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# Child, Youth, Family and Social Development (CYFSD)

*Social science that maximises human potential and advances the rights of vulnerable populations*

CYFSD aims to promote human and social development through the production of high quality applied research that addresses challenges arising from social inequality, poverty, violence, HIV/AIDS and other causes of ill-health and suffering, and loss of human potential. We focus on individuals, groups, social institutions and processes relating to children, youth, families and vulnerable populations, including older individuals and people with disabilities and we research aspects of the life course, from infancy to old age. We strive, through an interdisciplinary and collaborative approach, to contribute knowledge and evidence to inform the design, implementation and evaluation of policies and programmes to achieve a better life for all South Africans.

CYFSD has 18 full-time senior researchers, fairly evenly distributed across the Durban, Cape Town and Pretoria offices, and another 80 additional research and technical staff employed in two large field studies. These are:

- Birth to Twenty, the unique longitudinal birth cohort study situated at Chris Hani-Baragwanath Hospital at the University of the Witwatersrand; and
- Project Accept in Vulindlela (KZN), a randomised community trial to rapidly increase the number of people, especially youth, who know their HIV status, and thereby to change community dynamics in respect of the HIV epidemic.

During the year, the work of CYFSD was recognised by a National Science and Technology Forum award for an organisation’s contribution to science, engineering and technology. It was also the first HSRC research programme to undergo an external five-year review. The four-person review panel, chaired by the special advisor to the CEO, Professor Dan Ncayiyana, spent a week visiting CYFSD offices and field sites, hearing presentations by

researchers, interviewing stakeholders and reading published papers and research reports. The review report will be made public in mid-2007.

Research in CYFSD is organised through six thematic areas, although there are significant cross-cutting activities, networks and dissemination across themes. The thematic areas are:

- Early childhood
- Youth development
- Family studies
- HIV and AIDS
- Social inclusion
- Monitoring and evaluation.

## Priority research areas

CHALLENGES TO HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	<b>Child and Youth Development</b> Including early child care and development; child rights and wellbeing; participation and engagement in social life; threats to development – health, care, abuse, substance use, conflict with the law
INEQUALITY	<b>Settings for Human and Social Development</b> Including families, households, neighbourhoods, communities, schools, workplaces, institutions and services
POVERTY	<b>Vulnerable Groups</b> Including children in especially difficult circumstances, young people in conflict with the law, men and women caring for dependents, children and adults in institutions, older persons, people with disabilities
VIOLENCE	<b>Interventions and Evaluation to Support Programmes and Policy</b> Including advocacy; demonstration projects and experimental trails; capacity development for sustainable social systems; costing and economic analyses
GLOBALISATION AND SOCIAL CHANGE	

## Completed projects

### Early childhood

This theme focuses on data that demonstrate the importance of early childhood to both individual and national development, as well as on developing and testing measures and interventions to enhance policy and programmes to improve early child development.

Significant projects during the year included the compilation of a web-based resource for Africa on assessment instruments to determine psychosocial functioning in early childhood funded from the Parliamentary grant; the development of materials to promote early child development in collaboration with UNICEF, the Children's Rights Centre and the national Department of Social Development; the development and evaluation of a psychosocial programme to improve the care of children in health facilities in the context of HIV and AIDS with funding from the Mellon Foundation; an investigation of psychosocial needs and care of young HIV-positive children in paediatric treatment programmes; and estimating the cost-effectiveness of prevention of mother to child treatment programmes at three sites, funded by the Centers for Disease Control in the United States.

### Youth development

Under this theme, CYFSD studies the resources and assets of young people, as well as evaluations of interventions to improve youth wellbeing, in the present and into the future.

Some of the projects include: children involved in organised and armed violence (COAV) in five cities, in which CYFSD conducted focus groups and demonstrated very high levels of violence and a lack of safety in children's lives; child work and labour by 12 – 16-year olds, commissioned by the International Labour Organisation, which found that common hazards to which working children are exposed include too long working hours in excessive heat, and without drinking water; youth attitudes and perceptions of their quality of life from data collected in the South African Social Attitudes Survey 2006; an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Scout Leadership Training Programme in six African countries, funded by the Johan Jacobs Foundation; and work on substance abuse, including membership of the South African Community Epidemiological Network on Drug Use (SACENDU), the KwaZulu-Natal Integrated Strategy for Teenage Drug Abuse, and costing the Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse Bill.

### Family studies

Work in this field includes tracking changes in the structure and function of families, the changing

roles of women, men, children and older persons, as well as assessing the impact of policy and programmes to strengthen families.

Projects conducted include: an investigation and film documentation of community-based supports for families and children affected by HIV and AIDS, funded by the

Table 1: Life satisfaction and expectations by age

	Age group			Total
	16 – 24	25 – 35	36+	
Satisfied with life as a whole	53	42	50	49
Past 5 years: Life improved for the majority of people in South Africa	62	56	56	58
Past 5 years: Life improved for people like you*	45	44	37	41
Next five years: Things will improve for most people in South Africa**	70	67	60	65
Next five years: Things will improve for people like you**	67	63	52	59

\* Significant at 5% level, \*\* Significant at 1% level

Child drawings from the project on children involved in organised crime and armed violence



United States Agency for International Development; a study of paraffin use in KwaZulu-Natal households, focusing on the dangers created by inappropriate storage and poor quality appliances; proposal development for the Economic Commission for Africa on how to harness traditional leadership as part of a broader project on dynastic families and democracy; the conclusion of a five-year study to evaluate a programme to support families of pre-adolescent children and to protect children in the context of HIV and AIDS (Collaborative HIV and Mental Health Programme or CHAMP), funded by the National Institute of Mental Health in the USA; and the Fatherhood Project, which is being supported by Save the Children Sweden to continue its advocacy and research activities, including the publication of the book *Baba: Men and fatherhood in South Africa*.

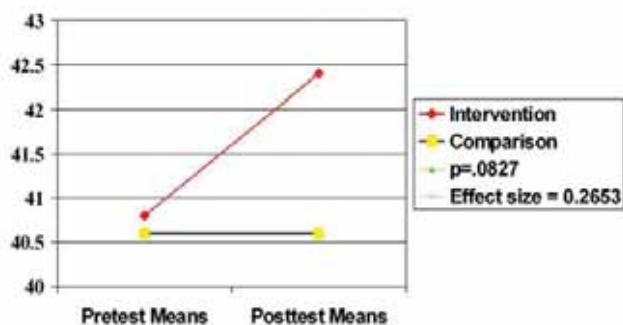


Child in participatory research methodologies

Projects conducted include: improving advocacy for children affected by HIV/AIDS through better use of evidence, funded by the Bernard van Leer Foundation; assisting community-based organisations to document their successes and challenges, commissioned by the national Department of Social Development; investigating how to enhance resilience among children affected by HIV/AIDS using participatory techniques such as photo-voice methodology; an HIV and alcohol prevention in schools project using innovative electronic technology for data collection; documenting the Caring Schools Project, a programme to enhance the capacity of schools to support children affected by HIV/AIDS, which includes placing youth facilitators in schools to support vulnerable children, funded by Save the Children and the Rockefeller Brothers Foundation; and a very large scale, four-country community randomised trial, funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, Project Accept, to assess the impact of knowledge of status, especially among youth, on HIV outcomes including a biological end-point

**The AmaQhawe FAMILY PROJECT**

**Primary Social Networks**



**HIV and AIDS**

This theme comprises research on social and individual factors that increase the vulnerability of children and youth to HIV, and on interventions to improve the prevention, care and support of children, young people and families in communities affected by HIV and AIDS.



Micro-lending in Limpopo

**Social inclusion**

Under the theme social inclusion (and its counterpart social exclusion), the development and support of sustainable communities with the aim of reducing poverty is an important topic for investigation and intervention, and encompasses mental health, poverty, burden of disease and disability.

Some of the research projects conducted in the year under review include: a survey of skills development strategies and employment for people with disabilities, funded by the International Labour Organisation, which presented the primary challenge of quality education for children with disabilities; a review for the national Department of Social

# UGANDA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

## 5<sup>th</sup> Washington Group on Disability Statistics

DATE: 10<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> October 2006 VENUE: Hotel Africana

Margie Schneider at the 2006 meeting of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics in Uganda



Development of social security options for people with chronic illness, exploring the impact of a grant for people with chronic illness and of strengthened services and poverty alleviation strategies; participation in the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, country-level assistance with disability surveys and programmes in Qatar and Tanzania; a study of the burden of disease due to mental ill-health in the Western Cape; and the Mental Health and Poverty Project (MHAPP), funded by the Department for International Development (DFID), an attempt to improve policy and action in Ghana, Uganda, Zambia and South Africa.

### Monitoring and evaluation

The primary activities under this theme are concerned with the development of indicators, measures and related monitoring and evaluation (M&E) tools with regard to health and wellbeing, service delivery, intervention programmes and policies, as well as costing.

Some of the projects worked on this year include: the South African Index of Multiple Deprivation for Children, funded by Save the Children Sweden, which uses Census 2001 data to build an index based on several domains of child wellbeing; a book, also funded by Save the Children Sweden, entitled *A rights-based approach to monitoring child well-being*, and including review chapters and a set of user-friendly indicators for measuring key aspects of child wellbeing; testing a disability question for Census 2011 through focus groups and a national survey, funded by Statistics South Africa; an audit of 100 schools in Gauteng in respect of Section 21 functions, such as the maintenance of school buildings and the purchase of learning and teaching materials; the development of monitoring and evaluation tools for the organisation Absolute Return of Kids (ARK), which is promoting and funding de-institutionalisation programmes in Eastern Europe; and a number of costing studies.

### Impact of research

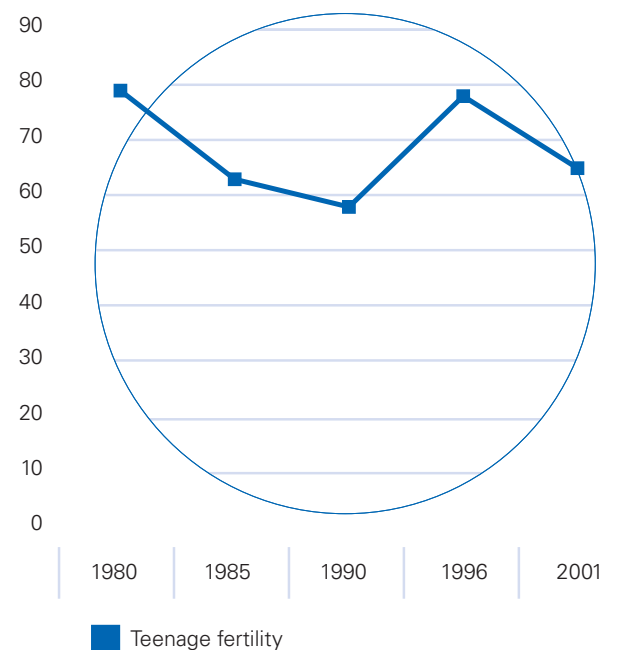
In 2005, the African Union (AU) commissioned the HSRC to report on the status of youth in Africa and to develop the African Youth Charter, which is intended to serve as a guide

and a framework to fast-track implementation of comprehensive youth policies and strategies to empower youth to take advantage of increasing opportunities. In 2006, the Charter underwent an extensive process of validation. Following national consultations with youth at country level, the AU convened a Youth Forum in May 2006, a youth experts meeting and a meeting of ministers of youth in member states, together with key stakeholders including the youth in *diaspora*. As a result of these deliberations, in which the HSRC played a pivotal role, the Charter was adopted by the Heads of State at the AU Summit held in Banjul in July 2006.

The acknowledgements in the Charter state that 'The African Union Commission wishes to express its deep appreciation to all its partners for their unconditional support, which gave birth to the African Youth Charter, especially the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) for their professional and technical commitments and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for its financial and technical support ...'.

The relationship between the child support grant and teenage fertility in South Africa, a study commissioned by the National Department of Social Development, used trends in teenage fertility as well as an analysis of the age

Trends in teenage fertility 1980-2001 (number of births per 1 000 women aged between 15 and 19 years of age)



## Child, Youth, Family and Social Development (CYFSD) *continued*

of grant beneficiaries to examine the recurring question of perverse incentives associated with income transfers in South Africa. In the absence of a specially designed study to definitively address the issues, the available data suggests that there is no relationship between teenage pregnancies and the child support grant. The study generated enormous debate and discussion in South Africa, also among the public and through the media. Follow-up analyses and reports, including by other researchers, corroborate the central finding of the study.

Collaborative HIV and Adolescent Mental Health Programme (CHAMPSA): Following a five-year study which demonstrated that a community- and family-based programme for families of pre-teen children significantly increased parent-child communication and monitoring of children's behaviour, CHAMP has been registered as a non-profit organisation with support from Elma Philanthropies, taking science to service. The Community Board, established to oversee the research project, is now directing implementation over a wide area.

### Future developments

CYFSD and the Policy Analysis Unit announced the Youth Policy Initiative (YPI) in January 2007, at an occasion at the HSRC when the World Bank launched the *World Development Report 2007: Development and the next generation in South Africa*. In collaboration with the major youth agencies and organisations in the country, the YPI aims to bridge the gap between research and policy and to speed up the implementation and evaluation of existing and developing youth policy.

The initiative will consist of roundtables on specific high-profile topics such as second-generation youth policy, violent crime, teenage pregnancy and the emerging youth bulge in the population; seminars

and public lectures; the HSRC bi-annual conference which will focus on youth issues; and efforts to platform and engage youth participation through community conversations, web polling, SMSs and media coverage.

Children are emerging as the next frontier in the global effort to overcome the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The Joint Learning Initiative on Children and AIDS (JLICA) is a global, cross-sectoral, interdisciplinary exercise in collaboration between policymakers, practitioners, scholars and people directly affected by the epidemic. It is positioned at the interface between politics and programming, and between technical expertise and political prioritisation. Comprising four learning groups, the group on strengthening families is led by Professor Linda Richter.

The Birth to Twenty (Bt20) project is now in its 18th year, and is beginning to enrol the third generation – children of Bt20 children. Called 3G, this generation of the children of both young mothers and fathers in the cohort, as well as their partners, will be enrolled in a repeat birth cohort study, together with qualitative studies on young parenting and three-generation genetic studies, particularly on risks for chronic diseases. Bt20 is one of five birth cohort studies in a Wellcome Trust funded initiative called Collaboration on Health Research in Transitional Societies (COHORTS), which includes Pelotas, Delhi, Guatemala and the Philippines.

**Professor Linda Richter**  
*Executive Director*

Child in the  
Paediatric  
treatment  
programme



Children in  
participatory  
research  
methodologies

## Specialist researchers 2006/07

### Professor Acheampong Amoateng

*PhD, Brigham Young University*  
Family sociology/demography



### Dr Zitha Mokomane

*PhD, The Australian National University*  
Qualitative research, family formation and dissolution patterns, adolescent sexuality, children, youth and HIV/AIDS



### Professor Arvin Bhana

*PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA*  
Youth risk and resilience, adolescent risk-taking behaviour including HIV/AIDS, substance abuse and other youth-related problem areas, fatherhood and protection/care of children, mental health



### Dr Saadhna Panday

*PhD, Maastricht University (The Netherlands)*  
Tobacco use, adolescent risk behaviour, youth development, health promotion



### Mrs Upjeet Chandan

*PhD, University of Southern California*  
Racial formations, gender, violence prevention and public education, children and HIV/AIDS, qualitative methodologies



### Ms Sharmla Rama

*MA, University of Natal*  
Child wellbeing and poverty, patterns of time use, child household work, women, children and transport



### Professor Andy Dawes

*MSc, University of Cape Town*  
Child rights and wellbeing indicators, child and adolescent mental health, child abuse and violence, programme evaluation



### Ms Marguerite Schneider

*MA, Reading University, UK*  
Disability and health, development and poverty in relation to disability



### Mr Chris Desmond

*MCom, University of Natal*  
Economics of child care and HIV/AIDS impacts on education systems



### Ms Judith Streak

*MComm, University of the Witwatersrand*  
Child poverty and child socio-economic rights indicators, income and social welfare service interventions to support children at risk, early childhood development, government budgeting for child rights in South Africa



### Dr Ursula Hoadley

*PhD, University of Cape Town*  
Sociology of pedagogy; teacher's work, curriculum, social class, schooling and socialisation, and school choice



### Ms Heidi van Rooyen

*MA, University of Durban-Westville*  
HIV/AIDS risk behaviours and interventions, voluntary counselling and testing, ethics of working in developing countries



### Dr Monde Makiwane

*DPhil, University of the Witwatersrand*  
Social science research, using quantitative and demographic techniques



### Dr Catherine Ward

*PhD, University of South Carolina*  
Exposure to violence, mental health, substance abuse, youth



### Ms Vuyiswa Mathambo

*MPH, Umeå University (Sweden)*  
Qualitative research, anthropological approaches on children and families, children and HIV/AIDS, children's access to health and social services





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## Democracy and Governance (D&G)

*Committed to democracy, justice and human rights*

The D&G research programme's main research focus is on democratisation processes in South Africa, southern Africa and in the wider African continent. The programme's work profile includes the evaluation of legislation, policies and the efficiency of public administration. It also involves research in areas as diverse as heritage, culture, foreign policy, public service performance and delivery, accountability, development, the condition of rural women, racial redress, media and social cohesion.

D&G's work involves debating and assessing the practice of the state and private bodies in a way that strengthens democracy and accountability and facilitates socio-economic improvement. The programme's research interests, as with those of the HSRC as a whole, are driven by a normative commitment to the values of the South African constitution, namely: citizenship, democratic ethical standards in public life, equality (in terms of race, gender and class) and overcoming the apartheid legacy. As such it seeks to measure the practice of the state and private bodies against these standards, as well as to deepen public and academic discussion about the conditions of democracy under the current local and global constraints.

D&G's research model is informed by the idea that good policy and political debate are dependent on high-quality research, including research that is theoretical and historical. This research speaks to the nature of the state, and the South African state in particular.

Over the years, D&G's mandate, like the expertise available to it, has expanded considerably. The programme is rapidly developing its reputation as a key national resource for independent strategic thinking and as a home for complementary but wide-ranging multi-disciplinary expertise. The programme has a multi-disciplinary team of researchers with backgrounds in history, political science, public administration, international relations, sociology and media studies. D&G significantly increased its skills base through the incorporation of the HSRC's programme on

Society, Culture and Identity (SCI) in December 2006. More than 60% of the programme's researchers have doctorates. Female researchers constitute one third of the programme research staff. The researchers are spread between Pretoria, Cape Town and Durban.

D&G collaborates with a wide range of local and international partners. These include national, provincial and local governments, international funders and philanthropic organisations, civil society and tertiary institutions.

The programme produces internationally significant work that is of value to national, provincial and local governments and to the wider academic and policy-research community. This includes the definitive annual *State of the Nation* publication – distributed to every South African embassy in the world and a sought after output globally – which charts the current status of South Africa's passage into the post-apartheid era.

### Completed projects Publications

D&G researchers published eight books, 26 chapters in books and 21 articles in accredited journals during the year. The subjects addressed by these publications include democracy and governance; trade unions and social movements; land; indigenous knowledge systems and higher education. D&G's high publication rate in international peer-reviewed journals, books and monographs suggests the highest quality of scholarship.

### Rural women's rights and traditional authorities

D&G completed the first leg of its project on rural women's rights and the legislated powers of traditional authorities. The project, consisting of a multi-year longitudinal study of communities identified by their application for the registration of communal land, aims to assess the impact of the application of the Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Act, 2003 and the Communal Land Rights Bill on the equal rights of rural women in terms of

their access to land and resources, as well as their grassroots participation in political processes.

### Commissioned reports

In addition, D&G produced five commissioned reports. One of the reports assessed the relationship between Chapter 9 institutions and civil society, commissioned by the Foundation for Human Rights and submitted to Parliament in January 2007. Another report produced by D&G analysed the relationships between the public service, the universities and the private sector. The study was commissioned by the Department of Public Service and Administration.

### Women and integrated development

Women have been marginalised in both society and the economy. Against this background, D&G teamed up with Urban, Rural and Economic Development (URED) to do a study on women, decentralisation and integrated development planning in South Africa. The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada funded the project.

### Tourism and the second economy

In collaboration with URED, D&G completed two reports focusing on tourism and the second economy. The reports discuss successes, challenges and new models in pro-poor tourism. Both projects were commissioned by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.

### Human rights lecture series

D&G also completed a joint HSRC/Foundation for Human Rights lecture series, which focused on salient and topical human rights issues and other human rights problems endemic to the African continent. The series managed to provoke debate about humanitarian rights among key decisionmakers and civil society. It tried to facilitate dialogue and encourage respect for diversity, justice and equality, dignity and an enduring commitment to the common good.

### African partnerships

Besides completing a number of research projects, D&G established formal working relationships with other African research partners, such as the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) so that collaborative research could commence. Locally, D&G consolidated its partnership with the Council on Higher Education. A partnership agreement with Brown University (US) to host D&G junior researchers and interns is in the offing.

### Impact of research

The nature of D&G's work is largely qualitative and impact is evident in a number of areas. The priorities and themes of the President's flagship address

in January 2007 were specifically reflected in D&G's work. A paper on the state of the South African social fabric was commissioned from D&G by the Presidency specifically for use in the speech. Other elements in the speech and reflected in D&G's programme include emphases on African collaboration and pan-continental institutional support as well as on improving the efficacy of public administration. The Presidency also commissioned D&G to do a report on Overcoming the legacy of discrimination, focusing on four areas: the public sector; the economy; the role of Chapter 9 institutions; and social capital.

Work undertaken by the programme in the last 18 months further supports the validity of its conceptual thinking and its relevance to the development of state strategic capacity. This work includes research for the Department of Provincial and Local Government, the Presidency, the Department of Arts and Culture and the Department of Foreign Affairs. A document prepared by D&G on the governance sector for the European Commission last year will strongly inform discussion about how and where EU development assistance will be spent.

Throughout 2006/07, D&G researchers continued to be utilised by the South African and international news media as a source for informed analysis and opinion. Senior programme researchers were frequently to be heard on radio, on television and in the pages of newspapers and magazines engaging with a wide variety of critical national and international debates. The repeated requests by authorities at the highest level, such as the Presidency, ministers and directors-general, to provide policy advice, research and feedback indicate a direct impact on the policymaking process.

## Facts 'n Figures

**D&G produced eight books, 26 chapters in books and 21 articles in accredited journals**





## Democracy and Governance (D&G) *continued*

### Ongoing projects and future research initiatives

D&G has a number of ongoing projects and has developed several new research initiatives for 2007/08. These include large, multi-year projects such as the South Africa in Africa project that focuses on the emerging linkages between South Africa and the rest of the African continent.

The priorities and themes of the President's flagship address in January 2007 were specifically reflected in D&G's work

Of particular interest are issues relating to the involvement of the government of South Africa, civil society and the corporate community in Africa's security; peace-building, democratisation and economic development.

Special focus is given to countries where South Africa's peace diplomacy and corporate investment are concentrated (DRC, Burundi, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Cote D'Ivoire, Somalia etc). The project also reflects on the role of Africa and South Africa in regional multilateral organisations, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and the African Union, and international organisations such as the United Nations. The project will involve multiple research partners from different research institutions in South Africa and across Africa, such as CODESRIA.

Another multi-year project is South Africa and the Middle East, an initiative assessing political developments in the troubled Middle East region. The research undertaken in this project will provide independent research and analysis to the Department of Foreign Affairs, particularly during the South African government's tenure on the Security Council.

Various forms of social violence at all levels of society, ranging from armed robbery to sexual violence and murder, have remained at extraordinarily high levels in South Africa. Both the scope and brutality of the violence currently being experienced in South

Africa have evoked horror and incomprehension among the South African public, intellectual commentators, and even those in the government's criminal justice sector. D&G's research project, Violence in the South African society, intends to grapple with this problem of understanding violence within the South African social context by bringing critical new theoretical perspectives to the question of violence. Until now, this problem has largely been conceptualised in terms of an instrumental understanding of violence.

Another important area of research is heritage. The programme already has two ongoing projects. The first is the Sol Plaatje project, a community history project focusing on the rise of early African intellectuals in Kimberley and the development of community consciousness in the town. Funded by the National Heritage Foundation, the project interrogates issues of identity, tradition and modernity.

The second is the history of the armed struggle heritage project, focusing on the establishment of a struggle museum in the Amathole District Municipality of Eastern Cape. Museums form an integral part of heritage by virtue of their role in preserving and exhibiting history. They play an increasingly important function with regard to tourism where museums frequently serve as a source of information and a quick reference for visitors curious to learn about the history of our country. The proposed museum has a strong potential to yield significant gains for its host community in terms of both tourism and education.

Inequality has remained endemic in most aspects of life in post-apartheid South Africa, in particular with regard to access to resources. The Race and redress project analyses the consequences of the legacy of racial inequality from the perspective of how this may be addressed in a climate that seeks to foster national unity and national identity among South Africans. The study considers gender inequality as a cross-cutting theme which intersects with racial equality.

Presidential Guard



This three-year study is conducted by a multi-disciplinary team of researchers from various programmes of the HSRC, in collaboration with colleagues from local universities and the NGO sector. The project is being partly funded by Conflict and Governance Facility (CAGE).

The other ongoing projects include the following:

- A social cohesion project, focusing on solidarity and relationships between people as forms of social capital. The project addresses the kinds of values and systems into which South Africans are being socialised;
- A project on fraud prevention in the public service, funded by the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), evaluates fraud prevention planning in the public service; and
- A project to audit and analyse knowledge products emanating from the Department of Provincial and Local Government is also underway. The project stems from donor-supported programmes in different provinces and municipalities and will assess their value and develop agreed principles and processes of implementation.

### Specialist researchers 2006/07

#### Dr Ivor Chipkin

*PhD, Ecole Normale Supérieure*  
Questions of the state, nationalism, development and democracy



#### Dr James Muzondidya

*PhD, University of Cape Town*  
Migration, citizenship and identities



#### Dr Adrian Hadland

*PhD, University of Cape Town*  
Media policy, journalism, ethics, skills development, governance, political institutions



#### Dr Mcebisi Ndletyana

*PhD, University of the Witwatersrand*  
The history of African intellectuals, memorialisation of South African history and the formation of national identity



#### Dr Gerard Hagg

*DLit et Phil, University of South Africa*  
Infrastructure development in the arts sector, community participation in development, community arts centres and arts service delivery, identity and cultural diversity in conflict in Africa



#### Mr Suren Pillay

*MA, Columbia University*  
Violence in contemporary South Africa, the role of South Africa in relation to the Middle East



#### Dr Gregory Houston

*DPhil, University of Natal*  
Political history, democracy and governance



#### Dr Pearl Sithole

*PhD University of Cambridge, UK*  
Gender and governance, local government and development, traditional leadership, land and local economic development in rural areas, indigenous knowledge systems



#### Dr Peter Kagwanja

*PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA*  
Developments in peace, security and governance, Africa and the world, South Africa in Africa



#### Dr Virginia Tilley

*PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison*  
Comparative ethnic and racial politics and conflict, racial politics of tourism development strategies, Middle East conflict, Latin American indigenous peoples



#### Dr Darlene Miller

*PhD, University of Johns Hopkins*  
South African companies and their African expansion, labour in southern Africa, social theory, the political economy of the retail sector in Africa and the sociology of work





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## Education, Science and Skills Development (ESSD)

*Research that skills the nation*

ESSD was established in August 2005. In the last year the unit's focus was on consolidating and creating coherence among the different dimensions of its research programme. Good progress has been made in this regard, with the diverse skills and expertise in the programme being utilised to frame research questions and approaches.

The research focus of ESSD spans three major social domains:

- Education
- The world of work
- Science and innovation studies.

The education domain involves research in primary, secondary and tertiary education and its research focuses on access, quality, relevance and equity in education. The world of work encompasses research on labour markets, skills and human resource development and in this way seeks to address the key national imperatives of improving equitable access to skills acquisition, raising employment opportunities and sustaining economic growth. Research on science and innovation studies the link between innovation and social and economic development, increasingly in a comparative fashion with other latecomer economies in Asia and Latin America. The distinctive contribution of ESSD is to research issues at the education, work and innovation system interface and to produce comprehensive, integrated and holistic analyses of the pathways of learners and workers within and between these systems.

### Completed and ongoing projects Education assessment studies

Two major studies were completed during the year. The grade 8 study for the Western Cape Education Department involved the HSRC in the design of innovative new assessment instruments in the three main languages of the Western Cape and mathematics. These instruments were

administered to 75 000 learners and then subjected to detailed diagnostic scoring, coding, data capturing, analysis and reporting. The detailed diagnostic information has revealed the extent to which learners at grade 8 in this province are (not) able to construct responses at grade level, as well as the nature of gaps in performing basic literacy and numeracy functions, and more complex reasoning processes. The data also demonstrates that for weak students the use of multiple choice item-based assessment, which offers students the possibility of guessing, is entirely inadequate. Under such circumstances, multiple-choice item testing is likely to offer an inflated notion of achievement, rather than actual performance or ability. This has serious implications for assessment across the entire education system of the country.

The HSRC independently evaluated a school-support programme, *Mvelezandivho*, sponsored by a large international mining house. This programme is taking place over a five-year period in 28 schools in six provinces where the mining company has interests. The intention is to improve the school conditions and learner performance of the children of its employees. The mid-term evaluation of 2006 showed major improvements in the systems and procedures that a range of service providers had been able to develop for schools and districts thus far. These were being implemented through an extended mentoring and training programme, mainly in the areas of school and curriculum management, teaching practice and learning area contents. The findings also revealed that the next challenge would be the constructive implementation of such systems and procedures, before learner performance would consistently benefit from it

### Research and development into teacher education

The ESSD research programme continues to participate, together with four other organisations, in the research and development programme into teacher education in South

Africa. The HSRC is responsible for 12 of the 19 projects in the programme, seven of which are concerned with teacher supply and demand, two with beginning teachers, one with teacher education and institutional change in South Africa, one with principals' management of curriculum and instruction, and one with teacher education and the recognition of prior learning. All but one of the components of the study will be published by March 2008.

**Tracing the progress of higher-education students**  
 ESSD, together with the Council on Higher Education (CHE), initiated a tracer study of a cohort of higher education students for the period 2000 – 2002, profiling and analysing factors influencing transition of students through higher education and into the labour market. The study received funding from Ford Foundation. Seven higher-education institutions, reflecting the different characteristic features of South African higher education, were identified. The survey included 34 000 respondents (20 000 leavers and 14 000 graduates). To date, seven case-study reports have been completed and a synthesis report is being prepared.

**Table 1: Percentage change in Grade 12 learner aspiration to enter HE, 2001 and 2005, by race**

Survey	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	Total
2001 aspiration survey	85,4	69,5	91,7	81,3	84,1
2005 aspiration survey	53,5	43,9	65,0	59,1	53,8
<b>Percentage change between 2001 and 2005</b>	<b>(37,4)</b>	<b>(36,8)</b>	<b>(29,1)</b>	<b>(27,3)</b>	<b>(36,0)</b>

**Table 2: Grade 12 learner aspiration to proceed to HE within three years and in 2006, by race, 2005**

Category of aspirant HE student	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	Total
Planning to enter HE within three years (% of total)	53,5	43,9	65,0	59,1	53,8
Planning to enter HE in 2006 (% of those planning to enter HE)	94,6	93,2	91,9	83,6	93,4
Planning to enter HE in 2006 (% of total)	42,1	31,1	50,6	41,0	41,5

**Evaluation of literacy in primary schools in Limpopo**  
 After two years of negotiations with the Limpopo Department of Education and Irish Aid, ESSD has been contracted to conduct a literacy evaluation of primary schools in this province. This ongoing study involves a two-year study to evaluate literacy and curriculum materials in

terms of their literacy demands on learners, and scrutinising classroom practices for efficacy in advancing adequate literacy development of learners. This is a complex project, owing to the extent of linguistic and community diversity in the province as well as the high incidence of rural and multi-grade classrooms. At the same time, this project offers valuable insights into literacy difficulties in early primary classrooms under similar conditions to those found in other southern Africa classrooms. For this reason the findings will have interest to the immediate stakeholders within South Africa and also the education and development community in the SADC region.

**Tracking, monitoring and evaluation of Youth into Science Strategy**

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) commissioned a three-year study, to be completed in 2009, to set up a tracking, monitoring and evaluation system to measure the impact and effectiveness of its Youth into Science Strategy. The strategy aims to enhance participation and performance of school-going youth and undergraduates in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.


**Facilities and resources to improve teaching of sciences**

The National Advisory Council on Innovation commissioned a study into the facilities and physical resources required to enhance and improve teaching of the sciences at the senior secondary level. Such resources could be a leverage point to improve the teaching of and performance in this subject. The study found that the provision of laboratories to all schools would be too expensive and therefore the alternative should be considered of

Participants in a panel discussion on challenges facing education in Africa



## Education, Science and Skills Development (ESSD) *continued*



Mr Mike de Klerk (COO), Dr Andrew Paterson and Mr Michael Cosser (ESSD) mull over the results of a computerised random draw

### Skills development projects

ESSD is involved in five skills development projects, to be completed in March 2008. These are:

- Identification of scarce and critical skills
- Sector-specific research and related skills requirements
- Learnerships
- Measuring the pool of designated groups that are suitably qualified in various sectors and occupational categories
- National Skills Survey 2007 of small, medium and large firms.

In addition, ESSD has been commissioned to write the *State of skills* series for the Department of Labour in 2005, 2006 and 2007. The 2007 edition, to be completed by March 2008, will carry the research findings of all five projects listed above.

### Impact of SETA learnership programmes

The broad aim of a study for the Wholesale and Retail SETA was to evaluate and determine the impact of its learnership programmes. The specific objectives were to investigate the internal efficiency of the learnership programme; the post-learnership employment of learners; and challenges faced by learners, employers and training providers.


One of the main findings of the study showed that just a third of unemployed learners were employed on completion of their learnerships. The fact that the employment uptake rate for learners who terminated their learnerships was higher than for the learners who completed their learnerships was an important finding. The low post-learnership employment rate challenges the approach of provider-driven versus employer-driven learnerships.

### Implementation of internships and mentorships in the public service

This study for the Department of Public Service and Administration resulted in two guidebooks for use across government departments at the national and provincial level, namely *Guidelines for internship in the Public Service* and *Guidelines for mentorship in the Public Service*.

### Local and provincial innovation systems

ESSD conducted research for the National Advisory Council on Innovation (NACI) on the local and provincial innovation systems. The study analysed the integration of productive and knowledge-based activities in South Africa at the provincial level. It discussed the existence of regional as opposed to sectoral innovation systems, and laid the basis for a proper estimation of a knowledge production function in the future.



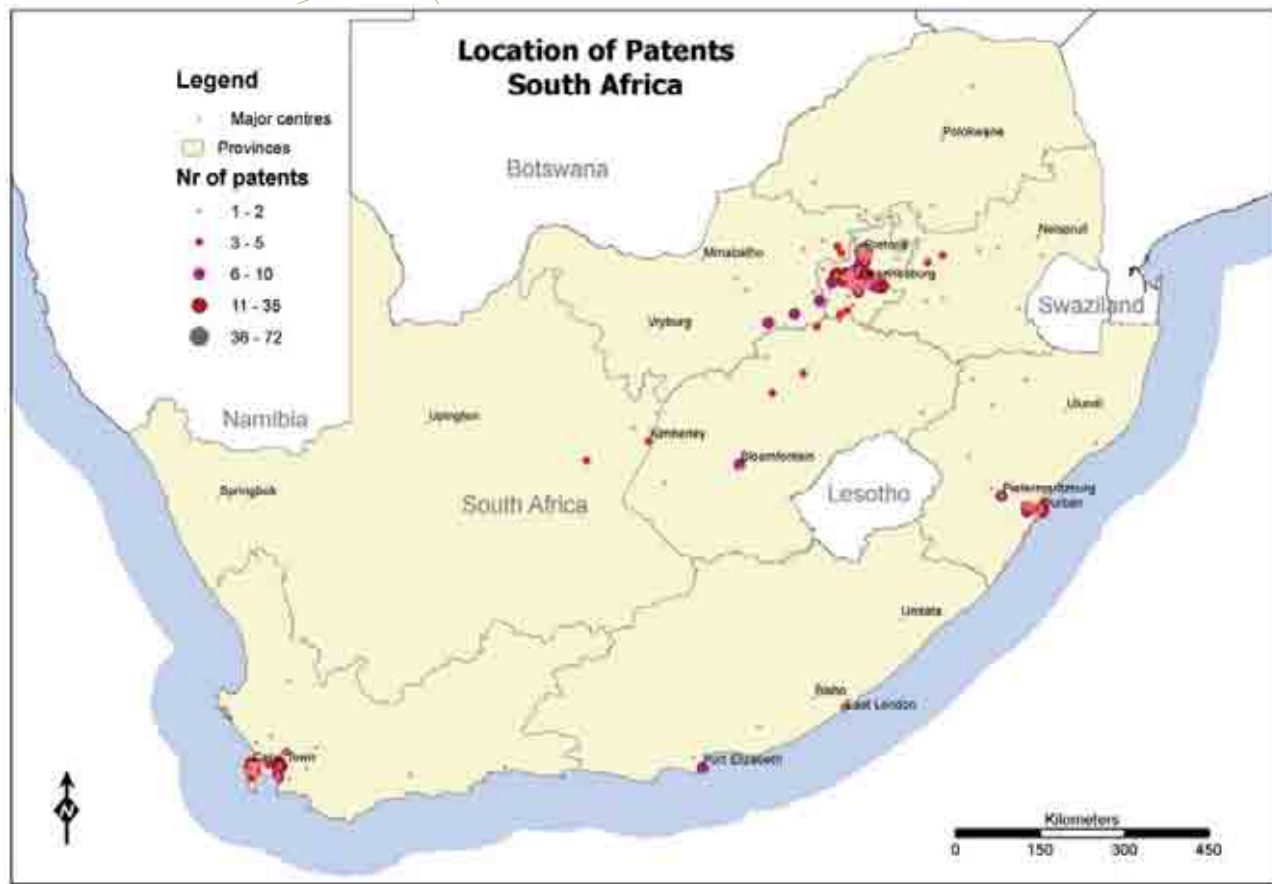
Thabang Ramocha of New Eersterus, Tshwane, receives the notebook he won in the tracer study draw from Matselane Tshuduko of ESSD

science equipment kits that could provide students with the necessary experience of science phenomena.

### Labour, job creation and economic growth

The two-year research programme for the Department of Labour, to be completed in March 2008, will review a number of areas:

- the impact of labour legislation on job creation, small business development, and economic growth
- the impact of sectoral determinations on working conditions and poverty
- employment in the informal economy
- the impact of the Employment Equity Act
- a range of issues to do with the National Skills Development Strategy.



### Value of DST’s human capital programmes

A project on the extraction of value from existing human capital instruments, commissioned by DST, sought to assess the value of the department’s involvement to participants in its human capital programmes. A survey and interviews of participants in the Innovation Post-doctoral Fellowship Programme, the Professional Development Programme and Centres of Excellence showed that the programmes have been of great benefit to all participants, but pointed to a number of areas for improvement. The findings, which have been presented to senior management in the Department, will inform future roll-out of these programmes beyond this mid-term review of its value to participants.

### Influence of SET graduates on the National System of Innovation

A study on the career trajectories of doctoral graduates sought to determine, at an individual level, what differences investments in graduate studies in science, engineering and technology (SET) have made (directly and indirectly) to the National System of Innovation. The surprising finding was that doctoral graduates, if not employed by the academic sector, do not immediately enter the SET labour market and might require other training before finding employment. It is important to see

the doctoral training both for the specific knowledge it embodies as well as a set of high level analytical skills which could be used in different situations.

### Contribution to *Micro-economic development synthesis report*

ESSD continued working with the Western Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism and contributed to the second *Micro-economic development strategy (MEDS) synthesis report*. This built on work done for the first *Synthesis report* published in 2005 and deepened the analysis of regional knowledge intensification and innovation in the Western Cape.

It underlined the importance of innovation for higher growth and equitable development, thus validating the research focus of Innovation Studies in ESSD.

### Contribution to the *Provincial economic review & outlook*

ESSD contributed to the Provincial Treasury’s flagship publication on regional economic trends, and contributed a chapter on the sectoral and employment outlook. It discussed the export performance of the Western Cape in a global context and analysed the relative position of the province *vis-à-vis* competitors from dynamic Asian economies.

our challenge during the course of this year is to set up inter-disciplinary studies that utilise the research skills present in our research programme

It concluded with a discussion of knowledge intensification across skill levels as a modern strategy of job creation and sustainable competitiveness in a province with much traditional primary sector and industrial activity.

### Impact of research

ESSD is involved in many multi-year projects; many of these started during the financial year, the results of which will be available during the 2007/08 financial year. However, being in the key areas of concern in the country – namely education and skills development – the work of ESSD continues to inform policy and practice debates. A few examples of impact are:

- Upon completion of the Ethiopian language education study, the Ethiopian Ministry of Education determined that the findings of the study should form the basis of the new language policy recommendations for primary schools in that country.
- An FET conference provided a rare opportunity for representatives of all 50 FET colleges,

provincial FET directorates, the Department of Labour and other education and training stakeholders to share insights around the HSRC research and to be informed on Department of Education and Department of Labour initiatives. The robust debates at this forum showed the importance of bringing together key policymakers and practitioners to inform these debates.

- The publication of the medical profession monograph generated considerable interest in the media, called attention to the plight of health services in the rural areas and raised the implications of the feminisation of the medical schools.
- The results from the Western Cape Education Department study raised concerns about the performance of learners and the researchers were invited to meet with the provincial authorities on the intervention strategies that need to be implemented to improve performance.

### Future developments

A number of research projects commenced during the 2006/07 financial year continue into the 2007/08 financial year. In addition to our present research projects we will also be looking at areas of youth unemployment, and literacy and numeracy development in the foundation phase of school. A Regional Achievement project, which is a large-scale empirical study focusing in on the role played by teacher skills and practice in southern African students' learning, is also in the pipeline.

Our challenge during the course of this year is to set up inter-disciplinary studies that utilise the research skills present in our research programme.

## Facts 'n Figures

Only a third of unemployed learners got jobs on completion of SETA learnerships



## Specialist researchers 2006/07

### Mr Fabian Arends

*MBA, University of KwaZulu-Natal*  
Education Management Information Systems specialist; general and further education and training policy analysis, educator supply and demand analysis, design and analysis of education indicators, statistical analysis and modelling



### Dr Bongani Bantwini

*PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA*  
DST/THUTHUKA mathematics and science development, youth camps tracking and evaluation, network of science centres tracking and evaluation, National Science Week evaluation



### Dr Mignonne Breier

*PhD, University of Cape Town*  
Higher education, professional education, medical, nursing and teacher education, recognition of prior learning, curriculum in higher education



### Professor Linda Chisholm

*PhD, University of the Witwatersrand*  
Comparative education, basic education, curriculum, gender, migration



### Mr Michael Cosser

*MA, University of the Witwatersrand*  
Higher education, quality assurance, provincial human resources development profiles and strategies, student tracer studies, SAQA and NQF, literary stylistics, discourse analysis



### Dr Rènnette du Toit

*DLitt et Phil, University of Johannesburg*  
Career psychology, vocational identity, skills development, labour market research



### Dr Johan Erasmus

*PhD, University of Potchefstroom*  
Labour market research and skills development



### Dr Kathleen Heugh

*PhD, Stockholm University*  
Language and literacy policy and planning, mother tongue, bilingual and multilingual education.



### Dr Andre Kraak

*DPhil, University of the Western Cape*  
Labour market analysis, technical and higher education and skills development



### Dr Glenda Kruss

*DPhil, University of Ulster*  
Higher education policy, private higher education, higher education responsiveness, higher education and innovation



### Mr Moeketsi Letseka

*MEd, University of the Witwatersrand*  
Higher education



### Mr Jo Lorentzen

*PhD, European University Institute*  
Science, technology and innovation



### Ms Percy Moleke

*MA (Economics) Georgia State University*  
Labour market analysis, education and work, labour market training/skills development



### Dr Jeffy Mukora

*BSc, MSc, PhD, Edinburgh University*  
Labour market analysis, national qualification frameworks (NQFs) and skills development



### Dr Andrew Paterson

*PhD, University of Cape Town*  
ICT training, enterprise training, ICT applications in education, agricultural and rural education



### Dr Cas Prinsloo

*DLitt et Phil (Psychology), University of South Africa*  
Assessment theory, education evaluation, factors influencing school functioning and learner performance, psychometrics, research methodology



### Ms Jocelyn Vass

*MA, University of Manchester*  
HIV/AIDS impact on economic sectors and the workplace, labour market vulnerabilities and employment equity



### Ms Mariette Visser

*BA Hons, University of Pretoria*  
World of work, surveys, database development, data analysis and indicator development. higher education, learnerships and skills development







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## Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS and Health (SAHA)

*Research to inform HIV/AIDS prevention, care and impact mitigation*

The mission of SAHA is to conduct research to inform HIV/AIDS prevention, care and impact mitigation. It remains one of the largest research programmes in the HSRC, with close to 50 full-time equivalent staff members in Pretoria and Cape Town.

SAHA's contribution to capacity building is significant, with almost one third of the total number of research trainees in the HSRC. The programme has also exceeded its publications target, achieving 2,23 publications per senior researcher.

The programme strives to undertake cutting-edge, scientifically sound and innovative research.

It has two primary goals: first, to conduct research that is policy relevant and responds to current challenges facing South Africa; and second, to conduct assessment, monitoring and evaluation of programmes that aim to improve the lives of South Africans.

The main research themes are highlighted in the box below:

Priority research area	Thematic thrusts
<p><b>Behavioural and social aspects of HIV/AIDS</b> aims to understand the key socio-cultural, political, economic and demographic determinants of vulnerability to HIV infection, risky behaviour, and factors that influence care and mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theory-based and reduction of gender-based violence behavioural risk reduction interventions for the prevention of HIV transmission</li> <li>• HIV/AIDS impact assessment in the private security and legal services industry</li> <li>• Comparative research on orphans and vulnerable children (OVC)</li> <li>• Understanding stigma and discrimination</li> <li>• Positive prevention</li> </ul>
<p><b>Epidemiology, strategic and health policy</b> focuses on applied epidemiological, policy and strategic research that addresses the needs and challenges of the country and beyond</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comparing oral fluid to dried blood spots for HIV testing among children</li> <li>• HIV/AIDS programme impact assessment and contribution to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals</li> <li>• Estimates and measurement of HIV incidence in SA</li> <li>• Technical support in Eastern Cape on prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV</li> <li>• Medical transmission (infection control practices) in health facility settings</li> <li>• HIV national household surveys</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation</li> </ul>
<p><b>Health system research</b> focuses on evaluation of national health policy interventions, access to health services and indigenous health practices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controlled study of HIV/AIDS/STI/TB intervention with traditional healers</li> <li>• Global ageing and adult health</li> <li>• Social exclusion and its contribution to health inequalities</li> <li>• Evaluation of primary healthcare models</li> <li>• Evaluation of the impact of disability grants</li> <li>• Evaluation of Soul City/De Beers HIV training partnerships in five diamond mining towns</li> </ul>

## Completed projects

The following major research projects were completed during the year under review:

### Strategy for the care of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC)

In 2002, the WK Kellogg Foundation awarded to the HSRC a five-year grant worth US\$5 million. The aim of the project was to develop evidence-based models of successful practice that would help strengthen the capacities of households and communities to respond to the challenge of the growing number of OVC in the SADC region. In each of the three countries that participated in the project (Botswana, South Africa and Zimbabwe) two sites were identified. Both qualitative and quantitative survey studies were conducted to determine baseline information, using the same generic tools in all three countries. This project was a good case study of 17 communities of practice, with numerous beneficiaries, establishing a direct link between research and implementation.

### Alcohol screening and brief intervention in the Limpopo Province.

The aim of the study was to provide health professionals at primary healthcare level with a simple tool to identify people at risk of alcohol consumption and to apply a brief intervention to reduce the risk. The intervention was integrated into primary care facilities in Vhembe District, Limpopo Province. Consequently, screening of alcohol problems and the intervention has been approved by the national Department of Health as an important strategy to reduce risky drinking and prevent alcoholism.

### Evaluation of the EU/DoH Health Partnership programme

The overall purpose of this study, commissioned by the national Department of Health, was to conduct baseline and feasibility studies to ensure more accessible, affordable, and quality primary healthcare (including HIV/AIDS) for the poorest communities in five target provinces; namely Gauteng, Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal, and the Eastern and Western Cape. It also highlighted lessons and made recommendations for ongoing and future primary healthcare programmes. SAHA conducted an interim evaluation of this programme and has developed a conceptual and operational monitoring and evaluation framework to support PHC programmes in these provinces.

### Evaluation of national drug policy impact

This study investigated the impact of South Africa's national drug policy on pharmaceuticals in

South Africa ten years after implementation, with emphasis on the Western Cape and Limpopo provinces. The findings point to a tendency to over-prescribe antibiotics: 68,1% of the drugs prescribed on the day of visit to public hospitals were antibiotics compared to 31,9% at private surgeries. The WHO considers usage figures exceeding 30% as unacceptably high. The study was widely reported as shown by the media excerpt below.

### Viability of the Marriages and Divorces series

The purpose of the study commissioned by Statistics South Africa was to assess the viability of this series of the Division of Health and Vital Statistics of Statistics South Africa. Some of the key recommendations are highlighted in the figure below:

- Continuation of the series, but improving the quality and usefulness of the series
- Dedicated mailbox for incoming divorce forms
- A database package that allows data entry programmes to be written to perform consistency checks
- The publication of the series should remain in the Division of Health and Vital Statistics.

### Substance-abuse trends in South Africa

A review, commissioned by the national Department of Social Development, synthesised available epidemiological data on substance use and treatment admissions in South Africa since 1994. Tobacco use was found to be on the decline in South Africa, but alcohol-drinking patterns seemed to have stayed similar over time. Harmful drinking in pregnant women was 2,5% nationally, higher in urban areas (4,1%), among coloureds (11,6%) and in the Northern Cape Province (24,9%).

## Facts 'n Figures

**More than 68% of drugs prescribed at public hospitals in two provinces on the day of visit were antibiotics, compared to nearly 40% at private surgeries**



## Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS and Health (SAHA) *continued*

Trends show an increase in substance abuse treatment admissions, and increased use of cannabis, heroin, cocaine, crack and methamphetamine.

Although the prevalence of illicit drug use in South Africa is relatively low compared to the USA and Australia, policies need to be designed to reduce the levels of sub-populations at higher risk.

### Good HIV/AIDS practices in the education sector in Commonwealth Africa

Key findings from a review of education-sector responses to HIV/AIDS in Commonwealth Africa, 2006

- Pockets of excellence were found in all countries but not wide-scale implementation.
- Most countries have education-sector policies and strategic plans on HIV and AIDS but implementation is generally weak.
- Inadequate attention given to:
  - interventions targeting teachers and parents
  - pre-school and higher education sectors
  - out-of-school youth
  - monitoring and evaluation
  - programmes for orphans and vulnerable children
    - tending to focus on feeding programmes and neglect other important needs.

Illicit drug use in South Africa is relatively low compared to the USA and Australia

### Prevention of mother to child transmission, Eastern Cape

The study has shown that the socio-economic context presents a formidable barrier to the provision of PMTCT services, and that poor roads, an under-developed transport system and poor telecommunications are significant obstacles to access, even with available free healthcare services. This is exacerbated by understaffed and under-developed healthcare facilities. Several supportive interventions have been introduced as part of the study, which include ready made Nevirapine packs, traditional birth attendant evaluation, staff training and supportive activities and some infrastructural interventions.

### Daily diary study to examine behaviour of HIV-positive people

One of the main objectives of the study was to examine the relationship between consuming alcohol prior to sex, and subsequent unprotected sex among a sample of 82 HIV-positive people in Cape Town. The participants were

recruited from HIV clinics and support groups. Participants were asked to keep a daily diary and were interviewed daily for 6 – 12 minutes. It was found that over half (58%) of unprotected sex acts were with partners either perceived to be HIV-negative or whose HIV-serostatus was unknown. The study found a positive correlation between unprotected sex and greater volume and frequency of alcohol consumption.

A follow-up study will develop a sexual risk-reduction intervention to address alcohol use in the context of sexual behaviour. The intervention is aimed to assist HIV-positive individuals to reduce their sexual risk behaviour.

### Impact of completed research

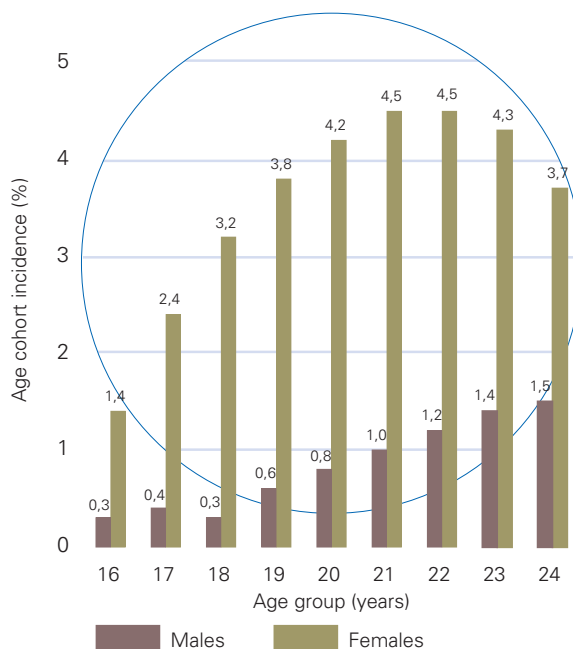
The most significant impact has been in the development of South Africa's new National Strategic Plan on HIV, AIDS and STIs, 2007 – 2011. SAHA staff contributed extensively in sectoral workshops and consultative meetings, and its research features prominently in the Plan.

The results of the 2005 South African national household survey on HIV prevalence, incidence, behaviour and communication were quoted in the 2006 International AIDS Conference in Toronto, and the advice of SAHA researchers is sought in all major national events.

### International AIDS Conference 2006, Toronto

SAHA staff presented a cumulative total of eight posters and one oral presentation at the Toronto conference, and also presented and participated in the SAHARA satellite session.

### HIV incidence estimates by single year of age in 15-24 year old age cohorts



### HIV incidence measures provide new insights

A paper published in the *South African Medical Journal*, entitled The national HIV incidence measures – new insights into the South African epidemic, has been the subject of much attention from the media and has generated considerable positive publicity for the HSRC. *New insights into the SA epidemic provided by SAHA researchers. Source Rehle et al, SAMJ, 2007*

### Ongoing projects and future developments Enhancing the monitoring and evaluation of HIV/AIDS

SAHA has a multitude of ongoing projects. A new five-year multi-million project, entitled Programme to improve the capacity of an indigenous statutory institution to enhance monitoring and evaluation of HIV/AIDS in the Republic of South Africa, covers strategic information, PMTCT, medical transmission and positive prevention. The overall goal of the project is to develop capacity to generate objective, verifiable and replicable HIV and AIDS-related data to support South Africa's efforts in the prevention, treatment and care of the epidemic.

### Assessment of the impact of prevention and care programmes

SAHA is participating in a project that assesses the impact of HIV/AIDS prevention and care programmes funded by the Department of Science and Technology. This project is part of the overall impact assessment programme of the HSRC to measure SA's progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals.

### Global ageing and adult health study

A large longitudinal study on global ageing and adult health (SAGE) in South Africa forms part of a WHO multi-country survey study programme. The goals of SAGE are to promote a better understanding of the effects of ageing on wellbeing, to examine the health status of individuals 50 years and older and the changes, trends and patterns that occur over time. It

also aims to improve the capacity of researchers to analyse the effects of social, economic, healthcare and policy changes on current and future health. The pilot project, which forms the basis of the main study, has been completed and fieldwork for the main study has commenced.

### Social exclusion

A project on social exclusion, conducted under the auspices of the Social Exclusion Knowledge Network (SEKN), forms part of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health of the WHO. The coordinating hub is at Lancaster University, with sub-regional hubs in Europe, South America, South East Asia and sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). SEKN focuses on the relational processes that contribute to exclude particular groups of people in different contexts from engaging fully in community/social life and the impact of these processes on health inequalities. SAHA is coordinating the sub-Saharan African hub. The project consists of a South African case study and an appraisal of selected social inclusion policies in sub-Saharan Africa. The project is nearing completion, and SAHA will host the final meeting of the SEKN in June 2007.

### The impact of disability grants

Fieldwork for a study which aims to measure the impact of disability grants on people living with HIV/AIDS in the Eastern Cape has commenced.

### Soul City/De Beers community HIV/AIDS training partnership

The main purpose of the evaluation is to conduct a qualitative assessment of the process and impact of the training programme in the five mining areas of Finch and Namaqualand in the Northern Cape, Venetia and The Oaks in Limpopo, and Cullinan in Gauteng. The evaluation is intended to inform future programmes and/or activities. Fieldwork for the evaluation commenced in Cullinan, Gauteng.

## Multi-million rand project to improve capacity for monitoring and evaluation in the RSA

Name	Where?	What?
Positive prevention	Mthatha area of the Eastern Cape	A support-group-based intervention designed to reduce HIV transmission risks for PLWHA and their partners
Medical transmission	Western Cape and parts of Northern Cape	Assess potential for nosocomial transmission of HIV among patients and staff in public health sector facilities; conduct training of healthcare workers in infection control and assess the impact of training
Prevention of mother to child transmission programme	Kouga area of the Eastern Cape	Programme strengthening, including technical and monitoring and evaluation support
Strategic information	National focus	HIV testing among children study in Gauteng and the Western Cape Developing a master sample Third national HIV household survey

## Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS and Health (SAHA) *continued*

### Alcohol use and HIV risk reduction

The purpose of a project on alcohol use and HIV risk reduction is to design and field-test a theory-based, risk-reduction intervention for men and women who use alcohol and are at risk for HIV infection in Cape Town, South Africa. Depending on the outcome, it is envisaged that the project will be rolled out to other provinces. It involves developing and piloting a 60-minute theory-based risk-reduction intervention for individuals – first introduced at the Spencer Road STI Clinic in Cape Town during 2006 – and then at a single, three-hour, group-based intervention in Delft township, also in Cape Town.

### Assessment of HIV/AIDS in the private security and legal services

A project of the Safety and Security Sector Education and Training Authority (SASSETA), it aims to conduct a critical assessment of HIV/AIDS in the private security and legal services industries. This includes measuring the HIV prevalence rate, the impact of the epidemic on businesses and business response. The project was launched successfully in five provinces and fieldwork has been completed. Results will be available in the next financial year.

### Phaphama 2

This five-year project is a follow-up study to Phaphama 1, and is funded by the USA's National Institute of Mental Health through the University of Connecticut. It is a theory-based HIV risk-reduction intervention, implemented with STI service users in three primary healthcare clinics, in Cape Town, Ekurhuleni, and Queenstown.

### Building of research capacity on stigma

A five-year project on capacity building for research on HIV stigma, funded by the USA's National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) through Penn State University, aims to strengthen infrastructure and capacity building at the University of the Western Cape (UWC) and the University of Limpopo. The purpose is to develop and sustain cultural and gender-based interventions for the elimination of stigma associated with HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support.

### Gender-based violence and HIV in men

This four-year project on gender violence and HIV risk reduction targeting South African men, funded by NIMH through the University of Connecticut, aims to design and field test a gender- and theory-based risk reduction intervention for the prevention of HIV transmission and sexual violence against women in Cape Town, South Africa. The study will yield important new information on intervention models for reducing HIV risks in South Africa, particularly among men, who are a difficult group to reach.



## Specialist researchers 2006/07

### Dr Gail Andrews

*PhD, University of the Western Cape*  
HIV/AIDS related research



### Dr Pelisa Dana

*PhD, University of KwaZulu-Natal*  
HIV/AIDS intervention research



### Mr Sean Jooste

*MA, University of the Western Cape*  
Research design and methodology, design of research instruments



### Ms Ntombizodwa Mbelle

*MA ELT, Thames Valley University, MPH, Medical University of South Africa*  
Project & finance management, project planning, tracking and reporting, evaluations



### Dr Carol Metcalf

*MBCChB, University of Cape Town MPH, University of Washington, Seattle, USA*

HIV and STI prevention research, epidemiology of HIV and STIs, intervention research, HIV testing and counselling



### Professor Karl Peltzer

*PhD, University of Hannover Dr Habil, University of Klagenfurt*  
Social aspects of public health, health behaviour, behavioural health, psychology applied to health, culture and health



### Professor Nancy Phaswana-Mafuya

*PhD, University of the North*  
Social aspects of public health, HIV/AIDS, injury prevention, substance use and misuse, social work applied to health



### Dr Victoria Pillay

*PhD, University of Cape Town*  
Sodium and potassium disturbances in childhood diarrhoea



### Professor Thomas Rehle

*MD, University of Munich PhD, University of Antwerp*  
Infectious disease epidemiology, tropical medicine, HIV/AIDS intervention research, survey design and analysis, programme evaluation and impact assessment (including modelling)



### Professor Geoffrey Setswe

*DrPH, University of Limpopo*  
Systematic reviews, behavioural interventions for reducing HIV risk, monitoring and evaluation of HIV/AIDS and public health interventions



### Professor Leickness Simbayi

*DPhil, University of Sussex*  
Biological aspects of psychology, applied health psychology, HIV/AIDS and traditional healing



### Dr Donald Skinner

*DPhil, University of Cape Town*  
Social aspects of HIV/AIDS, social and clinical psychology, qualitative research, intervention research



### Dr Cily Tabane

*PhD, University of Pretoria*  
HIV and AIDS and cultural practices, clinical social work applied to health, HIV voluntary counselling and testing



### Dr Khangelani Zuma

*PhD (Statistics), University of Waikato, NZ*  
Statistics, survival analysis, Bayesian simulation methods and modelling infectious diseases, HIV/AIDS





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## Urban, Rural and Economic Development (URED)

*Rolling back poverty in southern Africa*

URED is a multi-disciplinary research programme, with the primary objective to promote integrated urban and rural development in South and southern Africa and across the continent, through:

- Problem-oriented research
- Monitoring and evaluation
- User-driven policy briefs.

The activities of URED coalesce around four sub-programmes, all designed to respond primarily to the government's key national development priorities and challenges, as identified in the social and economic clusters in particular. These are:

- Poverty and rural development
- Infrastructure and service delivery
- Urban change, city strategies and migration
- Human development, tourism and climate change

Poverty reduction is the unifying, overarching theme and purpose of URED's work, with most of our projects conducted in collaboration with internal and external collaborators. The challenge of combating underdevelopment and poverty, given fresh focus by President Mbeki in 2003 when he first spoke of the existence of 'two economies', has provided an insightful backdrop to the research conducted by this programme. This theme becomes even more prominent as the programme tries to think in deeper and more differentiated ways about why underdevelopment in its many related aspects has proved so difficult to tackle.

URED's objectives, orientation and activities are designed specifically to address key national, regional and Africa-wide development challenges and policy priorities by bringing together the HSRC's capabilities in urban renewal, rural and regional development, and economic development with a

view to developing formidable organisational capacity and competence in integrated development research.

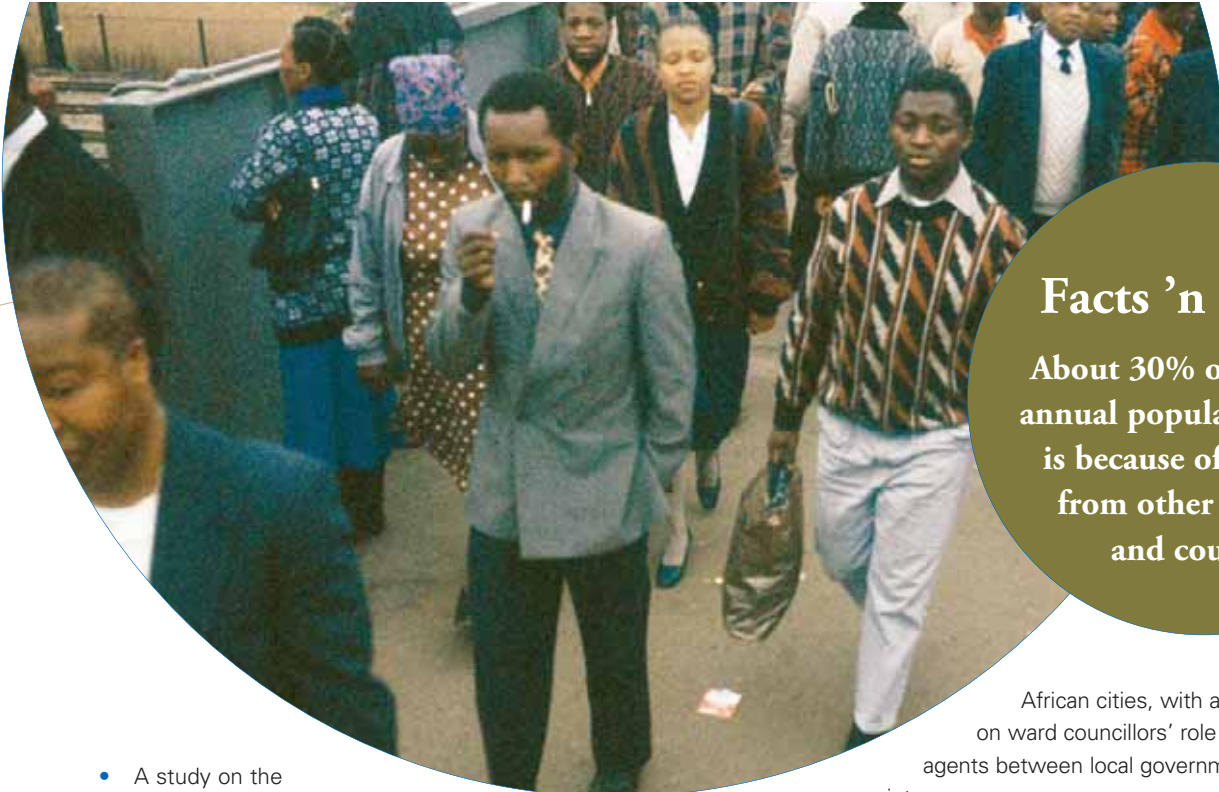
URED has 20 full-time researchers, with four support staff, and has a presence in all three HSRC locations. The programme also houses a complement of 13 interns, two African research fellows and a post-doctoral fellow. New thematic areas to be further developed in 2007/08 include the social aspects of climate change, sustainable energy use and a programme of 'futures' research.

### Completed research

#### Poverty and rural development

This sub-programme focuses on issues related to poverty, inequality reduction, and land and agrarian issues in South and southern Africa. Completed projects in this area include:

- A study to establish baseline statistics and data-collection methods for the Department of Agriculture's monitoring and evaluation system which the department used to track its achievements relative to its strategic plan;
- An evaluation of poverty-reduction projects funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) consisting of a close examination of ten such projects around the country that were aimed at creating new economic opportunities for the poor, in particular the rural poor. It analysed the strengths, weaknesses and limitations of DST's overall approach to poverty reduction;
- The final report for the South African component of the multi-country Metagora Pilot Project, which applied rigorous survey methods to document the realisation of good governance and human rights in respect of concrete, context-specific policy areas. This is the first report to generate substantial and rigorous information regarding the nature and extent of land demand in South Africa, how land reform should be conducted, attitudes towards land invasions, and other issues; and



## Facts 'n Figures

About 30% of Gauteng's annual population growth is because of migration from other provinces and countries

in South African cities, with a specific focus on ward councillors' role as the liaison agents between local government and civil society.

- A study on the importance of indigenous knowledge in reducing poverty among rural agrarian households, supported by the DST, explored people's use of local or indigenous knowledge in conjunction with – or as alternatives to – interventions applied by the state and various service providers as a means to ensure their continued survival.

### Infrastructure and service delivery

Completed research in this sub-programme focus on infrastructure and service delivery; micro-enterprise support; urban and rural livelihoods and related issues, included the following:

- The cholera project, funded indirectly by the Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC), examined the manifold relationships between poverty and cholera through a social survey of two affected communities.
- The WASH campaign focused on the production of water-related health promotion materials and a strategy for their use in rural and shack communities in which health conditions are poor and people particularly vulnerable to HIV/AIDS.
- A project, undertaken in collaboration with the Centre for Public Participation in Durban, focused on public participation in improving service delivery at the local and district municipal level.

### Urban change, city strategies and migration

This sub-programme focuses on urban and economic development strategies in cities, and the dynamics of migration flows.

- A project on local participation in a democratising South Africa, funded by the French Institute of South Africa (IFAS), assessed the effectiveness of local participation

- A project on Women, decentralisation and integrated development planning examined the implications of decentralisation to local government through integrated development planning for women's rights and entitlements established at national level.
- A follow-up project on migration aimed to determine the links between expectations, social networks, family influences, information flows and selectivity factors on the one hand, and migration intentions and subsequent actual migration behaviour on the other hand.
- A project on slum-free cities, sponsored by DST in collaboration with the Department of Housing (DoH), assessed the impact of policies, strategies and activities being implemented in South Africa to reach the Millennium Development Goal Target 11, Goal 6, on action against slums. The study confirmed the powerful South African effort in the field of housing delivery, but noted that slums continue to proliferate in line with trends on the international scene.
- A report on *Urban performance and trends for the South African cities network's state of cities report*, provided a statistical almanac and analysis of trends on demography, and the productive, inclusive, well-governed and sustainable city for the nine largest cities in South Africa.

### Human development, environment and tourism

This sub-programme investigates the associations between the health and development of individuals, households and communities in relation to their social, demographic, economic, cultural and living environments. It also addresses tourism and development and the social aspects of climate change and sustainable energy. Completed projects include:





- A study on the relationship between poverty and HIV/AIDS at the household level, conducted in a peri-urban area of Cape Town, showed a significant relationship between HIV and asset depletion and hunger. The study was replicated in Kenya where a relationship was demonstrated between the stages of disease and asset depletion.

- A study on the nature of the tourism's second economy, commissioned by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT), investigated the likely economic and social development spin-offs from DEAT-sponsored tourism-related poverty relief activities. It concluded that if poverty eradication is to be achieved, new kinds of interventions will be required that bridge the gap between very small, often informal, micro-tourism enterprises and the formal tourism sector.
- A follow-up to the previous study investigated tourism ventures which were considered as having had some success in terms of local economic and social development. In all cases examined, successful tourism projects resulted from vigorous community collaboration plus strategic support from outside players. The project concluded that there is a need for a collaborative research programme that will design guidelines for government at all levels regarding pro-poor tourism policy.

### Impact of recently completed research

The Department of Agriculture has adopted the approach recommended in the study to establish baseline statistics and data-collection methods for the department's monitoring and evaluation system, and has taken forward one specific recommendation, namely that progress in respect of the objectives of black economic empowerment in the agricultural sector, or AgriBEE, be assessed by means of a dedicated survey.

Following the study of its poverty reduction projects, DST commissioned the HSRC to develop strategic guidelines for the department's social impact investments. The document, which has been formally adopted and printed by DST, provides clear operational definitions and steps according to which the department pursues its poverty reduction mandate.

The findings from the project on Women, decentralisation and integrated development planning have been widely disseminated, and are being fed into reviews of the local government gender framework.

The FIFA 2010 project, while ongoing, has elicited much public interest since its inception, with *Business Day* providing the HSRC with a fortnightly opinion column; numerous interviews conducted with the media on South Africa's state of readiness and the legacy impact of the event; the annual public attitudinal survey on 2010 being used by stakeholders to benchmark public attitudes to the

event in order to conduct longitudinal analysis, while providing policymakers and practitioners alike with decisive planning information in the run-up to the event; and the Local Organising Committee (LOC) of the World Cup expressing its desire to work with the HSRC on a programme of 'legacy' research.

The Statistician-General devoted an entire section of the May 2006 *Business Report* to the two reports on migration arising from the migration project. The MDG report has been presented to the national Department of Housing's (DoH) strategic committee, and the recommendations are being considered. Conference papers arising from this topic led to an invitation to present a critique of current housing policy to the DoH in December 2006.

Work on service delivery has attracted high levels of publicity for the unit's research reports and continuing interest in its work. The research on cholera has led to continuing prioritisation of the disease in policy documents of Department of Water Affairs, and the Regulation Strategy, for instance, identifies eliminating cholera as a key strategic initiative and sets out similar concerns about water services in these areas.

A project to develop an appropriate tool to ensure the sustainability of municipal water services to the poor has led to the publication of a scorecard on national targets and the current state of delivery received considerable publicity. The project has had high impact on the training of community practitioners within the national qualification framework, and in carrying out some implementation research by organising workshops of local and district municipalities to discuss the results and plan responses. The training materials have also been accredited by the Education Development and Training Providers SETA. The tool is now available to local and national regulators to engender a high level of well-prepared participation in water services regulation.

Three case studies show that land reform is having a very limited impact on rural development



### Ongoing research

In the area of poverty and rural development, ongoing projects include a study in South Africa and Uganda on the impact of women's property rights in mitigating vulnerability to domestic violence; a study of the impact of HIV/AIDS on land reform and land-based livelihoods (with support from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund); an evaluation of the government's poverty reduction programme on behalf of the Public Service Commission; a study on behalf of the Southern Africa Trust regarding the participation of civil society in developing and monitoring Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers in the southern African region; and participation in an ESRC/DFID-funded three-country study (Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa) led by the University of the Western Cape, and of which the HSRC is leading the South Africa component. Also ongoing is technical support to the Namibia Statistics Bureau regarding analysis of recent household surveys.

Projects in the urban change, city strategies and migration area include working with the African Migration Alliance, linking migration researchers across several African countries; academic and applied research on the urban development implications of the Fifa 2010 World Cup, examining in particular how cities are responding to the challenge of this event, and assessing the relationship between mega-events and urban development; a national study of homelessness; a project addressing ways to support government's efforts to defeat the exclusionary legacy of apartheid by spatially restructuring South Africa's metro cities; developing models for spatial planning to enable integrated infrastructure delivery; examining South African trends and patterns in urbanisation and migration; and a socio-economic and epidemiological impact assessment of the Lesotho Highlands Project.

Ongoing work in the area of infrastructure and service delivery includes a project to evaluate value-for-money in

## Urban, Rural and Economic Development (URED) *continued*

the public sector, commissioned by the Public Service Commission; measuring service delivery in South Africa and southern Africa; the WASH campaign and health promotion; and measuring the human-scale development impact of infrastructure-led development projects.

Under human development, environment and tourism, ongoing work includes the relationships between poverty and HIV at the household level; assessments of best-practice models for pro-poor tourism; teachers' experiences of people living with HIV/AIDS in South African schools; and segmenting domestic tourism in South Africa, using the Travel Career Ladder.

### Future developments

Two major research initiatives will be launched in the 2007/08 financial year:

- A State of the Future Index (SOFI) for South Africa, which is a measure of the 10-year outlook of the future, highlighting the direction, intensity, and factors responsible for change. It will be the first time a SOFI has been developed for South Africa, and the HSRC will interrogate the efficacy and relevance of the method for application in the African context, possibly leading to recommendations about how best to develop SOFI for Africa countries and regions.
- The social aspects of climate change and sustainable energy. Climate change research, partly through a survey of attitudes to climate change and by encouraging social scientists to take a

fresh look at development issues through a 'climate change lens', will assess the role of this phenomenon in social development and health issues, and investigate its role in limiting developing countries' potential in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Energy research will focus on the social aspects of energy demand and the appropriateness and acceptability of mixed energy models of supply.

URED is projected to increase its full-time research complement by five, and grow its intern complement to 13, in the 2007/08 financial year. Much of the programme's future work will be devoted to initiating large-scale, multi-year, collaborative projects with our African counterparts on issues deemed to be of both national and continental importance in the fields of poverty and development.

### Facts 'n Figures

Some 51% of respondents believe that the main benefit of the 2010 Fifa World Cup will be economic and employment benefit



## Specialist researchers 2006/07

### Dr Michael Aliber

*PhD, University of Wisconsin*  
Public policy, micro-finance, land reform, poverty reduction and sustainable development, small-scale farmer development and monitoring and evaluation



### Dr Orli Bass

*PhD, University of Cape Town*  
Relationships between urbanity and culture, postcolonialism, creolisation and identity, site-specific performance, cultural strategies and culture-led regeneration, African urbanity and representations of Africa and its cities



### Dr Claire Benit

*PhD, University of Poitiers (France)*  
Urban policy, urban governance, community participation, local government, labour, security



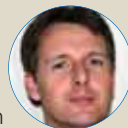
### Ms Catherine Cross

*MA, University of Michigan*  
Migration, environment and settlement, urban and rural development, housing, poverty, homelessness, rural finance



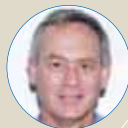
### Mr Tim Hart

*MPhil, Stellenbosch University*  
Agricultural and rural development, indigenous knowledge, participatory research



### Dr David Hemson

*PhD, University of Warwick*  
Public service delivery, social issues, policy impact assessment



### Mr Richard Humphries

*MA, Rhodes University*  
Sub-national government and public policymaking dynamics



### Dr Peter Jacobs

*PhD, Fordham University (New York)*  
Poverty and rural development



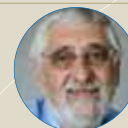
### Ms Geci Karuri-Sebina

*MA, University of California, Los Angeles*  
Infrastructure and service delivery, public policy, development planning, futures study, technology and poverty



### Dr Pieter Kok

*PhD, University of Pretoria*  
Regional human resource flows



### Dr Sarah Mosoetsa

*DPhil, University of the Witwatersrand*  
Urban livelihoods, work and unemployment, intra-household dynamics, poverty and gender, social and economic policy.



### Professor Adekunbi Omidoyi

*PhD, University of London (LSE)*  
Techniques of demographic analysis, fertility and reproductive health, poverty, environment and development



### Mr Benjamin Roberts

*MSc, University of Natal*  
Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), Millennium Development Goals, subjective wellbeing, poverty analysis, rural development



### Professor John Seager

*PhD, University of Wales*  
Social, environmental and economic determinants of health and wellbeing in poor communities.



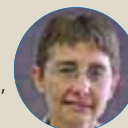
### Ms Jarè Struwig

*MA, University of Pretoria*  
Surveys and research methodologies



### Professor Alison Todes

*PhD, University of Natal*  
Urban policy and development, urbanisation, urban development strategies, regional development, urban spatial organisation, urban economic development, urban and regional planning



### Mr Johan van Zyl

*BA Hons, University of Pretoria*  
Analytical demography, field surveys, data analysis





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Executive Director  
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## Knowledge Systems (KS)

*Harness organisational information to do new things*

KS is now in its second year of operation and has displayed both cohesion and productivity. Its three components: Socio-Economic Surveys (SES), the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Centre and the Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (CeSTII) have all contributed to this success.

### Completed projects

In the past year, Knowledge Systems engaged in a wide range of research initiatives.

#### Geo-spatial datasets for Africa

The GIS Centre developed a catalogue of fundamental geo-spatial datasets across Africa, in collaboration with six African partner organisations. The findings indicate that the majority of the 30 fundamental datasets are available in Africa, but that the quality of the datasets needs to be assessed. Data in postal code zones is available for only 30% of African countries, while airports and ports, bathymetry, digital elevation model, feature names, natural water bodies, populated places, railways, roads and satellite imagery exist for all countries on the continent. A gap analysis was also conducted for each country. The findings of the project were accepted by the May 2007 meeting of the Committee on Development Information-Geo (CODI-Geo) of the UNECA and countries have been requested to give priority to collect datasets that are lacking.

#### Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information Management System (FIVIMS)

A project on the validation of food insecurity and vulnerability information with local users in Sekhukhune District, funded by the World Food Programme (WFP) and conducted under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture (DoA), piloted the development of a Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information Management

System (FIVIMS) in the district municipality of greater Sekhukhune. Activities included a user-needs assessment among stakeholders; validating information collected during a previous phase of the project; conducting a livelihood survey to assess the food insecurity and vulnerability situation and to examine trends; development of a web-based decision support system and the capacity of users. A key activity of the project was to develop information products (for example information briefs, brochures, posters) that would convey simple messages to decision- and policymakers.

#### Situation analysis of rural and farm schools

This project in KwaZulu-Natal determined the average and worst-case distances learners of school-going age in the general population have to travel to reach the nearest rural or farm school. The aim of the project was to provide GIS-based decision-making products to the provincial Department of Education to determine which schools should be closed, without impacting negatively on the accessibility of schools in the affected areas.

The Socio-Economic Surveys (SES) section completed a number of client projects successfully.

#### Attitudinal surveys

A national survey commissioned by SARS sought to collect information on the behaviour, attitudes and perceptions of South Africans towards tax compliance. A tax compliance model was developed that indicated the key drivers of tax compliance. Another national survey that gathered information on access to and affordability of information communication technology (ICT) was conducted for the national Department of Communication.

SES continues to collaborate with the HSRC's Urban, Rural and Economic Development and Research Surveys (a private

research organisation) in assessing the attitudes of South Africans towards government initiatives and projects in a study for the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS). The project tracks the general mood of the nation and four quarterly reports in a year are prepared for the client.

SES is also finalising the editing of chapters for an omnibus publication based on the South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS) 2003-2005 and developing articles for submission to peer-reviewed journals.

### Social grant beneficiaries

In collaboration with Geospace International, SES gathered data from 14 000 respondents for the Social Grant Beneficiaries project (7 000 social grant beneficiaries and 7 000 in a control group). The fieldwork and data processing presented a significant challenge for SES because it was the first time hand-held computers were used to collect data.

### Red Door project

One of the SES researchers worked with the HSRC's Society, Culture and Identity research programme in Cape Town on the Red Door project of the Western Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism. The main aim of the Red Door intervention was to assess the impact of tourism on the Western Cape and it was found to have a significant effect in expanding the activity of the informal economy.

Research methodologies and statistical techniques are core to the activities of SES, and existing survey datasets will thus continue to be utilised to test the application of various statistical and modelling techniques to social science data. Data archiving and dissemination projects will continue and be expanded to cover other HSRC research programmes.

### Research and development (R&D) and innovation surveys

The Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (CeSTII) undertakes national surveys on R&D and innovation and compiles resultant R&D and science and technology (S&T) data for the Department of Science and Technology (DST).

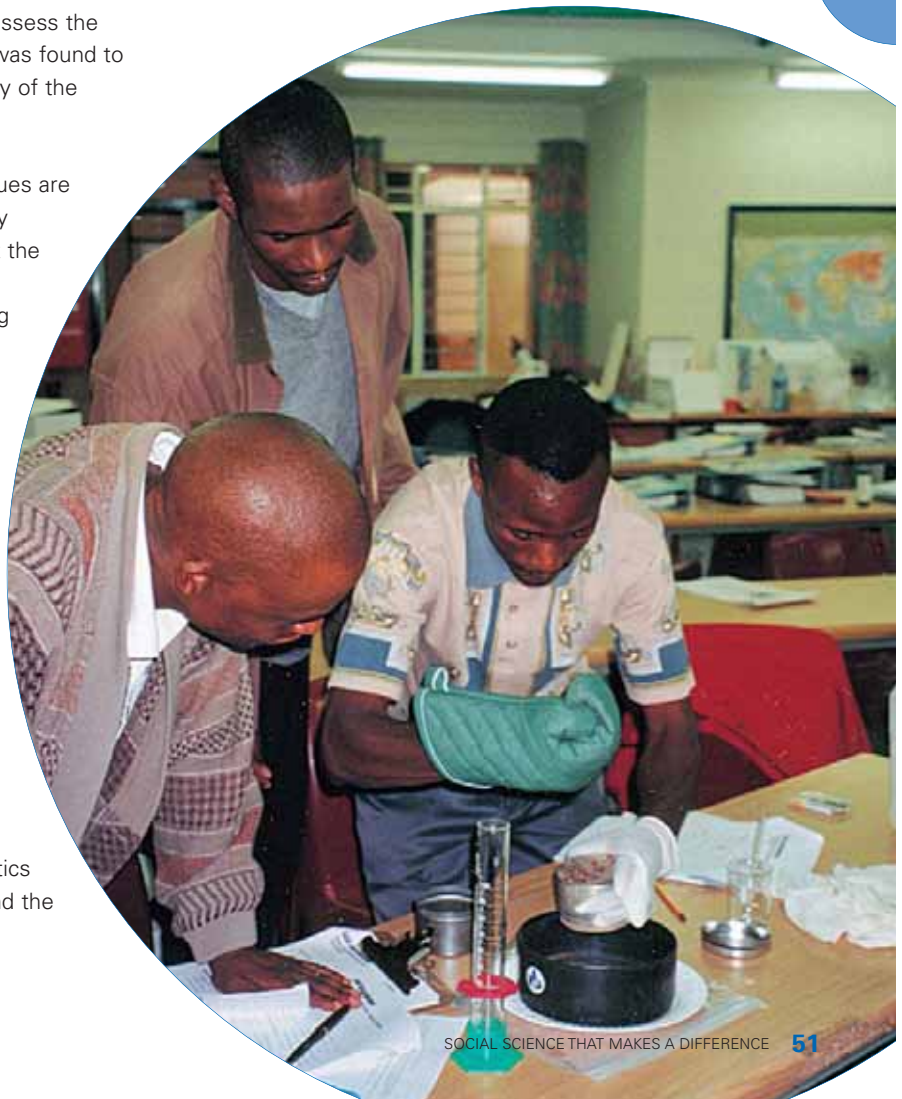
The 2004 memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the DST and Statistics South Africa regarding the provision of official science and technology statistics for the National Statistics System applies to the survey work of CeSTII and the

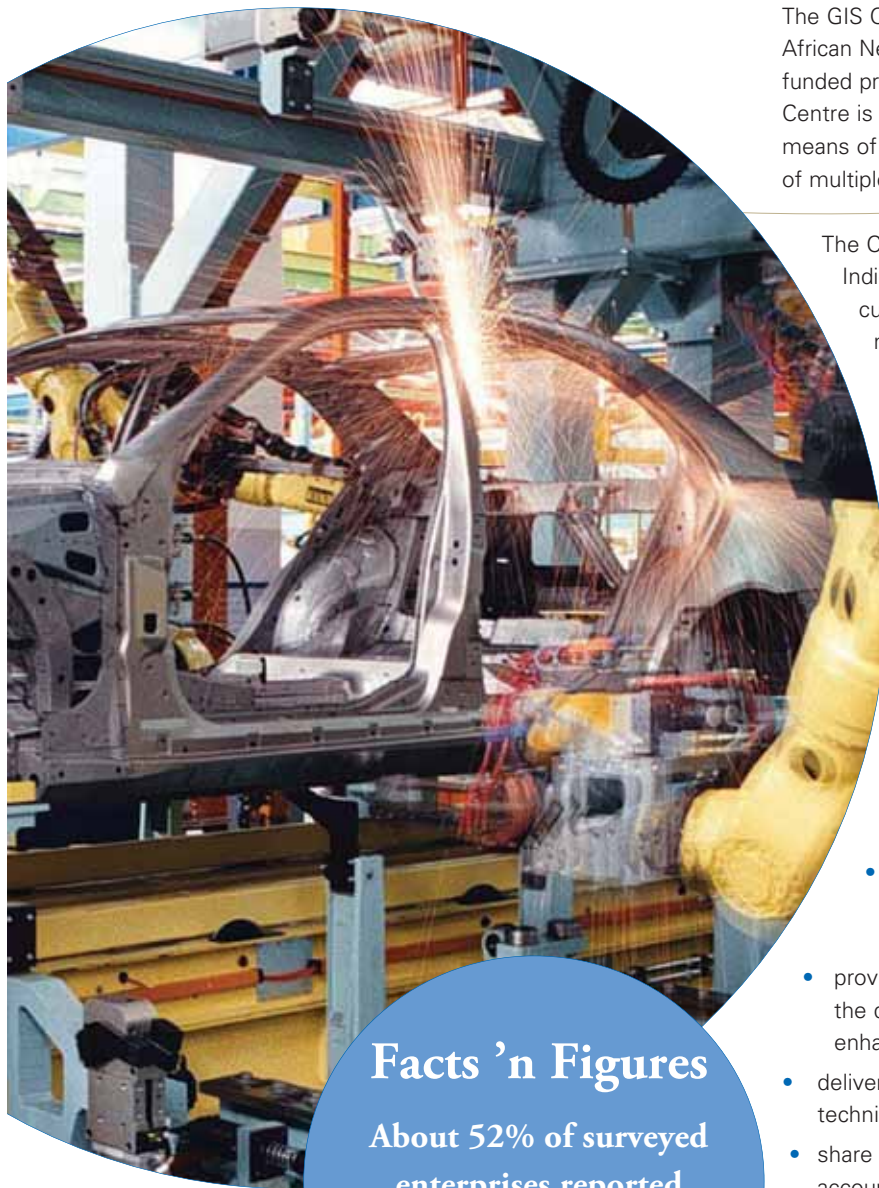
data produced by the R&D Survey series comprise official statistics.

The first official South African Innovation Survey was completed by CeSTII on behalf of DST in 2006/07 and the outputs of this important survey will be reported on in 2007/08. The random stratified sample to populate the Innovation Survey address database was supplied to DST/CeSTII by Statistics South Africa from their official business register.

CeSTII supplied South African R&D and S&T country data submissions to both the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Institute for Statistics. The OECD data are published in the international benchmark publication, *OECD Main Science and Technology Indicators*.

CeSTII coordinated a large project on tracking R&D expenditure on behalf of the National Advisory Council on Innovation. The project has already provided useful insights into the returns on public investment in R&D.





The results of the first HSRC-wide Knowledge Management Practices Survey were released and incorporated into executive-level discussions surrounding the establishment of the HSRC as a regional knowledge hub.

### Impact of research

SES is currently analysing data gathered over three years for the South African Social Attitudes Surveys project that provides a rich platform for in-depth research of societal dynamics. SES through its Client Surveys contributes directly to a better understanding of the dynamics of service delivery.

**Facts 'n Figures**  
About 52% of surveyed enterprises reported innovative activity, which is well above the average of 42% for Europe

The GIS Centre has been instrumental in developing the African Network for Social Accountability, a World Bank-funded project across African countries. In addition the GIS Centre is constructing a new nationwide master sample by means of aerial photography that will serve as the source of multiple household samples for a variety of inquiries.

The Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators and the Research and Development Survey cumulatively provide the means for government to monitor and steer the national system of innovation. The R&D Survey data provided the evidence base for the introduction of an enhanced tax allowance for firms that conduct R&D. In addition, CeSTII contributed to and managed the service providers of the Tracking R&D expenditure project that the National Advisory Council on Innovation is carrying out in response to a Cabinet request.

### Ongoing projects

The African Network on Social Accountability (ANSA-Africa) is a joint initiative between the World Bank (WB) and the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC). The objectives of the Network that was created in August 2006 are to:

- develop cross-country collaboration on social accountability and demand-side governance initiatives;
- provide technical assistance to different countries so the quality of social accountability initiatives is greatly enhanced;
- deliver training programmes on specific tools and techniques; and
- share country experiences and lessons from social accountability and demand-side governance initiatives regionally and globally.

ANSA-Africa is governed and guided by a Pan-African Executive Committee and Technical Advisory Group and will operate through a network of implementation partners across the continent. Projects will be carried out based on needs expressed by stakeholders and will be aimed at improving accountability methods and implementation. As such, ANSA-Africa is informing policy implementation and impact across the continent. The successful establishment of ANSA-Africa has led to the subsequent establishment of ANSA-Asia and it has thus also informed international policy.

The World Bank provided funding to pilot the use of Citizen Report Card Surveys (CRCS) in metropolitan and rural areas of South Africa. The CRCS is used to collect information on service delivery issues at a local level and to disseminate

this information to citizens and local authorities alike. The aim of the CRCS is to facilitate an engagement between citizens and service providers so that the needs of citizens are addressed and a compact between the two parties is established. The CRCS in Tshwane was completed but experienced difficulty in getting municipal officials to engage with citizens to discuss the results of the study. Similar frustrations are being experienced in facilitating stakeholder participation in the process in OR Tambo district municipality. It is hoped that CRCS will be implemented in all district municipalities of South Africa.

The R&D Survey data provided the evidence base for the introduction of an enhanced tax allowance for firms that conduct R&D

### Specialist researchers 2006/07

#### Mr William Blankley

*MSc, MBA, University of Cape Town*  
Science and technology (S&T) policy analysis, S&T indicators, R&D and innovation surveys, strategic planning, feasibility studies, public understanding of science



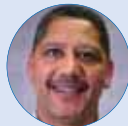
#### Mr Julien Rumbelow

*BSocSci, MBA, University of Cape Town*  
National R&D Survey – Business Sector. R&D and innovation studies



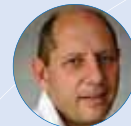
#### Mr Derek Davids

*MA, University of the Western Cape*  
Poverty assessment, data management, statistical analysis and modelling



#### Mr Graig Schwabe

*BSc, University of KwaZulu-Natal*  
*Dipl Business Management, Damelin*  
Spatial database development, spatial analysis, small area estimation modelling, spatial modelling



#### Mr Adlai Davids

*MSc, ITC (The Netherlands)*  
Socio-economic applications of Geographical Information Systems (GIS)



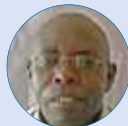
#### Ms Carly Steyn

*MPhil, University of Stellenbosch*  
Survey methodology and analysis, research and development indicators, value analysis and policy formulation, organisational behaviour



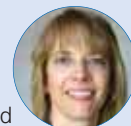
#### Dr Mbithi wa Kivilu

*DPhil, University of Alberta*  
Educational and psychological assessment, data management, statistical analysis and modelling



#### Ms Gina Weir-Smith

*MA, University of Stellenbosch*  
Socio-economic applications in GIS, spatial aspects of unemployment, spatial and accessibility modelling



#### Dr Neo Molotja

*PhD, University of Cape Town*  
Science and technology (S&T) policy analysis, S&T indicators, R&D and innovation surveys



KS





Prof Cheryl-Ann  
Potgieter

## Gender and Development (G&D)

*Gender equality is the destination; gender  
mainstreaming the strategic path*

G&D is responsible for mainstreaming gender within the HSRC, an approach which seeks to institutionalise equality by embedding gender-sensitive practices and norms in the structures, processes and environment of public policy in all work within the organisation.

The unit reviews, strengthens and develops potential solutions to social problems posed by gender. Gender is related to other forms of power relations, roles and identities in a developing society. A critical function of this unit is to assist, advise and work with researchers, policymakers and civil society organisations to use gender analytical tools to ensure that all our researchers adopt a gender lens in understanding social phenomena.

To further this aim, the Women's and Gender Studies Department of the University of the Western Cape (UWC) was contracted in January 2007 to provide gender mainstreaming training for HSRC staff. Over a period of

six weeks, 134 participants were trained and preliminary feedback suggests a positive response to the training. The unit will be developing new modules to reinforce future training in the new financial year.

Over and above the more directed service offering of gender mainstreaming training, the unit is active in advocacy, for example supporting and participating in the 16 Days of Activism; and intellectual engagement in the design and delivery of appropriately themed research, seminars, public lectures and conferences.

The unit's current focus areas of research are: gender and the science system; gender, development and transport; gender, sexuality and masculinity and capacity development, transformation and gender.

### Completed projects

#### Women in industrial science, engineering and technology (SET)

This project assessed women working in these areas, identifying factors that contribute or inhibit women with a SET background and gaps in gender representivity in the workplace. The sample consisted of 27 companies across the JSE, private, small, medium and micro-sized enterprises (SMMEs), and state owned sectors. Qualitative and quantitative data was gathered through in-depth interviews, a gender representation survey questionnaire and a questionnaire for SET women in the company. Findings indicated that women continue to be under-represented in the SET sector and specifically in the industrial context.

#### South African Women in Dialogue (SAWID)

This report, commissioned by SAWID, collected contributions by women's organisations to the African Peer

Findings  
indicated that  
women continue to be  
under-represented in the  
science, engineering and  
technology sector and  
specifically in the industrial  
context

Review Mechanism (APRM). A standard APRM questionnaire was reworked to capture data according to four categories: democracy and good political governance; corporate governance and management; sustainable and financial development; and socio-economic development. The report was submitted as a self-assessment of women's organisations and a contribution to the *South African Country Report*.

### Gender audit of Biotechnology Regional Innovation Centres (BRICs)

An audit of the gender responsiveness of BRICs projects focused on gender mainstreaming and assessed gender bias which could assist in developing gender-sensitive indicators. It also monitored progress in human capital development and the expected improvement in the quality of life of South Africans through the development of a strong biotechnology sector. The audit was completed in partnership with Innovations Networks, a black owned company with specialist knowledge of South Africa's National System of Innovation.

Comprehensive and individual reports were submitted to the respective BRICs, including LifeLab (East Coast Biotechnology Regional Innovation Centre Trust), National Bioinformatics Network, SAASTA (South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement), Biopad (Biotechnology Partnership and Development), Plantbio and Cape Biotech.

### Briefing document on the Civil Unions Bill

In a joint project with the Durban Lesbian & Gay Community & Health Centre, the unit drafted and submitted a well-researched briefing document supporting the adoption of the Civil Unions Bill. The report was discussed (among other



HSRC staff on a gender mainstreaming course

submissions) during a Parliamentary hearing in August 2006.

### Impact of research

- Research work on gender and transport, conducted by the unit, had an immediate impact in respect of the availability of non-motorised transport in the Eastern Cape, as was evident from the implementation by the SA National Roads Agency Limited (in conjunction with the national Department of Transport). The research also contributed to the building of rural access roads, walkways for women and low-level bridges in areas of Port St Johns, Lusikisiki and Bizana.
- A significant national development was the formal adoption by the SA Parliament of the Civil Unions Bill, which provides legislation and a policy framework for same-sex couples to formalise and legalise their unions. The unit's joint submission to Parliament demonstrates, to some extent, a positive impact in terms of policy change.

G&D



Prof. Cheryl-Ann Potgieter of G&D and Prof. Shirley Zinn, HR Director, Nedbank at the Women's Day seminar

## Gender and Development (G&D) *continued*

### Ongoing projects

#### Impact of gender policies and interventions on educators

An assessment of the impact of gender policies and interventions on the commitment of educators and their attitudes towards gender equality – with specific reference to the access and participation in science and maths education of girls (Millennium Development Goal 3) – is at the fieldwork stage. A comprehensive report will be available in October 2007. The project is funded by the Department of Science and Technology.

#### Roundtable on 'corrective rape' of black lesbians

A roundtable facilitated a dialogue on violence against black lesbians during the 16 Days of Activism in December 2006. Its objective was to stimulate debate in the media and to assist in developing information that could be distributed to interest groups, such as schools, religious institutions and policymakers. A manuscript based on the roundtable discussions will be published in 2007. The roundtable, funded by the Foundation for Human Rights, was held in collaboration with the Durban Lesbian & Gay Community & Health Centre.

### Future developments

Important new initiatives will be implemented during 2007/08. The unit is keen to strengthen an applied humanities focus in its broad research and policy work in the following areas:

- Sexuality and pedagogics in higher-education (HE) in South Africa, which would address a national survey and analysis of curricula that focuses on sexuality education within HE institutions;
- New evidence-based research on same-sex sexuality, particularly work with men who have sex with men (MSM) and women who have sex with women (WSW). An international conference on gender, same-sex sexuality and HIV/AIDS is planned for May 2007. The conference aims to review research strategies on homosexuality pertaining to same-sex sexual practices in general, and as it relates to HIV/AIDS; identify research needs and priorities and explore challenges and potential solutions to research on same-sex sexual practices and HIV/AIDS;

## Facts 'n Figures

In Flagstaff, women spend 29 hours, 20 minutes per week on average fetching water



Research work on gender and transport, conducted by the unit, had an immediate impact in respect of the availability of non-motorised transport in the Eastern Cape

applied humanities focus and the idea is to seek ways of understanding how such rights are challenged, resisted and understood in appropriate comparative work;

- Women, gender and technology to investigate how women access technological developments, especially in the information, communication and technology sector;
- A study on black-masculinities to include case studies of anti-sexist black men to investigate perceptions, stigma and prejudice. The research seeks to identify how black masculinities are being shaped, understood and constructed in a changing South African context, including black economic empowerment, sexuality, HIV/AIDS, and the workplace; and
- Preliminary consultative work to explore research questions that could influence policy and the eradication of human trafficking in South Africa and elsewhere.

- Gender and poverty reduction, with a view to understanding how marginalised and vulnerable groups (women and children) are targeted within national programmatic work and policy;
- Gender, water and sustainable development, which will focus on user involvement in the provision of water systems, water management in a pro-poor agenda, and identify research gaps to improve access, affordability and ultimately poverty reduction;
- A gender and crime project seeking to address the impact of crime on women and children, identify issues related to crimes of a sexual nature and find appropriate models to combat and curb such crime. It will also aim at influencing policy in partnership with key organisations/ individuals working in these areas;
- Seeking funding to commence work on gender and human rights and how it impacts on women, men and children in comparative studies. This project has an



Specialist researcher 2006/07

**Professor Patrick Chiroro**

*PhD, Durham University, UK*

Gender transformation in the science, engineering and technology (SET) sector, gender and HIV/AIDS, social constructions of masculinity and sexuality, psychology in legal contexts, monitoring and evaluation



**Professor Vasu Reddy**

*Acting Director (from 1 April 2007)*

*PhD, University of KwaZulu-Natal*

Discursive histories of sexualities and identities, social and cultural aspects of HIV/AIDS, critical gender studies, African feminism, service provision in a development context





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## Policy Analysis Unit (PAU)

*Creative solutions for policy implementation*

The focus of the work of the PAU in social policy that forms the five national priority areas is structured on five themes:

- Meanings, costs and impacts of HIV and AIDS
- Regulatory aspects of employment, social protection and economic growth
- Capacity and procedural justice in service delivery
- Investment, quality and choice in education
- Coherence and performance of poverty reduction strategies.

To enhance the relevance of its impact assessments and policy recommendations, the PAU utilises five analytical lenses, drawn from the National Research and Development Strategy: indigenous knowledge systems and social innovation; public engagement and stakeholder dialogue; opportunities, risks and incentive structures; institutions, ethics and accountability; and inter-generational interactions and equity.

The work of the PAU was further delimited by three primary assessment criteria, namely equity, effectiveness and appropriateness, taking into account the focus of government on policy implementation.

### Completed research projects/policy dialogues Colloquium on education and poverty

A colloquium on Education and poverty reduction strategies: Issues of policy coherence, was held in February 2007. The keynote speakers were Mr Duncan Hindle, Director-General of the Department of Education, and Dr Yusuf Sayed, senior policy analyst, UNESCO.

The colloquium was attended by close to 100 participants, including government officials, local and international policy

researchers and civil society policy activists. Policy briefs and other publications based on the research papers and dialogue are in the pipeline.

### Analysis of the South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS)

An issue paper on national priorities in the view of the people, based on a secondary analysis of the SASAS datasets from 1999 to 2005, will be published later this year.

### Ongoing research projects/policy dialogues

PAU coordinated six Millennium Development Goal (MDG) impact assessment studies for the Department of Science and Technology by means of various research programmes in the HSRC. It also initiated two multi-year, multi-site policy research project proposals and launched a national priority initiative on youth in conjunction with the Child, Youth, Family and Social Development (CYFSD) programme.

The policy research MDG projects are:

### An assessment of antiretroviral (ARV) delivery models in South Africa

The study seeks to answer the following questions:

- What are the characteristics of existing ARV delivery models?
- What are the health systems constraints to the ARV delivery models?
- Who uses each of these services?
- How are the different delivery models performing in terms of effectiveness, quality, costs and equity in access? and
- What are the implications of scaling-up each or a combination of ARV delivery models to the national level?

The study will be implemented in Gauteng, Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape as from April/May 2007. It is anticipated that the results will inform the implementation of the new National Strategic Plan for HIV and AIDS and the scaling-up of ARV delivery in South Africa.

#### The return to education in South Africa: understanding investment, quality and choices in education

The aim of the project is to investigate the returns to investment in education and amongst other issues it examines:

- school investment policies
- national and provincial budgets and allocations to education
- parental and learner choices in education
- best practice in the effective and efficient provision of quality education.

#### Youth Policy Initiative

In line with its mandate to host time-limited priority policy development initiatives and provide policy-related services to the research programmes in the HSRC, PAU embarked upon a Youth Policy Initiative (YPI) on 31 January 2007, which will run for a three-year period. This event was in conjunction with the launch of the World Bank's South Africa office of the *World Development Report 2007: Development and the next generation*.

Dr Emmanuel Y Jimenez, who led the core team at the Bank which prepared the report, gave a presentation.

During 2007, the Initiative will consist primarily of a series of roundtable meetings at which experts from the policy, programme and research environments will come together to consolidate the state of the science, the demands for

action, and interrogate key questions on youth development. The debates will attempt to move the youth development agenda beyond acknowledging the extent of the challenges, to proposing viable policy and programmatic directions that can be undertaken in an integrated manner. Our implementation network for this initiative encompasses the Presidency, the Youth Commission, Umsobomvu Youth Fund, the youth desks in various government departments, and a network of researchers and civil society policy activists.

#### Future developments

In order to give further impetus to the HSRC public benefit mandate and provide systematic support to various HSRC efforts to enhance the interchange between research and policy, PAU has established a convening and policy dialogue facility, which will organise the annual HSRC conference, the HSRC seminar series and support various policy dialogues. The facility will also be responsible for the establishment and maintenance of a portal on the Research-Policy Nexus in South Africa, under the auspices of the Management of Social Transformation (MOST) National Liaison Committee.

The MOST National Liaison Committee is also backing PAU in organising two policy dialogues in 2007. The first, entitled: Health within a comprehensive system of social security: Is national health insurance an appropriate response?, will take place in July 2007. The second, HIV and AIDS in Africa: getting research into policy and practice, will be held in September 2007, in conjunction with the University of Limpopo.

### Specialist researchers 2006/07

#### Ms Claire Botha

*MPH, Medical University of Southern Africa (Medunsa)*

Funding options for public and private health care within the public health system, in particular the funding of infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS



#### Mr Jonathan Carter

*MSc Agric, University of Stellenbosch*

Public finance, governance, social economics



#### Dr Seán Morrow

*DPhil, University of Sussex*  
Capacity development issues

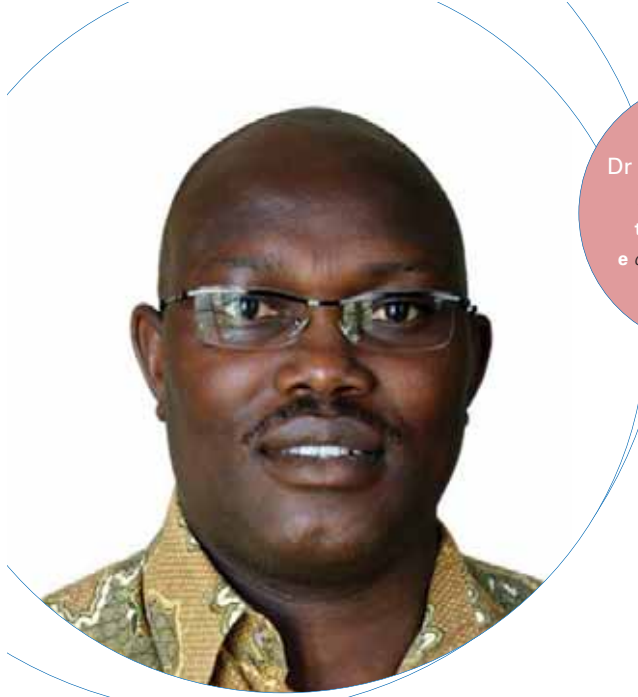


#### Mr Geoffrey Nkadameng

*MA, University of the Witwatersrand*

Youth development, labour market issues in the areas of employment creation and labour legislation, social dialogue and social policy analysis





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## Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS Research Alliance (SAHARA)

*SAHARA – an active and effective collaboration network*

SAHARA is a multi-country alliance of partners established to conduct, support and use social science research to prevent the further spread of HIV and mitigate the impact of its devastation. SAHARA's vision therefore remains that of influencing policymaking and programme development through the promotion and dissemination of the evidence adduced from such collaborative research. Its mission is to improve the quality of data used to plan and implement interventions; to contribute to the effective utilisation of resources; and to provide multimedia and conference platforms for the exchange of ideas and the spread of new knowledge.

To achieve its vision, SAHARA undertakes multi-country and multi-site research, the outcomes of which are widely disseminated through its network of researchers, policymakers and practitioners, a biennial Africa-focused conference, a website and a journal, with a view to making a significant contribution to evidence-based policy formulation and practice.


The SAHARA networking objective also manifests itself in numerous meetings and consultations such as with the UNAIDS SADC HIV Unit; UN WHO West Africa; African Union initiatives; national AIDS councils in Senegal, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda; UNIFEM and UN Habitat in East and Central Africa, and other UN agencies. The conclusion and operationalisation of memoranda of understanding (MoU) with CODESRIA and NEPAD has opened up further avenues for collaborative activities.

SAHARA has been tasked with leading the social science agenda on the implications of the scaling up of male circumcision as an effective prevention technology following the research evidence from three randomised controlled trials in Kenya, South Africa and Uganda.

### Completed research Strategy for the care of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC)

This five-year project, the single biggest project in SAHARA and indeed the HSRC, was funded by the WK Kellogg Foundation in 2002 and largely involved three southern African countries, namely South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe and, to a lesser extent, three other countries, Lesotho, Swaziland, and Mozambique. Its main aim was to gather evidence-based best practices of interventions to improve the conditions of OVC. At the end of the project such best practice OVC interventions were identified and recommended to sub-Saharan African countries and adopted by various community-based organisations (CBO) and faith-based organisations (FBO) at community level through until the end of 2006 when the project began to wind down. The research generated three articles published in international peer-reviewed journals, and over 20 research reports from all three countries published by the HSRC Press to date, with four more still in press at the time of writing this report.

At the end of the project best practice OVC interventions were identified and recommended to sub-Saharan African countries and adopted



Participants at the 4th SAHARA Conference in Kisumu, Kenya

### Impact of recently completed research

The Study on OVC has clearly influenced both the South African and Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) OVC Care and Support Strategy. The concrete evidence from this study has been the incorporation of some of the recommended interventions into the 2007 – 2011 National Strategic Plan for South Africa and other African countries. Furthermore, the OVC census methodology developed from the study and tested successfully in South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe has attracted much interest as an innovative strategy for studying this serious problem in other countries of southern Africa.

### Ongoing research projects Stigma and behavioural risk-reduction interventions

This project is funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Directorate-General for International Cooperation (DGIS). It was first initiated in the SADC region (namely, Botswana, Lesotho, South Africa and Swaziland) with both DFID and CIDA funding, and was later expanded to include Kenya, Rwanda, Burkina Faso and Senegal through DGIS funding.

The project aims to adapt and test the effectiveness of two behavioural risk reduction interventions, Healthy relationships and Options for health that were developed and shown to be efficacious in the USA, and aimed at people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) who are aware of their HIV-positive status. To date, formative and baseline survey research has been undertaken in all eight countries and seven of the draft reports that will form part of the eight-country report are nearly completed.

In addition, two publications from South Africa have been published in international peer-reviewed journals. One manuscript from Botswana, three more from South Africa, and one from South Africa, Swaziland and the USA have also been submitted for publication in international peer-reviewed journals. Substantial progress has been achieved in the southern Africa region as expected. This includes the cultural adaptation of the two interventions and training-of-trainers which were conducted by the original developers of the two interventions from the USA.

Since then the Botswana research team successfully completed the feasibility and acceptability study of Healthy relationships on three groups during November 2006 and have since the beginning of 2007 undertaken a fully randomised control trial (RCT) consisting of 10 intervention and 10 control groups. Three-month follow-up assessments of behavioural outcomes of the 20 groups in the two arms of the trial will be completed in July 2007. Meanwhile, preparations for the feasibility and acceptability study as well as a randomised controlled trial of Options for health in Cape Town are at an advanced stage.

### Preliminary impact of study

The work that SAHARA has undertaken has elicited a great deal of interest and has had a significant positive impact on prevention throughout Africa. The Botswana team's project represents the first time the Healthy relationships intervention has been implemented outside of the USA. Preliminary work based largely in Botswana, but also in South Africa, has laid a good foundation for a bigger RCT, funded by the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), on the effectiveness and appropriateness of both interventions to be conducted by the South African team in the Eastern Cape Province during 2007 and 2008. As with the OVC intervention strategies, the incorporation of some of the recommended interventions into the 2007 –



## Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS Research Alliance (SAHARA) *continued*

2011 National Strategic Plan for South Africa provides the most visible evidence of the impact of this work.

### Poverty and HIV/AIDS

This groundbreaking study into the impact of HIV/AIDS on households with someone living with HIV/AIDS is funded mainly by DGIS. Formative and baseline survey research was conducted in households affected by HIV/AIDS in six countries in sub-Saharan Africa – South Africa and Botswana in southern Africa, Kenya and Rwanda in East and Central Africa and Burkina Faso and Senegal in West Africa. Preliminary findings were presented at the 4th Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS conference held in Kisumu, Kenya from 30 April – 3 May 2007 and will soon be published as a research report by the HSRC Press.

### Other SAHARA research

The West African region also undertook three additional studies as follows:

- A study on contraceptive methods and the use of condoms in Senegal, funded by an international NGO known as the Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA). The study report was presented in September 2006;
- A study on HIV/AIDS and democratic governance in Senegal, supported by the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA); and
- An exploratory study on cultural approaches to HIV/AIDS prevention, commissioned by *Bureau Regionale pour l'Education en Afrique* (BREDA), the West Africa Regional Office of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

SAHARA was also recently identified as a key regional resource in Africa and partner with the WHO and UNAIDS to lead both the development and implementation of a social science research agenda on the scaling up of male circumcision as an HIV prevention strategy in Africa.

### SAHARA collaborative information sharing SAHARA conference

The 4th SAHARA conference was held in Kenya and over 400 delegates from more than 25 countries attended, including policymakers, scholars, researchers, advocacy groups, NGOs and CBOs, all united in their desire for innovative ideas regarding improved access to prevention, treatment and care. The conference theme, Innovation in access to prevention, treatment and care in HIV/AIDS, was well reflected in the diversity of scientific presentations which included community-based initiatives in dealing with HIV/AIDS and its consequences. UNESCO, as one example, convened a roundtable of Parliamentarians, to promote high-level policy discourse on HIV/AIDS on the African continent. The proceedings of the 3rd SAHARA conference Dakar 2005 were published in paper and compact disc form.

### SAHARA website

The SAHARA website is now hosted at the HSRC, which has brought stability to the site. The website has undergone software and security upgrades including installation of Google Analytics to give SAHARA access to reliable statistics that are comparable to other sites. The site contains databases of information such as projects, almost 100 links to other relevant sites, and the stigma abstracts database. SAHARA makes use of the Open Conference System (OCS) for conference management. OCS was successfully used for the Dakar conference in 2004, and the Kisumu conference in 2007 for online delegate registration.

### Journal of Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS (SAHARA J)

SAHARA J is published online at [journals.sahara.org.za](http://journals.sahara.org.za), using open source software called Open Journal System (OJS). The journal is internationally accredited and cited on AJOL-SAHARA J. It is the only journal that has full text articles and is now cited on PsycINFO. It is abstracted in Sociological Abstracts, and Bibliographic Databases

The entrance to the Tom Mboya Centre in Kisumu, Kenya, where the 4th SAHARA Conference was held



The work that SAHARA has undertaken has elicited a great deal of interest and has had a significant positive impact on prevention throughout Africa

(EMBASE/EMNursing/Compendex/GEOBASE/Moby Yearbooks and Scopus). The journal is indexed in IBSS, and is also accredited for subsidy as a SAPSE journal by the Department of Education, South Africa.

#### Capacity development

SAHARA recognises the imperative to develop young researchers, both for its own sustainability and for the continued viability of HIV/AIDS research. For this reason, capacity development workshops for young scholars were held in West, East and Central African regions, and as part of the SAHARA conference in Kenya.

As of the end of March 2007, SAHARA had over 40 social science scholars variously supported by the network.

#### Future developments

The achievements of SAHARA are numerous and its impact on HIV and AIDS policy and programme development is evident. The network continues to expand as new country focal persons or institutions are identified with the aim of having a SAHARA focal person in each sub-Saharan African country. Equally, however, challenges exist that must be overcome, such as the challenge to mobilise sufficient resources to meet the ever increasing demands for networking, research and capacity building in social science research generally, and in HIV/AIDS research in particular.



#### Specialist researchers 2006/07

##### Dr Vincent Agu

Director (from 1 August 2007)  
DRPH, University of Texas  
Advocacy, HIV vaccine research and development, social aspects of HIV vaccines



##### Professor Akim Mturi

PhD, University of Southampton  
HIV/AIDS, sexuality, reproductive health and fertility





Dr Miriam Altman  
Executive Director  
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## Employment, Growth and Development Initiative (EGDI)

*Innovative employment strategies*

Unemployment is one of the most pressing economic and social problems facing South Africa today. The social impact is particularly severe in the context of a fragile social safety net for the poor and a small under-developed informal sector.

The South African government has adopted targets of halving unemployment and poverty by 2014. There are a number of important initiatives to reach these targets at all levels of government and in cooperation with civil society, including the Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative South Africa (AsgiSA). But do we have a sense of whether these initiatives are correctly targeted and bold enough to achieve government's employment and poverty targets by 2014, and ultimately surpass them thereafter?

EGDI was established at the HSRC to support the efforts of government and other key roleplayers to reach these targets by drawing together a set of 'evidence-based' Employment Scenarios. These are scenarios for the South African economy should minimum social and economic targets be met. Approaches are formulated to put employment and poverty centre-stage of economic policymaking. This involves the development of integrated economy-wide analysis, consideration of specific policy areas that impact on the employment picture, and the identification of practical options, each with its own political, financial and bureaucratic implications.

The Initiative operates on the basis of a 'think-tank' model: it coordinates research with an emphasis on drawing together and stimulating the best available knowledge in the HSRC, South Africa and globally. This is achieved through policy research; the initiation of demonstration projects to test ideas; the facilitation of ideas through roundtables and policy design work; and the establishment of an interactive website posting the best available thinking on employment policy. The Initiative forms part of an ongoing effort to deepen the HSRC's contribution to effective policymaking and broader societal dialogue on critical issues.

### Completed and ongoing projects Employment Scenarios

EGDI drew together a first set of evidence-based scenarios for employment-absorbing growth. This is the centrepiece of all EGDI research work: to develop visions of the economic structure of South Africa should minimum social and economic targets be met. It further considers the practical policy implications of each scenario, with an eye to their political, financial and bureaucratic implications. The best available evidence underpins these scenarios and modelling capability to determine the extent of realism in any one of the options and better inform policy choices. The first phase of the Employment Scenarios process focused on identifying possible sources of job creation, including market-based, government service, public works and survivalist informal sector activity.

Critical input papers to the scenarios were delivered in the period and a forum for dialogue generated with leading opinion- and decisionmakers from government, business and labour organisations to deepen the understanding of employment paths, policy choices and the human and financial resources required to achieve employment targets. The forum has been highly successful in enabling open thinking about critical questions and policy balance and the kinds of decisions needed by different stakeholder groupings to dramatically reduce unemployment and poverty. The members of the forum are able to use these ideas in their own constituencies and in sites of negotiation.

We are grateful to the Departments

The Initiative forms part of an ongoing effort to deepen the HSRC's contribution to effective policymaking and broader societal dialogue on critical issues

of Trade and Industry, and Science and Technology for their financial support, and to the people who have participated in our events.

A 2007 roundtable focused on industrial development's changing character and the implications for growth, employment and distribution

### Studies supporting the Employment Scenarios

The Employment Scenarios project depends on a series of 'issue-based' projects to produce deeper and more realistic insights. These projects enable us to identify the critical policy options underpinning each path. In 2006/07, these issue-based projects included:

#### Macro-economic analysis – exchange rates and employment

The exchange rate has been identified as a binding constraint in government's Programme of Action and in AsgiSA. There is convincing global evidence of a close relationship between employment and exchange rates. The exchange rate is a key price affecting the incentive to import or export and can be an important factor in encouraging or discouraging new economic activity. There is some debate as to whether the exchange rate supports the government's growth and employment objectives, but there is little empirical evidence to show either way. EGDI continued its project to explore the impact of exchange rate policy on employment outcomes and the identification of policy options. The National Treasury and the South African Reserve Bank participate in the reference group for this project. In conjunction with feasibility and with grant support from the UK High Commission, a survey of firms was conducted to determine how they respond to exchange rate volatility and the level of the rand, and particularly how this differs for small and large firms, and for firms in different sectors of the economy. An estimation of full-employment equilibrium exchange rates and an assessment of policy options facing government in light of exchange rate policies in recent years was also initiated in cooperation with Professor Laurence Harris at the University of London. The project involved the facilitation of high-level roundtables with the Reserve Bank, National Treasury, the Presidency and leading bank economists.

#### Regulation in core network industries

In 2006/2007, EGDI led a project on administered pricing in the ports, rail and water sectors, commissioned by a Nedlac. This was a critical outstanding project of the Growth and Development Strategy (GDS) and government's programme of action in seeking to reduce the cost of doing business. EGDI was also commissioned by the National Treasury to support research on regulation in ports, rail and telecommunications. These projects were undertaken in cooperation with Genesis Analytics, LINK, as well as other independent researchers. The work follows on to a 2005 EGDI baseline project, which showed that improvements in the price and quality of transport and telecoms could contribute substantially to employment and growth.



#### Jobs for growth

The Deputy President's office has launched a campaign to create a million jobs in the second economy. EGDI is coordinating work in respect of employment strategies and value-chain mapping and is leading the monitoring and evaluation processes, which will guide implementing agents.

In 2006/07, EGDI launched a project to investigate the linkages between informal and formal activity, in collaboration with the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) (Washington). This project aims to understand how the informal economy might grow alongside formal activity, to support better policymaking and contribute to the Employment Scenarios. This involves ground-breaking work to consider how informal and formal activities intertwine through conceptual work, and a pilot survey. New learning will help us to sensitise our economy wide modelling to take the informal sector into account. A workshop co-hosted with UKZN and the dti took place in 2007, with eminent speakers from South Africa, Cornell University, Harvard and the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) (India) participating. This project is supported by the dti and CAGE, and continues into 2007/08.



Mr Imraan Valodia, School of Development Studies, University of KZN (sitting) and Dr James Thurlow, of the International Food Policy Research Institute at an EGDI workshop

#### Review of potential employment-creating sectors

This project feeds directly into the Employment Scenarios project and reviews potential job creation in AsgiSA-identified sectors as well as others, with the aim of contributing to sector selection strategies. We are particularly interested in identifying opportunities where SA has already revealed industrial capabilities that might contribute to both employment and growth objectives. In

## Employment, Growth and Development Initiative (EGDI) *continued*

2006/07, we began research on the potential of construction and recycling as a growth sector. This research is funded by the dti, DST and DEAT, and continues into 2007/08.

### Employment in government programmes (community care services)

The government has committed itself to expanding community-based social services to deepen social delivery and to create jobs. In 2004, the former Employment and Economic Policy Research Programme (EEPR) found that the greatest gap, and therefore the largest opportunity for job creation, lay in dramatically expanding early childhood development (ECD). EGDI has therefore initiated a programme of work that focuses on taking ECD to scale in a way that has maximum impact on child indicators and on job creation.

EGDI is cooperating with CYFSD to identify institutional solutions to enable mass expansion of employment in quality ECD services. We believe this to be an extremely important source of job creation, particularly for rural women, and that at least 270 000 net new jobs could be created in this sector.

The project will also make an

important contribution to thinking about gender, particularly in relation to labour market participation of marginalised women.

This project involves ongoing discussion and collaboration with central government and non-governmental stakeholders. Funded by the Department of Science and Technology, Department of Education and the WF Kellogg Foundation, it continues into 2007/08, with the aim of establishing demonstration projects in 2008/09.

### Employment Policy Network

EGDI is establishing an Employment Policy Network to draw together 'communities of practice' through an interactive web-based service. The web portal aims to coordinate the best available research and information on employment and inclusive growth issues in a developing country context. This is particularly important in the African context, in support of recent African Union resolutions to place more emphasis on deepening employment policy on the continent. The portal will include topic-related specialty pages on exchange rates, employment-oriented industrial policy, creating community-based care services jobs and employment monitoring. In 2006/07, a partnership was established with the ILO, AERC and CUTS from which this network will be built. The portal was created, to be launched in July 2007, and initial web pages framed. We are grateful to the Department of Science and Technology for its financial and moral support.

### Communicating findings

EGDI has been active in communicating its findings in local and international forums. In addition to the roundtables and workshops that have been coordinated – with active participation from local and international researchers and policy stakeholders – there have been numerous presentations as well as extensive participation in radio, TV and print media. EGDI actively publishes and disseminates both academic and non-academic work to stimulate debate and

## Facts 'n Figures

The economy needs to generate an average extra 200 000 to 300 000 jobs per year to reach the government's employment targets in 2014

The forum [for dialogue] has been highly successful in enabling open thinking about critical questions and... the kinds of decisions needed by different stakeholder groupings to dramatically reduce unemployment and poverty

dialogue and contribute to a deep body of knowledge around employment questions in South Africa. In 2006/07,

EGDI posted 75 of its papers on the HSRC website to enable easy public access to information being generated.

Presentations were made to reach both academic and stakeholder groupings, including: the Urban Age conference hosted by the London School of Economics; the founding conference of the World Bank/IZA Development Network; the World Bank, UNESCO, MIT, GIBS, the Millennium Labour Council; and the Directors-General's social and economic clusters and sub-committees.

### Future developments

EGDI plans to continue its research on employment trends to include employment tracking, investigations into technical difficulties in the data and the development of lead indicators of employment. Since the government budget is an effective instrument available to the state to influence employment, EGDI also plans to track government budgets and expenditure in respect of policies with a major impact on employment outcomes.

**Employment Policy Network:** the Employment Policy Network web service will be launched in July 2007.

The unit also plans to complete scenarios for agriculture, mining and the public service to complete this phase of the Employment Scenarios. The Employment Scenarios process will turn its attention to labour market and social protection issues. Research will focus on:

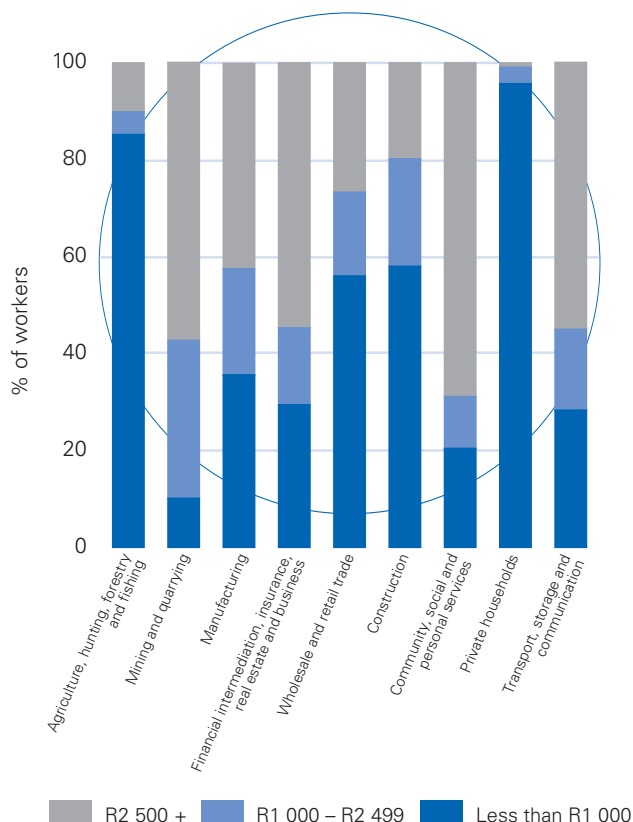
- the link between employment, wages and poverty;
- the link between basic education and employability;

- youth labour market dynamics and policy implications;
- policy approaches to incentivising low-skill employment and enabling poor families to assemble a livelihood;
- regional labour migration and immigration policy;
- the potential for low-skill exports and remittances; and
- forecasting potential growth in the labour force.

### Promoting procurement from domestic and local companies:

This project promotes employment through large firm procurement. Partners are being drawn together from government, financial institutions, corporates, and service delivery agents. The aim is to test innovations in the management and implementation of BEE procurement to identify how to scale up its impact on employment and value-creation. This project is funded by the WF Kellogg Foundation.

### Formal sector earnings (Rand per month)



### Specialist researchers 2006/07

#### Professor Rob Davies

MLitt, University of St Andrews

The use of computable general equilibrium models as a tool for policymakers



#### Mr Tewodros Gebreselasie

MCom, MPhil, University of Pretoria

Application of econometric techniques in the studies of employment, growth and development issues





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## National Education Quality Initiative (NEQI)

*Improving social and economic development through quality education for all*

The quest for the improvement of education quality is one of the most significant challenges facing the South African government, and is regarded as 'a national priority that requires involvement and engagement throughout all levels of our society' (Minister of Education, August 2005). Improving the quality of education is particularly critical in ensuring that the learning needs of all children are met and for providing pathways out of poverty for families and communities.

As a high-level cross-cutting initiative of the HSRC, NEQI aims to support the government in addressing this challenge. The primary objectives of the initiative are to:

- develop relevant policy options, with estimated costs, that have a demonstrable positive impact on learning in schools, particularly for the poor and disadvantaged learner;
- undertake policy-relevant research to enable and support policymakers and key stakeholders at all levels of the system to make evidence-based decisions on effective strategies for improving education quality;
- engage in policy dialogue processes with different stakeholders, to share and disseminate information and ideas about good practice that could improve the quality of education; and
- facilitate the exchange of local and

international education quality experts and decision-makers in order to contribute to decision-making processes that would enable the implementation of relevant and efficient education quality strategies at all levels of the system.

These objectives emerge from extensive discussions with various national and international stakeholders who have identified key quality priorities, including improving reading and writing in schools, developing indicators to monitor the performance of schools and determining the impact of free education on the quality of education.

### Completed research

The following research projects were completed during the reporting period:

#### Improving education quality through policies for public educators

The Education Labour Relations Council (ELRC) commissioned the HSRC to provide research support for a series of international study visits to obtain information on the formulation of evidence-based policies that could improve the conditions of employment for public educators in South Africa. The report was completed in October 2006 and presented at a seminar entitled *The role of labour relations in improving quality in learning outcomes in public education*, during the 16th Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers.

#### Manual for monitoring the implementation of Education For All in Africa

UNESCO commissioned the HSRC to prepare a manual for African member states and

The MONITEQ results will be used to develop a framework and a set of relevant indicators for use in monitoring the functioning of the education system at the end of the Foundation, Intermediate and Senior phases



Ambassador Frans Engering of the Netherlands Embassy and Dr Olive Shisana, HSRC, sign the agreement for the Literacy and Numeracy Project, while Mr Cornelius Hacking looks on

### National framework for monitoring learning achievement in Eritrea

In another project for UNICEF, the HSRC provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Education in Eritrea to develop and implement a framework for monitoring learning achievement in that country as a means of improving the quality of basic education delivery. The national framework instruments and relevant indicators, which were developed in collaboration with Ministry staff, will be used to implement the second Monitoring Learning Achievement study.

### Methodological challenges in measuring Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 2 and 3

The main purpose of the project was to identify the methodological challenges in measuring the progress made towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in South Africa. The project focused on goals 2 and 3, that is the achievement of universal primary education (MDG 2) and the elimination of gender disparity in education (MDG 3). The project sought to review current indicators used to measure the MDGs, in consultation with the national Department of Education, and to propose additional indicators for use in monitoring education quality in South Africa. The final report will be completed in June 2007.

### Impact of research

The methodology and design applied in the project, monitoring trends in education quality (MONITEQ) (see Parliamentary grant section, on page 13) has been adapted to conduct the first grade 9 systematic evaluation study. This study, which will be integrated as part of the grade 9 Common Tasks of Assessment, will be piloted at the end of 2007, with the main study planned for the end of 2008. The MONITEQ results will also be used to develop a framework and a set of relevant indicators for use in

partners (educational stakeholders, educational implementation agents, civil society, multi-lateral and bilateral agencies, non-governmental and inter-governmental organisations) that could provide an effective framework, techniques, and performance indicators for continuous and sustained monitoring and evaluation of the six Education For All goals in Africa. The manual was completed in October 2006 and submitted to UNESCO for adoption.

### Indicators for Child-Friendly Schools

The Eastern and Southern African Regional Office of UNICEF commissioned the HSRC, in collaboration with regional education officers, to support regional education officers and develop relevant indicators to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Child-Friendly Schools (CFS) framework. A report on the indicators was completed in December 2006 and circulated to regional officers for piloting in their respective countries.



## National Education Quality Initiative (NEQI) *continued*

monitoring the functioning of the education system at the end of the Foundation, Intermediate and Senior phases.

### Ongoing research

The HSRC component of an assessment system for learning improvement, funded by the Royal Netherlands Embassy, is intended to support the Department of Education in developing an effective assessment system to provide relevant and timely information for teachers to address learning needs within the classroom. It will also provide information to policymakers for use in improving the conditions that impact on learning and teaching in schools. The HSRC project comprises three research components, summarised below:

#### Classroom assessment resources for learning improvement

This component seeks to develop classroom-assessment tools for teachers to improve learning. The aim is to develop a computer-assisted classroom assessment system for use by teachers to obtain information on learner strengths and weaknesses. This information will allow teachers to provide relevant feedback to learners and to develop appropriate interventions for improving learning.

#### National assessment of learner achievement: grade 9

The overall aim of this component is to design and implement the grade 9 national assessment study, which will be piloted at the end of 2007 and implemented in 2008. A national framework that includes a set of key indicators for monitoring the functioning of the education system at the end of the Foundation, Intermediate and Senior phases will also be developed.

#### Assessment policies and structures to improve learning

The aim of this component of the project is to review current assessment policies, practices and structures at all levels of the system. The overall research question is to critically analyse the current assessment system with a view to developing policy options for an effective, integrated assessment system for South African schools. These policy options will include a discussion of its functioning, cost, feasibility and positive contribution to improving learning in schools.

#### Future developments

For the next five years NEQI will further intensify and consolidate policy-relevant research with regard to education quality in the following ways:

- conduct studies on the use of assessment to contribute to decisionmaking that enhances learning and teaching in South African classrooms;

- facilitate the implementation of an integrated and effective assessment system that provides relevant and timely information to roleplayers at the different levels of the system;
- pilot a systems model, for use in monitoring the functioning of the education system and based on the policy goals of access, quality, efficiency and equity (AQEE), with associated key indicators;
- contribute to a deeper understanding of key strategies and mechanisms to improve the quality of education in South African schools;
- host a number of international and national policy dialogue forums on education quality based on ongoing research; and
- disseminate findings by way of policy briefs, newspaper articles, books, and journal articles.

NEQI regards the development of networks and research capacity among researchers, practitioners, research students and policymakers as a core priority of its work. To this end, short- or long-term research fellowships are available for experienced national, regional and international roleplayers to enhance and deepen the education quality knowledge base. Research fellows will be actively involved in the ongoing work of NEQI and will also have the opportunity to pursue independent research in the field of education quality.



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## Capacity Development (CD)

*Strengthening research capacity for the social and human sciences*

CD was established in September 2005 as a unit that cuts across all the other HSRC research programmes with the main purpose of providing support to researchers and development of research skills in the HSRC, and to outside organisations through collaborative activities.

The activities of CD are guided by the following objectives:

- to increase a pool of competent researchers for the human and social sciences in South Africa;
- to support and drive professional development at the HSRC in line with organisational strategy and performance management system;
- to support the development of black researchers, women and disabled persons in order to enable the HSRC to meet its equity targets;
- to facilitate the placement of international scholars and students at the HSRC; and
- to foster collaborations within South Africa, the African continent and with other international institutions to support capacity building initiatives.

In the year 2006/07, the unit focused on capacity development needs and priorities of the HSRC and has created a platform for prospective and novice researchers to gain valuable experience on research in the human and social sciences. Building on the HSRC's continuing programme on researcher training for Master's and doctoral level interns, the unit organised training in STATA 9 at the University of Cape Town. The training provided the interns with valuable skills to be used when dealing with data of a quantitative nature. A follow-up project is underway to give support to the interns to enable them to sustain the knowledge gained. Over and above the training, workshops and regular contacts are held with the interns.

Following a workshop organised with Higher Education South Africa, the HSRC entered into agreements with local higher education institutions to create opportunities for collaborative activities. The HSRC has concluded a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the University of South Africa in addition to MoUs concluded in the previous year. A number of MoUs with other South African universities and other research institutions are underway and will be concluded by end of the financial year.

In 2006, the HSRC signed a MoU with the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), which opens up a variety of opportunities for our researchers to engage with their counterparts on the African continent on matters relevant to research in the human and social sciences. Another MoU was signed with Eduardo Mondlane University in Mozambique. The unit is continuing to engage with national and international institutions at institutional and programme level to create an enabling environment for the researchers, and support the growing of new researchers.

### Specialist researcher 2006/07

**Professor Mukole Kongolo**  
Director (from 1 July 2007)  
*PhD, Potchefstroom University*  
Developing scientists and scientific leadership in the social sciences

