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REPORT ON STUDY - VISIT 17 JUNE - SJULY 1991 TO MUNICIPALITY OF TORONTO CANADA b : Cdes Thozamile Botha and 3a a A alra'u members of A.N.C. Local Government and Planning Committee under Legal and Constitutional Affairs and Coordinators of Research project entitled 'Metropolitan and Local Government Issues in South Africa & Zimbabwe' under the University of Western Cape and University of Zimbabwe 1991).

BACKGROUND

1. Following workshops on local government held in Harare in 1988 and 1989 by A.N.C. involving civic leaders and CUSATU representatives, a research project proposal was submitted to the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada including a separate project on Training.
2. The research project was approved and began in February '91 by University of Zimbabwe and in May, by UWC.
3. The proposal on Training was considered premature and required Further in-depth study of Canadian resources in the Field. Accordingly, the project was not approved by IDRC and instead it was proposed that the two Co-ordinators undertake a study visit to the Municipality of Toronto which was organised by the Canadian Urban Institute. The main objective of the study visit was to identify training resources within the public, private and social housing sectors of the local government system at City, Metropolitan and Provincial levels in Toronto and Untanio.

AIMS OF THE VISIT

4. to meet with municipal officials, private sector developers community based organisations involved with the provision of low and middle-income housing, services, infrastructure and community Facilities. In addition meetings were arranged with training Institutions specialising in C80 programmes.

5. to identify training opportunities For South African Civic leaders and ANC cadres in preparation For a transition phase and a post-apartheid local government system.

6. to identify a Framework For collaborative network between Canadian Institutions and South African anti-apartheid local government/planning institutions.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY VISIT

(refer attached Programme)

7. an intensive programme of meetings was undertaken with senior officials of the City of Toronto, Metro-Toronto as well as Provincial and Regional Municipalities. These explored the scope of their respective policies, programmes their interrelationships and operations including site-visits. Discussions included consideration of work attachments to various Departments of the Municipalities at different levels.

8. Meetings with private sector developers, urban designers and planners involved with integrated, mixed-income and multi-ethnic communities, including housing co-operatives.

9. Visits to training institutions offering community-based programmes as well as For individual academic researchers

10. OTTAWA. Meetings were held in the Federal capital with the

Ministry of External Affairs, Canadian International Development Authority (CIDA), South African Educational Trust Fund (SAETF) and International Development Research Centre (IDRC) regarding potential support For urban development and housing projects, training and research.

RESULTS OF STUDY VISIT

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the team was extremely impressed with the organisation quality and comprehensiveness of housing, delivery of services and community Facilities especially for low-income Families within the city including child-care and health and care For the elderly and disabled.

the mechanisms For the participation of urban communities in programmes and plan Formulation are encouraging, though Fairly bureaucratised.

attempts at innovative Financial packaging of private and public investment and at designing neighbourhoods across ethnic and cultural boundaries were impressive. Many potential lessons can be drawn From the Financial and planning experiences of Toronto as they apply in the future South African context. Examples include housing co-operatives and extensive social housing programmes and Financial packages administered by national and provinciam parastatal institutions. International examples of work undertaken by Canadian private and public partnership schemes include major redevelopment of the city of Leningrad, Squatter upgrading in Gaborone and restructuring of local government in Lesotho.

14. The city of Toronto together with State Technical College (Ryerson) with possible cooperation with other South African and international training institutions, can make a significant contribution to the development of both Formal training packages and counterpart attachment programmes. Together they constitute an important resource for indepth practical knowledge of urban policy planning and implementation in the development of a 'middle range skilled cadre' covering both townships as well as wider urban community needs in local government & urban management. The University of Toronto on the other hand offers opportunities For Formal post graduate research in urban policy and planning. Both institutions offer good possibilities For resource material exchange For institution building in South Africa.

15. CIDA, Ministry of External Affairs, and SAETF urged the submission of a Full project proposal as a matter of urgency 1F the ANC wished to proceed with a training programme.

CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS.

16. After extensive discussions with the various institutions, a consensus was reached that given the complexity of training needs and levels an appropriate response would be to integrate training with land development projects in selected cities in South Africa. The object of the approach would be to demdgrate ,3 a learning process through implementation of a development strategy based on tested principles of neighbouring design, planning and management. It would demonstrate the Feasibility of mixed income, land use and Function incorporating community design Features and innovative financial packaging involving private, public and social/cooperatiue sector partnerships. Such a development in a strategic location within a 'buFFer zone' of separate group areas will have the potential effect of catering For the first steps towards economic, social/eth nic and racial integration zones. Existing project experiences from Canada, Malasia and elsewhere would be drawn upon as they relate to the more technical aspects of project design implementation and management.

17. It is proposed that a Project Proposal be submitted by an appropriately designated organisation to CIDA. The organisation which will constitute the 'implementing agency' in South Africa will cooperate with the Canadian counterpart viz. the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). The FCM will further compose a team of five specialists to undertake a 'Feasibility study' to South Africa in November, 1991 - after the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference in Harare, Zimbabwe in October.

18. In addition to the above project, a separate project proposal should be formulated by the implementing agency and the Canadian counterpart on TRAINING For submission to SAETF. This would entail short skills training at Institutions in Southern Africa (South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe) with possible attachments both within the region and in Canada. The Proposal should include a component involving institutional support For training of researchers in urban studies in South Africa and abroad (U.K.) and Canada). The latter would be a post-graduate training programme and would include issues like housing policy urban Finance, transport policy etc.

ACTION REQUIRED

t Urgent decision on South African implementing agency which will review and submit the Proposal by early August, 1991.

t The agency would as a matter of urgency initiate discussions with CBD's regionally on objectives of the project etc.

t The agency to compose regional teams From the respective city-regions to act as counterparts to the Canadian mission.

cc ANC Office of the President, Secretary General

ALL AND DEPARTMENTS

National Association of Civics

CUSATU

Maatla Trust