

## Limits to low-cost housing provision in South Africa: Cooperative governance and inter-governmental relations perspective

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### Abstract

The aim of this paper is to critically unpack issues related to Intergovernmental relations (IGR) and cooperative governance within the context of low-cost housing provision in South Africa. The paper argues that synergy amongst the three spheres (Local, Provincial and National) of government is of paramount importance if coordinated efforts to deliver houses for the 'poor' and underprivileged is to be attained. Currently, the modalities for the delivery of low-cost houses by each sphere of government are skewed in that each sphere operates in vacuum and isolation. This paper is theoretical and depends solely on secondary data gathered, synthesised and analysed through systematic literature review and figures. It is not the aim of this paper to propose any new delivery model but to point out to the importance of IGR and cooperative governance. In line with this, the paper concludes by providing for the roles and functions of each sphere of government in exercising the low-cost housing function.

**Keywords:** Intergovernmental Relations, Cooperative Governance, Low-Cost Housing, Housing Policy.

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