



FW de Klerk
FOUNDATION

MAKING LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRACTICAL

Simpler systems. Stronger outcomes.
Better lives for our communities.



ACCOUNTABLE



RESPONSIVE



EFFICIENT



IMPACTFUL



23 May 2025



FW de Klerk Foundation
Johannesburg



Has More Regulation Produced Better Local Government?

We should judge regulation by its outcomes, not its existence.

- ? Has it reduced **corruption**?
- ? Has it improved **service delivery**?
- ? Has it made municipalities more **responsive**?
- ? Has it encouraged **innovation**?
- ? Has it strengthened **public trust**?



KEY MESSAGE

Good governance is not measured by how many rules exist,
but by whether communities experience better services.

Three Areas Needing Reform

Where the System is Becoming Impractical



1 PROCUREMENT

- Long, complex tender processes
- Discourages manufacturers and local suppliers
- Encourages intermediaries (“tenderpreneurs”)
- Delays infrastructure and innovation



2 RECRUITMENT

- Difficulty attracting scarce skills
- Smaller municipalities disadvantaged
- Excessive central approvals delay appointments



3 DECISION-MAKING

- Too many committees and forums
- Endless reporting and repeated information
- Officials spend more time administering than delivering



**DELIVERY
DELAYED**



KEY MESSAGE

The cost of bureaucracy is **slower service delivery**.

From Compliance to Outcomes

Measure what matters to our communities

CURRENT FOCUS



Reports submitted



Committees met



Procedures followed



Forms completed



**COMPLIANCE
IS THE MEANS**

**BETTER LIVES
ARE THE GOAL**

WHAT CITIZENS ACTUALLY CARE ABOUT



Roads repaired



Reliable electricity



Water leaks fixed quickly



Businesses investing



Jobs created



Safer communities



Better quality of life



KEY MESSAGE

Communities experience outputs and outcomes.
That is how we must measure success.

A Practical Model for Local Government

Results, not red tape, should define our success

RESULTS IN uMNGENI MUNICIPALITY



7%

Decline in youth unemployment



10%+

Decline in the Gini coefficient



R6 MILLION

Reduction in electricity losses



133 → 3,590

Households receiving free basic services

WHAT WE NEED



Accountability
for outcomes and impact



Simpler, smarter
regulation



Faster
decision-making



Greater
innovation



Strong consequences
for corruption



GOOD GOVERNANCE



PRACTICAL DECISIONS



BETTER SERVICES



BETTER COMMUNITIES



The purpose of local government is not to administer compliance.
It is to deliver services, create opportunity and improve lives.

If our systems **strengthen** that mission, we should support them.
If they undermine that mission, we should have the **courage to reform** them.



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THANK YOU

Together, let's build practical,
capable and effective
local government.



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