



EThekwini Municipality
invites you to the 16th

Built Environment Seminar

Date: Wednesday, 17 May 2017

Time: 07h30 – 11h00

Venue: Botanical Gardens Conference Centre

CITY-TO-CITY LEARNING IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: LESSONS FOR URBAN STRATEGIES IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The serious consequences of inadequate urban strategic planning responses and ineffective governance in developing economies has been flagged by the World Economic Forum (WEF), identifying it as a key global risk in 2015. What is of particular interest in their analysis however is the observation that governments of rapidly growing cities make very little time for learning from other cities to improve their own planning processes. Whilst the above assertion may be true, targeted research on city-to-city (C2C) learning conducted predominantly in the global North is showing that cities are in fact quietly forming an international web-work of learning representing an almost invisible, underground knowledge economy. There is a highly conspicuous void in empirical research into C2C learning in urban strategic planning processes in the (southern) African context. This seminar presents a doctoral study focusing on a United Cities and Local Government (UCLG) case study using the experience of three African cities, Durban in South Africa, Otjiwarongo in Namibia and Mzuzu in Malawi, to shed light on the phenomenon of C2C learning. This research explores the eThekweni Municipality's mentorship program with these selected Namibian and Malawian municipalities that begin to inform contemporary learning theory in southern Africa.

Join us in MILE's 16th Built Environment Seminar presented in partnership with DUT's Urban Futures Centre as Sogen Moodley presents the results of his doctoral research, distills the lessons emerging from the in-depth case study, and proposes a broad, but coherent learning framework, with a set of strategic recommendations to guide future C2C learning processes in southern Africa. Selected academics and key C2C learning partners have been invited as respondents. As with all seminars however, we look forward to YOUR critical engagement in this facilitated seminar. [Click here to download the research.](#)

DRAFT PROGRAMME:

07:30- 08:30 – Registration, Light Breakfast and Networking

08:30- 08:45 – Welcome and Purpose of Session

08:45- 09:45 – Sharing of Research Findings

09:45- 10:15 – Panel Responses

10:15- 11:00 – Discussion and Way Forward

KEY OBJECTIVES:

1. To provide a shared platform for constructive deliberations between city practitioners, academia and key stakeholders.
2. To allow for the sharing on a range of options that could contribute, influence or address the key challenges identified in the purpose of the event.

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by Friday, 12 May 2017

