisation, therefore, is a shared, interdependent responsibility of local, regional and national governments and their stakeholders. Each level of government has a role to play, and one of our tasks towards implementing a common urban agenda will be to interpret 'Innovative Governance' across levels of government, in the South African context.

Further, we must understand the meaning of an 'Open City' in our context. The Integrated Urban Development Framework (IUDF) refers to the inclusive and liveable city, a city with full access to urban opportunities. By linking these two concepts, we can fully appreciate how important governance is to the broader goals of the urban agenda. How we, as government, and with stakeholders, interpret this theme and its application, will definitely inform our baseline objectives as we work towards a common agenda towards implementation of the New Urban Agenda / IUDF Action Framework.

I am excited by the opportunities this World Cities Day is going to open up for us in South Africa. We are at the beginning of our journey to interpret and agree on our priorities for this new Urban Agenda - and how we will arrive at the desired outcomes with the IUDF and SDG Goal 11. I therefore wish to express my thanks to all of the role-players involved here, who are committed to this important endeavour, and who will be guiding us towards an Implementation Framework that reflects our common cause and purpose to spatially transform the South African urban landscape.

MESSAGE FROM MS ZOU KOTA-FREDERICKS MP, DEPUTY MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS



I am very pleased and excited for us to be convening on the occasion of World Cities Day 2017. We have had just over a year to reflect on the adoption of the most significant international commitment for addressing urbanisation and human settlements, the New Urban Agenda. Our hard work and team effort paid off and we are proud to have been a contributor to this significant milestone. I look forward to us collectively continuing to exercise leadership and innovation in ensuring our aspirations of sustainable, liveable, safe and resilient cities and human settlements for all are realised.

As we work towards an agreement on how the New Urban Agenda will be implemented in South Africa, we must place special emphasis on broad and meaningful participation by all actors and role-players the creation and management of the spaces that we live in. We have numerous good examples to draw from in combining human settlements development with socio-economic

development; in collectively investing in safety, livelihoods, resilience, services, public space, mobility, infrastructure and homes; in upgrading informal settlements and empowering households.

Meaningful engagement and collaboration is required between national, provincial and local government, between all sector departments responsible for various portfolios linked to human settlements development, between local government and the communities they serve, and with the private sector to support human settlements development in a way that balances the economic value and the social value of such development.

This is what we mean by a people-centred approach. The viability of informal settlement upgrading projects is largely determined by the extent to which the residents are involved in the participatory planning process. Upgrading projects offer government and other stakeholders the opportunity to explore and develop forms of cooperative governance in which citizens become active social agents in relevant discussions that involve their livelihoods and settlements. Healthy discussion, negotiation, trust-building exercises and cooperation are key aspects that underpin success. While every community has its own unique constraints and opportunities, participation has proven to be the main building block for building thriving neighbourhoods. Our Pretoria Declaration on informal settlements, adopted at the international Habitat III Thematic Meeting in April 2016, and the New Urban Agenda itself provide ample guidance in this regard.

South Africa's implementation of the New Urban Agenda will be periodically tracked internationally over the next twenty years. Our engagement and joint effort in eThekweni on this World Cities Day 2017 builds on what we have been discussing for several years. I look forward to working with you to translate our words into action. Let the implementation framework form the basis of an implementation compact and plan that we can all subscribe to.



PROGRAMME – WORLD CITIES DAY 31 OCTOBER 2017

Programme Director: Cllr Xolani Sotashe, SALGA

07:30 - 08:00	Registration and Breakfast	All	
08:00 - 08:05	Opening Remarks and Welcome	Cllr Zandile Gumede	Mayor of eThekweni Municipality
08:05 - 08:10	Remarks on the theme of World Cities Day and its international significance	Ms Christine Musisi	UN-Habitat
08:10 - 08:15	Framing input: Visualising South Africa's Urban Future	Mr Sithole Mbanga and team	South African Cities Network (SACN)
08:15 - 08:20	Remarks on localising the New Urban Agenda through implementing the IUDF	Mr Andries Nel, MP	Deputy Minister of Cooperative Governance
08:20 - 08:25	Remarks in the importance of inclusion, participation and partnerships in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda	Ms Zou Kota-Fredericks, MP	Deputy Minister of Human Settlements
08:25 - 08:40	Keynote Address	Ms LN Sisulu, MP	Minister of human Settlements
08:40 - 08:45	Remarks reflecting on possible strategies and collaboration for successful implementation of the New Urban Agenda	Cllr Parks Tau	President, South African Local Government Association (SALGA), and President of United Cities and Local Government (UCLG)
08:45 - 09:00	Morning Break	All	
09:00 - 09:10	Promising Practice on advancing Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda	Mr Thami Manyathi and team	eThekweni Municipality
09:10 - 09:40	Presentation of the draft South African Implementation Framework for the New Urban Agenda	Mr Sithole Mbanga and team	SACN
09:40 - 11:30	Moderated Discussion: South Africa's Implementation Framework for the New Urban Agenda	Moderated by Cllr Xolani Sotashe	Chairperson: SALGA National Working Group on Human Settlements and Municipal Planning
11:30	Leaving Moses Mabhida Stadium to site visit – Go Durban Corridor 3 Route	Mr Thami Manyathi and team	Head: eThekweni Transport Authority
12:30 - 13:00	Launch and official hand over of Public Space	Mr Thembinkosi Ngcobo and team	Head: Parks, Recreation & Culture
13:00	Return to Moses Mabhida Stadium	All	
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch and Networking Session	All	

