



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?

Durban Adaptation Charter CityLinks Exchange Visit Durban, Fort Lauderdale and Broward County

2. The DATE attended:

10/03/2014 to 14/03/2014

3. VENUE

(further details on venue)

The exchange visit was hosted by officials from Broward County and the City of Fort lauderdale, Florida, USA. Meetings were held in these officials' offices, and site visits were conducted within Broward County.

4. OFFICIALS WHO ATTENDED?

- Deputy Head: Environmental Planning and Climate Protection Department, Dr Debra Roberts
- Manager: Climate Protection Branch, Dr Sean O'Donoghue
- Manager: Biodiversity Planning Branch, Mr Richard Boon
- Project Executive: Coastal Policy, Dr Andrew Mather
- Senior Manager: Catchment Management, Mr Geoff Tooley

5. What area of expertise did the event cover?

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

Other: climate change adaptation planning, regional compact planning

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

Since the signing of the Durban Adaptation Charter (DAC), on the 4th December 2011, eThekweni Municipality has been working with a number of local and international partners to operationalize the DAC globally. One aspect of this has been the development of a regional partnership to ensure that climate change adaptation and mitigation planning, such as is currently being developed within the Durban Climate Change Strategy, is congruent and aligned with the strategies of our municipal neighbours.

To facilitate the development of a regional partnership to achieve this, and in fulfillment of an earlier departmental commitment to a DAC sponsor, Durban and Fort Lauderdale/ Broward County officials participated in the first part of an exchange visit in July 2013. The aim of the visit was for the Florida officials to share their experience in setting up a similar regional partnership, termed the SE Florida Regional Climate Change Compact. In November, the second part of this exchange visit was being planned, with Durban officials set to travel to Florida to participate in further learning exchanges around water, sea level rise and biodiversity. Durban is acknowledged as a global authority in all three of these sectors, and this presented an excellent opportunity for Durban's profile to be raised further. Unfortunately, the visit was preceded by the US Federal Government's shut-down, which meant that funds to support the return visit were not available. The trip was, therefore, postponed until 2014 and was duly completed from 10th – 14th March.

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?

It was striking to see how well these organisations from the different local governments and counties worked together to address climate change adaptation. This also included communication and collaboration with organisations outside of government. There is a unified vision of what they hope to achieve through the Compact, and a common understanding of the need for action.

It was also particularly striking to see how little natural area remains in Broward County outside of the Everglades Water Conservation Areas. Consequently, the city is spending many millions of Dollars implementing engineering solutions which would be available for free if they had intact natural spaces. Durban benefits substantially (approximately R 3 billion annually, excluding tourism) from its own D'MOSS system.

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?

A positive outcome from this week was a firm commitment between partners to extend collaboration from Durban's establishment of its own regional compact (modeled on the Florida experience), to Dar Es Salaam's efforts at climate change adaptation. The aim, which directly emerged from the final meeting of the week, is to establish a global SUPER COMPACT, where cities will be able to show their national counterparts that action against climate change is happening. This will be particularly important following the 2015 Conference of the Parties in Paris.

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

Officials from the various cities with Broward County, and officials from the latter met with the Durban representatives. Close relationships were established within the various sectors, and these will be used to further the aims of the Compacts.

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