



Case Study 1: The Cato Manor Development Project

Themes:

Integrated Urban Development and Infrastructure delivery	Community-based infrastructure delivery	Project-based infrastructure planning
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Background:



The Cato Manor Development Project is located in Durban, South Africa. It is an integrated urban development project, funded by the South African Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) and the European Union. The aim was to mobilise funding sources, institutional actors and communities to produce a 'city within a city'; integrated urban development that provides for the housing, economic, recreational and educational needs of almost 100 000 people. One of the many distinguishing features of the project is that for 10 years, from 1993, it was managed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) that was autonomous and able to coordinate the function of state and other agencies towards the delivery of a particular spatial vision.

Infrastructure delivery was considered key to releasing land for development, unlocking investment opportunities and essentially providing the 'capital web' for public and private investment.

Learning Outcomes:

- An understanding of the limits of infrastructure-led development
- Insight into how infrastructure interfaces with other sectors
- An understanding of how the relationship between infrastructure delivery and spatial planning is operationalized
- Knowledge of the impact of community politics and institutional dynamics

Core questions:

- Where did infrastructure planning feature in project planning and what were the assumptions that underpinned this phasing?
- What role did community based organisations play in implementation?
- How did infrastructure feature in the Package of Plans that informed the Cato Manor project? Work through the levels of planning and how that those interfaces manifest.
- Comment on the assumptions with regards to infrastructure investment and economic development.

Key Sources: Odendaal, N. (2007) “The Cato Manor Development Project in Durban, South Africa: Urban Development through Innovation”, in **American Behavioral Scientist**, 50.7 (March 2007).

Robinson, P; J. McCarthy and C. Forster (eds). 2004. **Urban Reconstruction in the Developing World: Learning through an International Best Practice**, Sandton: Heinemann.

Todes, A., Odendaal, N. & J. Cameron (2005) “Integrated Local Area Projects: Working towards innovation and sustainability”, in **Urban Forum**, Jan 2005.

Todes, A. (2008) Rethinking Spatial Planning, in **Town and Regional Planning**, 53, 10-14.

There are many published articles on Cato Manor; the one’s above deal most directly with planning and infrastructure.

Other resources:

Cato Manor Presentation. PPT
<http://www.cmda.org.za/>