**Urban Transformation in South Africa by Co-designing Energy Service Provision Pathways**

ESRC-NRF Newton Fund Urban Transformations, 2016-2019

**Interview topic guide**

This document provides an indicative, thematic guide for interviews conducted between 2017 and 2018 in South Africa. Responsive, interviewee-specific topic guides were created in the field, differentiated by sector – including energy supply industries, national government, provincial government, municipal government, regulation, academia, and NGOs and civil society – and by regional case studies – Polokwane, Johannesburg, Cape Town.

**Energy sector governance**

1. National energy planning and policy, national regulation
2. Municipal debt, Eskom debt, electricity sector restructuring
3. Energy governance and party politics – municipal and national
4. Post-apartheid municipal and urban governance
5. Municipal service provision modalities
6. Horizontal and vertical integration of energy governance
7. Urban climate policy, climate commitments, climate finance, projects
8. Integration of energy, urban and climate governance
9. Governmental representative bodies and forums
10. Intergovernmental transfers and financing

**Infrastructure and spatial form**

1. Spatial planning, urban densification, peri-urban development
2. Centralised and decentralised infrastructure planning
3. Transport, employment opportunities and apartheid spatial form
4. Tenure, land, customary authority and infrastructure construction
5. Municipal services in informal settlements

**Socio-technological developments**

1. Energy demand trends
2. Distributed generation and electricity storage – drivers, impacts
3. Pilot projects for non-grid energisation
4. Changing business model and governance of electricity distribution
5. Municipal supply diversification
6. Tariff structures and market reforms
7. Infrastructure maintenance and reliability
8. Social acceptance of technology
9. Smart grids

**Energy poverty**

1. Material and social needs for energy
2. Energy poverty and alternative concepts – ideas, metrics, thresholds
3. Energy’s externalities
4. Axes of difference – identities
5. Spaces of difference – rural-urban, intra-urban, relational
6. Access strategies – individual, social
7. Gender and social reproduction – gender roles, gender relations
8. Gender and production/ livelihoods
9. Energy poverty policies and projects
10. Non-energy poverty policies and projects

**Energy visions**

1. Climate, coal, access, transitions
2. Infrastructure decentralisation
3. Forums and participation
4. Democratisation
5. Organising strategies and solidarities
6. Models of state-citizen engagement
7. Models of municipal governance
8. Models of ownership and control of infrastructure