

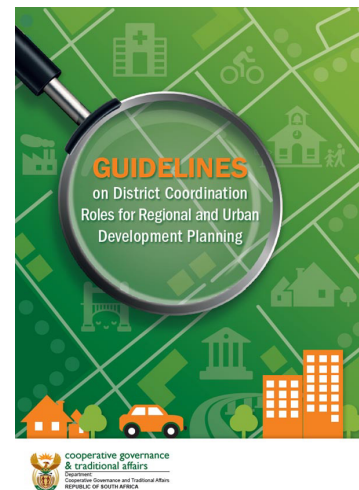
# Guidelines on District Coordination Roles and Urban Development Planning



The core function of District Municipalities is to ensure integrated development planning, coordination and development facilitation for the district as a whole. This includes the support and coordination of the activities of the Local Municipalities within their jurisdiction. District Municipalities also play a role in responding to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the New Urban Agenda, so it is therefore imperative that the Districts are able to respond to the challenges or rapid urbanisation, and support the Local Municipalities in their jurisdiction to do the same.

PDG was commissioned by the national Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs to draft a set of guidelines to assist District Municipalities to optimise their leadership and coordination roles, while acknowledging that different District Municipalities have different functions and different socio spatial and economic contexts. PDG has extensive experience in local government in South Africa and drew upon this experience in the drafting of the guidelines. Interviews with several District Municipalities, national government stakeholders and local municipalities were conducted in order to understand best practice in the execution of District functions. The best practices involved multi-stakeholder solutions, with a focus on innovation through collaboration between the public and private sectors. There was also a high level of political buy-in and significant community engagement.

The guidelines located the role of District Municipalities within the four goals of the Integrated Urban Development Framework (IUDF): spatial integration, inclusion and access, economic growth and enhanced governance. The guidelines offer case studies of how varying District Municipalities have leveraged the resources available to them to fulfil their



mandates. These case studies describe how District Municipalities used levers described in the IUDF to enact change within their jurisdiction. The guidelines were typeset, and 2 000 copies were printed and provided to District and Local Municipalities across South Africa.

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## CDIG PROJECT:

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**Project Profile:** Guidelines on District Coordination Roles and Urban Development Planning

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