

Review of the Provincial Research Agenda during the 6th administration: 2019 to 2024

1st Set of Roundtable/Focus Discussions held virtually on: 15 February 2023

Questions to be completed by departments/organisations

Due Date: 29 February

Reminder: Objectives of the session

- A. To understand how departments in the three clusters are structured to implement their research agenda
 - B. To gain a broad overview of the studies undertaken by departments
 - C. c. To identify strategic gaps in the research agenda
 - D. d. To elicit participants' input on the methodological approach of the study and its outcomes
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Questions – Part 1: Assessment of current research capacity and outputs

1. Please tell us more about the research function in your department/organisation in terms of:
 - How you are structured (i.e. unit and directorate)

Policy and research Unit-GDHS

- Director- currently vacant
- 2 Deputy Directors
- 4 Assistant Directors- one is currently vacant.
- Staff complement.
- Your current research budget for 2022/2023

R 2.3 million

- How many studies you have conducted between April 2019 to March 2024 (to date)

There are 11 studies and two of them (conducted in 2022) were never completed.

- What type of studies have you conducted so far (main themes/topics)

Our themes are Human Settlements focused.

- Climate change on human settlements
- Housing beneficiary education
- Urbanisation and migration
- Formation of households
- IBT
- Upgrading of human settlements
- Mega projects vs small scale projects
- Sustainability of BNG Walk ups
- Back yarding
- Social housing

- Knowledge management activities (storage, distillation and dissemination)

Our Research repository is:

- Knowledge Management Portal- all approved research reports, policies, research publications and strategies are stored here.
- What gaps exist / challenges experienced

Our research gaps are mostly found in our research studies because we usual conduct secondary studies other than primary studies due to the challenges of capacity and cost containment. Supply change long processes are also a change when it comes to appoint service provider to conduct primary studies.

- Projections for the next financial year

We intend to conduct two research studies and those will be primary studies since we have additional ASD: Research employed this month.

Reminder

We have adopted a participatory methodological approach, which:

- Is both a range of methods and an ideological perspective (IDS, no date)
- encompasses research designs, methods, and frameworks that use systematic inquiry in direct collaboration with those affected by an issue being studied for the purpose of action or change (Vaughn and Jacques, 2020)
- engages community stakeholders in the research process, from problem identification and developing the research question, to dissemination of results (Duesa, 2022)

Questions – Part 2: Methodological approach

- Please comment on the overall methodological approach adopted for the review and how it can be improved.
- Regarding the scope and sampling procedures, are there any specific individuals and/or organisations outside of government that you recommend for inclusion in the study?

Not sure but CSIR and HSRC as research institutions should also be on board with their research expertise.

- Which other research questions should be included in the study?

I can't think of any now

- How do you think the desktop aspect of the review be approached?

Desktop research reports are good however since we all know that they are relying on someone's data, so they are not effective as to get a firsthand information

Thank you for your cooperation!

References

[Institute of Development Studies. No date. Research and Analyse. Participatory methods.](#)

<https://www.participatorymethods.org/task/research-and-analyse#:~:text=Participatory%20research%20is%20both%20a,capabilities%20are%20respected%20and%20valued.>

Vaughn L.M & Jacquez, F. 2020. Participatory Research Methods – Choice Points in the Research Process. *Journal of Participatory Research Methods* (1)1

Duea, S.R. *et al.* 2022. A Guide to Selecting Participatory Research Methods Based on Project and Partnership Goals. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9258244/>

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