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Co-operative governance - a South African perspective relating to strategic environmental planning

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2010-04-12T09:07:40Z
http://hdl.handle.net/10539/7960

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QUESTIONS ASKED DURING THE INTERVIEWS

Interviews were open-ended, informal discussions / conversations with interviewees only being prompted by certain questions and thoughts.

"Give your views and opinions with regard to environmental governance, on the following:

1. Vertical line functions (DEAT, GDACE, LLM)
2. Horizontally between different departments within LLM
3. Policy formulation and possible linkages (IDP & EMF)
4. Decision-making, implementation & monitoring of environmental related decisions (all levels)
5. Discussions opportunities for all levels of government (platforms, forums, committees etc)
6. Budgets

What is your understanding of the following:

1. The term "cooperative governance"
2. Legislation guiding development & environmental planning
3. Spheres of government – Where do districts fit in & How does it function in relation to the other spheres of government?
4. What role does Sedibeng (District) play in LLM's strategic planning?
5. At what level is decision-making taking place & by whom, with regard to environmental management?
6. Does politics have a role to play and what are the consequences?
7. Governance between different sectors – is it cooperative?
8. Strategic Planning & Policy formulation – how do all sectors, spheres and public participate and at what level?
9. Does Budget (IDP) of Sedibeng link up with that of LLM?
10. EMF – in line with SoER? Does it link up with the EMF's & SDF's of Midvaal, Ekurhuleni, Govan Mbeki & Emfuleni?
11. Is the EMF a useful document?
12. Was the inputs into the EMF from all roleplayers sufficient, and if not, why?
13. Where does accountability lie within the District situation?
14. In your view, is "cooperative governance" a reality or is it just another buzz-word? Why?