



Gauteng Precinct Management Association and Johannesburg CID Forum Information Sharing Meeting - 04 February 2024

Best Practices in Sustainable Urban Management - lessons from South African Cities



BUFFALO CITY



EKURHULENI



ETHEKWINI



JOHANNESBURG



MANGAUNG



NELSON MANDELA BAY



TSHWANE



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About the SACN



Promote good governance and management in South African cities



Analyse strategic challenges facing South African cities, particularly in the context of global economic integration and national development challenges



Collect, collate, analyse, assess, disseminate, and apply the experience of large city government in a South African context



Promote shared-learning partnerships between different spheres of Government to support the management of South African cities

Our Participating Cities



BUFFALO CITY



EKURHULENI



ETHEKWINI



JOHANNESBURG



MANGAUNG



MSUNDUZI



NELSON MANDELA BAY



TSHWANE



Strategic Objectives



To support cities become learning and adapting institutions through knowledge co-creation, dissemination, and application.



To advocate for the urban agenda by enabling cities to have a voice.



To strengthen partnership with cities and existing partners; form new strategic partnerships.



To ensure a well-governed Network and secure the financial sustainability of the organisation.

Our strategy is underpinned by the IUDF, South Africa's national policy framework that is intended to guide the future growth and management of urban areas.



Our Thematic Focus Areas

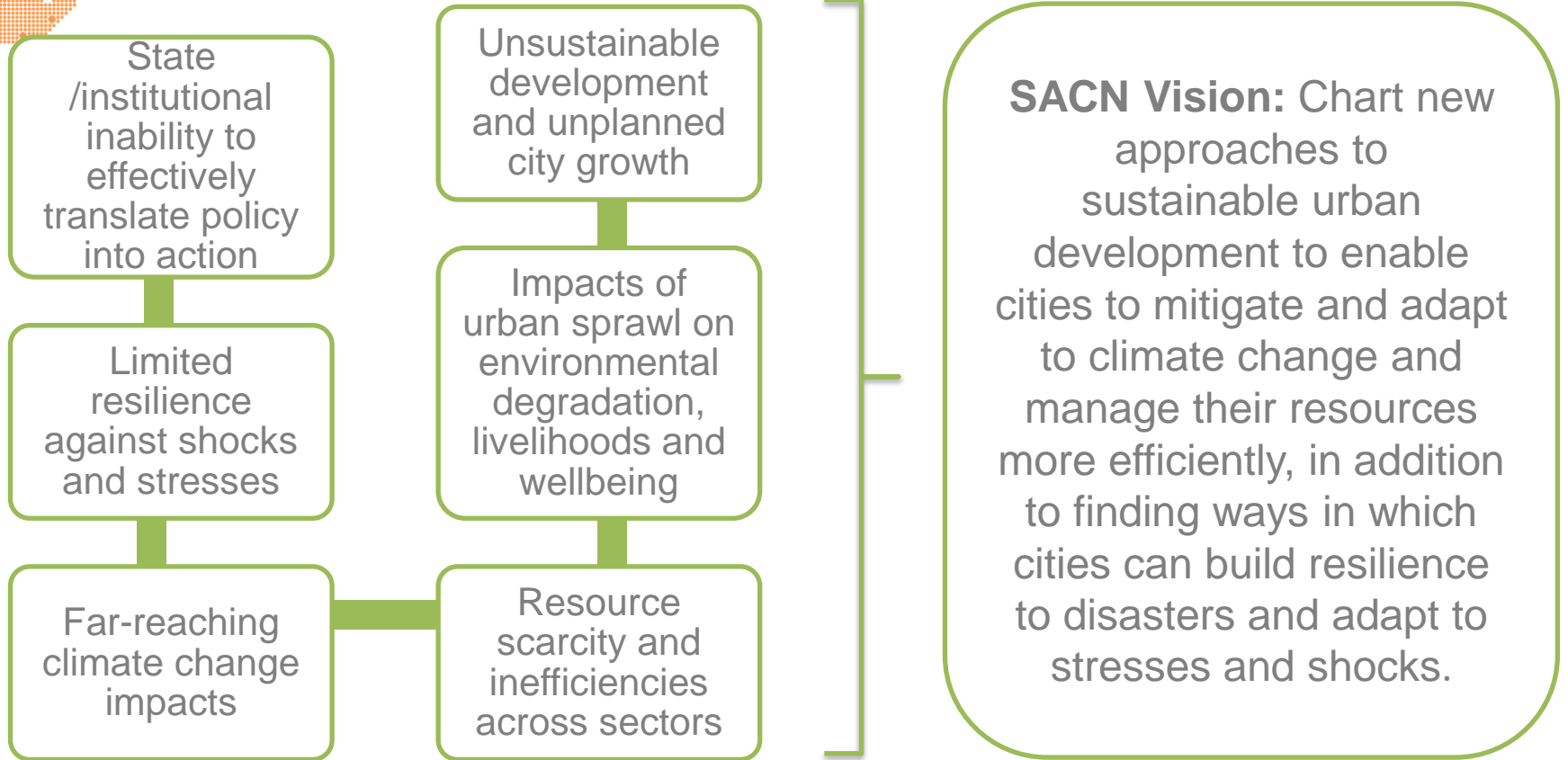
WELL GOVERNED CITIES	PRODUCTIVE CITIES	INCLUSIVE CITIES	SUSTAINABLE & RESILIENT CITIES	CITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES (CDS)
<p>Focuses on creating cities that are efficient, sustainable, manage their finances prudently and are accountable to their citizens. The emphasis is on building a capable state at local government level and exploring sustainable municipal funding models.</p>	<p>Focuses on finding ways to rethink, transform and grow city economies to become more inclusive, resilient and sustainable. The emphasis is on understanding the unique drivers of economic growth and job creation in each city, and exploring new economic governance and finance models.</p>	<p>Focuses on spatial transformation and redressing the spatial legacy of exclusion, to enable equitable access to social and economic opportunities. It also looks at urban safety and inclusion, especially the most vulnerable (children, youth, women and people with disabilities).</p>	<p>Focuses on sustainable urban development and urban resilience by investigating new ways for cities to mitigate and adapt to climate change and manage their resources more efficiently. It also looks at ways in which cities can build resilience to disasters and adapt to stresses and shocks.</p>	<p>Focuses on supporting cities with their long-term strategies aligned to the IUDF, informed by urban data and best practices, with linkages to intermediary cities, towns and rural areas. It also looks at how "smart cities" can leverage technology to improve the lived experience and engagement of their citizens.</p>



Sustainable Cities Programme Priority Research Areas.



The State of Sustainability and Resilience in Cities.



Sustainable and Resilient Cities Programme focuses on climate change adaptation, resource efficiency and urban resilience.



Climate Change Adaptation.

What does success look like?

Sustainability and climate resilience are embedded into cities' integrated planning, budgeting, and implementation processes



Production shifts from unsustainable processes to cleaner, non-polluting processes (e.g. from coal to renewables)



There is an institutional shift, including in governance systems and all-of-society to enable the above.

Taking a targeted approach

Climate Change Adaptation

Advocating for institutional and system changes for embedding sustainability practices

Guidance on diversifying energy production, improving and ensuring equitable access to affordable, and clean energy for the urban poor.

Guidance on incorporating nature-based solutions as part of adaptation strategies



Resource Efficiency

What does success look like?

Cities have developed water resilience strategies and are implementing effective water management actions



There is improved coordination & cooperation with other spheres of government and all-of-society



Cities create heightened awareness among communities on sustainable water use and effective waste management



Cities tap into the opportunities of the circular economy and citizens shift consumption patterns and re-use, recycle, recover and reduce waste.

Targeted approach.

Resource Efficiency

Co-developing water resilience strategies and providing guidance on moving from policy and planning to implementation and anticipatory water governance approaches

Advocating for institutional and system changes to address critical structural changes

Guidance on implementing effective waste management options and exploring opportunities for an inclusive circular economy



Urban Resilience

What does success look like?

Cities have developed urban resilience strategies and are implementing effective disaster management and recovery actions



There is improved coordination & cooperation with other spheres of government



Cities create heightened awareness among all stakeholders



Prioritised shocks and stresses can change and must be reviewed periodically or as the need arises.

Targeted approach.

Urban Resilience

Co-creating city resilience strategies with cities to address the risks, stresses and shocks

Advocating for institutional and system changes for building robust and resilient systems

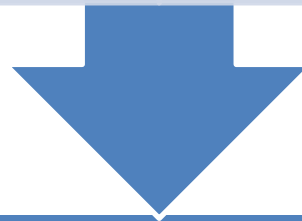


Project: Planning for Green Infrastructure - Options for SA Cities

In its publication, *Planning for Green Infrastructure: Options for South African Cities*, the SACN started advocating for green infrastructure as the lens that can be used to bring into focus two key contradictions:

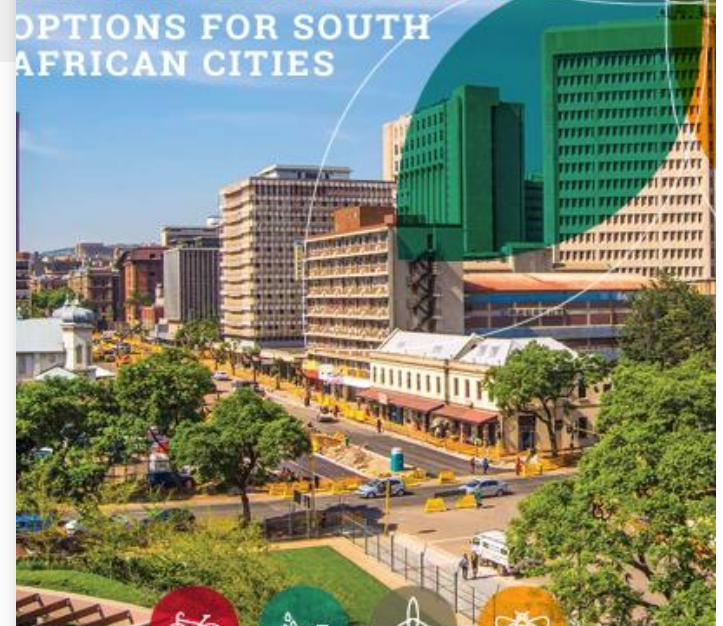
Envisioning cities that are livable, inclusive, sustainable and resilient.

Current forms and practices of spatial planning, land use, infrastructure provision that is resource intensive and tends to perpetuate cities vulnerability to climate change.



The publication sought to assist cities take steps to align green infrastructure into mainstream spatial planning and infrastructure provision approaches.

PLANNING FOR
GREEN
INFRASTRUCTURE:
OPTIONS FOR SOUTH
AFRICAN CITIES



South African
CitiesNetwork



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREEN AGENDA

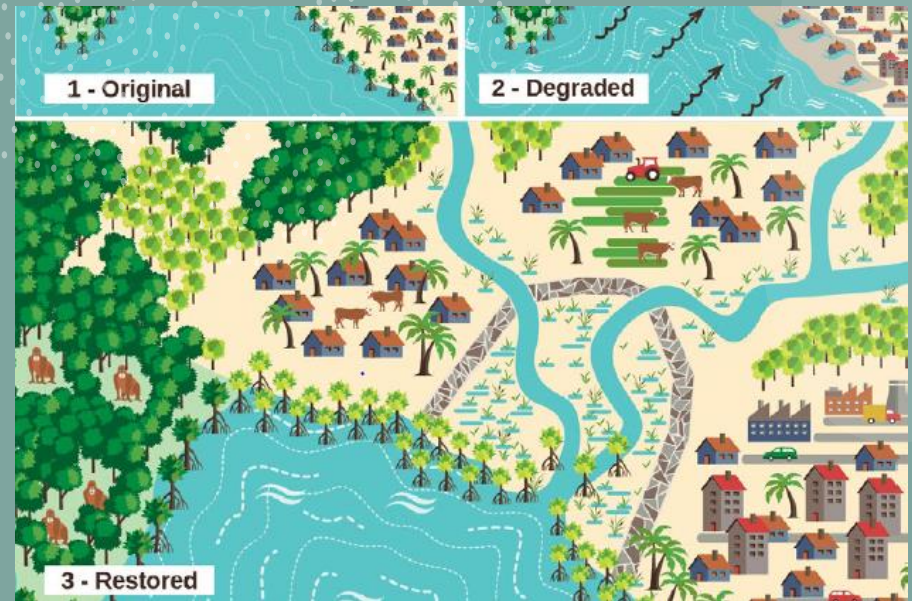
Placing the benefits and importance of green infrastructure planning in spatial planning terms.

Green infrastructure should be thought about at every scale of planning, from the strategic framework right down through neighborhoods and within streets to the individual house.

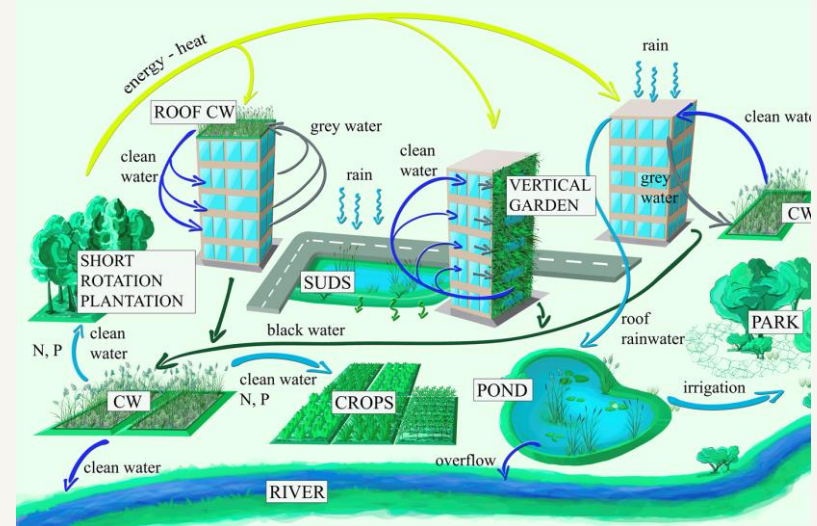


Project: Guidelines for Incorporating Nature-based Solutions in Cities Planning

Actions to protect, sustainably manage, and/or restore natural ecosystems.



Solutions underpinned by natural processes and structures that are designed to address various environmental challenges while simultaneously providing multiple benefits to economy, society and ecological systems.





Purpose of the Guidelines

Support

- Support effective implementation of Nature-based Solutions to enhance ecosystem services provision and address societal challenges.

Help

- Help cities mainstream climate adaptation measures at the operational, institutional and the inter-institutional level so that their integration becomes standard procedure, in order to foster urban resilience.

Resource

- Be used as a resource for selecting, funding, designing, and implementing nature-based solution projects.


Tool

- Be used as a tool for education and outreach in communities that are more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

Business Case

- Help cities make the business case for the economic, socio-cultural, ecological and health value and benefits of nature-based solutions.

How can Cities Respond?



The MSA (Act 32 of 2000) directs municipalities to provide sustainable services to their communities and to promote increased community involvement in the provision of such services.

- By drafting by-laws covering areas over which they have a constitutional mandate. E.g. water supply, air pollution, electricity, public open spaces and waste management.
- Developing policies, planning tools, and strategies that address the different aspects of sustainability.



Lever ONE

Integrated spatial Planning

Lever TWO

Integrated transport and mobility

Lever THREE

Integrated sustainable human settlements

Lever FOUR

Integrated urban infrastructure

Lever FIVE

Efficient land governance and management

Lever SIX

Inclusive economic development

Lever SEVEN

Empowered active communities

Lever EIGHT

Effective urban governance

Lever NINE

Sustainable finances



Challenge:
Sustainability
and
Resilience are
broad and
cross-cutting

Constitution (S. 24(B)) provides that “everyone has the right to have the **environment protected**, for the benefit of **present and future** generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that **prevent pollution and ecological degradation, promote conservation** [and] **secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources** while promoting **justifiable economic and social development.**”



Urban Agriculture Initiative: Johannesburg.

In recent years, enterprising urban farmers have been transforming downtown rooftops into private gardens and even small urban farms that grow herbs for local restaurants.



Jozi Food Farmer (JFF) and Tihago Primary Agricultural Cooperative are considered practical demonstrations of green infrastructure at building scale.



These interventions have provided food to local communities, linked small farmers to agricultural value chains, and continue to contribute to local economic production and preserve infrastructure.



Joburg's
Agriculture
Initiative





Ongoing Projects

GIZ-SAGEN JET e-Learning Project

Overview and Objectives

- To facilitate a structured approach to understanding and implementing JET at local government level.
- Focuses on **developing and implementing a JET e-learning course** for Municipal officials.
- Responds to complexities arising from the **National Energy Sector Reform**, particularly at local government levels.
- To equip municipal officials with **targeted e-learning resources & enhance their knowledge of sustainable energy practices, necessary regulatory frameworks, and equitable solutions** to energy challenges.

Relevance of Just Energy Transition

- The transition is critical for South Africa to **mitigate Climate Change impacts** and promote **Sustainable Development**.

Involvement of Municipal Officials

- Municipal officials play a crucial role in translating, implementing and managing **National Energy Policies** into local actions, ensuring community engagement and support.

Empowerment through Knowledge Generation

- The course will empower officials to tackle both opportunities and challenges of the energy reform, leading to a **more resilient and inclusive energy sector**.

Course Modules

- Governance and Institutional Frameworks for a Just Energy Transition,
- Financial Implications and Sustainable Urban Finance Strategies,
- Sustainable Urban Planning and the Built Environment,
- Inclusive Cities and Social Justice in the Energy Transition,
- Urban Economic Development and the Just Energy Transition.



Reference Groups



Urban Energy Network

- The Urban Energy Network (UEN) is convened in partnership with the SACN, Sustainable Energy Africa (SEA) and SALGA.
- The partners have been running the UEN knowledge exchange events for two decades, often in collaboration for input, support and funding from other institutions such as government, NPOs and academic institutions active in the South African local government, and specific programmes that focus on urban energy.
- The essential function of the Meetings is to:
 - To build municipal staff capacity around current sustainable energy issues, e.g. by providing specialist input or practitioner experience detail.
 - To develop relationships and facilitate information flow between local and national levels of government and other organizations.
- Members of the UEN include managers responsible for electricity, energy policy and planning in SACN participating cities, selected secondary cities and some local municipalities.





City Waste Managers Forum

- The City Waste Managers' Forum comprises city managers and senior city officials responsible for waste management.
- It is convened by SACN, SALGA and Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE).
- This group is used as a platform to identify the type and level of support required by cities for establishing and improving facilities for collection, recycling, treatment and disposal of solid waste.
- The platform helps design support programmes, projects and implementation modalities; facilitate shared learning and networking; as well as to keep abreast on industry developments, innovation and best practices.



Water Resilient Cities Learning Network

- Since 2018, the SACN and SALGA, together with their partners, the GIZ's Natural Resources Stewardship Programme (NatuReS) and the USAID's Water Sanitation and Hygiene Finance Program (WASH-FIN), have been convening the Water Resilient Cities series of learning events with the support of varying partners over the years.
- The learning events have become catalysts for:
 - Engagement and effective platforms for peer-to-peer learning and knowledge exchange.
 - Solution-seeking conversations.
 - Capacity building amongst participating cities; and
 - Innovative responses to water security and resilience challenges.
- Each knowledge exchange event is guided by participant feedback (from city managers and practitioners, water, specialists in the public and private sectors, civil society organisations and regional and international experts) on topics that require further discussion, exploration and collaboration



THANK YOU