

TOWARDS DYNAMIC SMALL TOWNS: A RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

RESEARCH CLUSTER ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

University of the Free State
Education Building room 12
Bloemfontein

31 October & 1 November 2013

In partnership with:
Central University of Technology (CUT)

PROGRAM

DAY ONE

08h00 – 09h00: Registration

09H00 Opening: Prof Lucius Botes, Dean of Humanities and head of MDS programme

09H10 Welcome: Mrs Elsabe Rockman, MEC for Finance, Free State

09H25 Setting the scene : Prof Doreen Atkinson

Opening Session: Small towns in comparative context

09H30 – 11H00

09H30 Guest speaker: Prof David Turkon, Ithaca College, USA: The social underpinnings of community development

10H00 Guest speaker: Prof Etienne Nel, University of Otago, New Zealand: Comparing small towns in South Africa and New Zealand: How do they build social and economic resilience?"

10H30 Guest speaker: Ms Saskia Haardt, CSTR. Dynamics of Small Towns in Namibia. Observations made during the pilot training on small towns regeneration

11H00 TEA BREAK



11H30 The small town newspaper and social capital: Smithfield's Smiffie

Dr Mark Ingle: Centre for Development Support, UFS

11H55 Changing demographic and population trends in Botshabelo: Policy implications

Dr Lejone Ntema: Centre for Development Support, UFS

12H20 Social protests and the social fabric

Dr Sethulego Matebesi: Department of Sociology, UFS

12H45 Appropriate building technology as a catalyst for social change in upgrading informal settlements

Ms Anita Venter, Centre for Development Support, UFS; Mr Tjaart van der Walt, Department of Town and Regional Planning, UFS

13H10 LUNCH (half an hour)**Session 2: What is local comparative advantage, and how can it be promoted? 13H40 – 15H55****13H40 Heritage resources, tourism and land use in Phuthaditjhaba: Critical reflections from a community development perspective**

Dr Wisemen Chingombe and Dr Philip Taru: Department of Geography, UFS

14H05 An approach towards measuring sustainable community development in small towns

Ms Bernice van Schalkwyk and Prof Carel Schoeman: Subject Group for Urban and Regional Planning, North West University

14H30 Water use strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change on small towns in South Africa

Dr Francois Fourie, Institute for Groundwater Studies, UFS; Mrs Anita Venter, Centre for Development Support, UFS

14H55 TEA BREAK**Session 3: Local livelihoods, local partnerships****15H15 – 16H30****15H15 Analysing small towns research and local economic development in South Africa**

Dr Jennifer Houghton, Ms Bakhetsile Dlamini and Ms Nolwazi Mthembu: Department of Geography, University of KwaZulu-Natal

15H40 Enterprise dynamics in South African church towns

Dr Daan Toerien: Centre for Development Support, UFS

16H05 Transforming LED partnerships in South Africa

Dr Deidre van Rooyen: Centre for Development Support, UFS

16H30 Announcements

END OF DAY 1

DAY TWO

07h30 – 08h30: Registration

Session 5: Small towns in regional contexts

08H30 – 11H30

08H30 Migration patterns: Implications for small towns

Prof Lochner Marais, Centre for Development Support, UFS

08H55 From surviving to thriving: Planning for sustainable livelihoods in urban transition zones and rural spaces

Ms Menini Gibbens and Prof Carel Schoeman, Subject Group for Urban and Regional Planning, North West University

09H20 International success stories of cross-border tourism development

Mr Johan Hattingh: Department of Tourism and Event Management, Central University of Technology, Free State

09H45 A regional planning framework for sustainable rural livelihoods: the case of Maluti A Phofung

Prof Maléne Campbell and Mnr Mthethelezi Dubazane: Department of Urban and Regional Planning, UFS

10H10 An aviation strategy for Beaufort West and the Karoo region: Implications for small towns

Prof Doreen Atkinson: Centre for Development Support, UFS

Session 6: Reflections for research, intervention and policy

10H35 Panel discussion: *Prof Etienne Nel, Prof David Turkon, Prof Doreen Atkinson*

An agenda for future research and engagement

11h30- CLOSURE

Light lunch

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