



**WESTERN CAPE  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
PARTNERSHIP**



# LEADING PROCESSES FOR CHANGE

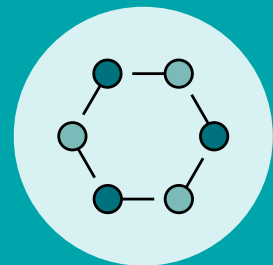
## Development requires change, and change can be difficult.

The EDP is a public benefit collaborative intermediary organisation that supports diverse stakeholders to harness each other's energy, knowledge and resources for collective impact to address society's most pressing development challenges.

## How we work

The 'EDP Way' of leading partnering processes for change combines theoretical and systems knowledge with user-friendly tools grounded in practical experience. This approach helps partners develop capabilities to deal with complex societal issues which involve many stakeholders, diverging interests, polarised environments and uncertainty. Our direct experience of working within diverse public sector authorising environments enables us to build state capacity through strengthening relationships between state and non-state actors.

### We support our partners by



**Diagnosing systemic issues** and designing inclusive, effective change processes



**Designing partnering processes** and building partnering readiness capabilities



**Convening bridging and implementation platforms** that balance diverse interests in contested, low-trust environments



**Creating safe spaces for action-oriented learning** and experimentation to promote adaptive programming and delivery

### We offer

Knowledge-building activities & action learning

Inclusive stakeholder engagement processes

Systems thinking, joint problem identification & analysis

Partnering frameworks & applied partnering processes

Facilitated dialogues, learning networks and communities of practice

Training and capacity building in adaptive and collaborative leadership



# The role of collaborative intermediary organisations (CIOs)

Many development challenges are persistent and are characterised by low certainty and limited agreement. Too often, conventional programming and delivery models are less effective and implementation of well-meant policies and plans is lacking. Further, South Africa's state has been severely weakened over the last decade and its ability to partner with the broader society is hampered by inflexible systems and limited opportunities for innovation.

Collaborative intermediary organisations like the EDP help partners agree on the root causes of the problem through systems analysis, identify common agendas despite diverse perspectives and convert dialogue into joint action, building trust and mutual accountability through continual learning and adaptation.

# Our track record

The EDP has ten years of practical experience in facilitating cross-sector collaborations around complex issues and challenges including agriculture and rural development; inclusive economic and social development; unemployment; urban management and spatial transformation; climate change and green economy management; resilience and adaptation; food, energy and water security and governance; transport and mobility; and community safety and cohesion.

As the Western Cape Government, we are pushing partnership and collaboration quite hard and the EDP is the key player in this, having assisted us in recent years in getting this right.

Harry Malila  
Director General, Western Cape Government

# EDP governance and funding

The EDP is an independent not-for-profit company (NPC), and is governed by the Companies Act 71 of 2008 and a Board of Directors, chaired by Ashoek Adhikari. The EDP is a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO) number: 930050144.

The EDP receives funding from the Western Cape Government, the City of Cape Town, other municipalities within the Western Cape, the South African National Government and private donors.

The EDP has developed a way of reflecting on their own practice, and they have contributed into the national discussion a theory of partnering and capability building which is quite pioneering and unique.

Prof Mark Swilling  
University of Stellenbosch, DBSA chairperson



Credit: Chris de Beer

# Contact

+27 (0) 21 832 0200  
info@wcedp.co.za  
www.wcedp.co.za

