

Assessment of the Functionality of the National and Provincial Intergovernmental Relations Structures



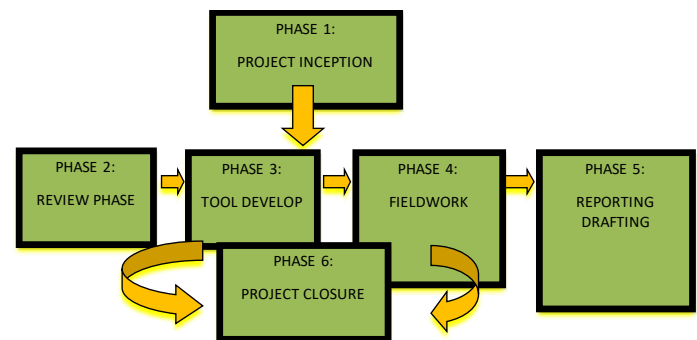
Since the promulgation of the Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act (the IGRFA) in August 2005, a first review of the policy, legislative and programmatic measures that were implemented by government was completed. In an effort and interest to assess the functionality of national and provincial IGR structures constituted in terms of the IGRFA, CoGTA commissioned a study to inform the second IGR Report to Parliament for the term of government 2009 until 2014.

The project focus was to assess the functionality of IGR structures, specifically MinMecs, the Premiers' Coordinating Forums (PCFs) and the working of the Presidential Co-ordinating Committee (PCC). It considered two components: (1) legal compliance with the provisions of the IGRFA; and (2) substantive compliance, which refers to whether the IGR structures meet the spirit of the IGRFA in the kind of issues deliberated on and the impact on service delivery. The key focus was to determine whether the IGR structures are able to engage in discussions that enable integration and co-ordination to take place across the spheres of government with the priority of improving service delivery.

PDG undertook to complete the project with the objective of:

- Establishing the degree to which these intergovernmental forums are fully functional and effective, this would include understanding how these structures are constituted, the kind of agenda issues that they deliberate upon, and
- To determine the role they play in facilitating cooperative governance, advancing the objectives of government, and the overall developmental outcomes including the impact that they have on service delivery.

The project methodology involved the following phases



where a mixed method approach was applied, i.e. a desktop review of secondary sources; and primary data collection through key information structured and semi-structured interviews.

The IGRFA sets out the legislative framework for the establishment of IGR structures. IGR Forums were seen as the key instrument to drive Government's program of action, provide the Constitutional framework for IGR, and provide the platforms to strengthen intergovernmental cooperation. IGR structures were meant to be vehicles for coordination across the spheres of government. The assessment concluded the need to review the IGRFA as well as revise the means and methods of implementation towards enabling a greater strategic focus.

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IGRFA PROJECT:

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