

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?

6th LAGOS STATE SUMMIT ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN LAGOS, NIGERIA

2. The DATE attended:

18/03/2013 to 20/03/2014

3. VENUE

(further details on venue)

The 6th edition of the annual Summit with the theme "Exploring Business Opportunities in Climate Change mitigation and Adaptation: Lagos State in Focus" took place at Eko Hotel and Suites Victoria Island, Lagos from Tuesday 18th – Thursday 20th March, 2014

4. OFFICIALS WHO ATTENDED?

BHEKA J. NXELE

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 | x | Good governance | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Other:

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

The purpose of the Summit was to explore business opportunities in Climate Change mitigation and adaptation and the main objectives were to resource the State of Lagos with expertise on how to go about adapting to climate change, share information on what other countries or municipalities are doing to create business opportunities in climate change adaptation. The theme of the Summit was Exploring Business Opportunities in Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation. My attendance present on the Buffelsdraai Community Reforestation Programme which is being implemented by the Environmental Planning & Climate Protection Department of eThekweni Municipality. This presentation provided an opportunity for the objectives, achievements and goals of the Programme to be presented at the Summit, with the main aim of information sharing in terms of what is being done in eThekweni to create business opportunities in Climate Change mitigation and adaptation.

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?

Since the focus of the Summit was more around information sharing and gathering for the Lagos State Government, from the discussions, it appeared that Nigeria as represented by the Lagos State is slightly behind in terms of the understanding and commitment towards the clearing of invasive alien species. This lack of understanding has negative ramifications on their reforestation projects where they end up planting non-indigenous species which they should be removing in the first place. The presentation on the Buffelsdraai Community Reforestation Programme and the fact that eThekweni Municipality is making use of the Systematic Conservation Plan information to inform its D'MOSS layer, was received with great appreciation and acknowledgement, even from the President of ICLEI (Mr. David Cadman). Nonetheless, whilst the Summit might have been an eye-opener in that regard, Lagos seemed to be making significant achievements in terms of data collection and working towards a greener future, for instance farmers are working in close collaboration with European academic institutions to collect and monitor climatic weather patterns to better inform agricultural activities. Another observation which was even confirmed during the discussions was that Nigerian scientists are not working together. Whilst this might be typical of scientists across the globe, the negative effects were strongly condoned in that working in solos deprives the State knowing who has what information and how it can be of use.

The role of involvement and strong leadership by His Excellency Mr. Babatunde Raji Fashola SAN, in matters of Climate Change adaptation, also proved to be a key motivating ingredient for the State to progress in the direction it is moving. Needless to say, eThekweni Municipality is a key example in this regard!

Finally, the importance of community involvement was highlighted by the the involvement of community leaders in the form of Chiefs, who also attended the Summit. In addition to that, young scholars and university students were also involved throughout the Summit. At times, these future leaders were given dedicated slots to ask questions and raise their views about their own interpretation of climate change mitigation and adaptation. One scholar, probably in secondary school, asked a very humbling and profound question, "what is climate change?". This innocent question, at least for me, created a realization on the importance of community awareness especially on matters of common interest. The State of Lagos was hosting its 6th Summit on Climate Change, that is very advanced, yet there are people who still do not know what is Climate Change!!! If we expect people, especially our future leaders, to know, understand and adapt to Climate Change, then we have an obligation to engage them whilst they are young.

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?

I think the eThekweni Municipality can improve a lot in the involvement of communities, more especially in as far as awareness is concerned around Climate Change. Community involvement should not only be limited to project employment but awareness campaigns aimed at reaching a broader audience and imparting basic information around what climate change really is, how does it impact/threaten people's livelihoods or well-being and what can a normal person do to lessen the threats of climate change. Such campaigns could go a long way in facilitating the implementation of green projects in community areas and also in effectuating mind-set change. Achieving great milestones in climate change adaptation, with the majority of people not knowing what is being done and why certain things are being done, could prove counter-productive and might also delay progress.

With this in mind I believe it might be worth it to have community/public workshops, on a regular basis, just to get an understanding of where people are in terms of understanding, changing lifestyles and also provide them with contemporary information around climate change.

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

Name	Affiliation	Position	e-mail	Contact Number
Mr. Lagos Maximum Ugwuoke	State of Nigeria	Head EPCC Dept.	maxymaxy4c@yahoo.com	(+23)-48033604537
Mr. Hastings Chikoko	C40	Regional Director	hchikoko@C40.org	(+27)-824159271
Prof. Jimmy O. Adegoke	University of Missouri-Kansas City	Academic Professor	adegokej@umkc.edu	816 235-2978
Prof. Iyiola On I	University of Lagos, Nigeria	Academic Professor	samiyioni@gmail.com	(+23)-8034180800
Dr. Akanimo Odon	Envirofly Group	President & CEO	akan.odon@envirofly-group.com	(+23)-48023753241
Mrs. Helen A. Fadipe	FirstPlus Planning Consultants	Managing Director	hfadipe@firstplusplanning.com	(+23)-418261205
Mr. David Cadman	ICLEI World Secretariat	President	president@iclei.org	(+49)-228976299-00
Mrs. Rose P. Masso	Tresoriere(Cameroon)	(REFACOF)	rosymass1@yahoo.fr	(+23)-799908875
Dr. Abu Mumuni	University of Ghana (RIPS)	Academic Lecturer	abumus2000@yahoo.com	
Ms Maarit Virtanen	Lahti University of Applied Sciences	Project Manager (Admin)	maarit.virtanen@lamk.fi	(+35)-8447081260
Mr. Akinwale Ojomo	Diaspora Innovation Institute, Lagos	Chief Engagement Officer	akinsoroy@gmail.com	(+23)-407013334444
Vincent Attah	Lagos State of Nigeria	Lawyer	Vattah@din.org.ng	(+23)-8183146357

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