



## FACTSHEET #4



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#COMPACT



Compact - My Municipality



<https://pari.org.za/compact/>

**COMPACT** is aimed at achieving a more responsive and accountable local government by deepening democracy, enhancing the participation of local communities in the IDP processes, with particular emphasis on water and sanitation, and improving planning and oversight of service delivery in municipalities through enhanced community participation.

For more information visit our social media pages.

COMPACT held its Stakeholder Engagement on 14 September 2023 at Garden Court, OR Tambo, Gauteng. The aim was to bring together stakeholders including the participating municipalities and LG stakeholders to jointly reflect on the overarching findings of Phase 1 of the COMPACT Action Research, with a particular focus on the implications of the recommendations per stakeholder.

## The Session format:

- Panel discussion on enhancing accountability.
- Sharing of lessons and insights per speaker.
- Discussion on innovative public participation systems, processes, and tools from other initiatives.
- The toolbox development groups session in which the stakeholders in the room and online explored potential tools to enhance public participation.
- A facilitated question and answer session.
- Establishment of the COMPACT Reference Committee.

## Summary of the Findings from the Engagement

- Hybrid systems encourage blending traditional and digital methods.
- Apps and free digital community tools offer innovative engagement approaches and promotes transparent community engagement. Technology integration enhances municipal responsiveness.
- Citizen initiatives and civil society involvement amplify fundamental community contributions.
- Advocacy for digital solutions, strong partnerships, improved data accessibility, and collaboration for accountability is crucial to achieve a more responsive and accountable local government.

**COMPACT Reference Committee** is composed to advise on sustainability planning, stakeholder co-ordination and establish sub-working groups as needed. **Delegates forming part of the Reference Committee includes representatives from:** Matjhabeng Local Municipality, Department of Water and Sanitation, Ms. DPME, CoGTA, Kouga Local Municipality, SALGA, Tswelopele Local Municipality, Towns Action Network (TAN), Planact.

## Engagement Objectives

- Solicit inputs for the development and design of a toolbox to enhance public participation.
- Share thought leadership insights, recommendations and best practices for municipalities, sector departments and other non-state actors.
- Determine advocacy work directed at the national level and to consider dissemination of research findings, lessons, practices, and tools to local government stakeholders nationally through networks.

## Engagement Attendance

The Engagement targeted 60 participants and had a successful turnout of 67 of which 44 were physical attendance and 23 virtual from:

- 8 Partner Municipalities: Kouga LM, Witzenberg LM, Oudtshoorn LM, Newcastle LM, JB Marks LM, Matjhabeng LM, Tswelopele LM and Moses Kotane LM
- CSOs, CBOs & NGOs: Planact, Kagiso Trust, Towns Action Network (TAN), EDP & Action 4 Accountability (A4A), The Ethics Institute, Citeplan, Public interest practice, Section 27
- Research & Higher learning institutes: HSRC, University of Sheffield, ETH Zürich, MISTRA
- Sector departments: Dept. of Water and Sanitation, DPME and CoGTA
- Compact Project Partners: PARI, SALGA, IA



### PARTNERS