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Resident's perception of urban integration: the case of Dukathole informal settlement

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DECLARATION

I Maema Simon Mmonwa, declare that this research report is my own original, unaided work, and that all technical assistance which I have received is indicated in the acknowledgements. Furthermore, I state that I have provided full acknowledgement to the sources I have used in this study. All the field work and data collection process was undertaken by me; and I am responsible for any piece of text, conclusions and recommendations of this study. The data used in this research report was gathered between January and October 2007 academic period. This research report has not been submitted previously for any degree or examination at any other university. The research report is hereby submitted to the School of Architecture and Planning, Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment, at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, in the fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Development Planning.

……

Maema Simon Mmonwa

…….. day of……2007

DEDICATION

I am dedicating this study to my late brother, Belton Kwena Mmonwa who passed on while I was conducting this study in July 2007. It was difficult to deal simultaneously with the emotional pain of your departure and studies. I wish you were here to see me graduating in 2008. Brother, you might be gone, but not forgotten. You will always be part of our united family, *Monareng*.

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Mr Alex Xambana, Ward 35 Councilor, and Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality for giving me a sanction to conduct the study in Dukathole community.

My most heartfelt thanks are offered to the research participants and Dukathole community as a whole for dedicating their time to this study.

To my family I thank you '*Dinare tsa ga madibogo, kgodumo tse lerole*' for supporting me throughout my life and studies. *Modimo o legodise ka go safelego*. To humankind I say *"dreams you have for your life, shape not only your future, but that of the world".*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION 1

1.1. Introduction 1
1.2. Brief History of Dukathole Informal Settlement 1
1.3. Background of the study 2
1.4. Aims of the study 3
1.5. Rationale for research and problem statement 4
1.6. Research question and assumed solution 6
1.7. Structure of the report 7
1.8. Summary of the Chapter 8

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW 9

2.1. Introduction 9
2.2. The locus of informal settlements in developing countries 9
    2.2.1. Common key challenges across the globe 9
    2.2.2. Lack of Security of tenure and evictions 9
    2.2.3. Access to land 11
    2.2.4. Access to formal housing 12
    2.2.5. Environmental hazards 12
    2.2.6. Safety and security 12
    2.2.7. Inadequate service delivery 13
2.3. Urban Planning in Apartheid South Africa 13
2.4. Post-1994 Developments: attempts to redress and integrate urban space 14
2.5. The Scale of informal settlements in South Africa 15
2.6. The Scale of informal settlements in EMM 16
2.7. Response of EMM to informal settlements 18
2.8. Land issues and ownership in EMM 19
2.9. The repositioning of the city as “World Class” 20

2.10. Debates around relocation of informal settlements 20
2.10.1. The relocation lessons 22
2.11. Main theoretical frameworks of the study 23
2.12. Conceptualizing the Just City: A theoretical review 23
2.12.1. The Just City Approach 23
2.12.2. Planning from the borderlands 24
2.12.3. Collaborative or Communicative Planning 24
2.12.4. Theories of Power 25
2.12.5. New Public Management 26
2.12.6. Globalization and the Just City 27
2.13. *Voices from the borderlands* 29
2.14. Summary of the Chapter 30

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY 32

3.1. Introduction 32
3.2. Research Methodology 32
3.3. Research Design 33
3.4. Sampling Procedures 33
3.5. Data Collection Process 34
3.6. Data Analysis 34
3.7. Ethical Considerations 34
3.8. Limitations of the study 35
3.9. Summary of the Chapter 36

CHAPTER FOUR: PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS 37

4.1. Introduction 37
4.2. Participants' Demographic Information 37
4.3. Motivation for choosing the settlement 42
4.4. Service level definitions 43
4.5. Provision of resources to the settlement 48

4.6. Key points of integration 52
4.7. Economic integration: Residents' Perspective 52
4.7.1. Is EMM supporting the survival strategies? 53
4.8. Spatial integration: Residents' Perspective 54
4.8.1. Does the geographic location matter ?..... 54
4.9. Political integration: Residents' view 56
4.10. Environmental integration: Residents' Perspective 58
4.11. Social integration: Residents' Perspective 59
4.12. Summary of the Chapter 61

CHAPTER FIVE: ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS 62

5.1. Introduction..... 62
5.2. Provision of services in the community 62
5.3. Resource provision to Dukathole Community 63
5.4. Settlement Choice: Motivating Factors 68
5.5. Economic Integration 68
5.5.1. Gender and city space 71
5.6. Spatial Integration 72
5.6.1. Physical integration: Implication of Insiders' Perspective 74
5.6.2. Inconsistency in the national policy and legislative framework 76
5.7. Political Integration 77
5.7.1. Unilateral decision-making: Power at 'loose'?..... 77
5.7.2. Participatory Governance vs. New Public Management 78
5.8. Environmental Integration 79
5.8.1. Corporate social responsibility: way to integration 81
5.9. Social Integration 81
5.10. Summary of the Chapter 82

CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS 83

6.1. Introduction 83
6.2. Conclusions 83
6.3. Policy recommendations 87
6.4. Recommendations for future research 91
6.5. Summary of the Chapter 91

7. REFERENCE LIST 93

8. APPENDIXES 104
APPENDIX – A: SANCTION LETTER 104
APPENDIX – B: QUALITATIVE RESEARCH TOOL 105
APPENDIX – C: INFORMATION LEAFLET AND CONSENT FORM 114

ABSTRACT

The main aim of the study was to explore the residents' perception of urban integration or integration of their settlement with the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality (EMM) in terms of the economic, spatial, political, environmental and social aspects. In order to accomplish this aim, data were gathered from a sample of twelve Dukathole informal settlement residents in the EMM. A research questionnaire was used as the main instrument of data collection. Collected data were analyzed qualitatively using both coding and thematic formats. The findings of the study demonstrated that Dukathole informal settlement is spatially, economically, and socially integrated with the EMM. However it is not environmentally and politically integrated with the EMM. More importantly it is the physical location of the community that has ensured that Dukathole informal settlement is economically and socially integrated with the EMM city. These results led to the conclusion that the proposed government processes to relocate Dukathole informal settlement to distant areas will disintegrate or exclude this community from the EMM city.

It was also discovered that the majority of the respondents are unemployed and involved in the informal sector of the economy with less income. This automatically excludes them from the formal housing processes as they could not afford. Based on the forgoing finding it was concluded that formal rental accommodation does not and will not cater for the urban poor.

ABBREVIATIONS

ACHR:	Asian Coalition for Housing Rights
BMW:	Best Motor of the World
BNG:	Breaking New Ground
CGE:	Commission on Gender and Equality
CoJ:	City of Johannesburg
CSI:	Corporate Social Investment
CSR:	Corporate Social Responsibility
DoH:	Department of Housing
DoL:	Department of Labour
EMM:	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
EMM IDP:	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality Integrated Development Plan
GAD:	Gender and Development
GJMC:	Greater Johannesburg Metropolitan Council
GDS:	Growth and Development Strategy
HIV/AIDS:	human immunodeficiency virus & Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
HSA:	Housing in Southern Africa
IIED:	International Institute for Environment and Development
IRIN:	Integrated Regional Information Networks
LED:	Local Economic Development
MSA:	Municipal Systems Act
NGO:	Non-governmental organization
NHCSS:	National Housing Capital Subsidy Scheme
NIMBYism:	Not in my backyard syndrome
NPM:	New Public Management
PHP:	People's Housing Process
RDP:	Reconstruction and Development Programme
RLDP:	Rapid Land Development Programme
SANCO:	South African National Civics Organization
SIU:	Special Investigating Unit

UN:	United Nations

LIST OF TABLES

Page

1. Table. 1: Distribution of Informal Settlements across South Africa 16

LIST OF FIGURES

Page

1. Figure 1: Map of Dukathole informal settlement 2
2. Figure 2: Aerial Map showing Rondebult 5
3. Figure 3: Locality Plan of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality 17