

Integrated Rural and Regional Development

PRESENTATION
National Treasury
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3306

IRRD: Land and

Agrarian Reform Research

- **Overview: IRRD research focus**
- **Overview: Land & agrarian reform research sub-programme**
- **Preliminary findings from 5 projects**
- **Current/proposed projects**
- **Some common themes**

IRRD Research Focus

Four overlapping sub-programmes

- 1. Land and agrarian reform**
- 2. Rural infrastructure and service delivery**
- 3. Poverty reduction**
- 4. Regional migration, investment & trade**

One inclusive endeavour

**“Rural review: the state of the South
African countryside”**

Land & Agrarian Reform

Preliminary findings from five research projects

- 1) Survey of land demand, attitudes to land reform
- 2) Sakhisizwe district study: Impact of land reform
- 3) Joint ventures
- 4) Restitution: overview
- 5) Gender policy of DLA

(1) Land Demand,

Attitudes to Land Reform

July 2004 – June 2005

Purpose

To understand land reform policy in the light of people's expectations and needs regarding land

Quantitative survey

- Rigorous sampling; sample size = 1400 ind's.
- Three provinces: Limpopo, Free State, Eastern Cape
- Different kinds of settlement – deep rural, commercial farms, urban informal, urban formal

Land Demand,

Attitudes to Land Reform (cont.)

Preliminary findings

- Widespread desire/need for land (43%), largely for food and tenure security purposes
- Most individuals who want land want modest amounts
 - 36% 1 hectare or less
 - 66% 5 hectares or less
- Land is low on list of national priorities (3% of respondents listed land among top 3 priorities of government)
- High levels of ignorance of land reform programme
 - 56% say they have not heard of it.

(2) Impact Land Reform: Sakhisizwe District Study

November 2004 – March 2005

Purpose

To examine impact of land reform on livelihoods and rural economy in district with one of highest concentrations of transferred LRAD projects nationally

- 60 as of Dec. 2004, plus 24 others approved

Within context of changes in commercial agriculture, examining:

- Processes of project delivery
 - why sellers sell; beneficiary group formation
- Change in land/resource use and production before and after transfer of land
- Benefits accruing to beneficiaries

Impact Land Reform:

Sakhisizwe District Study (cont.)

Preliminary findings (data outstanding)

- Few projects arranged with significant input from beneficiaries
- Some projects arranged without beneficiary knowledge
- Decline in resource use and production, esp. discontinued planting
- Beneficiary disillusionment, despite generally being pleased to be land owners

(3) Joint Venture Schemes

2002 – 2003; HSRC and SPP

Purpose

To investigate contribution of JVs to broader objectives of land reform

15 case studies

- Contract farming (4)
- Group farming (6)
- Joint ventures on commonage lands (5)

Four provinces: W Cape, KZN, E Cape, Mpumalanga

Joint Venture Schemes (cont.)

Findings:

- Share equity without land transfer
 - Farmers retain control and manage businesses
 - Can facilitate redistribution of wealth, skills transfer
 - High economic and financial risk for beneficiaries - no security when business collapses
- Share equity with land transfer
 - Land holding and business exist as separate entities
 - Beneficiaries become land owners – security of tenure
 - Contribution to land redistribution
- Contract farming
 - Major benefit for emerging farmers: guaranteed access to market
- Commonage land program
 - Access to land especially in rural small towns

Joint Venture Schemes (cont.)

Findings: major challenges

- External investors have an important role in determining success of schemes
- Bridging finance and extension support services are critically important
- Participation of development financial institutions (DBSA, IDC, ITHALA, UVIMBA etc) important for success
- JVs are complex arrangements, requiring high levels of skills, knowledge and expertise - unequal relationships between farmers and beneficiaries as shareholders

(4) Restitution

Overview

- Dec 2005 deadline: settlement path for most claims may be in place, but finalising settlements & post-settlement support will require major attention after 2005
- Outstanding claims January 2005 (CLCC):
 - Urban: 13,247
 - Rural: 9,200
- Unreliability of national data; no systematic M&E
- Focus on rural restoration claims – comparative assessment of important urban land projects lacking
 - Provisional: late 2003 50% households receiving land through E Cape settlements were urban

Restitution (cont.)

Multiple measures of success/failure

- National political & symbolic dimension: contested
- Local and project level dimensions: mixed
- Redress: mixed
 - Significant component
 - Disillusionment when fails to improve life significantly
- Agriculture: poor
 - inadequate post-settlement support
 - not necessarily primary purpose for rural claims
- Other economic development: little data
 - Need ongoing monitoring, eg Makuleke

(5) Gender policy of DLA

“Substantiating gender rights”

- National policy in place
- Constitutional gains 1993-96 consolidated
 - “Bhe” judgment
- Gap high-level commitments & implementation
- “Gender mainstreaming” lacks operational content at provincial/project level & difficult to implement
- Indicators inadequate
 - Female-headed households; rights-holders
 - Quota of women on committees
- Inadequate beneficiary data, M&E

Gender policy of DLA (cont.)

“Substantiating gender rights”

- DLA managers not held accountable for implementation in performance assessment
- Implementation left to committed officials: inconsistent application
- Weak rural women’s movement hinders political accountability
- Policy & political tensions in CLRA around accommodation of customary law, traditional institutions, women’s rights & gender equality

Current & Proposed Projects

- **HIV/AIDS, land reform and land-based livelihoods in 3 provinces**
 - Phase 1 underway
- **HIV/AIDS, women's property rights & domestic violence: SA & Uganda country studies**
 - Proposed
- **Farmland Price Trends in SA, 1994 – 2003**
- **Land claims and protected areas**
 - E Shores Lake St Lucia: comparison land ownership/other benefits (Mbilal/Bhangazi claims)

Current & Proposed Projects (cont.)

- **Communal Land Rights Act: women's tenure security & land rights (HSRC & PLAAS)**
 - In-depth understanding of current situation; impact of CLRA
 - Policy recommendations
- **Four rural district case studies: land reform, farm employment, livelihoods (HSRC & PLAAS)**
 - What is the economic case for land reform?
 - In-depth understanding; national picture
- **Chronic poverty and small-scale agriculture (HSRC & PLAAS)**
 - Why does the role of agriculture in poverty reduction appear to be diminishing in former homelands
 - Practical policy responses

Common Themes

- **Contribution of land reform to poverty reduction & agricultural development generally limited and uneven**
- **Inadequate post-settlement support**
- **Mismatch products/aspirations**
- **Tenure security, settlement major concerns for poor**
- **Non-economic components to land reform important to understand and address**
 - National level: symbolic, political
 - Local level: identity, history, patronage

Common Themes

- **Inadequate data, M&E – no robust and comprehensive overview of land reform**
- **Lack of support for serious land research**
 - Donor funding reduced
 - DLA capacity, time frames, budgets



Thank you