

Review of: "Airbase Compatibility with Spatial Planning: A Case Study of Airbase Waterkloof (South Africa)"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper delves into the critical evaluation of Airbase Waterkloof's integration with its surrounding urban environment within the greater Tshwane Metropolitan region in South Africa. Focusing on noise emission, aviation safety, and legislative measures, it highlights the challenges faced by the South African Air Force (SAAF) in maintaining mission readiness amidst urban expansion.

The investigation underscores the mismatch between spatial footprints generated by air traffic movement and the immediate built environment, posing threats to the airbase's operational efficacy. While legislative conditions exist, the paper unveils the inadequacy of internal policies and public participation in harmonizing the airbase with its surroundings.

Despite the SAAF's exemption from the Civil Aviation Act, the paper emphasizes the importance of integrating Airbase Waterkloof into its urban setting to mitigate noise disruptions and ensure flight safety. The absence of the City of Tshwane in critical decision-making processes exacerbates this disjunction.

Conclusively, the paper delineates the disparity between legislative measures securing mission readiness and the lacking integration hindering productivity. It presents a comprehensive set of recommendations aimed at fostering cohesion between the airbase and its urban environs, thereby enhancing both operational effectiveness and environmental harmony.