



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) 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?

Transformation 2013 Conference

2. The DATE attended:

18-21 June 2013

3. VENUE

(further details on venue)

Oslo University

4. OFFICIALS WHO ATTENDED?

Deputy Head: Environmental Planning and Climate Protection Department (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/Global Environmental Change

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

Climate change is considered by many to be the greatest challenge to humanity — a “perfect storm” that will lead to unprecedented social and ecological impacts unless addressed in a comprehensive, urgent manner. Yet there is a growing recognition that traditional, “business-as-usual” approaches to mitigation and adaptation are insufficient to address the breadth, scale and complexity of challenges associated with climate change. In fact, there have been many calls for new modes of thinking about multiple interacting processes, policies, and programs, and both scientific and policy discourses increasingly emphasize the need for deliberate transformation in response to climate change. There are, however, significant research gaps on transformation that are critical to address. What do we actually mean by transformation? Do we know how to make it happen? Do we have a sufficient knowledge base to inform strategies and actions for deliberate, ethical and sustainable transformation at the rate and scale that is called for? What is the role of science in the transformation process? The “Transformation in a Changing Climate” in Oslo, Norway 19-21 June 2013 conference aimed to fill these gaps by bringing together diverse perspectives on deliberate transformation in response to 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?

That the discussion around transformation in relation to global environmental change is largely being framed by the Global North and there is an urgent need for the global South to highlight what issues are critical in understanding and addressing the environmental challenges facing the South. To this end DH:EPCPD and Prof Colleen Vogel (University of Pretoria) and Dr Patricia Romero-Lankao (NCAR) have committed to jointly writing a paper to bring a more southern debate to the table. DH:EPCPD also made contact with Dr Heide Hackmann of the International Social Science Council who has committed to hosting a facilitated workshop of stakeholders in Durban to assist the work being done in the uMhlangane and uMgeni catchments by EPCPD and EWS.

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?

See above

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

See above

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 so that it can be uploaded onto our website.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO BUILD A LEARNING ORGANISATION