Track 2

Besides the megacity and other cities

Comparative analysis of Indian and South African district planning frameworks

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Research Aim

• To understand how regional planning at district scale can be effective in generating non-agricultural livelihood opportunities in rural areas

Research Questions

• How to strengthen economic roles of small agricultural towns?
• How to institutionalise coordinated development between agricultural towns and rural supply regions in a federal governance system?
Common Concerns: Rising youth unemployment

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<th>India</th>
<th>South Africa</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GDP per person (PPP) in USD</td>
<td>7,166</td>
<td>13,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urbanisation level (2018) in percent</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median age (in years)</td>
<td>27.9</td>
<td>27.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth unemployment (percent)</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>52</td>
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Common Concerns: Rural-urban disconnect

- India and SA - need to generate non-farm jobs for surplus rural labour
- Small towns can play vital roles – **but not prioritised**
  - *markets* for agricultural produce from the rural region
  - *Logistics hub* for the production and distribution of goods and services
  - *Service centres* for rural non-farm activities
  - *Skill development* closer to home
  - *Mediate resource flows* between rural areas and big cities
- District Plans as mechanisms to bridge rural urban gaps
India: Policies and Programs

District Planning Committee

UIDSMT
Urban Infrastructure Development for Small and Medium Towns

National Rurban Mission
India: Policies and Programs

Line Departments
- Agriculture
- Irrigation
- Industry
- Power
- Roads etc.

STATE GOVT.

District Administration

Draft District Development Plan

District Council Plan

Block Level Plan

Village Level Plan

Area Level Plan

State Town Planning Department

ULB- Plans

Local Area Plans

74 Constitution Amendment Act (1992) – District Planning Framework
District Planning Functions

• Coordination between urban, rural and line agency plans

• **Kerala** - bottom-up approach
  • Emphasis on participation and empowerment
  • Village Councils are aided by non-statutory consultative forums:
    • Neighbourhood associations / Women Council / Senior Citizens Council / Tribal Council

• **Odisha** – top-down approach
  • Emphasis on delivery monitoring of social welfare projects
  • District Planning and Monitoring Unit
IDSMT (Infrastructure Development for Small and Medium Towns) launched in 1979-80

- Restructured and renamed in 2004-05 as UIDSMT
- Objectives:
  - Infrastructure – roads, water supply, bus shelters
  - Municipal resource generation – markets, shops
  - Land supply - serviced sites for housing, commercial and industrial uses
  - Decentralise – reduce population pressure on big cities
National Rurbun Mission

• Launched – 2016
• 300 Growth clusters @ of 20 villages, (pop. 25,000 to 50,000)
• ‘Smart’ village concept
• Objectives
  – Livelihood - Skill development, rural entrepreneurship, agro-processing, agri-services
  – Services - Health, Sanitation, Piped water supply, Gas connection, Digital literacy, Citizen services
  – Infrastructure - School, roads, street lights, inter-village connectivity
South Africa: Policies and Programs

- National Development Plan
- SPLUMA / SDF
- Agri-Park Policy
South Africa Governance Reforms

- National Government
- State Government
- District Municipality
- Metropolitan Municipality
- Local Municipality
- Ward

Local Government Demarcation Act (1998)

Rural + Urban Areas
National Development Plan 2011

Vision 2030 target
Reduction in rural unemployment from 49% to 40%
Prioritize agrarian economy and its value chains – 145,000 jobs by 2020

Emphasis on Regional Planning and Land use Planning:
Integrated development
Small Town economies - spatial consolidation
Spatial targeting
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SPLUMA 2013
Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act

Spatial Justice
- Redress past imbalances through access and use
- Tenure security
- Inclusive measures

Spatial Sustainability
- Fiscal, institutional, administrative sustainability
- Avoid sprawl
- Environmental Management

Spatial Resilience
- Sustainable Livelihood

Spatial Efficiency
- Infrastructure optimization

Good Administration
- Integrated approach
- Transparency
- Timeliness
Spatial Development Frameworks

National Spatial Development Framework

State Spatial Development Framework

Local Spatial Development Framework

National Spatial Economic Opportunity Atlas
Agri-Park Policy 2015

- Launched by the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform

- **Kick-start rural economic transformation** - Establishment of Agri-parks in all 44 District Municipalities (27 on priority)

- **Skills Development** - provide support to farmers through capacity building, mentorship, farm infrastructure, extension services, production inputs and mechanization inputs

- **Cooperative ownership** - producer ownership of the majority of Agri-Parks’ equity (70%), with the state and commercial interests holding minority shares (30%)

- **Strategic planning – through extensive economic and business analysis**
Agri-Park Components & Scales

- Rural outreach centre
- Modernization support

**FPSU**
Farmer Production Support Unit

**AH**
Agri-Hub Unit
- Large scale processing
- Warehousing
- Packaging

**RUMC**
Rural Urban Market Centre
- Market Access
- Cold chain
- Distribution

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<tr>
<td>Legal statute</td>
<td>74th CAA (1992)</td>
<td>SPLUMA (2013), Spatial Development Framework (at national, state, district scales); Agri-park Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy</td>
<td>IDSMT / UIDSMT; Rurbun Mission</td>
<td>Predominantly top-down</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approach</td>
<td>Predominantly top-down (Kerala – more participatory)</td>
<td>Predominantly top-down</td>
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<tr>
<td>Focus area</td>
<td>Infrastructure and basic civic amenities</td>
<td>Economic strategy – export potential, Supply chain linkage</td>
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<td>Kerala – empowerment and equity</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nodal institution</td>
<td>District Planning Committee – inadequately empowered</td>
<td>Local Municipality – better empowered</td>
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<tr>
<td>Governance</td>
<td>Fragmented - Coordination problems between rural and urban area plans; sectoral agency plan and central missions</td>
<td>Integrated – vertical and horizontal alignment between NDP 2030, SPLUMA, SDF and Agri-Park Policy</td>
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Conclusions

• **Importance of Institutional arrangement**
  – Indian District Planning process suffers coordination difficulties and lack strategic focus
  – South African framework depicts greater vertical and horizontal alignment
    – between multiple layers of government
    – between economic plans, land use and infrastructure plans

  *District municipalities of SA are more empowered compared to Indian districts – coordinated development between rural and urban areas*

• **Target area for developmental action**
  – Indian (Kerala) model prioritizes delivery of basic infrastructure in small towns - also a tool for bottom-up empowerment (human capital)
  – South African model shows possibilities of rural urban value chain linkages with small towns as nodes (natural capital)

• **Knowledge sharing for balanced development goals**
  – Opportunities for developmental cooperation between India and South Africa and other developing countries
District Planning Frameworks of India & South Africa
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Key Findings

• Importance institutional arrangement for district planning – vertical alignment between multiple tiers – horizontal coordination rural and urban local governments

• Nodal agency for district planning need to be empowered

• Infrastructure development of small towns are vital, does not necessarily generate growth. Need for greater synergy between economic objectives, investment plans and physical plans at a district level regional scale

Open Questions for Discussion

• Can District Planning become a tool for agriculture-led urbanisation process?

• How can we strengthen nodal roles of small towns in agro-processing value chains - to become agro-industry and agri-services cluster?

• How to balance need for top-down planning for strategic infrastructure with bottom-up planning to ensure peoples participation in district planning framework?