



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?

5th Global Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation and the Mayors' Adaptation Forum

2. The DATE attended:

29/05/2014 to 31/05/2014

3. VENUE

(further details on venue)

Germany, Gustav-Stresemann Institute

4. OFFICIALS WHO ATTENDED?

Mayor James Nxumalo and Dr Sean O'Donoghue

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	x		

Other: climate change adaptation and resilience

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

Every year ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability convene their global forum on urban resilience and adaptation. This congress is attended by local government officials, researchers, NGOs and a wide range of other participants in the field of climate change and resilience. Contained within this annual Congress is the Mayors' Adaptation Forum. This is a meeting of mayors from ICLEI member cities, and it is convened to discuss issues related to climate change adaptation. As one of ICLEI's three Vice-Presidents, Mayor James Nxumalo represented eThekweni Municipality at the Mayors' Adaptation Forum, and was also co-Patron of the event.

These two events are a key milestone every year for the implementation of the Durban Adaptation Charter. Progress with the implementation of the DAC was presented during the MAF sessions, and at the closing plenary, a special vote of thanks was expressed by ICLEI President, Mr David Cadman, to Mayor Nxumalo for the excellent progress the DAC is making and for the leadership His Worship has shown in this field.

This annual gathering also provides an excellent opportunity for the steering committee of the DAC to meet and plan the next year's activities with regards implementation. This year was particularly successful in this respect.

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?

The following bulleted list contains my 'AHA' moments:

- The theme of ecosystem based adaptation is growing every year. This year there were no less than seven ecosystem-based adaptation and ecological infrastructure-focussed sessions.
- Lykke Leonardsen: In Copenhagen, non-motorised transport has become so popular that bicycle lanes are experiencing congestion problems, even more so than road transport congestion.
- State Secretary Flasbarth: "China builds the equivalent of all infrastructure found within Germany every two years"
- Mitchell/ Leonardsen: "cities receive 8 cents from every tax dollar for tax implementation"

Besides these, the DAC made excellent progress in meeting with other city officials and funding bodies to extend regional partnerships between DAC signatory cities of adaptation excellence. These include the establishment of regional nodes in Latin America and a DAC signing ceremony in Lima, Peru during the COP 20 climate negotiations in December this year. The regional hub of excellence will be Bogota. Plans are also being made to include Cape Coast, Ghana in a DAC regional hub partnership with Durban and Dar Es Salaam, and to extend another hub partnership with SE Asian cities.

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?

Implementation of the outcomes of the DAC meetings held during the Congress will be a top priority for the Climate Protection Branch.

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

The Senator for Environment from Bogota and his team were key contacts made during this workshop, as well as members from the climate change adaptation team of the Inter-American Development Bank. The mayor of Santiago, Chile, and a representative of the Dominican Republic will also be contacted following their interest in signing the DAC.

