

# Planning Africa 2016

## Making Sense of the Future: Disruption and Reinvention

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Sandton Convention Centre

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# THE RED BOOK

## Revising and updating the **Guidelines for Human Settlement Planning and Design**



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# Content

- **Introduction**
  - the current Red Book
- **Background**
  - the project to revise and update the Red Book
- **A new Red Book**
  - responding to change
- **Conclusion**



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# THE RED BOOK

## Introduction

– the current Red Book



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# Introduction

## Purpose

The intention of the new *Red Book* is to provide performance-based guidelines for informed decision-making. The purpose is essentially to indicate the qualities that should be sought in South African settlements, and to provide practical guidance on how these qualities can be achieved. The document is therefore intended to be educative, providing ideas and useful information, and not as a substitute for innovative planning and engineering practice (Behrens 1997).



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# Introduction

## Structure and content

- **Introduction**
  - Performance qualities to guide settlement-making
  - Planning method and participation
- **Planning guidelines**
  - Layout, movement, land use
  - Cross-cutting issues
- **Engineering guidelines**
  - Technical requirements, engineering principles
  - Technology choice
- **Plus a non-technical companion guide**
- **Principles should inform decisions regarding planning and design**
- **Intention was for the Red Book to be a “living document”**

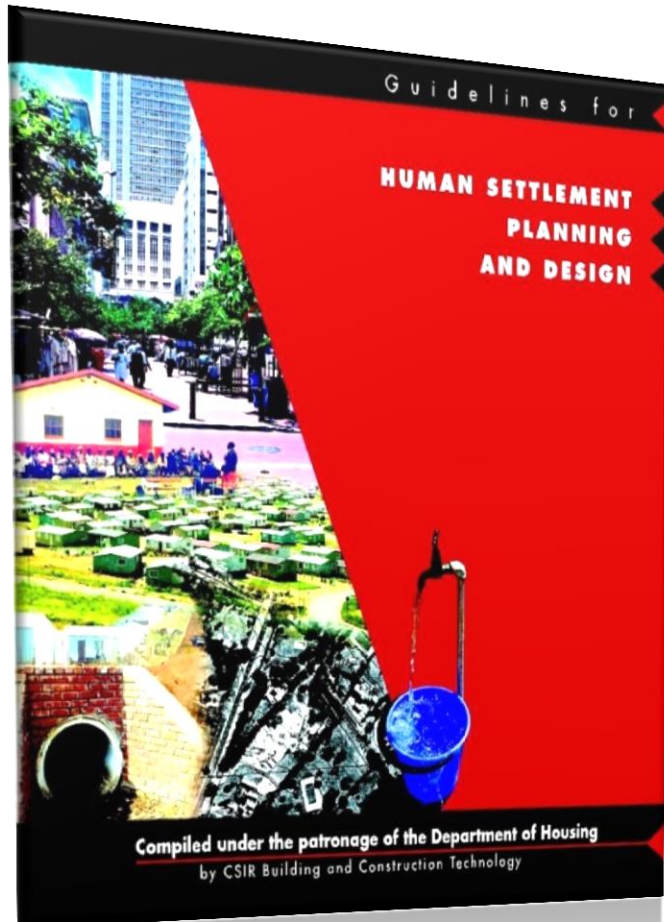


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# Introduction

[http://www.csir.co.za/Built\\_environment/RedBook](http://www.csir.co.za/Built_environment/RedBook)



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## Volume 1

### Chapter 1

▶ Introduction

### Chapter 2

▶ A framework for settlement-making

### Chapter 3

▶ Spatial and structural principles for settlement-making

### Chapter 4

▶ Planning method and participation

### Chapter 5

▶ Planning guidelines

5.1 Movement networks

5.2 Public transport

5.3 Hard open spaces

5.4 Soft open spaces

5.5 Public facilities

5.6 Land subdivision

5.7 Public utilities

5.8 Cross-cutting issues

5.8.1 Environmental design  
for safer communities

5.8.2 Ecologically sound  
urban development

5.8.3 Fire safety

## Volume 2

### Chapter 6

▶ Stormwater management

### Chapter 7

▶ Roads: Geometric design and layout  
planning

### Chapter 8

▶ Roads: Materials and construction

### Chapter 9

▶ Water supply

### Chapter 10

▶ Sanitation

### Chapter 11

▶ Solid waste management

### Chapter 12

▶ Energy

12.1 Grid electricity

12.2 Other forms of energy

# Introduction

## Applying the guidelines

- Aimed at architects, town planners, urban designers, engineers and developers in both the private and public sectors
- Neighbourhood scale, municipal level
- Allow choice, most suitable option for a particular context (not one-size-fits-all)
- Integrated planning - multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary coordination



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# Introduction

**1983**  
**Blue**

*Guidelines for the provision of engineering services in residential townships*

**1988**  
**Green**

*Towards guidelines for services and amenities in developing communities*

**1994**  
**Red**

*Guidelines for the provision of engineering services and amenities in residential township development*

**2000**

**Revised Red**

*Guidelines for human settlement planning and design*

The latest in a series of guidelines...



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**2015-2018**  
Current revision  
process

# THE RED BOOK

## Background

- the project to revise and update the Red Book



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# Background to the project

Responsible department and funding:

## The Department of Human Settlements

- CSIR contracted to coordinate the project
- Project team includes DHS and CSIR employees and specialist sub-consultants
- Supported and guided by a Project Steering Committee and Thematic Reference Groups



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# Background to the project

## Project Steering Committee

- Guidance on the nature, purpose and objectives of Red Book
- Highlighting issues of integration, policy implications
- Comprises individuals with experience representing the DHS and its entities, key government departments, councils for various built environment professions, SALGA and community organisations



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# Background to the project

## Thematic Reference Groups

- Practical, domain-specific guidance on revisions to be made and content to be included under each theme
- Assess appropriateness and accuracy of revised chapters
- Will consist of experienced representatives from relevant government departments, institutes representing built environment professionals and recognised local or international specialists

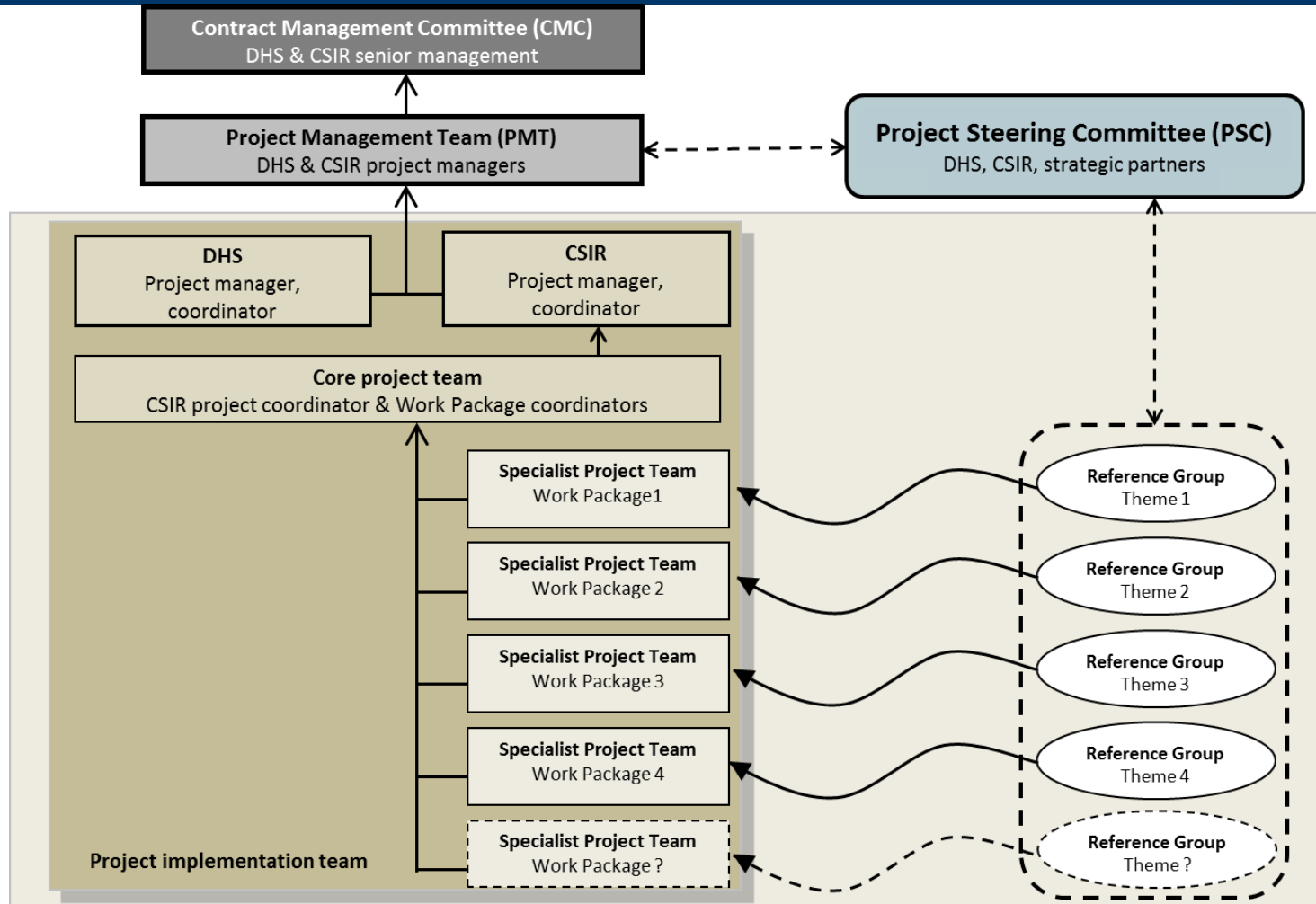


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# Background to the project



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# Background to the project

## The revision involves the following:

- Refining and updating existing information, refocussing and rewriting existing chapters
- Adding new information to existing chapters
- Developing new sections based on research and consultation



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# Background to the project

## Two phase work plan

- Phase I
  - Numerous assessments aimed at informing the structure and content of the updated and revised Red Book
    - Desktop studies
    - Key interviews
    - Assessment of current guidelines
- Phase II
  - Consultation process
  - Consolidation of assessments
  - Prepare new Red Book



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# THE RED BOOK

## A new Red Book – responding to change



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# A new Red Book

The revision is conducted to:

## Respond to socio-political changes and challenges, both global and local

- climate change
- resource scarcity
- globalisation
- poverty
- inequality
- rapid urbanisation
- informality
- migration



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# A new Red Book

The revision is conducted to:

## Give effect to policy, legislation and plans

- The new Red Book would assist in re-structuring our settlements over time to reflect the qualities and objectives outlined in:
  - the National Development Plan
  - the Comprehensive Plan for the Development of Sustainable Human Settlements (Breaking New Ground)
  - the Integrated Urban Development Framework
  - the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act
- The document would also play a role in supporting the global Sustainable Development Goals



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# A new Red Book

The revision is conducted to:

**Ensure that technical information, standards and costs are up to date**

- Changes in international and local standards
- Costs to be amended and refined
- Missing information
- Incorrect or outdated technical information



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# A new Red Book

The revision is conducted to:

## **Include recent technological innovation**

- The pressure to adapt to climate change and resource scarcity implies that there is a need to incorporate alternative appropriate technologies for housing and municipal service delivery (e.g. materials to be used, methods to be followed)
- Maintain a balance between established practices and cutting-edge technology
- Provide guidance in selecting appropriate technologies



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# A new Red Book

The revision is conducted to:

## **Acknowledge current approaches to settlement planning and design**

- Water sensitive design
- Pedestrian-friendly neighbourhoods
- Co-production of human settlements
- Transit-oriented development
- Informal settlement upgrading
- Use of appropriate housing typologies
- Universal access



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# A new Red Book

The revision is conducted to:

## Respond to user requirements

- Guidelines have to be practical, appropriate and user friendly.  
Issues highlighted through consultation:
  - capacity constraints
  - service delivery challenges
  - informal settlement upgrading
  - integration and coordination
  - rural settlements
  - trade-offs
  - appropriate technologies
  - context-specific challenges



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# THE RED BOOK

## Conclusion



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# Conclusion

- The new Red Book intends to be practical, interpreting policy into action and changing the way planning and design of our human settlements are done
- The ultimate aim with the new Red Book is to effect significant, visible changes in the built environment that would result in vibrant, safe and resource-efficient settlements that are economically, physically, environmentally and socially integrated
- This three year long process will result in an integrated and comprehensive set of national settlement planning and design guidelines by the end of 2017.



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# Conclusion



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**Thank you**