

acknowledgements

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DISCLAIMER: Several people have contributed to the development of this handbook, and we have also sourced content from a wide range of online and offline sources. We adhere to the ethics and the principle of non-plagiarism, and we have tried to acknowledge all sources. Should any reader recognise any content that has been included and has not been acknowledged, please notify us at info@activateleadership.co.za quoting the content, the page reference and the source. We will correct the unreferenced content. Thank you.



CIVIC EDUCATION FOR YOUTH





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Glossary of terms

ACCOUNTABILITY - In ethics and governance, accountability is equated with answerability, blameworthiness, liability, and the expectation of account-giving.

ACTIVATOR - A member of the ACTIVATE! Change Drivers network. Activators have a shared purpose, commitment and responsibility to forge a better, more just South Africa for the public good and themselves.

ACTIVATE! CHANGE DRIVERS - an organisation with a Network of more than 4300 Active Citizens with the capacity to drive change for the public good across South Africa.

ACTIVE CITIZENRY - members of society who take charge of their future and are the agents of what they want to happen in their communities.

ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP - a philosophy espoused by organizations and educational institutions that advocates that members of charitable organizations, companies, or nationstates have certain roles and responsibilities to society and the environment. However, those members may not have specific governing roles.

APARTHEID - a system of institutionalized racial segregation in South Africa and South-West Africa (now Namibia) from 1948 until the early 1990s.

BATHO PELE PRINCIPLES - Batho Pele, a Sesotho word, which means "People First", is an initiative launched in 1997 by the Public Service towards transformation service delivery.

BILL OF RIGHTS - a human rights charter found in chapter two of the Constitution of South Africa and is a cornerstone of our democracy. It enshrines the rights of all people in our country and protects the civil, political and socio-economic rights of all South Africans.

BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT - Our Constitution contains an important democratic principle called the separation of powers. That means that the power of the state is divided between three different but interdependent components or arms, namely the executive (Cabinet), the legislature (Parliament), and the judiciary (Courts of law).

BY-LAWS - The Constitution of South Africa gives municipalities the power to pass their own legislation for particular subject areas in the form of by-laws. These by-laws hold the same power and force as other national and provincial legislation.

CIVIC EDUCATION - all the processes that affect people's beliefs, commitments, capabilities, and actions as members or prospective members of communities.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems.

CONSTITUENCY - a group of voters in a specified area who elect a representative to a legislative body.

CONSTITUTION - a body of fundamental principles or established precedents according to which a state or other organization is acknowledged to be governed.

CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY - in a constitutional democracy, the authority of the majority is limited by legal and institutional means so that the rights of individuals and minorities are respected.

cooperative governance - a set of internal and external mechanisms and controls enabling the members to define and ensure the attainment of cooperative objectives, securing their continuity and cooperative principles.

COUNCIL - a group of people elected to govern a local area, such as a city or municipality.

COUNCILLOR - a person elected to represent their local community in running their local council. They play a significant role in many major decisions that affect people's lives.

DEMOCRACY - a form of government where the people of the country choose their government and enjoy certain rights, which are essential for any human being to live happily and freely.

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY - a district municipality or Category C municipality is a municipality that executes some of the functions of local government for a district. The district municipality will, in turn, comprise several local municipalities with which it shares the functions of local government.

ELECTIONS - a process in which people vote

GOVERNANCE is defined as structures and processes designed to ensure accountability, transparency, responsiveness, the rule of law, stability, equity and inclusiveness, empowerment and broad-based participation.

INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

- integrated development planning is an approach to planning that involves the entire municipality and its citizens in finding the best solutions to achieve good long-term development. It aims to coordinate the work of local and other spheres of government in a coherent plan to improve the quality of life for all the people living in an area.

economic development (LED) is an approach towards economic development that encourages local people to work together to achieve sustainable economic growth and development, thereby bringing economic benefits and improved quality of life for all residents in a local municipal area.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT - local government in South Africa consists of municipalities of various types. The largest metropolitan areas are governed by metropolitan municipalities, while the rest of the country is divided into district municipalities, each of which consists of several local municipalities.

METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY - a

metropolitan municipality or Category A municipality is a municipality that executes all the functions of local government for a city or

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