



A selection of HSRC key performance highlights and achievements: 1 April to 30 June 2012

Organisational developments

The HSRC achieved an independently verified Level 3 BB-BEE (Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment) rating. This means that South African institutions procuring services from the HSRC, and wishing to measure their levels of compliance with the Codes of Good Practice Procurement Scorecard, can recognize 110% of their investment in HSRC work as BEE expenditure.

Progress made against targets set in the 2012/13 Annual Performance Plan

HSRC's first quarter performance against strategic indicators is covered in a separate report supplemented by a cover letter explaining the performance in detail.

Meeting with Ministers, government departments and Parliament

The annual performance plan of the HSRC was presented to the Portfolio Committee on Science and Technology on 25 April 2012. The plan was well received and discussions were constructive.

The Minister of Science and Technology and the Chairperson of the HSRC Board signed the Shareholder's Compact for 2012/13 in Pretoria on the 7 May 2012. As per the reporting obligations prescribed in the Shareholder's Compact, the HSRC submitted its annual financial statements and information on predetermined objectives by the deadline of 31 May 2012 to the Auditor-General of South Africa, National Treasury and the Department of Science and Technology.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the Executive Director (ED): Education and Skills Development met with Minister of Higher Education and Training to discuss the Labour Market Intelligence Project on 3 April 2012. It was a very useful engagement of ensuring that research is informed by policy needs. A follow-up workshop was held on 3 and 4 May to thrash out the research themes and questions.

The CEO met with the Head of Health in the Western Cape, Professor Househam, on 5 June, to discuss matters related to the National Health Insurance.

Meetings with key stakeholders in the Limpopo province included a meeting with the Research Forum, facilitated by the Office of the Premier and attended by provincial higher education institutions and government departments, on 18 April. The province will be collaborating with the HSRC around the establishment of its research repository, to host all recent research findings pertaining to the province. Towards the end of May, the CEO and Professor Margaret Chitiga-Mabugu met with Mr. Solly Kgopong, Senior general Manager, Economic Development Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism Limpopo, also around opportunities for research collaboration.



Representatives of the HSRC Research Ethics Committee (REC) attended a meeting hosted by the National Health Research Ethics Council (NHREC) on 3 May 2012. The meeting was attended by representatives from all RECs registered with the NHREC. Matters discussed at the meeting included preliminary findings of the first audit conducted on behalf of the NHREC, where the HSRC did well. The implications of Section 71 of the National Health Act, which recently came into effect, were also discussed. Although regulations are still awaited, there are concerns that this may have an unintended negative effect on the way in which research involving children is reviewed and approved from an ethical perspective.

The HSRC submitted a high-level MTEF infrastructure budget bid on 14 June 2012. The proposal was for a Research Data Management Centre: A specialised facility to support longitudinal studies for Human and Social Dynamics in Development (HSDD). The Centre is intended to address national priorities, requirements for monitoring and evaluation, human capital development and possible foresight activities in the field of social innovation.

The CEO accompanied by DCEOs and EDs attended a bilateral meeting with DST on 21 June 2012. The agenda included strategic and structural matters including the incorporation of the Africa Institute of South Africa (AISA) into the HSRC, and the role and placement of CeSTII regarding data collection for the annual Research and Experimental Development (R&D) Survey. The need for a trilateral meeting between the HSRC, DST and NRF were also discussed. Support for funding of Longitudinal Studies in the HSRC, a Research Internship proposal, and World Social Science Forum in 2015 were also discussed, as were a concept note on the creation of an Institute of Science, Technology Innovation (ISTI) at the HSRC, and further refinement of plans and funding requirements for a Centre for African Studies at the HSRC. The meeting had positive outcomes. DST will be working with other government departments to support the HSRC to undertake longitudinal studies. With respect to AISA's integration, it was agreed that it will proceed as planned and funds were set aside for this process. The release of the report of the Ministerial Review Committee on the STI landscape was also noted. The HSRC submitted a response to recommendations of the committee on 29 June 2012.

At the request of the Statistician General, several staff members were nominated to represent the HSRC at StatsSA's National Coordinating Committee (NCC) as well as several Sectoral Working Groups for finalizing the MDG Country Report.



HSRC Social Science Seminar Series

Fifteen seminars were held in the period under review. Presentations covered topics currently on the HSRC's research agenda.

Date	Seminar title	Presenter(s)	Institutional affiliation of presenter(s)
03 April 2012	Why the first 1000 days of life so important for health and human development? Lessons from cohorts followed to young adulthood	Dr Linda Adair	University of North Carolina
03 April 2012	Poverty, inequality and the study of Africa	Prof. Thandika Mkandawire	Chair in African Development, London School of Economics (LSE)
16 April 2012	Old Enough To Know, Book Launch	Prof Arvin Bhana, Prof Leickness Simbayi, Prof Sharlene Swartz and Mr Duncan Scott Dr Colleen McLaughlin and Dr Susan Kiragu Dr Sana Mmolai and Dr Ariane DeLannoy	(HSRC); (University of Cambridge), (University of Botswana); (Children's Institute, UCT)
19 April 2012	Organisational Innovation approaches in SA	Ms Henra Mayer	CEO, Innocentrix
24 April 2012	Household food access in rural South Africa: Lessons for emerging food security policy	Dr Peter Jacobs	Economic Performance And Development, Human Sciences Research Council



Date	Seminar title	Presenter(s)	Institutional affiliation of presenter(s)
25 April 2012	Military Veterans Seminar Series African Knowledge Producers Series Contributions, experiences and sacrifices: Post-liberation knowledge production and nation building by military veterans “Emancipating the African voice: PAC/APLA. Military Veterans speak “Are you with us: the story of a PAC activist”.	Mr Mxolisi Mgxashe	PAC activist, more fondly known as “Bra Ace”
08 May 2012	The Status and Regard For The Traditional Courts Bill	Dr Sindiso Mnisi Prof. Richman Mqoke Prof. Thandabantu Nhlapo	Race and Gender Research Unit at UCT Advocate of the High Court of South Africa and a Research Chair at Rhodes University Senior deputy vice-chancellor at UCT
15 May 2012	EVIDENCE BASED POLICY MAKING: Systematic reviews and other research synthesis methodologies	Ms Ruth Steward	Research Fellow at the Centre for Anthropological Research, University of Johannesburg
24 May 2012	Child maltreatment prevention readiness in South Africa	Dr Mokhantso Makoe	Population Health, Health Systems and Innovation research programme, HSRC
30 May 2012	Climate Change roundtable: Transfer towards climate-friendly transport technologies and measures	Dr Reinhard Loske	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)



Date	Seminar title	Presenter(s)	Institutional affiliation of presenter(s)
06 June 2012	Retributive justice and socioeconomics of crime and punishment in a developing country	Dr Wisdom Akpalu	Department of History, Economics and Politics, State University of New York
12 June 2012	Research ethics and community engagement	Prof. Harold Annegarn	SeTAR Centre, University of Johannesburg
13 June 2012	ACTIVATING SOUTH AFRICAN YOUTH: What way forward?	Dr Monde Makiwane Dr Miriam Altman	Chief Research Specialist Human and Social Development, HSRC & Distinguished Research Fellow, HSRC, and a Commissioner on the National Planning Commission in the SA Presidency
14 June 2012	A MAN WHO IS NOT A MAN: Youth, masculinities, culture and the humanities	Mr Thando Mggolozane	University of KwaZulu Natal
27 June 2012	Military Veterans Seminar Series African Knowledge Producers Series Contributions, experiences and sacrifices: Post-liberation knowledge production and nation building by military veterans “Remembering June 16: In dialogue – the youth of yesteryear and the youth of today”	Mr Fana Jiyane Ms Peggy Photolo Ms Dipuo Mvelase M Motloun G Biya X Tiyanzashe Dr Hester Du Plessis Ms Tembeka Ngcebetsha	CEO, Freedom Park DCEO Freedom Park Vincent Tshabalala Trust MKMVA AZANLA APLAMVA HSRC Freedom Park



Examples of recognition of HSRC work by government departments and in the national media

During the first quarter of 2012/13, the following work of the HSRC attracted particular attendance from the media:

- The *Military Veterans* seminar series, and lessons learned from contributions by various veterans at the seminars;
- Ongoing work in the context of the first national South African National Health and Nutrition Survey (SANHANES);
- Findings of the HSRC audit of Further Education and Training (FET) colleges as well as work dealing with mid-level skills (artisan) training;
- Discussions around employment creation, led by a distinguished HSRC researcher who also serves on the National Planning Commission (NPC), Dr Miriam Altman;
- Research on water service delivery, undertaken in the Eastern Cape under the stewardship of the Deputy Minister of Science and Technology and in collaboration with the CSIR;
- Discussions around Early Childhood Development, especially in the context of UNESCO-supported roundtable discussions. During this period, a team led by Professor Linda Richter (distinguished HSRC researcher) also refined a Diagnostic Review of Early Childhood Development on behalf of the Department of Performance Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME)

Contracts signed with Government Departments from April to June 2012

Funder	Programme	Project title	Total grant	Duration of contract
Department of Science and Technology (DST)	Economic Performance and Development (EPD)	Evaluation of the impact of the South Africa - Finland knowledge partnership programmes in Limpopo province	R497 388	3 months
Department of Social Development (DSD)	Human and Social Development (HSD)	Evaluation of the Applied Population Science Training and Research (APSTAR)	R212 185	3 months
Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature	Democracy, Governance and Service Delivery (DGSD)	Budget analysis for Mpumalanga Legislature	R161 026	1 month

International networking and collaboration

The CEO participated as a moderator on the Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals program during the DTI and Deloitte's fourth Annual South African International Trade and Investment Conference from 11 to 12 April, where she served as a panellist on health care systems in Africa.



The DCEO: Research led an HSRC delegation to attend a CODESRIA – HSRC Collaboration Review Meeting in Dakar, Senegal on 3 and 4 May 2012. Other members of the delegation included the Director, Business Development & International Liaison, Ms Bridgette Prince, Dr Darlene Miller (ISSC Co-ordinator); Professor Refilwe (Nancy) Phaswana-Mafuya (Director, SAHARA Network) and Professor Francis Nyamnjoh (Chair, HSRC Press Editorial Board). The meeting focused on progress made with various joint projects, including collaboration in the field of publication, a research project on South Africa's role in Africa, and collaboration around the SAHARA programme. The two organizations will be key partners in planning for the 2015 World Social Science Forum.

The CEO in her capacity as President of the International Social Science Council chaired the meeting of the Executive Committee from 14 to 15 May in Montreal, Canada. The opportunity was also used to visit NHI sites in Toronto so as to inform the NHI plan under development in her capacity as chair on Ministerial Advisory Committee on NHI. She later also met with Professor Yaung, the ex-Minister of Health of Taiwan, to learn more about how this country implemented its version of a national Health Insurance.

The CEO, in her capacity as President of the ISSC attended the Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development in June 2012. The Forum brought together leading international scientists and policy-makers to explore the key role of interdisciplinary science and innovation in the transition to sustainable development, a green economy and poverty eradication. The aim was to help establish the research, technology and policy agendas that would be needed after Rio+20. The Forum was organized by ICSU, in partnership with UNSECO, the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO), the International Social Science Council, the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation and the Brazilian Academy of Sciences. It was attended by more than 1000 delegates. A small HSRC delegation also participated in Rio+20, with Professor Ivan Turok contributing to the *ISSC/ISCU Science Forum* and Ms Diana Sanches in the *ISSC Early Career Scientists and Narratives for Change* event.

New Books Published by HSRC Press

The month of June saw the launch of the new ***Voices of Liberation*** publication series. The first book in the series, entitled *A revolutionary life: Ruth First* (by Don Pinnock) was launched at the Institute for Commonwealth Studies, London University on 7 June 2012. The second book, focusing on the life of *Albert Luthuli* (by Gerard Pillay) was launched later the month, in Cape Town. More books in this series were commissioned during June 2012.

Researchers win top award for best research paper

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP) is an international programme under which Commonwealth governments offer post-graduate scholarships and fellowships to citizens of other Commonwealth countries around the world (South Africa included). Duncan Scott, a junior researcher in Human and Social Development (HSD), has been awarded the Commonwealth Scholarship for PhD studies (Sociology) and will be attending the University of Aberdeen in the United Kingdom from October 2012.



Duncan's study will focus on 'The interpersonal and institutional politics of restitution in South Africa: An ethnographic study of *The Warehouse*, a faith-based organisation in Cape Town'

Individual Antiracism Award 2012

In March 2012, Dr Ernest N Khalema, a senior research specialist within the Human and Social Development in Durban was awarded the Individual Antiracism Award (2012) for outstanding academic / community research by a leading Canadian NGO, , the Centre for Race and Culture. This organisation also appointed Dr Khalema an honorary research associate.