

Institutionalising reporting reforms in metropolitan municipalities



Over the span of a series of projects for National Treasury (NT) and the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), PDG was involved in a process of reviewing, rationalising and streamlining the reporting arrangements for all metropolitan municipalities. The process initially entailed the collation of indicator sets from across local government and their review as part of a rationalisation process.

PDG developed a metro-level results framework, derived from existing policy frameworks such as the Framework for Programme Performance Information (2007), to analyse these indicators and found considerable duplication, lack of coordination and inefficiencies associated with the reporting burden placed upon metropolitan municipalities.

PDG subsequently led an interdisciplinary team through a series of consultative and iterative engagements with National Treasury and the Department of Cooperative Governance, sector departments and metropolitan municipalities to develop a set of built environment performance indicators for application in metropolitan municipalities. As part of this work, institutional engagements culminated in the development of Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) Circular No. 88, which set out the institutional arrangements for a coordinated, reporting reform initiative. In addition to this, PDG co-developed with WebFresh a Proof-of-Concept web-based reporting platform as a centralised means of sharing and consolidating indicator data.

Subsequent technical assistance was provided for the roll-out of MFMA Circular No. 88 during the 2018/19 financial year and to support quarterly reporting and



feedback. This entailed engagements with national stakeholders such as StatsSA, support for quarterly performance reporting by municipalities, further development of the Technical Indicator Descriptions, as well as online platform development and training as part of pilot of a shared reporting platform.

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IBER PROJECT:

Project Profile: Institutionalising reporting reforms in metropolitan municipalities

Client: National Treasury and the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA)

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