Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act

What SPLUMA expects of the three spheres of government

Jaap de Visser 31 May 2016





Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA)

- What does it do?
- What does it not do?

Money and people make things happen (plans usually don't)

History of SPLUMA

1994	1995	2000	2010	2013
apartheid planning laws	DFA (tribunals)	Systems Act (IDP)		SPLUMA
4 provincial ordinances				
			CC strik	es DFA down

Who does what?

DFA (2010)	Maccsands (2012)	Lagoon Bay (2013)	Habitat (2014)	Tronop (2015)
Can province take 'town planning' decisions?	Does a national approval make municipal approval unnecessary?	Can province overrule municipality when development is 'bigger than the municipality'?	Can province be appeal body?	When provincial appeal is independent expert body?
No, municipality takes town planning decisions (rezoning & township development)	No, municipality must still take decision	No, municipality must still take decision	No, appeal from municipal to province is unconstitutional	No, appeal to province is still unconstitutional

SPLUMA's Architecture of Laws

At least two, possibly three layers of law

- 1. SPLUMA (+ regulations)
- 2. (some) provincial planning laws
 - E.g. KZN, WCape, NCape
- 3. municipal by-laws

SPLUMA's Development Principles

- spatial justice
 - e.g. impact on land value can't stop a decision
 - expand planning system, include informal settlements, former homeland areas etc.
- spatial sustainability
 - protect agricultural land
- efficiency
- spatial resilience
- good administration

Q: what role will they play in decision making?

SPLUMA's SDFs

SPLUMA

Municipal Systems Act

- NSDF
- PSDF
- MSDF

• SDF (part of IDP)

- RSDF (optional)
- SDFs don't give rights, schemes do
- however, SPLUMA elevates MSDFs:
 - anyone taking land use decisions must follow MSDF, unless... 'site specific circumstances...'
 - schemes must be consistent with MSDF

Why MSDF are important

MSDF must, for example:

- estimate housing demand
- identify location & density of future housing
- identify areas for inclusionary housing
- identify areas for incremental upgrading
- identify areas for shortened land use development procedures

Municipality	Province	National
Council	Legislature	Minister
 adopt by-law adopt scheme NB! > 5 yrs appoint Municipal Planning Tribunal NB! no cllrs 	 may (but does not have to) adopt provincial planning law 	regulations / guidelines
MPT or 'designated official'	Provincial Executive	Minister
• takes decision	 (if provincial law says so:) take additional decision if provincial interest affected 	 takes additional decision / joins application if national interest affected
Executive Mayor / Committeedecides appeals	 monitor / support municipalities with SPLUMA 	 monitor / support municipalities with SPLUMA

Going forward

- 1. legal / institutional regime still incomplete
- 2. crucial:
 - next generation MSDFs 2016-2021 IDPs
 - roll-out of land use schemes
- 3. depoliticise municipal decision making
- 4. role of traditional leaders?
- 5. uneven LG capability to implement
- 6. new orientation for provinces
 - take decisions → monitor/support (+ plan provincially)

Thank you

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