

**24 – 25 NOVEMBER
2009
FEATHER MARKET
HALL, NELSON
MANDELA BAY**



3RD SACN URBAN CONFERENCE : - THE STATE OF SOUTH AFRICAN CITIES

Background

Bombarded with news reports about municipal service delivery protests, revenue crises, infrastructure decay, and corruption, it is easy to be despondent about the state of South African cities. With local government elections on the horizon, this is an opportune time to review empirical evidence of urban development and urban management outputs and results in the cities.

The South African Cities Network's flagship knowledge generation project is **State of the Cities** reporting. The first State of the Cities Report was published in 2004 as part of the national 10-year review. A second edition was published in 2006 with an extended series of indicators and more detailed analysis of city performance. Since then, the SACN has prepared 'state of' reports on strategically important sectors, including: Municipal finance, EPWP and Land use management.

The SACN intends to publish the **3rd edition of the State of the Cities Report (SoCR3)** in October 2010, and preliminary research and analysis has been done. This Urban Development Conference will give participants the opportunity to review emerging data and analysis, and discuss the findings.

Purpose

The purpose of this conference is to:

- Further develop our common understanding of the state of urban settlements in South Africa
- Promote knowledge sharing on urban development and urban management strategies and practices between the SACN member cities
- Raise awareness of urban development priorities



Proposed Programme Structure

Day 1, Tuesday, 24 November 2009

1. Registration	09:00	SACN
2. Opening plenary	10:00 – 12:30	Cllr Nondumiso Maphazi, Executive Mayor of Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality Ministry of Human Settlements Mr Jeremy Cronin, MP, Deputy Minister of Transport
3. The state of the built environment (plenary)	13:30 – 17:00	Chaired by Mr Ketso Gordhan, Advisor to the Minister in the Presidency responsible for Monitoring and Evaluation
4. Launch of the Township Renewal Sourcebook	17:30	Ministry of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs

Day 2, Wednesday, 25 November 2009

1. State of the cities thematic sessions	9:00 – 11:00	1.1. Municipal finance, 1.2. employment, 1.3. urban food security, and 1.4. sustainable cities
2. State of the cities thematic sessions	11:30 – 13:30	2.1. Economic growth, 2.2. natural resource use, 2.3. demography and density, and 2.4. indicators
3. Closing plenary	14:30 – 16:00	Mr Yunus Carrim, MP, Deputy Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Mr Sithole Mbanga, CEO, SACN