



## POST LEARNING EVENT REPORTING TEMPLATE

As part of eThekweni Municipality's commitment to strengthen our organisation's culture of learning and sharing, this form presents information on a recent out of town trip, visit, learning exchange undertaken by an official from the municipality. This information will be posted on the MILE website ([www.mile.org.za](http://www.mile.org.za)) in the interest of advancing our **KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT** agenda. Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

### 1. What was the NAME OF THE EVENT?

The International Institute of Environment and Development's 7th Annual Community Based Adaptation Conference (CBA7)

### 2. The DATE attended:

21-25<sup>th</sup> April, 2013.

### 3. VENUE

(further details on venue)

Dhaka, Bangladesh

#### 4. OFFICIALS WHO ATTENDED?

Deputy Head: Environmental Planning and Climate Protection (DH:EPCPD)

#### 5. What area of expertise did the event cover?

- |                                    |                          |                                       |                          |                            |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Culture, heritage and sport        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Engineering and the built environment | <input type="checkbox"/> | IT and Finance             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Economic development and Tourism   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Health and Safety                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | City strategy and planning | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Energy and the natural environment | <input type="checkbox"/> | Good governance                       | <input type="checkbox"/> |                            |                          |

**Other: Climate Change Adaptation**

#### 6. What was the PURPOSE OF THE EVENT, THE BROAD OBJECTIVES, AND THEMES? Why was it of importance?

The specific objectives of this conference included:

- Bringing together climate scientists, policy makers, practitioners and other stakeholders to share knowledge in relation to mainstreaming community based adaptation into international, national and local planning and processes.
- Ultimately to enhance the capacity of the most vulnerable groups and people, improve their livelihoods and integrate lessons learnt on CBA into local, national and international planning for development and climate change.
- Disseminating lessons learnt at the conference through immediate online event coverage and ensuing conference proceedings.

The need for CBA in Africa is particularly critical given the high levels of poverty and underdevelopment, and the need to reduce the vulnerability of poor populations to the growing impacts of climate change.

**7. What in your opinion are some of the KEY LEARNINGS that you came away with? In other words, what stood out for you? Were there any "aha!" learning moments that you can share with colleagues? What were some of the KEY OBSERVATIONS that were important or different?**

Unfortunately the planned site visits associated with the conference were cancelled due to violence and security concerns in the country. DH:EPCPD's frank accounts of the difficulties experienced with CBA in Durban were warmly welcomed as highlighting critical pitfalls in the process and there have been widespread requests for access to papers written by EPCPD on this work. These have been disseminated on return to Durban. Another critical message to emerge is of the growing recognition of the link between community and ecosystem based adaptation. Although this is being processed for the first time in international for a such as CBA7 – Durban pioneered this concept (CEBA at COP17) and so is already a leader in this field.

**8. As a result of this event, what is the ONE CHANGE that you may consider making backing back at work, if any? What follow ups are envisaged?**

The meeting provided the opportunity for the first time to engage with other government officials working in the field of community based adaptation and a government network within the CBA architecture was formed. Also extremely value links were made with researchers working at the United Nations University and the World Resources Institute who were able to provide documentation related to the latest research on the issue of lose and damage which will be used by DH:EPCPD to help inform the South African climate change negotiating position in this new field.

**9. Please indicate details of useful CONTACTS AND NETWORKS that were established during the event?**

It is not appropriate to provide the names of individual researchers contacted on a public website.

**10. One of the key functions of our MILE website is to serve as a repository of LEARNING DOCUMENTATION, VIDEOS, PHOTOGRAPHS AND OTHER RESOURCE MATERIAL. Please can send such material to [mile@durban.gov.za](mailto:mile@durban.gov.za) so that it can be uploaded onto our website.**

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO BUILD A LEARNING ORGANISATION**