

## What products and services are offered by the IDPNC?

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The IDPNC currently includes the following:

1. **e-Library:** Access key documents and contact information;
2. **e-Funding:** Access key funding information;
3. **e-Mapping:** Access maps, charts and tables, containing basic planning information of your area;
4. **e-Template:** Supply key information to others;
5. **e-Project:** Manage your own strategic planning, project and funding information and view similar information from other organisations;
6. **e-Xchange:** Exchange key information to and from the IDPNC;
7. **e-Admin:** Manage your own user and organisational profiles and permissions; and
8. **e-Help:** Step-by-step online help covering the full spectrum of products and services.

## What are the minimum requirements to make use of the IDPNC?

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1. An Internet Browser such as Internet Explorer 5.0 or higher;
2. A connection to the World Wide Web; and
3. Organisational and user registration on the IDPNC.

## What about those municipalities that have no access to the Internet?

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The IDPNC will assist those municipalities by introducing them to initiatives aimed at strengthening municipal IT infrastructure.

## For more information

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# dplg

Department of Provincial and Local Government

## IDP Nerve Centre

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[www.idp.org.za](http://www.idp.org.za)

An Information Coordination Service in  
support of Development Planning in  
South Africa

## Context of the IDPNC

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On 14 December 2001, the Presidential Coordinating Council (PCC) resolved to “accelerate the implementation of a system of state-wide planning wherein Integrated Development Planning (IDP) serves as the basis for aligning policy, planning and budgeting processes across all spheres”.

The establishment of an IDP Nerve Centre (IDPNC), as a tool to support inter-governmental planning, forms part of the PCC Action Plan for Local Government and has been approved by the Governance and Administration (G&A) Cluster, LG MINMEC and Cabinet.

## What is the IDPNC?

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Since effective inter-governmental planning relies on the sharing of key planning information between different spheres and sectors, the IDPNC consists of:

- An Internet-based solution to enable the sharing of IDP-related planning & implementation management information between relevant spheres and sectors;
- Facilities and processes to ensure that the Service functions effectively, including training, online support and dedicated personnel; and
- A Council representing the interests of all three spheres of government, overseeing the strategic direction, processes, procedures, standards and change requests of the IDPNC.

## What is the main aim of the IDPNC?

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To support inter-governmental planning in South Africa using IDP as the building block.

## Why do we need the IDPNC?

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Much of the information emanating from the IDP process is available only as unstructured paper-based or digital media. This makes it nearly impossible for national and provincial departments or donor agencies to align their planning and funding support with the IDP. At the same time, municipalities find it equally difficult to source key planning, funding and project-based information from other spheres.

## What are the main objectives of the IDPNC?

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The services of the IDP Nerve Centre will be guided by the following objectives:

- Strengthening the link between IDP and the funding programmes of national and provincial departments and donor agencies;
- Assisting municipalities to manage key IDP information;
- Supporting inter-sectoral coordination and alignment;
- Supporting inter-governmental spatial coordination;
- Supporting the submission of key IDP information required for prioritisation and budget formulation; and
- Promoting clear flows of planning information across government.

## Who will fund the IDPNC?

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The Department of Provincial and Local Government will initially fund the basic services of the IDP Nerve Centre.

## Who will benefit from the IDPNC?

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Individuals and organisations who are either directly or indirectly involved in development planning and service delivery in local government. These include, but are not limited to: Members of Parliament; Councillors; Municipal Managers; Heads of Departments; Project Managers; Development Planners; IDP Coordinators and Managers; Financial Managers; and Investors.

## What are the benefits?

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The benefits of using the IDPNC include, but are not limited to:

- Improved access to key IDP information, informing the allocation of resources to municipalities;
- Access to programme and project-based information of key national and provincial departments;
- Access to key funding sources; and
- Access to spatial planning information.

## Is the use of the IDPNC mandatory?

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The supply of information to the IDPNC is not mandatory at present, but it is a key pillar of the forthcoming Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) policy framework.

## Who is responsible for capturing information on the IDPNC?

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As custodians of their information Municipalities and Departments are responsible for capturing their own information. However, during the initial implementation period the implementation team will provide assistance where possible.

## Who manages access to organisational information on the IDPNC?

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Municipalities and Departments will manage access to their organisational information.

## Will it be possible to exchange information with the IDPNC?

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From the outset, the IDPNC recognised the need to exchange information with a multitude of other information systems throughout government as a critical success factor. To make this possible, the IDPNC subscribes to the collaboration standards developed by ACTIONiT (see [www.actionit.org.za](http://www.actionit.org.za) for further information).

## How will the IDPNC be implemented?

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The IDPNC will follow an incremental implementation approach, consisting of a start-up or initiation period (June 2003 – March 2004) in North West Province followed by a period of national implementation (April 2004 – onwards). Implementation will be done in close consultation with the affected national, provincial and municipal stakeholders.