



**the dplg**

Department:  
Provincial and Local Government  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# **Public Participation Policy Framework**

## **2005**

Presented by Xoliswa Sibeko  
Public Participation and Empowerment


# Basic assumption underlying public participation

- ⌘ Public participation is a fundamental right of all people;
- ⌘ Public participation is designed to narrow the social distance between the electorate and elected institutions;
- ⌘ Public participation is designed to promote the values of good governance and humans rights;
- ⌘ South Africans are encouraged to participate as individuals or interest groups in order to improve service delivery
- ⌘ Community is defined as a ward in the context of public participation;
- ⌘ Ward committees are central in linking up elected institutions and these linkages are reinforced by other forums of communication with communities like the izimbizo, roadshows, the makgotlas and so forth.



# Legislative Framework

- ⌘ Constitution: Section
- ⌘ White Paper
- ⌘ Municipal Structures Act
- ⌘ Municipal Systems Act



## Other Recommend Legislation and Policy documents

- ⌘ *Batho Pele* Principles
- ⌘ PFMA/MFMA
- ⌘ Izimbizo Concept Paper



## Legislative Framework

- ⌘ **South African Constitution, Section 151(1) (e) of the obliges municipalities to encourage the involvement of communities and community organisations in local government.**
- ⌘ **White Paper on Local Government –1998**
- ⌘ **Section 16(1) of the Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 requires the municipality to develop 'a culture of municipal governance that compliments formal representative government with a system of participatory governance'**

# The **White Paper on Local Government**



## **Object of community participation are embedded in the following four principles:**

- ⌘ To ensure political leaders remain accountable and work within their mandate;
- ⌘ To allow citizens(as individuals or interest groups) to have continuous input into local politics;
- ⌘ To allow service consumers to have input on the way services are delivered;
- ⌘ To afford organised civil society the opportunity to enter into partnerships and contracts with local government in order to mobilise additional resources



# **The Municipal Structures Act**

**“The objective of a ward committee is to enhance participatory democracy in local government...”**



## Deepening Democracy through Ward Committees

⌘ Chapter 4 of the Municipal Systems Act spells out how the above mentioned objectives of participatory governance compliment the formal system of representative local government rather than compete or interfere with the municipal councils' right to govern.

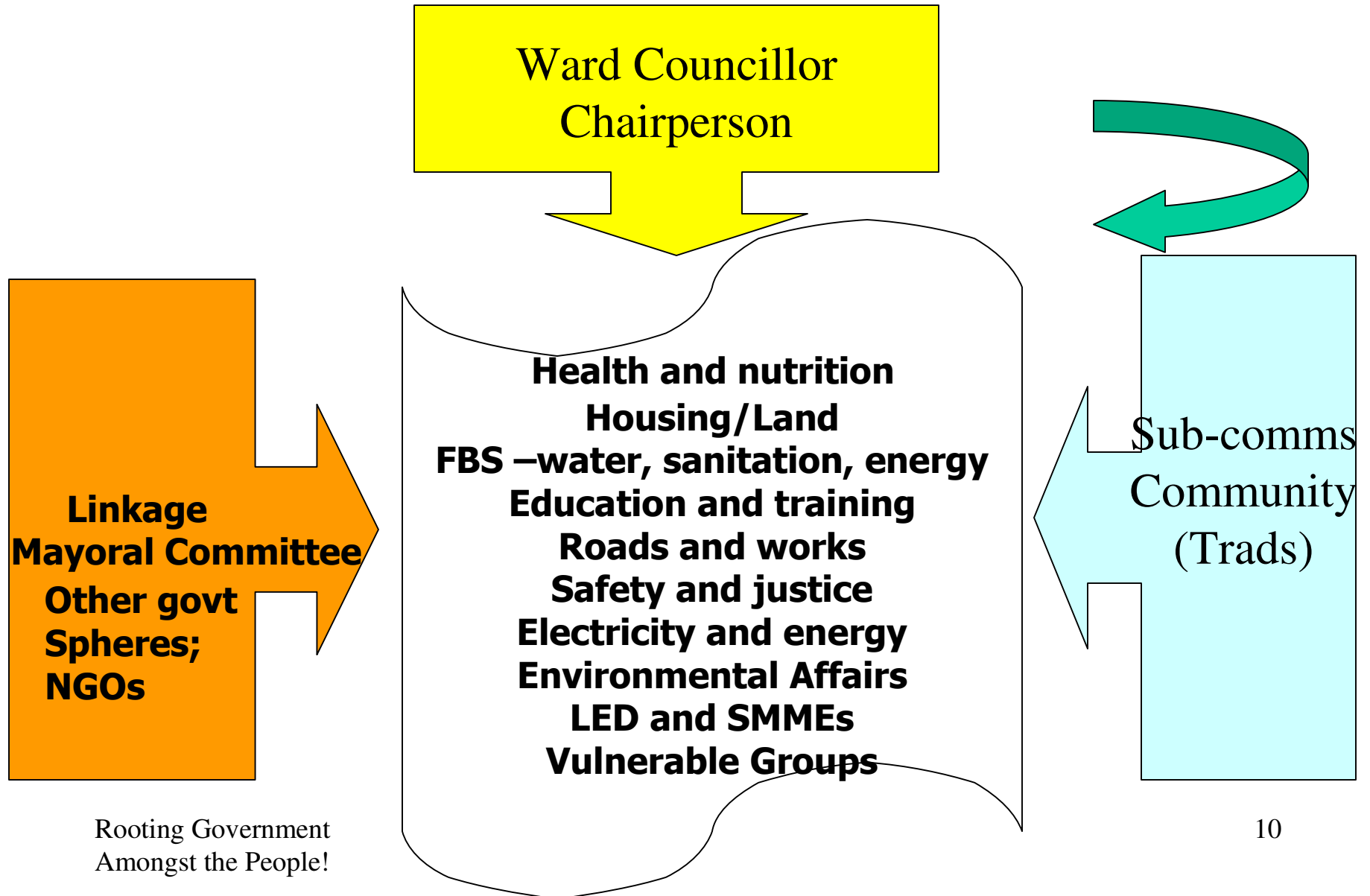
Participation is seen to include:

- ✓ Preparation, implementation and review of the IDP;
- ✓ Implementing and reviewing the performance management systems and performance outcomes;
- ✓ Budgets
- ✓ Consultation on service strategies, and
- ✓ The municipality is also obliged to build the capacity of the community, staff and councilors to aid participation

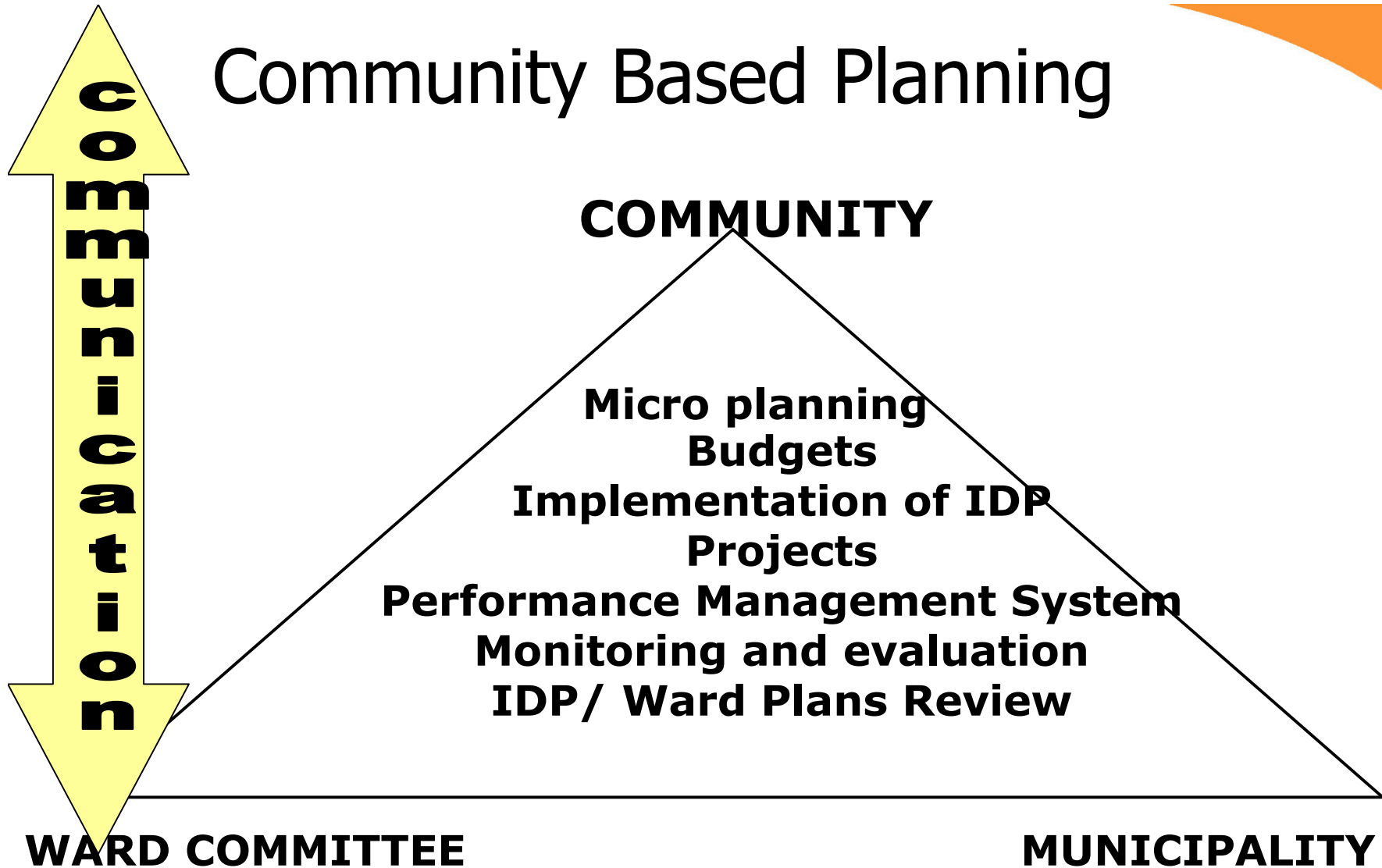
# WARD COMMITTEE

- ⌘ **A Forum for deliberative democracy**
- ⌘ **Faster access to information**
- ⌘ **Instant clarification about programmes**
- ⌘ **Awareness building**
- ⌘ **Fosters feeling of self management**
- ⌘ **Transparency in administration**
- ⌘ **Responsive Administration**
- ⌘ **Proper harnessing of local resources**
- ⌘ **Involvement/Quick decision making**
- ⌘ **Sense of ownership**
- ⌘ **Better planning ascertaining local needs and requirements**
- ⌘ **Social Audit,**
- ⌘ **Accountability,**
- ⌘ **Closer Monitoring**

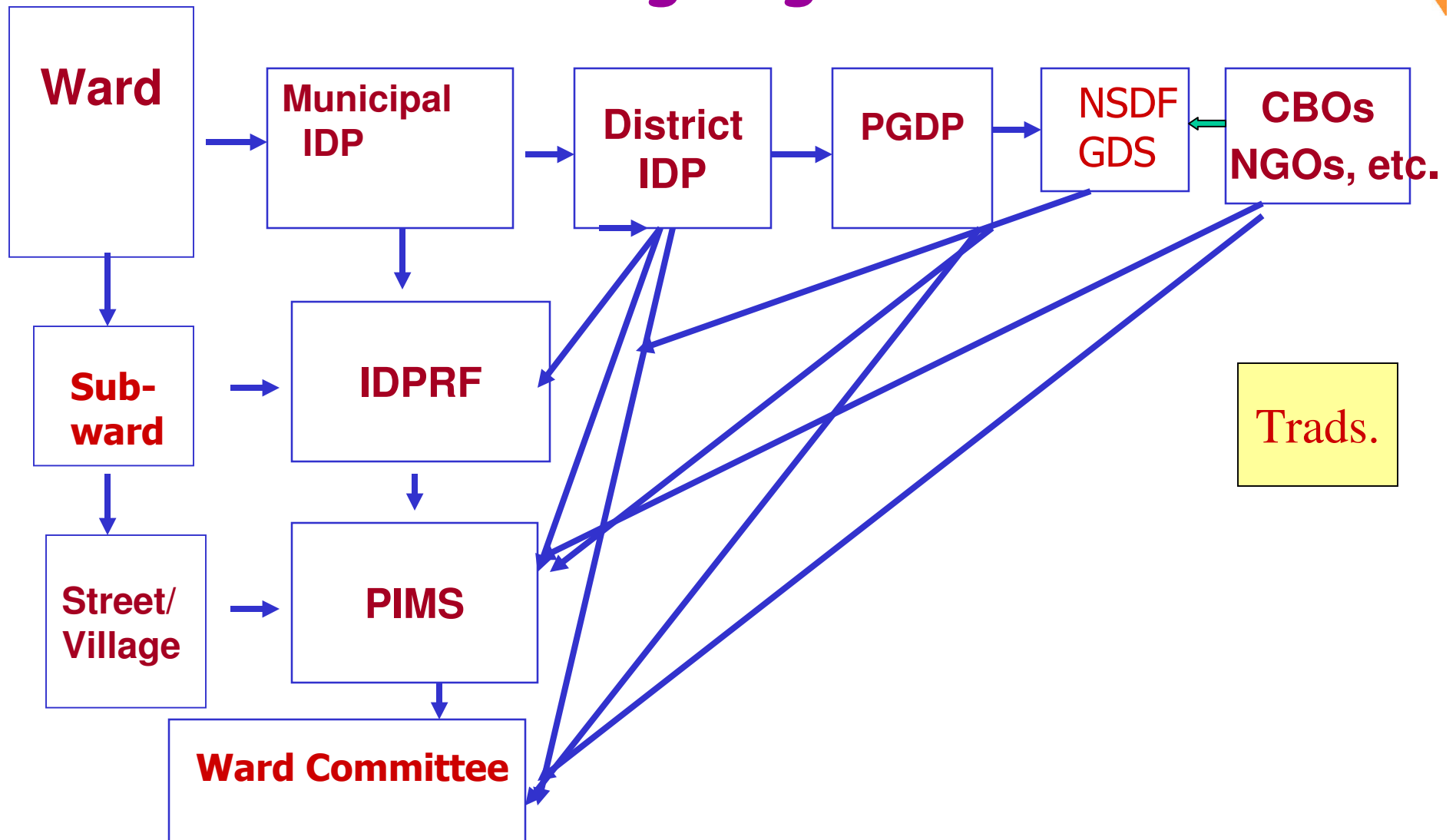
# WARD COMMITTEE



# Community Based Planning

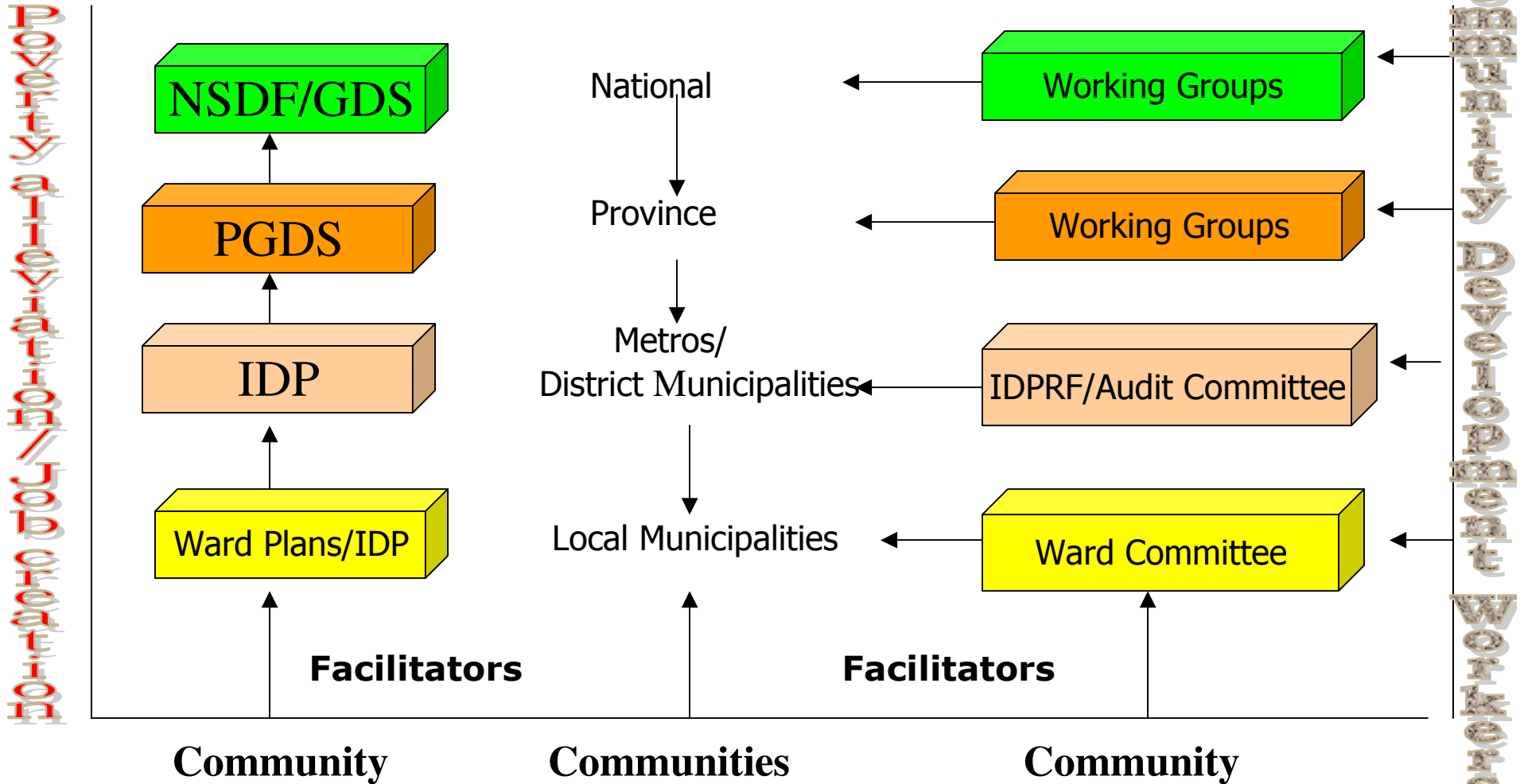


# LOCAL GOVERNMENT Planning alignment



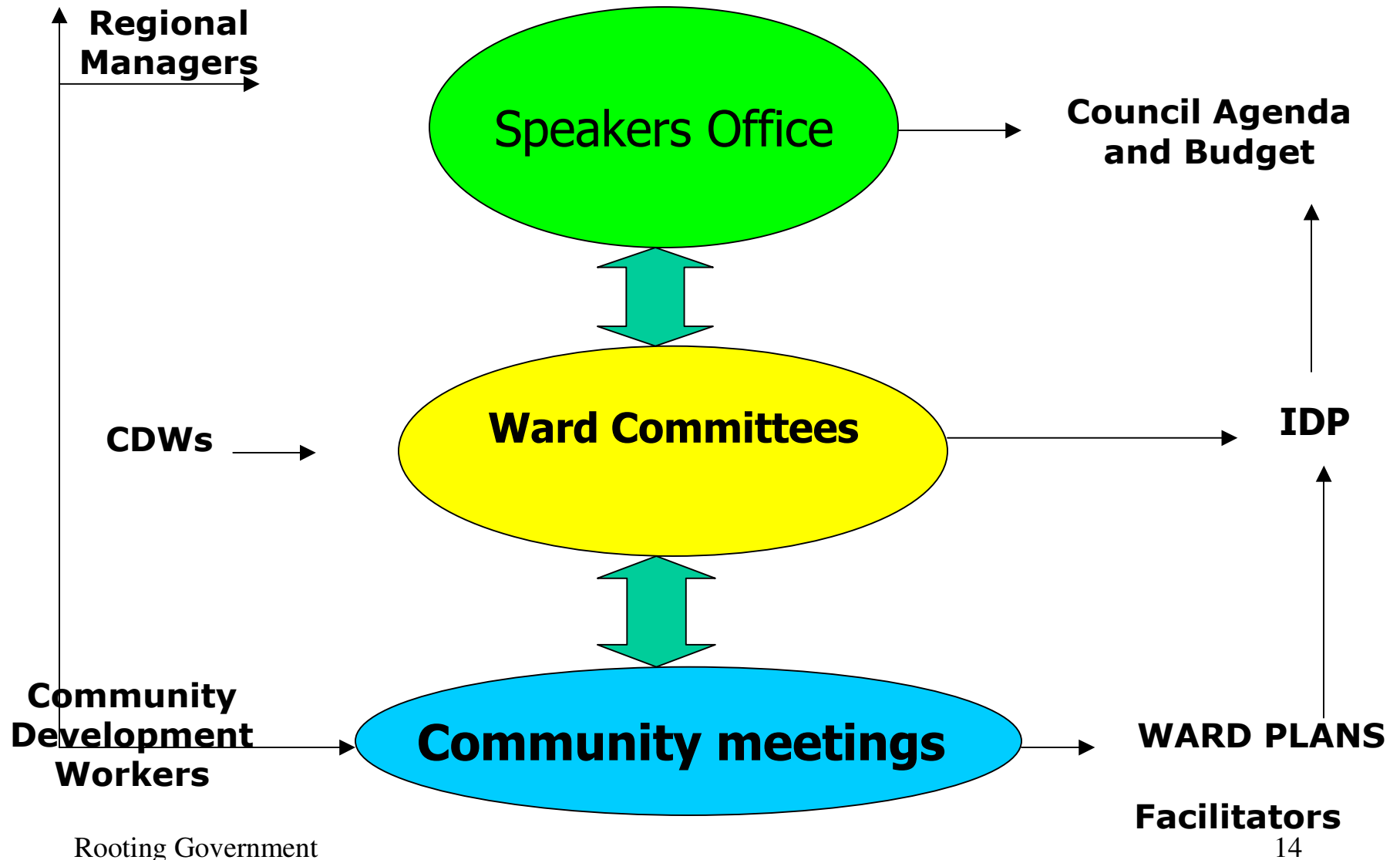
Rooting Government  
Amongst the People!

# Model for Public Participation



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# MODEL CONTINUED



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# Ndiyabulela