



African Peer Review Mechanism

South Africa



Socio- Economic Development

Institute for Economic Research on Innovation (IERI)
Technical Report Presentation
Indaba Hotel, Johannesburg
6th April 2006

Outline

- Introduction
 - Research Process & Technical Report Compilation
- Objectives
 1. Promote Self-Reliance in Development & Build Capacity for Self-Sustaining Development
 2. Accelerate Socio-Economic Development to Achieve Sustainable Development & Poverty Eradication
 3. Strengthen Policies, Delivery Mechanisms & Outcomes in Key Social Areas
 4. Ensure Affordable Access to Water, Sanitation, Energy, Finance, Markets, ICT, Shelter & Land to All Citizens
 5. Progress to Gender Equity in All Critical Area's of Concern
 6. Encourage Broad-based participation in development by all stakeholders at all levels
- Issues Raised
- Programme of Action Proposals
- Gaps

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Overview

- Research Process
 - Review & Summarise all relevant material received by Secretariat
 - 35 Civil Society
 - 17 Government
 - 6 Others (Individuals)
 - Prepare an Overview Bibliography
 - Lists & summarise all material
 - Assemble a Technical Report
- Technical Report (23 000 Words + 669 page Appendices)
 - Submissions not of even quality
 - Insufficient Spread across all Objectives
 - Evidence for Assessments varied
 - Validation & Verification a problem
 - Missing Provinces, Government Departments & Gender-based Groups
 - Little data on Private Sector initiatives

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Introduction

- Socio-Economic Development implies continuous improvement in the well-being and standard of living of the people
- SA signed, ratified & acceded to most international human rights & development instruments
 - UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
 - International Covenant on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights
- Sustainable Development & Livelihoods are key themes for SA Government Programmes
- Local-level Infrastructure for access, availability of assets, services & opportunities is critical

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 1: Issues Raised

Promote Self-Reliance in Development & Build Capacity for Self-Sustaining Development

- Effective ownership of orientation & design of national development programmes
 - Autonomy created by low aid dependency
 - Some donor-driven agenda's at Provinces
- Funding of national development programmes
 - Macroeconomic stability & low external debt allows for self-funding of development

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 1: PoA Proposals

- Removing constraints to access by vulnerable groups to development programmes and prioritise their development
- Utilise National and Provincial government departments, as well as the Private sector to foster the ability of local government to deliver development initiatives to their constituencies
- Develop and enhance processes and mechanisms that engage communities so that they are not passive recipients of assistance, but instead are active in shaping strategies for their development
- Reinforce oversight of international commitments to ensure independence in development and expand capacity for sustainable development

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 1: Emerging Gaps

- What has been the impact of increased direction and oversight by The Office of the Presidency for socio-economic programmes since 2004?
- Tension between the devolution of responsibilities to local government and central authority
 - Are systems adequate to capture complexity of differences?
 - How are well developed local plans integrated (relationship between Integrated Development Plans & Government Programme of Action)

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 2: Issues Raised

Accelerate Socio-Economic Development to Achieve Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

- What is the country doing to accelerate socio-economic development and achieve sustainable development and poverty eradication?
- What are the outcomes of the policies and mechanisms to achieve sustainable development and poverty eradication?

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 2: PoA Proposals

- Need to establish strategy for how social grants can be used to facilitate people's economic independence and development
- Ensuring temporary development projects are part of coherent and monitored framework to facilitate sustainable employment in the formal sector
- Increasing monitoring to assess impacts and identify barriers to access
- Enhancing local government training and mentoring to increase their capacity to deliver of development responsibilities
- Enhancing capacity beyond the State to ensure the individuals and communities that receive public funds can utilise them effectively
- Integrated administration of poverty alleviation programmes under a social protection policy framework to ensure effective budgeting, spending and implementation
- A marked expansion of social assistance grants because of the persistent gap between needs and available resources
 - Examples include Basic Income Grant advocates of universal large scale social security
- Increase focused incentives to leverage South Africa's formal economy to effect development, such as through development of enabling technologies

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 2: Emerging Gaps

- Monitoring and evaluation difficulties because of different definitions of outcomes
- Safety and security not reviewed with respect to relative development and progress
- Alternative poverty measures & development indicators to be researched

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 3: Issues Raised

Strengthen Policies, Delivery Mechanisms and Outcomes in Key Social Areas including Education and Combating HIV/AIDS and other Communicable Diseases

- What measures has government taken to strengthen policy, delivery mechanisms and monitor outcomes in order to make progress towards social development targets?
- What are the outcomes of the policies and mechanisms on social indicators?

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 3a: PoA Proposals

- Access to Health Care
 - Social health insurance has been forwarded as a means to reduce the inequity between the private and public health sectors through a national-wide medical insurance scheme for all employed people based on their ability to pay
 - Public-private interactions have been another means identified to facilitate the development of quality health care access for all South Africans, while also facilitating unification of the systems
 - Establishment of a co-ordinated strategy to enable efficient use of community health care workers, particularly in support of home-based care as well as around HIV/AIDS care
 - The need to move from short-term interventions in the provisions of human resource in the health care sector to long-term strategies that will eliminate the need for ad hoc interventions
 - Monitoring and evaluation must occur to ensure that resources available to the health care system are used to increase and deepen access for all South Africans
 - Medical schemes and the private health care sector must devise schemes to ensure pro rata access is available
 - Community needs must be integrated in the development and monitoring of social programmes to ensure buy-in and effectiveness
 - Promotion of healthy living needs to occur as a pro-active step to complement the predominantly reactive structure of the national health care system

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 3b: PoA Proposals

- Interventions around HIV/AIDS
 - Government, civil society and the private sector should collaboratively develop an antiretroviral role out education campaign with a focus on previously disadvantaged communities where negative perceptions of HIV treatment persist
 - Government needs to ensure awareness about the disease is effecting behavioural change. HIV detection and treatment must be available for all infants and young children
 - Further analysis of the impact of HIV/AIDS on pensioners needs to be conducted
 - Social understanding of the needs and rights of individuals, but especially vulnerable groups, infected with HIV/AIDS needs to be developed and diffused
 - The Department of Health should revise is recording of cause of death to ensure adequate monitoring of HIV/AIDS is occurring
 - Mistrust amongst stakeholders needs to be addressed in order to facilitate policy implementation
 - HIV/AIDS needs to be approached in a systematic way that simultaneously addresses the disease, its contributing factors for spreading like poverty as well as its impacts like education and skill losses
 - Need to study the nature and incidence of HIV/AIDS to advise and direct policy and legislation.

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 3c: PoA Proposals

- Access to Education
 - The State needs to ensure that its transformation policies and laws are facilitating access to education for all South Africa, including higher education
 - Historical, institutions of under-development within the education system like farm-school should be replaced by more capable education centres
 - Government should set targets for eradicating illiteracy
 - A holistic approach to human resource development with greater stakeholder involvement should be undertaken
 - Reducing the cost of attending school by removing fees at the primary school level, facilitating free textbooks, and relaxing school uniform requirements
 - Need to expand awareness of and sensitivity to the needs of people with disabilities, across society but especially teachers

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 3: Emerging Gaps

- HIV/AIDS
 - Impacts on skill development and productivity not represented, nor private sector actions to address the problem
 - HIV/AIDS resources coming at cost of other health care
- Health Access
 - Adequacy to respond quickly to global pandemics such as bird flu.
- Education Access
 - Structural features: school fees, teacher quality, and transport access; perpetuating legacy of inequality
 - Management and procurement capacity also perpetuating inequity in education

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 4: Issues Raised

Ensuring Affordable Access to Water, Sanitation, Energy, Finance, Markets, ICT, Shelter and Land to All Citizens, Especially the Rural Poor

- What policies and strategies has the government put in place to ensure that all citizens, in particular the rural and urban poor, have affordable access to basic needs?

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 4a: PoA Proposals

- Land and Housing
 - Ensure empowerment of housing beneficiaries through intensification of housing delivery
 - Develop a strategy for rural communities and farm workers
 - Clarification of intra-governmental responsibilities and authority
 - Housing delivery should account for social cohesion and integrated community development
 - Women's access to land and property right must be addressed
 - Government should work with the private sector in developing housing finance for low income, but not necessarily poor South Africans
 - Housing development should consider cultural sensitivities and family dynamics in order to enhance social cohesion as well as account for special needs like those of disabled individuals

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 4b: PoA Proposals

- Water and Sanitation
 - Water service provision needs to be integrated within the IDP in order to ensure resource allocation is demand and need driven
 - The institutional framework and functions of levels of government needs to be finalised
 - Intra-governmental authority and functions needs to be clarified and co-ordination deepened
 - Government needs to ensure provision of services is occurring in a financially sustainable manner
 - Innovative water harvesting programmes should be investigated to assist in meeting community needs

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 4c: PoA Proposals

- Information and Communication Technologies
 - Subsidize rural telephony and poor areas
 - Enhance competition within the regulatory environment
 - Enforce communication operators' line-role out obligations
 - Emergency telephone services should be seen as a basic human right
 - ICASA should ensure adequate investments are being made in the upgrading of national communication infrastructure

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 4: Emerging Gaps

- Water:
 - Inadequacy of resources to achieve target with respect to access to water.
- Sanitation:
 - Inadequacy of resources to achieve target with respect to access to sanitation.
- Finance:
 - Adequacy and structure of access to finance not addressed.

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 5: Issues Raised

Progress to Gender Equity in All Critical Areas of Concern, including Equal Access to Education for Girls at All Levels

- What measures has the country taken to mainstream gender equity and with what results?

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 5: PoA Proposals

- Increasing the number of women in decision making positions
 - facilitate more opportunities and choices for women to participate in economic decision-making
- Women should benefit most from social security nets
- Women must have equal access to education, training and economic opportunities
- Full reproductive rights be granted to all women
- Increase opportunities for women in public works through extended public works programme
- Improvement of maternal health
- Promotion of the provision of child-care facilities
- Affordable and safer transport
- Provision of electricity
- Special attention should be paid to legal, educational, and employment status of Women
- Remove all forms of legislative obstacles, constraints & discrimination regarding women's access to land, housing & credit
 - Engendering an approach to housing and other social services to support gender equality

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 5: Emerging Gaps

- Research on violence against and abuse of women
- Marginal participation of women in economic activities
- Absence of a dedicated fund to promote women's advancement
- Lack of accessible information that could allow women to benefit from opportunities both in South Africa and abroad
- Absence of Inter-Generational Dialogues and lack of programmes to integrate youth/young women in the socio-economic and political initiatives of the country
- Unmonitored implementation of government policies meant to empower women

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 6: Issues Raised

Encourage Broad-Based Participation in Development by All Stakeholder at All Levels

- What mechanisms have been put in place to promote and encourage effective participation in development processes by key stakeholders?

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 6: PoA Proposals

- Special efforts should be made to address engagement of vulnerable groups, such as children, woman, rural communities, and the disabled
 - Government must create enabling mechanisms to encourage greater participation of children in development processes
 - Greater efforts to ensure community participation in policy formulation & implementation
- Implementation of the human resource development strategy needs to ensure that youth are targeted
 - results in their employability and self-employment
- Removal of all institutional and social constraints to the participation of local communities in development structures and institutions
 - Means to achieve this include engaging with civil society on adequacy of development indicators as well as improving access to information

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Objective 6: Emerging Gaps

- How do we recognise when structures are miss-aligned with needs & commitments?
- How to build responsiveness without compromising integrity?

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development

Contact details

rasigan@antfarm.co.za

tpogue@telkomsa.net



Process forward:

- Redraft Technical Report
- 25 - 30 page summary to NGC – NCC [text]
- 2-3 page Executive Summary to NGC

6 April 2006

APRM SAS: Socio-Economic Development