

LED *in action*

Vol 2 November 2005

LED *in action* is the monthly newsletter of the Provincial Local Economic Development (LED) Support Programme. It includes interviews with key stakeholders; feedback on key programmes and projects and current LED thinking.



Photographed in Port Elizabeth during the recent regional visits, are the following Cacadu District Municipality and IPCU representatives (L-R):

John Reynolds, Team Leader, Interim Programme Coordination Unit (IPCU); Ted Pillay, District Municipal Manager; Phumlelo Kate, Portfolio Councillor: LED & Tourism; Ntsikelelo Thongo, LED Manager; Russell Grinker, Public Sector Institutional Development Specialist (IPCU); Khunjulwa Manzi, Director Development Facilitation; Patrick Mjele, Public Sector Development Specialist (IPCU); Mlungisi Mvoko, Executive Mayor.

Setting up Regional Programme Offices

Over the period 14 – 20 October 2005, the Institutional Preparation Team (IPT) of the Interim Programme Coordination Unit (IPCU) visited all the District Municipal areas in the Province to facilitate the operationalisation of the approved Regional Office Model. The purpose of the visits was to:

- confirm the existence of the office infrastructure offered;
- ascertain capacity of host institutions to accommodate regional office staff;
- determine and record the nature and extent of the offer;
- explore any other offers to host the programme in the area;
- introduce the concept of service level agreements (SLAs) between the hosts and the programme to govern the hosting relationship and arrangements;
- gather information to enable the Institutional Preparation Team to design capacity building interventions for counterparts that will allow them to engage constructively in the programme;
- gather information on the general living environment within which the offices are located to help regional office staff who need to settle there.

Regional Office Location

Based on the regional office verification exercise, the following final office locations were established:

Municipality	Host Institution	Town
Nelson Mandela Metro and Cacadu District Municipality	Cacadu District Municipal offices	Port Elizabeth
Amathole District Municipality and Buffalo City Municipality	Amatole District Municipal offices	East London
Chris Hani District Municipality and Ukhahlamba District Municipality	ECDC offices (Regional office) Ukhahlamba District Municipality offices (Satellite office)	Queenstown, Barkley East
OR Tambo District Municipality and Alfred Nzo District Municipality	ECDC offices (Regional office) Alfred Nzo District Municipality offices (Satellite office)	Mthatha, Mount Ayliff



IPCU Team Leader looks back

Asked what made him feel good about the programme so far, the IPCU Team Leader, John Reynolds, looked back on the milestones achieved and commented as follows:

- I am pleased with level of commitment and degree of ownership of the programme displayed by key provincial and municipal role players. If this continues, we will have a truly integrated provincial support response that is much more than a donor programme.
- I am proud to have worked with colleagues as dedicated and professional in their support work as the members of the IPCU. I trust that they will continue to serve the province in the future.

Hand over of the programme to the permanent team

The members of the long-term Programme Coordination Unit (PCU) have been mobilised to start work in the province. The IPCU has been instrumental in facilitating the settling in of the PCU in the Provincial Treasury, the Eastern Cape Development Corporation (ECDC) and Department of Housing and Local Government and Traditional Affairs, where they will work with government staff to support implementation of all aspects of Provincial LED Support Programme.

The PCU team has been introduced to key provincial stakeholders and joint planning meetings and workshops have been held to ensure a smooth handover process during the overlap phase between the two teams.

Upcoming Events

- Final draft of the report on the SSME finance market in the Province, to be released on 22 November 2005
- Inception workshop (PCU), involving the PSC and other key stakeholders, to be held on 23 November 2005
- Municipal and counterpart workshop, to be held on 5 December 2005
- Last PSC meeting for 2005, to be held on 6 December 2005
- IPCU to disband at the end of December 2005

Keep in touch

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