















# Reflections and Lessons A SA Perspective

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### Reflections on Value & Lessons

- General the initiative, outputs of the research
  - What worked is the "standing" of the project, the size of the sample, the support by key international & local role players
  - ▶ The leadership & dedication of the teams
  - ▶ The research process and outputs
  - ▶ The impact focus
- Invaluable: Awareness raising & motivation in SA
  - Sharing, policy briefs
  - Engagement sessions
  - ► Funding to support impact, engagements
  - Support for a community of practice in SA

### Reflections on Value & Lessons

- Research outputs
  - ► Maybe less about 'highlighting something new' but definitely a lot in terms of confirmation for what has been 'street knowledge'/practice experience
  - ► The value of scaling & sharing research
  - ► Enabling voicing critical issues impacting planning practice in SA
    - ► Enable engagement with range of role players in highly complex planning & intergovernmental system

## High Impact Areas that SAPER is contributing to

- ONE: Challenges of in-appropriate/non-context specific systems in planning practice in SA
  - ► Land-use management, credibility of systems eg development control for settlement development
- ► TWO: The plight of young planners
  - ▶ The need for mentoring
  - ► Supervision & Professional registration
  - ▶ Opportunities & challenges

# High Impact Areas that SAPER is contributing to

- THREE: Difference diversity
  - ▶ In addition to existing outputs Co-supervised Postgraduate Students (5) at University of Pretoria who used SAPER data as part of research for minidissertations given that they could not undertake primary research
  - ▶ Questions Raised: How interpret & lenses? How voice?
  - ▶ Two examples

#### Siyabonga Njeke

Exploring the role of diverse backgrounds, identity and culture on the ability of planners

"I noticed that my fellow colleagues often battled with conducting consultation processes with traditional leaders and their communities. It was when I enquired as to why it was difficult for my colleagues to undertake these engagements?.... It then became clear to me that background and culture play a critical role in the development of a professional."

#### Basetsana Maponya

The contribution of black female planners to urban and regional planning in South Africa: An explorative study on how planning practitioners of different racial and gender identities approach inclusive planning

# Three areas where SAPER SHOULD/COULD have impact

- ONE: Moving beyond the young planners 'lens'
  - Recognize the wealth of information that came out of interviews re need for capacity development support for NOT SO YOUNG PLANNERS
  - 1 Student University of Pretoria who used SAPER data as part of research for mini-dissertations with focus on findings related to ongoing learning
  - Major need for "support" in planning practice (resilience, adapt, reflect & also recharge)
  - Implications for planning practice not just planning education



# Three areas where SAPER SHOULD/COULD have impact

- ► TWO: Moving beyond a 'individual' view
  - Distributed capacity
  - Implications for community of practice, teams
  - ► Capacity development support for communities of practice, teams



### Three areas where SAPER SHOULD/COULD have impact

THREE: Bridging the gap & shifting the focus from research focused on



"The capacity challenge" "Innovative respons(e)-ibility for capacity development"

- Experimentation, practice developments innovative tools, technologies (even more so Mid/almost-Post/Mid COVI19)
- Multiplicity of initiatives "stuck in frame", how to find/facilitate experiments
  Example: In practice experiences Mining Municipalities in SA
- Value for research & for practice sharing, peer learning in international networks



### Reflections on Value & Lessons

- Personal value
  - ▶ People,
  - Personal passion (post-doc)
  - ► Challenge remaining Opportunities for writing/sharing
  - Perspectives, Learning
  - Findings ways to continue journey

