“South African Human Settlements 2030 – Rethinking the Spatial Development Trajectory”

Ravi Naidoo
Knowledge Week
20 October 2010
Knowledge Week 2010

Contribution to the transformation of the human settlements growth path and spatial development trajectory

Find solutions to complex development challenges

Platform for sharing knowledge and deepening understanding of critical issues

Basis for partnerships between DBSA and other development role-players
Critical Human Settlements Challenges

Key challenges (South African context):

- Lack of a common vision regarding the trajectory of human settlements in South Africa
- South Africa’s human settlement patterns still reflect the *apartheid spatial planning legacy*
- Urban development today continues to reinforce fragmentation and marginalization through the growth of peripheral formal and informal settlements, driven by migration, poor land use management and lack of income
- Many rural settlements in South Africa are still characterized by a scattered, mostly unplanned, population distribution, with very limited access to economic opportunities, transport, and basic services
- Rest of SADC and Africa have disproportionate rural-urban migration which creates challenges but also longer-term development opportunities
South Africa is currently in the process of transforming its “growth path” and human settlements identified as one of the priority sectors. Human Settlements policy agenda is being reviewed to achieve the ideals of truly sustainable human settlements by 2030. The government has crafted an outcome process, focusing on four outcomes that include Human Settlements, and a delivery agreement on “the creation of sustainable human settlements and improved quality of household life.”

Spatial planning has been placed at the heart of the government’s development agenda: through the NPC, the government is facilitating the development of a spatial vision for South Africa.
The Partnership Between DBSA and the Department of Human Settlements

- MOU Between DBSA and Department of Human Settlements
  - 2007 MOU between DBSA and Department of Human Settlements
  - MOU aimed at embracing DBSA’s role as advisor, partner, integrator, implemeneter and financier, and investigating opportunities to accelerate sustainable human settlements, including housing delivery.

- Knowledge Week 2010 Partnership
  - Knowledge Week seeks to strengthen the existing partnership between DBSA and Department of Human Settlements
  - Discussions and outcomes will inform the upcoming National Human Settlements Indaba in November 2010
  - Knowledge Week seeks to begin articulating critical issues required to enhance the trajectory of human settlements in the short term (Agenda 2014 sector priorities), as well as the medium and long term (definition and implementation of a concrete agenda towards a suitable vision for 2030)
Knowledge Week

- Key issues on agenda:
  - Growth path & spatial vision
  - Spatial integration (urban & rural)
  - Regional spatial trends & planning
  - Environmental considerations
  - Institutional reconfiguration & politics of space
  - Prioritisation, trade-offs, funding, and decisions required
  - 10-point plan of action

- Contribution to National Human Settlements Implementation Plan