



rural development & land reform

Department:
Rural Development and Land Reform
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**Western Cape
Government**

**MINUTES OF THE WESTERN CAPE SPATIAL INFORMATION FORUM (WCSIF),
MOWBRAY, CAPE TOWN
15 June 2012 at 10:00**

ITEM	Responsible official ¹
1 WELCOME	
Heindrich du Plessis welcomed everyone to the meeting and the NGI.	HDP
1.1 INTRODUCTION OF THE WCSIF	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The formulation of the WCSIF was discussed. • The objectives of the forum were discussed. 	JDP
2 RATIONALE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulelwa Semoli (DRDLR) summarised the constituting document as well as the background to the establishment of the WCSIF, highlighting key points in each section of the document. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ She explained how the idea of the WCSIF came into being, after DRDLR and DotP met regarding difficulties in acquiring data. ◦ The purpose and role players as scoped in the initiative were presented. ◦ BS indicated that the meeting was a platform that would allow for the drafting of the way forward regarding the purpose of the WCSIF. ◦ To conclude her presentation, BS discussed the responsibilities of the various offices and welcomed input, comments and questions from the audience. 	BS
2.1 QUESTIONS & COMMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Will universities be included as role players? There could be mutual benefits to involve universities in government projects. Also, Government invests much money on university post graduate programmes (MSc and PhD), and having these students involved would be beneficial to all. 	Audience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although the focus of the WCSIF was on government spheres, universities would also be invited as role players. 	BS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A comment was made by the audience relating to the lack of data availability. It was commented that at times the problem is not necessarily the unavailability of data but rather the format in which the data is. 	Audience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS concurred and supported the comment. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS concluded by stating that focus groups could be formed within the WCSIF to address any specific matters. 	BS
3 INFORMATION LEGISLATION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adv Sanet van Aarde (DotP) presented the implications associated with the sharing of information. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ She stated the SDI Act only applies to organs of State and that its main purpose was the promotion of information-sharing. 	SVA

¹ See attendance list at end for abbreviations

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ She emphasised that while the aim was to promote data sharing, copyrights should not be encroached upon. ○ She highlighted that the Public Service may not refuse or withhold information when requested and that the transparency principle was very important. The grounds for refusing information needed to be very clear. The Minimum Information Security Standards apply. ○ SVA pointed out that various manuals in this regard are available to serve as guidelines for information management. ○ She briefly discussed the role of Information Officers. 	
3.1 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Can the R35 application fee be waived when information is requested under PAIA? • The fee may not be waived, but departments may make information available for free through publications or placing it on the Internet. ❖ Who determines sensitivity of data so that it may be refused? • PAIA provides grounds for refusal of information, but the reasons need to be valid. ❖ Who assumes the role of Municipal Information Officer? • Usually the role is assumed by the Municipal Manager. ❖ In terms of consultants employed by government, what are the responsibilities of the consultants when approached for data they collected for the government? • Requests for information from consultants should be referred to the department for which the work was done, and the department can make the decision. It is vital that organs of state specify clearly in their contracts how data will be handled during projects. Data should be handed over in full and in the requested format at the end of a project. 	<p>Audience</p> <p>SVA</p> <p>Audience</p> <p>SVA</p> <p>Audience</p> <p>SVA</p> <p>Audience</p> <p>SVA</p>
4 PROVINCIAL SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kobus Munro (DEADP) presented the PSDF. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ He defined what an SDF was and the purpose of it. ○ KM indicated that the main objective of an SDF was to identify areas in development and the type of development required. ○ Attempts to assist municipalities with SDFs are difficult when good maps containing data layers that are owned by consultants or other third parties cannot be verified or accessed. ○ Neighbouring municipalities need to consider each other as most municipalities are affected by goings-on in neighbouring municipalities. ○ KM pointed out that a Spatial Planning tool and a GIS Website will be major components on the PSDF. 	KM
4.1 QUESTIONS & COMMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ If public funds are used for formulating SDFs, why are they not entitled to access to that data? • Sometimes, layers used to produce certain maps were paid for by private clients or for different purposes, which makes it difficult to obtain the data in such instances. ❖ Why is DEADP responsible for the PSDF? • Various sector departments are still responsible, but the Province had 	<p>Audience</p> <p>KM</p> <p>Audience</p> <p>KM</p>

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<p>changed its approach to a collaborative effort.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ COMMENT: Grounds should be established by the WCSIF for the custodians of data to capture it as well as necessary attributes and that these data sets should then be made available to any interested party. 	Audience
5 SPATIAL PLANNING INFORMATION SYSTEM (SPISYS)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fanie Minnie (DRDLR) presented the Spisys progress in the Free State and the challenges that they were still facing as a province. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To achieve what they had achieved they had used no less than 408 data sets of data. ○ Spisys was the platform that linked everything together. ○ The catalyst that drove them to start Spisys was the problem of knowing about government buildings, but not being able to find them. ○ FM pointed out highlights of their work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The re-creation of approved SDFs in a standard automated format. ▪ The ability to check backlogs and whether they had been addressed. ▪ Hyperlinks on their reports which allowed for the sharing of information. ▪ The main aim to automate data was being achieved in that even farmers could use it to monitor aspects of their farms. ○ The example documents could be accessed on their website: http://spisys.gov.za/ Documents, WC demo 	FM
5.1 QUESTIONS & COMMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Why have other provinces not implemented this method? • The Northern Cape uses the same system and there are negotiations with at least two other provinces taking place (WC and EC). The Free State Spisys is a pilot project. 	Audience FM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ COMMENT: The Western Cape needs to be more aware of what is happening in other provinces in order to be able to facilitate the Western Cape needs. 	Audience
6 NEXT MEETING DATE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 November 2012 • Comments on the document to be submitted by: 30 June • Further consultation and incorporation of comments: 31 August 	
7 CLOSURE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JDP thanked everybody for attending. • The meeting closed at 13:15 and was followed by a finger lunch. 	JDP DRDLR

SIGNED: 
Mr Jacques du Preez
Chairperson: Western Cape Spatial Information Forum

DATE: 29/11/2012

Attendance List

ATTENDANCE	INITIALS	DEPARTMENTS
Ian Kotze	IK	ARC
M. Makala	MM	BOCMA
Adam Steer	AS	Breede Valley Municipality
J. van Eyssen	JvE	Breede Valley Municipality
M. Gagiano	MG	Breede Valley Municipality
Andrew Turner	AT	Cape Nature
Adv. Sanet van Aarde	SVA	Cape Nature
Therese Forsyth	TF	Cape Nature
Jaco Rademan	JR	Cape Winelands DM
Kevin Tabisher	KT	City of Cape Town
Khanyisa Tyali-Feni	KTF	City of Cape Town
Zandisile Sdoyi	ZS	CPUT
Gerbrand Mans	GB	CSIR
Manfred Spocter	MS	CSIR
Francois Wust	FW	DBSA
Andre van der Merwe	AvdM	DEADP
Chrizelle Kriel	CK	DEADP
Kobus Munro	KM	DEADP
Henriette Strauss	HS	DotP
Jacques du Preez	JDP	DotP
Lauren Lewis	LL	DotP
Roger Daniels	RD	DotP
N. Dingani	ND	DSD
Nicolas Cilliers	NC	DTPW
F. Jonek	FJ	DWA
N. Lottering	NL	DWA
Salman Damons	SD	Eden DM
Abraham Parbhunath	AP	Eskom
Nina Navarro-Britto	NN	Provincial Treasury
Ayanda Mahanjana	AM	Rural Development and Land Reform
Bulelwa Semoli	BS	Rural Development and Land Reform
Emmanuel Jeje	EJ	Rural Development and Land Reform
Fanie Minnie	FM	Rural Development and Land Reform
Heindrich du Plessis	HDP	Rural Development and Land Reform
Liezel Ahjum	LA	Rural Development and Land Reform
Nicholas Wiltshire	NW	Sahra
M Murcott	MM	Salga
Fahiema Daniels	FH	Sanbi
Heather Terrapon	HT	Sanbi
Sediqa Khatieb	SK	Sanbi
Cuan Bowman	CB	Stats SA
Jacques Coetzee	JC	Stats SA
Doretha Kotze	DK	West Coast DM