Mid-term Review of the Department of Rural Development & Land Reform
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Amongst the many noble factors enshrined in our much-admired Constitution is a provision that obliges the State to take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to foster conditions which enable our country’s citizens to gain access to land on an equitable basis. This is the least that can be expected of a caring society in an era when globalisation threatens to expand the gap between those who have the wherewithal to compete, and those whose circumstances are handicapping any progress.

Accordingly, in May 2009, our democratic government announced the creation of a new branch of government, to be known as the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, a Ministry I have the honour to serve.

I believe that this department is crucial to the further progress of our country. Our mandate is to accelerate rural development and implement meaningful land reform, sensitive to the fact that although some 18 years have passed since the birth of democracy, the damage and hurt caused by apartheid lingers stubbornly on in the lives of millions of people living in rural communities; many of them still enfeebled by the effects of racial prejudices.

That is why the President of our country, Jacob Zuma has repeatedly stressed the strategic importance of rural development and land reform as a means of improving the lives of the disadvantaged. That is why this relatively new department has established and is implementing the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP), by means of which, people living in rural communities are given the opportunity to overcome poverty.

The CRDP has been implemented in all nine provinces and is already bearing fruit in terms of meeting basic human needs, and providing for essential infrastructure and enterprise development. This programme has simple yet vital aims; to ensure that rural communities are vibrant, equitable and sustainable, and is constructed around three phases:

- Phase One. The incubator or nursery stage of the programme, aims to meet basic human needs.
- Phase Two. The entrepreneurial development stage. This is where the department, on a large scale, uses infrastructure development as a driver for change.
- Phase Three. The stage of the emergence of industrial and financial sectors. This is driven by small, micro and medium enterprises and village markets.

We have reason to be proud of our progress to date. We still have a mountain to climb, but no one can dispute the fact that we have made a visible impact on people whose lives...
have been structurally crippled through inhumane policies over decades. Nonetheless, to have lasting effect, the transformation of the social and economic circumstances of the lives of those most affected simply has to be accompanied by improved equity in land ownership and increased household income. To finally lie to rest the iniquitous legacy of apartheid our country had no choice but to overhaul the nation’s land policy and legislation, with specific reference to the land tenure system. The Green Paper on Land Reform is one of the tools at our disposal to implement more appropriate forms of land ownership together with best practice on the sustainable use of natural resources.

The land restitution programme, which is implemented in line with the Restitution of Land Rights Act (Act No. 22 of 1994), is a key initiative which is contributing towards nation building. A decision was taken to ensure that all those who receive land through the restitution programme, must also receive support in line with the CRDP approach. This ensures that projects in this programme are sustainable, thus contributing to the objective of sustainable land reform.

The regulation of proper land use, together with spatial planning and spatial information management within the public and private sectors, remains a core responsibility of the department. Geo-spatial, technology development and disaster management services also feature prominently in the department routine processes, and form the basis for the facilitation of relevant research, and the adoption of innovative and appropriate technologies for rural development. As a department, we are also sensitive to the importance of preserving and promoting indigenous knowledge systems, and the sustainable utilisation of natural resources. We will leave no stone unturned to reduce vulnerability and eradicate poverty in rural communities. Yet, like many institutions in our country, we detect the need to develop a broader skills base. Thus, our strategic decision to invest in the tertiary education of gifted bursary students, enabling them to study in fields such as BSc. in Geomatics, Land Surveying, Cartography, and Town and Regional Planning.

The department has developed a new structure aligned to the key deliverables of the new mandate. Key posts are being filled to bolster the accomplishment of this mandate. In addition, partnership agreements with sector departments and the private sector are helping to improve the technical capacity required. The “Back Office” which is the nerve centre of the department has been strengthened. These changes are improving our planning, workflow processes, human resource management and corporate support to the service delivery arm of the organisation.

We are not involved in a game here. Too often, those without homes and land on which to build are also those without hope. That is not the promise we have made to the people of our country. Our promise is a better life for all.
South Africans have reason to be proud of their achievements over the past 18 years. Dating from the election in April 1994, in which our country chose democracy as its badge and a rainbow as its symbol, our people have set aside their previous divisions and wholeheartedly embraced one another, united in a shared vision for national progress on an increasingly competitive international stage. Remarkably, the country has managed to achieve and sustain impressive economic growth.

Through targeted government programmes, the following milestones have been achieved:

- Poverty has been significantly reduced in terms of income, access to social services and assets;
- Over 12 million people have benefited from government’s social security assistance programme;
- The number of people with access to electricity and water services has dramatically increased;
- More than three million South Africans have been assisted through housing subsidies;
- Almost 10 million South Africans now have a place they can call home; and
- More than half of all households are headed by women.

There are, however, some significant challenges still facing our country. Progress in urban areas stands in stark contrast to the often extreme levels of poverty many South Africans in rural areas still endure. Social deprivation and underdevelopment continues to haunt too many rural areas. For nearly half a century, the heartless apartheid regime viewed the inhabitants of black rural areas simply as labour reserves, unworthy of development efforts, whereas the post 1994 development paradigm was premised on the assumption that urban development would inevitably cascade to the rural periphery. Consequently, for years rural South Africa saw very little development. This eventually subjected social systems and economic and infrastructural developments to enormous strain as, seeking a better future, many moved from rural areas to cities.

South Africa’s cities have benefited greatly from projects that developed and improved infrastructure and social services. Yet, the same projects placed these areas under the increasing strain of over-urbanisation. Clearly, the development paradigm of the past 18 years, with its emphasis on urban development, in the expectation that this medicine would also heal ailing rural areas, did not do so, and did not produce the economic impact our socio-engineers had envisaged.
Against this background, government reiterated that the fight against poverty remained the most important fight on its agenda. In this spirit, a need for a new economic and developmental trajectory was identified as an urgent priority, and with this objective government identified five strategic areas as priorities over the next five years. These areas are:

- The creation of decent work and sustainable livelihoods
- Education
- Health
- Rural development, food security and land reform
- The fight against crime and corruption.

It was recognised afresh that the social and economic transformation of South Africa would be incomplete without the implementation of fundamental interventions to address the challenges faced daily by the majority of people in rural areas. These challenges include limited economic activity, inadequate infrastructure, widespread poverty, high unemployment and unmarketable skills levels.

The Ministry of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR) was created in 2009, in line with the Polokwane resolutions. For the first time in its history, the country would have a ministry dedicated to the social and economic development of rural South Africa; committed to ensuring that South Africans residing in rural areas enjoyed the same benefits as their urban cousins, so that they too were covered by the blanket of human rights and basic dignity guaranteed in our Constitution.

Following its establishment, the new ministry immediately embarked on an intensive process to define and conceptualise what rural development should be, and to provide a framework of how it should be implemented. Government’s plan for developing rural areas, the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) is aimed specifically at curing the blight of poverty by the creation of vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities.

To achieve its vision, the new department defined its role and mission as being that of facilitating integrated development and social cohesion through partnerships with all sectors of society. The most important strategy the department pursues to deliver on the CRDP’s strategic objectives is, Agrarian Transformation.
Objectives of the agrarian transformation strategy include (but are not limited to):

- Social mobilisation to enable rural communities to take initiatives;
- Sustainable settlements (access to basic services and economic opportunity; meeting of basic human needs; infrastructure development);
- Establishment of cooperatives and enterprises for economic activities; wealth creation; productive use of assets;
- Non-farm activities for strengthening of rural livelihoods;
- Leadership training, social facilitation and familiarity with CRDP objectives; socio-economic independence.
- Skills development and employment creation (youth, women, people living with disabilities);
- Democratisation of rural development, participation and ownership of all processes, projects and programmes by rural communities;
- Co-ordination, alignment and cooperative governance (Local Municipalities, Traditional Councils, Provincial Government and rural communities);
- Participation of Non-Governmental Organisations including faith-based organisations, Community-Based Organisations and other organs of civil society;
- Social cohesion and access to human and social capital.

The key mandate of the former Department of Land Affairs has been made an integral part of the Agrarian Transformation System, and the programme forms part of a three-legged strategy which aims to ensure that the department achieves its objectives.

The first leg - sustainable land and agrarian transformation: The aim is to increase agricultural production through the optimal and sustainable use of natural resources and appropriate technologies to ensure food security, dignity and improved rural livelihoods. This will subsequently lead to vibrant local economic development.

The second leg - rural development: This focus is on improving both economic infrastructure (such as roads, community gardens, food production, fencing for agriculture, etc.) and social infrastructure (e.g., communal sanitation, and non-farming activities). To successfully achieve this, ownership of processes, projects and programmes is vital.

The third leg - land reform based on restitution, redistribution and land tenure reform: Deliberate and intensified post-settlement support is available to ensure that land transferred to black South Africans contributes to the fight against poverty, by ensuring food security and underpinning economic and social transformation in rural areas. Land reform remains critical to the comprehensive development of South Africa’s rural areas and the government’s recapitalisation and development of land reform projects, currently in distress, bears testimony to this.

**Key priorities**

- To roll out the CRDP to all rural municipalities;
- To improve productivity in land reform projects through effective implementation of the Recapitalisation and Development Programme (RADP);
- To expedite the finalisation of land claims;
- To improve corporate governance and ensure enhanced service delivery;
- To implement proper change management and innovation strategies; and
- To enhance the efficiency of information management systems.

Through the implementation of this strategy, the department aims to achieve its goal of social cohesion.

This Mid-term Review highlights the progress of the department in implementing its strategy and achieving its objective.
As has been stated, the vision of the department is to create vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities. The over-arching goal is to create social cohesion and development.

The mission of the department is to initiate, facilitate, coordinate, catalyse and implement an integrated rural development programme. The department’s strategy is aimed at achieving agrarian transformation, to bring about “a rapid and fundamental change in the relations (systems and patterns of ownership and control) of land, livestock, cropping, and the community”.

As it goes about its work, the department embraces the values of Batho Pele, together with commitment, accountability, the promotion of a work ethic and a deep respect for innovation.

The key priorities are to: roll out the CRDP to all rural municipalities; improve productivity in land reform projects through effective implementation of the Recapitalization and Development Programme; expedite the finalisation of land claims; improve corporate governance and ensure enhanced service delivery; implement proper change management and innovation strategies; and enhance the efficiency of information management systems.

The strategic goals of the department are set to be achieved by 2014, and consist of:

- sound corporate governance and service excellence through compliance with the legal framework;
- reformed policy, legislative and institutional environment;
- effective land planning and administration that is biased towards rural areas;
- institutional arrangements for effective corporate governance and stakeholder participation;
- increased access to and productive use of land;
- improved access to affordable and diverse food;
- improved rural service to support sustainable livelihoods; and
- improved access to sustainable employment and skills development.
In order to drive the department’s Rural Development Strategy and achieve the aims of the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP), the department created a strong centre, and called it the “Back Office”.

The “Back Office” is commissioned to coordinate the strong planning and strategic high impact programmes and projects that are essential to the department’s aims. Furthermore, it provides executive visibility for these programmes and projects, and their overall results and outcomes, with a view to ensuring maximum return on departmental investments.

Over the past three years the department has embarked on planning and re-engineering processes to fast track the implementation of its programmes, concurrently re-aligning its organisational structure in order to improve its service delivery model.

To this end the department developed a turnaround strategy by means of which the vacancy rate was reduced from 16.7% in 2008/2009 to 10.51% in 2011/2012, which included the filling of critical posts at senior management level. Legal services support was rendered in several labour disputes, disciplinary matters and litigation.

Monitoring and Evaluation systems, and effective ICT and communications processes were implemented in conjunction with these efforts.

To achieve effective and efficient financial services, the department has focussed on improving controls. This has assisted with the management of the budget within the department. Expenditure in the first three years was R21 billion or 96.3 percent of the final appropriation of R21.8 billion for the period as a whole, and the department focused its spend on linear targets of the main appropriation, moving from 92.4% in 2009/10 to 98.3% in 2011/12. It paid its suppliers within 30 days, and attained a level of 2.94 in 2011/12, (rising from 2.47 in 2009/10) in the National Treasury Financial Management Maturity Model rating, and the Functional Risk Management Committee.

Significant progress has been made in the development of policies to ensure that the new vision is achieved.

The following key policies and legislation have been submitted to Cabinet:

**Green Paper on Land Reform:** The Green Paper on Land Reform was approved for public comment by Cabinet during August 2011. It proposes a land reform programme which represents a break from the past, without significantly disrupting agricultural production and food security. The paper advances the pursuit of the department’s goals to avoid redistribution and restitution initiatives that do not generate forms of
farming with aggregate net benefits in terms of livelihood, employment and income. The rationale and purpose is to avoid under-utilisation of land as a result of land reform; to offer planning and post-settlement support and devise sustainability programmes aimed at reducing inequality and poverty; and to bridge the gap between the first and second economies. An improved land tenure framework is being developed, integrating the current multiple forms of land ownership into a four-tier tenure system.

**Land Rights Management Board:**
The Draft Land Tenure Security Bill approved by Cabinet in 2010 proposes the creation of a Land Rights Management Board to deal with the rights of vulnerable persons residing on farms, persons dependent on them, those evicted or liable to eviction; to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of measures to uphold and promote the rights of affected persons; to manage land rights including the provision of legal aid and legal representation to affected persons in terms of this Act; and to facilitate dispute resolution amongst affected persons.

**Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Bill:**
The draft Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Bill, approved by Cabinet for public consultation in April 2011, aims to achieve a coherent regulatory framework for spatial planning, land use management, and land development. The draft Bill must also respond to the Constitutional Court Judgement on the Constitutionality of the Development Facilitation Act, No. 67 of 1995 (In the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality V Gauteng Development Tribunal & Others) which enjoins the State to remedy the defect in that legislation by June 2012. The draft Bill is therefore a compliance measure following the judgment of the Constitutional Court. A number of projects to ensure readiness for its implementation are underway.

**Challenges and planned interventions**
The linkage of financial performance with the delivery of services, including filling the department’s scarce skilled posts, remains a challenge. The department has prioritised a recruitment drive to fill all funded vacant positions. Scarcie skills training programmes in Geomatics and cadastral surveys are being developed to help alleviate the challenge.
Land Reform remains a critical priority for government and is one of the central pillars of the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP). The purpose of the programme is to deracialise the rural economy, ensure democratic, equitable land allocation and sustainable production discipline for food security through the initiation of sustainable land reform programme in South Africa. The programme has three prongs: Redistribution, Restitution and Tenure Reform.

From the inception of the Land Reform Programme in 1994 the previous department implemented a Land Redistribution Programme that enabled eligible individuals and groups to obtain a Settlement Land Acquisition Grant (SLAG) to a maximum of R16,000 per household for the purchase of land directly from a willing seller, including the State, in terms of Act No. 126 of 1993 (Provision of Land and Assistance Act). This grant enabled beneficiaries to practice mixed land use in that it could be used for both agriculture and housing.

In 2001 the department initiated a programme to establish and promote black emergent farmers, and the Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development (LRAD) grant was developed for this purpose. In order to access this grant the beneficiaries had to provide their own contribution in the form of either cash or labour (known as sweat equity).

In response to the Land Summit resolutions of 2005 (which called for the acceleration of the pace of land reform), the department introduced the Proactive Land Acquisition Strategy (PLAS).

In 2009, the department conducted a series of consultations with land reform beneficiaries (Restitution, Farm Equity Schemes, Settlement Production and Land Acquisition Grant [SPLAG] and LRAD). This resulted in the department bringing the use of the grants to a close, and shifting the focus towards the acquisition of strategically located agricultural land through PLAS. This land would then be made available to beneficiaries that included, amongst others, farm workers, National Rural Youth Services Corp (NARYSEC) participants, women, and unemployed agricultural graduates, through lease agreements.

Further to this, the department now seeks to target the following categories of beneficiaries:
Land Reform

- Households with limited or no access to land;
- Expanding commercial small holder farmers;
- Well established black commercial farmers; and
- Financially capable aspirant black commercial farmers.

As a strategic intervention the department is currently focusing on the clustering of commodities through the creation of commodity/economic belts such as poultry in Gauteng and Mpumalanga, goats in Gauteng and North West, grain in Mpumalanga and Free State. Sugarcane in KwaZulu-Natal andMpumalanga and bio-fuel in the Eastern Cape. The aim of this initiative is to capitalise on specific commodities for which there is a known demand, thus addressing shortages within the country as well as meeting export requirements.

During the period under review approximately 848 farms totalling 882,238 hectares were acquired through the Redistribution Programme. The Northern Cape had the highest number of hectares acquired (350,869) followed by EC (132,849 hectares), whilst GP provided the least (7,653 hectares). In terms of agricultural land availability Gauteng has fewer farms available, and they are invariably at high prices.

A total of 4,428 females benefitted from the Redistribution Programme during the review period. At a provincial level, KZN recorded the highest number of females benefitting from the programme (2,433), followed by the Western Cape (499 female beneficiaries) whilst Northern Cape recorded the fewest (54).

It is worth noting that a total of 3,756 youth have benefitted from the Programme during the review period, with KZN province once again leading (2,118) followed by Mpumulanga (632), whilst the province with the lowest numbers of young beneficiaries was the Northern Cape (55). The department has prioritised the vulnerable groups as its principal beneficiary target, yet progress, particularly with respect to the numbers of beneficiaries within the People with Disabilities category, remains slow.

See table below

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The land reform projects have contributed to beneficiaries’ improved livelihood through access to food security a resultant of direct crop production obtained buying power from income derived from employment, income generated and the farming enterprise.

Recapitalisation and development

In recent years, the sustainability of land reform programmes has been subjected to critical analysis both within government circles and in the wider community. It was partially as a result of this that the department introduced the Recapitalisation and Development Programme (RADP) in November 2009; one of several new strategic interventions to ensure sustainable land reform. 1 807 distressed farms were targeted for recapitalisation and development over the MTEF period. All projects under the RADP will be funded 100% based on the five year RADP funding model outlined below

The funding under Recapitalisation and Development will be guided strictly by a comprehensive business plan and no submission will be approved without such a plan.

All projects will be funded 100% based on the five year RADP funding model stipulated:
a) Phase 1: 100% funding. Covers 100% of the developmental needs (i.e. Infrastructural & Operational inputs) on the primary value chain.

b) Phase 2: 80% funding: Covers 80% of the costed needs of the developments, whilst the remainder should be derived from the proceeds of the primary chain (Phase 1 proceeds).

c) Phase 3: 60% funding: Covers 60% of the costed needs of the developments whilst the remainder should be derived from the proceeds of the previous developments (Phase 1 & Phase 2 proceeds).

d) Phase 4: 40% funding: Covers 40% of the costed needs of the developments whilst the remainder should be derived from the proceeds of the previous developments (Phases 1, 2 and 3 proceeds).

e) Phase 5: 20% funding: Covers 20% of the costed needs of the developments whilst the remaining should be derived from the proceeds of the previous developments (Phases 1, 2, 3 & 4 proceeds).

The strategic partners and mentors are required to assist the farms and beneficiary farmers with amongst other things; access to markets, farm production, skills development, packaging of projects, access to additional finance, or coaching mentorship and advocacy.

For the period under review a total of 640 farms consisting of 530,934 hectares were placed under the Recapitalisation and Development Programme. Of these, 264 farms are attached to the strategic partners whilst 117 farms are with mentors. A majority of the remaining 259 farms are currently being considered for direct sourcing, as there was no interest shown by any potential strategic partner. A significant proportion of these require once-off interventions, such as the installation of water reticulation systems.

Approximately 38 strategic partners and 50 mentors have been appointed by the department with the goal of graduating small-holder farmers into commercial farmers, thus creating further employment opportunities within the agricultural sector.

A key initiative within the Recapitalisation Programme was a departmental project to gain a foothold in the red meat industry. The end-objective is to acquire meaningful equity in the entire red meat value-chain through the establishment of a black-owned red meat company.
In pursuit of this goal, 11 farms were acquired in the Free State, and introduced into the Recapitalisation and Development programme in the financial year 2010/11. This was achieved through a partnership between the Bloemfontein Abattoir, the department and the 11 farmers. This partnership acted as a pilot of the Recapitalisation and Development Programme. It was launched on the 20th of November 2010 at the farm Cecilia. As a result, these 11 farmers have been mainstreamed into the Red Meat Value Chain, meaning that they will enjoy the broad benefits of the whole chain, as opposed to their remaining primary producers on a permanent basis, the biggest problem facing emergent farmers.

To consolidate value chain integration, the department is in

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the process of finalising the acquisition of a backgrounding and feedlot farm, to fatten the herds prior to slaughter. The acquisition of the abattoir is the critical link in the chain, and once volumes are maintained, and throughput is justified, this process will also be finalised. This initiative will enable the participating farmers to engage in a wide-range of agro processing and value adding activities on the produce derived from their farms.

It should be noted that the department will continue to launch suitable and sustainable initiatives in all other commodities, thus helping agricultural entrepreneurs and farmers to increase their productivity, guarantee food security and create jobs.

**Jobs created with land reform projects**
A total of 77 land reform projects were selected in all provinces across the country, as a direct consequence of which 3 326 job were created, including 1 033 permanent jobs, 1 149 temporary jobs and 1 144 seasonal jobs.

**Land Administration**
One of the strategic objectives of the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform is to ensure that land reform and development initiatives are supported by an efficient State Land Management System. Following an agreement with the Departments of Public Works and Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, State Land Disposal Committees were formed in all nine Provincial Shared Service Centres. The committees are responsible for the processing of vesting, disposal and lease applications.

Expediting the vesting of State Land; rapid land release for housing; local economic development and farming are the three main priority areas for a department anxious to accelerate its contribution to rural development; the creation of decent work, and the enhancement of the lives of people living in communal areas.

An internet-based Land Administration Web has been developed which provides access to State Land Data. Recent State Land Administration reports and an inventory on State Land related assets register is being developed. The State Land database consisting of approximately two million records on public land alone, (which includes data on more than 260 000 State Land properties), has been developed and will be maintained and further enhanced in the new financial year.

**Tenure Reform**
The department has established working relations with farmers and Non-Governmental Organisations to address the problems experienced by farm workers and farm dwellers, due to lack of security of tenure. The strategy also seeks to engage with Agricultural Unions and Municipalities as well as other role players on this issue, as well as assessing the state of preparedness on the part of municipalities dealing with evictions.

**Land Rights Management Facility (LRMF)**
In 2008, the department established the LRMF in order to provide legal representation, advice and mediation services, and monitoring of evictions to farm workers and farm dwellers facing or threatened with eviction.

During the period under review the LRMF, whose main focus is to provide legal and mediation services to vulnerable occupiers, farm dwellers, labour tenants and beneficiaries of Land Reform processes was restructured. While the 2 distinct functional panels, (legal and mediation services) have been retained, 5 dedicated and differentiated projects have now been accommodated within the LRMF. They are Legal Services Project (LSP); Mediation Services Project (MSP); Communal Property Association (CPA); Restitutions Cases; and Trusts.

Evictions continue to constitute the largest percentage of the referrals made to LRMF. Cattle impoundments and reduction of cattle and grazing rights appear to have been the major cause of constructive evictions. A total of 1348 cases involving 22 895 occupiers were referred under LSP. Of these 645 matters have been concluded, and the remainder are still pending in courts.

We are pleased to note that as a result of legal services provided under the auspices of LRMF, parties to litigation proceedings appear more eager to enter into settlement agreements.

**Challenges**
Challenges faced by Land Reform include: fewer Strategic Agricultural farms on offer for purchase; high land prices; and lack of capacity and resources to implement land reform, amongst others. The department further acknowledges that there are challenges faced by the RAPD. These include, for example, effective procurement of strategic partners and mentors, and lack of understanding of the RAPD by strategic partners and mentors. As a consequence the system of strategic partners and mentorship is currently being reviewed. In his most recent policy speech, the Minister alluded to a creative new process of contracting strategic partners and mentors by involving beneficiaries. As an alternative to the normal tender procedure, the National Reference Group
(NAREG) will look at initiating this process during the current financial year (2012/2013). Another initiative will selectively register experienced black farmers to take over the role of strategic partnership and mentorship responsibilities. It is hoped that these fresh initiatives will address some of the shortfalls of the RADP.

It is also noted that the lack of legal capacity within the department is hampering the legitimate expectations of farm workers and farm dwellers faced or threatened with evictions, more particularly those confronted by eviction actions which are clearly illegal. This challenge must be addressed. Finally, the state of readiness, or more accurately unreadiness on the part of municipalities when called to act on eviction issues, continues to pose a problem.

Lessons learned in Land Reform

In the early years of democracy, many of the farms transferred to black ownership failed. In retrospect this was predictable. Apart from its other sinister effects, apartheid dumped millions of black people in the countryside; all those superfluous to the labour needs of the urban economy and simultaneously denied them any meaningful access to productive agricultural activity. Even basic subsistence agriculture declined. So, when people were given land after 1994; without also being provided with adequate follow-up training, credit and other support, they were being set up to fail. Today, no restitution and land reform project goes ahead without being accompanied by a viable business plan, which includes training, mentorship, partnerships and other forms of support. All this is guided by the three principles of land reform which the department has enunciated before namely:

- De-racialisation of the rural economy for shared and sustainable growth;
- Democratic and equitable land allocation and use across gender, race and class; and,
- Strict production discipline for guaranteed national food security.

In this equation the task of government is to bring about a reunion: to restore the land to the people, a political and moral imperative; whilst at the same time restoring to people a practical knowledge of the land, an economic and developmental necessity.

Since its introduction, the Strategic Land Reform Interventions unit has made a positive impact on farmer support and land acquisition. There is renewed zest to address the challenges facing land acquisition, recapitalisation and development.

The department will continue to launch sustainable initiatives to help agricultural entrepreneurs and farmers, thereby increasing their productivity, guaranteeing food security and creating jobs. For the first time in decades, the country has a programme and a strategy to encourage and support farmer development.

It should also be noted that during 2011, the department introduced both the National Land Allocation Control Committee (NLACC) and the Directorate: Land Acquisition. Through these initiatives the department has realised good value for money in the properties purchased, and land prices are well controlled through valuations. There is also improved coordination between farmer support and acquisition.

Established farmers have established relationships, access to markets and general consumer confidence. This is often a problem, particularly for black emergent farmers. Black farmers struggle to get off-take contracts from the private sector, unless they present a strong case. This aspect reveals an element of non-transformation in the sector.

Nonetheless, the programme is making a significant impact across different commodity lines, including poultry and beef. In many cases marketing and access to abattoirs in the agro-processing chain remains a problem. Emergent farmers are invariably forced to link their first produce to existing markets, with the result that their end product is available only under the brand name of an existing commercial entity, and their own identity is lost.

The budget provided for recapitalisation and development is not sufficient to achieve a robust transformation of the sector in line with the RADP funding model, and access to the upper levels of the value chain remains an obstacle for newcomers, thus hampering the development of competitive primary production. It is also clear that the present stakeholder effort is disjointed.

Nonetheless there is significant improvement on the production side. Skills development, however, remains a challenge, given the fact that many emergent farmers are ageing, yet still have much to learn. For this reason, the department encourages the recruitment and promotion of youth in recapitalised farms.

The approach presently used for RADP, which encourages production discipline and funding of farms, as opposed to individuals, has had a hearteningly positive impact in terms of changing attitudes amongst recapitalised farmers. They
are keen to learn, and to perform their duties as proposed or directed by the business plan.

The treatment of movable assets and VAT issues remains a grey area in all programmes (restitution, LRAD and PLAS) and the issue needs to be prioritised as it disadvantages the farmers who wish to operate as businesses.

There is a need for the endorsement of private properties, especially LRAD properties, to have control of assets or investments made. Many such projects have huge potential for conflict; some are used (or have been used) by beneficiaries as security for finance bonds.

Potential strategic partners are reluctant to invest financial resources in projects where there is uncertainty over the protection of their investments.

The disbursement of funds is, in most cases, not part of a typical proposed Business Plans (BP). There is a need for the development of a suitable electronic BP template, and this is now underway.

When new farmers are introduced to RADP, many find it difficult to comply with government processes, particularly those who are unsure about their futures. However, once implementation begins, typically, new farmers start to appreciate and commit themselves to the process, although there are some who still regard RADP funds as a personal grant, and this causes delays in terms of implementation.

Workers on RADP farms appreciate the intervention. They see the programme as a way of improving their livelihoods and guaranteeing job security, and their living conditions especially housing and salaries.

For audit purposes, the procurement of services by Strategic Partners and Mentors needs to be aligned to the PFMA, and there is a need to increase efforts in this respect by the Project Management unit.

Green paper on Land Reform
While the key legislative mandate of the department remains the same, the department is working on a number of additional policy initiatives. One such policy instrument is the land reform Green Paper, which is currently being finalised. One of the notable highlights on the legislative front was the gazetting of this Green Paper in September last year. Thereafter, the department embarked on consultative workshops across the country, inviting inputs from various land reform stakeholders, beneficiaries and people interested in the land reform processes. This Green Paper represents the aspirations of the victims of land dispossession together with the interests of the land owners, and, indeed all South Africans.

The Green Paper was formulated following studies and feedback on issues relating to land reform, particularly the failure of the department to deliver on its mandate of land reform. Land was at the core of the struggle for liberation, and naturally continues to be one of government’s highest priorities. Understandably, those who were dispossessed of their land, look to the department to correct injustices perpetrated over decades.

The Green Paper envisages a re-configured single, coherent four-tier system of land tenure, which ensures that all South Africans, have a reasonable access to land with secure rights, in order to fulfil their basic needs for housing and productive livelihoods. The land tenure framework integrates the current multiple forms of land ownership - communal, State, public and private.

The Green Paper proposes three institutions: A Land Management Commission; a Land Valuer-General; and a Land Rights Management Board. Their brief will be to give proper guidance on the issues of land reform, and to make sure that the law is adhered to. In fact, these institutions will enforce compliance with the Constitution of the country. The Green Paper is an important step forwards in the initiatives the department is undertaking to undo the land injustice of the past, and South Africans from all walks of life are urged to make their inputs in the consultation process.

Restitution
The land restitution programme provides redress to persons and communities dispossessed of their rights in land as a result of past racially discriminatory laws and practices perpetrated by the Colonialist and Apartheid Governments. The programme emanates from section 25 (7) of the Constitution which guarantees a right to restitution. The Restitution of Land Rights Act (Act No. 22 of 1994) establishes the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights, a national public entity that accounts to the DRDLR.

Government has consistently increased the number of land claims settled since the Commission started in 1995. Given the pace at which such land claims were settled;
insufficient attention was given to ensuring that land restored to beneficiaries is developed in a sustainable manner. This was a major shortcoming in the programme.

A process followed to identify the precise nature of these challenges, their root causes, and the interventions necessary in order to rectify them. This involved interaction with stakeholders through consultation processes, such as the National Land Restitution Workshop, (attended by restitution beneficiaries), the National Land Reform Workshop, (attended by all land reform stakeholders), and the National Reference Group which is made up of all stakeholders; for consultation and engagement during policy review processes in the DRDLR.

In order to address these challenges, the structure of the Commission was rationalised to create better synergy with, and clearer lines of accountability to the department. The Commission is now made up of the Chief Land Claims Commissioner (CLCC), the Deputy Chief Land Claims Commissioner, and one Regional Land Claims Commissioner. These officials are based at National Office. In the Provinces, restitution support personnel are managed by Chief Directors: Land Restitution Support, who are employed under the Public Service Act. The responsibility for restitution support services have been delegated to them. This rationalised structure resulted in greater accountability to the Director-General, as far as the finances of the department are concerned, and the CLCC in operational matters.

The new mandate of the DRDLR, outlined above, has extended the interventions that must be provided in land restitution projects, where claimants have been awarded land. The business process map of the restitution process has been reviewed to involve the functions performed by other Branches in the DRDLR, through joint planning and execution.

The Branch: Social, Technical, Rural Livelihoods and Institutional Facilitation provides social facilitation, household profiling and enterprise development in all restitution projects.

The Branch: Rural Infrastructure Development provides co-ordination in relation to the provision of infrastructure required, and the Recapitalisation and Development Programme provides development assistance in ensuring strict production discipline. This integrated approach will increase access and productive use of land restored to claimants.

Parallel to the above review, restructuring and re-alignment of functions, the Commission finalised a total of 835 land claims by acquiring 634 properties, translating to 331,193.3690 hectares of land from May 2009 to March 2012. The breakdown, per province is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>No of properties acquired</th>
<th>Hectares Acquired from</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Private Owners</td>
<td>The State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KwaZulu-Natal</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>51092</td>
<td>13475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Cape</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>8.2726</td>
<td>62.6864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Cape</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>65659</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Cape</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>55.2100</td>
<td>35420.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free State</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1437</td>
<td>4089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limpopo</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>66646</td>
<td>1717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>28612</td>
<td>6366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mpumalanga</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>44669</td>
<td>5126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>634</strong></td>
<td><strong>258,178.4826</strong></td>
<td><strong>73,014.8864</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In addition, R1,5 billion was awarded to 56,804 households between May 2009 and March 2012. The breakdown per province is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROVINCE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</th>
<th>TOTAL COMPENSATION AWARDED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Cape</td>
<td>15 557</td>
<td>288 125 914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free State</td>
<td>4 714</td>
<td>211 467 988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>3 267</td>
<td>42 298 551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KwaZulu-Natal</td>
<td>13 899</td>
<td>513 721 404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limpopo</td>
<td>2 897</td>
<td>165 151 809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mpumalanga</td>
<td>3 555</td>
<td>94 986 452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Cape</td>
<td>12 915</td>
<td>195 841 216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>56 804</strong></td>
<td><strong>1 511 593 334</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PART ONE
Geo-Spatial & Cadastral Surveys

Purpose:
The Geospatial and Cadastral Services Programme is responsible for providing geospatial, cadastral surveys, spatial planning information and technical services in support of sustainable land development.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAMME 2</th>
<th>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| GEO-SPATIAL AND CADAstral SURVEYS | • Promote an equitable, sustainable land use and allocation by facilitating an integrated land planning and administrative system by 2014  
• Survey and register State and Trust land  
• Develop a Comprehensive Land Register  
• Implement scarce skills training programme by 2014  
• Improve disaster management services in rural areas and land reform projects by 2014  
• Ensure compliance with land use management policies and legislation by 2014  
• Provide national geospatial information and services in support of the national infrastructure and sustainable development by 2014  
• Achieve a 40% increase in technological innovations and indigenous knowledge systems capable of improving food production in rural communities by 2014 |
Summary of key achievements

The key factor here is sustainable rural development that supports and facilitates rural economic growth, with special emphasis on land tenure reform and rural development. The department has:

- Successfully updated and archived every land parcel in the country in both paper and digital format;
- Progressively introduced e-cadastre, aimed at improving cadastral surveys, management and deeds registration as well as the consolidation of data stores in preparation for the e-cadastre;
- Concluded the enterprise architecture investigation; has been concluded;
- Commenced with digital scanning of the microfilm records; and
- Successfully audited 54% of State land, (623 078 of 1 155 508 land parcels were verified and updated in the comprehensive land register).

Key Performance indicators (1 April 2009- 31 December 2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE INDICATOR</th>
<th>PLANNED TARGETS</th>
<th>ACTUAL ACHIEVEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Develop a comprehensive land register</td>
<td>Updated Comprehensive Land Register</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>54 % total of land parcels verified i.e.623 078 of 1 155 508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarce skills training programme by 2014</td>
<td>Number of scarce skills training programmes in Geomatics and cadastral surveys</td>
<td>1 Scarce skills programme</td>
<td>1 Scarce skills programme developed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Challenges and planned interventions

In its pursuit of efficiency, the department is striving to reduce the average number of days taken to examine cadastral documents that are essential for land development. This is due to a severe shortage of scarce skills categories, a problem which is being addressed in turn by the development of a scarce skills programme and the provision of scarce skills bursaries. Over the period under review, the department has trained over 120 pupil survey officers who graduated to become survey officers following 24 months of intensive in-house training. Over 30% of these survey officers are currently undergoing further training at a variety of tertiary institutions, studying geomatics/surveying. Our scarce-skills bursary programme sponsored some 210 students in the disciplines of geomatics/surveying in diploma, degree or masters programmes. As a result, over the medium term the department has placed 65 qualified students at various Surveyors-General offices.

State Land Parcels Verification Project

In 2010, the DRDRLR initiated a project to identify State-owned land parcels through the ownership register managed by the Deeds Registration Office, by means of a desktop analysis.

The purpose of the project is to compile a comprehensive, accurate, and reliable database of all land parcels registered in the Republic of South Africa. This is in order to improve the comprehensive land register and update the register of land owned by the State, through the various organs of State, and through a number of structures. The project was implemented in two phases. The objectives of the first phase, the desktop analysis, was to identify State owned land parcels from the Deeds Ownership Register. The second phase is the verification of the identified land parcels by the simple act of visiting each land parcel and collecting more information about the land.

The field verification of these land parcels is important as it enables the classification of land parcels based on use. State owned land parcels may take multiple forms. There are, for example, networks of national, provincial and municipal roads, whilst other parcels consist of residential properties; often RDP houses that have yet to be transferred to intended beneficiaries. The Deeds Offices made available a complete ownership database that has over 8 million records. This database was scrutinized to identify and separate State-owned land parcels from those that are privately owned.

The results of the desktop analysis revealed that there are 1,155,508 State owned land parcels in the Republic of South Africa. It should be noted that this project only focuses on land parcels that are surveyed and registered in the name of Government at the Deeds Office, and excludes un-surveyed State land and other land that may be owned by the State. Phase two, the field verification,
commenced in October 2011 and was originally scheduled to be completed at the end of March 2012. However, unexpected delays and challenges made this deadline impossible to meet, and the Chief Surveyor-General requested a three month extension, pushing the end date to 30 June 2012. There are about 400 personnel involved in the project which is managed and executed by departmental staff together with some 270 field workers, who are matriculants appointed on contract.

Some field workers are utilizing electronic data collectors that upload the data directly into the database, while others are using the manual process of populating paper forms and later updating to a central database. The web portal has a user interface that provides an environment for data capturing, monitoring, assigning of tasks and reporting. The hand-held gadgets have a navigating function to help field workers locate elusive land parcels.

Progress
As on the 31st March 2012 the departmental team had managed to visit and verify 623,078 land parcels, constituting 54% of the total. Production has been hampered by a number of factors, ranging from difficulties in locating properties, absence of land occupants, and incidents in which communities in residential areas prevented field workers from conducting the verification process. The table below list the number and percentage of land parcels verified up to end March 2012.

It must be noted that the rate of land parcels verification per month was low in the initial stages of the field exercise. The total production for October 2011, November 2011 and December 2011 was 36360, 83046 and 59 526 respectively. However, with the gradual maturity of the project team there has been a significant improvement in the monthly production rate. The current verification rate per day is 6,169 and 148.067 land parcels per month.

Project expenditure
Below is the table showing project expenditure from October 2011 up to the end of March 2012

A total of R44,362,779.74 (94% of the allocated budget) had been spent up to the end of March 2012. The major expenses in this project are salaries, accommodation and transport.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROVINCE</th>
<th>TOTAL LAND PARCELS TO BE VERIFIED</th>
<th>LAND PARCELS VERIFIED</th>
<th>% VERIFIED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern cape</td>
<td>223,195</td>
<td>56,950</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free State</td>
<td>163,012</td>
<td>57,391</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>249,057</td>
<td>134,859</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kwazulu-Natal</td>
<td>148,956</td>
<td>98,271</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limpopo</td>
<td>53,203</td>
<td>27,481</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mpumalanga</td>
<td>115,109</td>
<td>47,162</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>139,186</td>
<td>47,921</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Cape</td>
<td>56,263</td>
<td>52,038</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Cape</td>
<td>117,527</td>
<td>101,005</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,155,508</strong></td>
<td><strong>623,078</strong></td>
<td><strong>54%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Production over the past three months indicates that there is improvement in the number of land parcels recorded. 122 Additional field workers were appointed of which 48 are engaged in data-capture, and the progress of the project is being monitored closely on a weekly basis, to ensure that there are no slip-ups, and the targeted completion date of end June 2012 is adhered to.

National Geo-Spatial Information
Many examples, from food security to water management, from natural disasters to infrastructure development, demonstrate clearly that geo-spatial information is essential in the policy formulation, planning and decision making processes. As a developmental State we must not only acknowledge the critical role of geo-spatial information, but we must ensure that mechanisms are in place to manage this critical information for the benefit of our societies. To this end the Committee for Spatial Information (CSI), [established in terms of the Spatial Data Infrastructure Act (Act No. 54 of 2003)], was inaugurated in June 2010. The CSI consists of representatives from all levels of government and State-owned entities, and is responsible for the establishment of the South African Data Infrastructure, which will provide relevant geo-spatial information and manage access to it. The CSI will advise
the Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform on matters relevant to the proper and effective management of geo-spatial information.

South Africa is fortunate to have a unique system of determining positions for the geo-spatial information and the spatial framework for the whole cadastre. This system is provided through the national control survey network. Modern technology is at the forefront in providing more efficient means of positioning, and a continuously operational network of reference stations, using the global navigation satellite system, Trignet, has been established over the whole country. This system is also contributing information used in non-positioning applications, such as weather forecasting and space weather mapping. The Trignet has been expanded to consist of 58 reference stations.

Aerial imagery is the primary source of most geo-spatial information as it is a record of what exists on the surface at the time. Aerial imagery is refreshed at specific intervals to capture the changes taking place. The archive of aerial imagery available has been a valuable record in dealing with land restitution claims and land reform projects. The department has acquired its own digital large format camera and is now capable of recording aerial images in full colour at high resolution. Based on increased interest from users in the public sector, it has been decided to increase the coverage of aerial imagery acquired each year. The work programme now provides a refresh of the imagery every three years, that is, one third of the country is being covered each year.

International participation
The Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) is an Intergovernmental organisation with 18 Member States in the eastern and southern Africa region. It was established in 1975 and located in Nairobi Kenya. South Africa became a member state in 2007. South Africa through the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform currently holds the Chairpersonship of the Council of Ministers and Governing Council of RCMRD, and has done since 2010.

The Centre was established with the intention of pooling the resources of African countries to establish a Centre of Excellence that promotes sustainable development through the generation, application and dissemination of geo-information, mapping and allied ICT products and services. This is in line with government objectives of promoting closer cooperation between African countries. The major activities of RCMRD are capacity building of Member States’ institutions, through the provision of skill enhancement training programmes; advisory services through technical support; assisting in project implementation; and research and development of applications of geo-information in national development.

Since joining as a Member State, South Africa has actively participated in the activities of the Centre such as training in disaster management, modernisation of cadastres, modernisation of mapping reference systems (e.g. African Geodetic Reference Framework). Collaboration with the National Disaster Centre to build and share capacity building in the use of remote sensing and GIS in disaster management operation is one of the current projects. Similar collaboration exists with the CSIR’s Meraka Institute on the use of remote sensing for bush fire detection and an early warning system for flood management. The Centre is also planning to support NARYSEC in training young people in GIS and IT, and linking NARYSEC to similar institutions in other Member States (e.g. Kenya) for the purposes of sharing experiences.

Achievements
- Confirmation, relocation, and verification of international boundaries between Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe are currently underway.
- 17 officials from Department of Lands in Botswana are receiving training on Sectional Titles Act implementation at the Surveyor-General and Deeds Offices.
- Team consisting of 11 professional land surveyors and survey technicians are currently providing support and assistance to the Surveyor-General of Namibia on capacity building and reduction of the backlog for processing cadastral documents.
- In sharing good practices, we are currently chairing CODIST-Geo which is an arm of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, dealing with Geo-information science activities in Africa; and we participate in AFREF (African Reference Frame) for standardisation reference framework for African Countries.

Spatial Planning & Land Use Management Bill (SPLUMB)
The department has been intimately involved in the drafting, consultation and processing of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Bill. Following the demise of apartheid in 1994, South Africa inherited complex, disjointed and discriminatory spatial planning and land use management systems, which manifested itself in unequal, incoherent and inefficient settlement patterns.
The Bill seeks to repeal and replace the Development Facilitation Act, 1995 (Act No. 67 of 1995) which was promulgated as an interim measure to deal with the legacy.

On June 18th 2010, the Constitutional Court declared chapters 5 and 6 of the Development Facilitation Act to be constitutionally invalid. The Court gave Government 24 months to remedy the legislative defect. This Bill is partially in response to that decision.

In order to prepare for the implementation of the Bill, the department is also in the process of implementing projects to support the implementation of the Bill once it has been enacted. A list of these projects is included below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROVINCIAL SUPPORT PROJECTS</th>
<th>PROJECT PURPOSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Draft Provincial Legislation and Accompanying Regulations on Spatial Planning and Land Use Management for:</td>
<td>To develop Draft Provincial Legislation and accompanying Regulations on Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act and deal with province-specific spatial planning and land use matters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Eastern Cape Province</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Mpumalanga Province</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Free State Province</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Limpopo Province</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Northern Cape Province</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• North West Province</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPLUMB consultation undertaken:

- **Bilateral Meetings**
  In order to deal with sector-specific, provincial-specific and municipality-specific issues the department arranged and held a number of bilateral meetings to ensure that all relevant stakeholders were comprehensively consulted. A total of 21 meetings were convened.

- **Workshops**
  In addition to the bilateral meetings, a number of workshops were held with national departments, provincial departments and municipalities. In provinces where travelling distances were too far from a single central point, the department ensured that two workshops were held to ensure that travelling times did not impact on attendance. Thus there were two meetings in the Eastern Cape (East London and Port Elizabeth), and two meetings in the Northern Cape (Kimberley and Upington).

- **Comments received**
  In addition to the workshops and meetings detailed above, as well as the inputs from on-going consultation with key stakeholders, the department encouraged written comments by invitation through the Government Gazette. In response to this call a total of 101 comments were received from all sectors.

**Integrated Spatial Planning Information System**
The department is also piloting the development of a Provincial-based Spatial Planning System in the Northern Cape and Free State. The system is a computer based spatial information system which integrates all government departments and Municipalities working within the province. The system can:

- Align sector planning processes;
- Share common base information;
- Agree and implement roles and responsibilities;
- Facilitate data flow and information sharing;
- Monitor implementation of plans by tracking project status; and
- Encourage strategic reporting for joint decision-making,
Even though the impact of the international economic downturn has depressed the property market, the activities surrounding deeds registration is buoyant and continues to play a major role in the economy, as evidenced by the monetary values of transactions which amount to trillions of rand each year. In 2011 Land Registrations were effected, totalling R409 billion, whilst mortgage bonds were issued for R1.1 trillion.

Currently, the turnaround time for registration is seven days. However, the e-Cadastre project, which deals with the digitisation of every record of all deeds registries, is underway. This project will have a huge impact on the turnaround period, and will reduce the waiting time for deeds registration to an average of two days.

The country relies on this component for the proper management of land administration systems, and in order to maintain accurate records of property rights. Furthermore, the process impacts the national economy by providing a handy benchmark for current property values. The type of properties being registered varies from townships and farms portions to agricultural holdings and sectional title units.

These statistics are drawn from the Deeds Registration System in terms of transfers and mortgage bonds in the previous five years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Mortgage Bonds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>1.3 Trillion Rand</td>
<td>3.5 Trillion Rand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>390 Billion Rand</td>
<td>3 Trillion Rand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>295 Billion Rand</td>
<td>3 Trillion Rand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>443 Billion Rand</td>
<td>1.6 Trillion Rand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>381 Billion Rand</td>
<td>913 Billion Rand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rural Development

PART TWO

Rural Development & Land Reform

2012

Department: Rural Development and Land Reform
Republic of South Africa
Background

In July 2009, the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme was approved by Cabinet. The CRDP aims to mobilise and empower rural communities to take initiatives aimed at control of their own destiny - with the support of government. The goal of the CRDP is to achieve social cohesion and development by ensuring improved access to basic services, enterprise development and village industrialisation. The CRDP implements broad based-agrarian transformation focussing on community organisation and mobilisation as well as strategic investment in economic and social infrastructure. The CRDP proposes an approach that addresses the needs of the person, household, community and space. It is built on the premise that rural areas in the country have the potential to be developed in a way that generates jobs and economic opportunities, thus providing an alternative to the urban centres, and contributing to the reduction in rural-urban migration. Furthermore, although agriculture plays a significant role in rural development, the CRDP proposes diversification of the rural economy, according to conditions prevailing in different areas.

The CRDP consists of three phases:

- Meeting basic needs
- Enterprise development
- Establishment of village industries and creation of access to credit facilities.

Although it has been just over two years since the (August 2009) introduction of the CRDP in Muyexe, Limpopo, great strides have since been made to create an enabling environment for people in rural areas to take charge of their lives.

In his 2009 State-of-the-Nation Address, President Jacob Zuma stressed the importance of improving the lives of rural dwellers when he said ‘for as long as there are rural dwellers unable to make a decent living from the land on which they live… we shall not rest, and we dare not falter, in our drive to eradicate poverty’.

The success of CRDP relies heavily on the participation of other departments in all three tiers of government and the involvement of relevant stakeholders, not least the villagers themselves. This in turn will ensure that the vision of creating vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities is realised, and the bleak image that haunts rural areas will finally be eradicated.

In all the villages where the CRDP is currently being implemented, a sense of vibrancy is evident. Villagers are now fostering a spirit of unity and togetherness. Moral fibre, for too long
dormant, is in the process of remerging and establishing optimism. Recreational centres are being built to encourage the youth to join this emerging spirit, and to forswear drugs, alcohol and other temptations debilitating to morality.

The creation of decent work and sustainable livelihoods lies at the heart of the CRDP. The programme commits itself to ensuring that at least one person in each rural household where the CRDP is being implemented is employed, for a minimum period of two years. Job creation at phase one is driven mostly by construction of basic services infrastructure and food security initiatives.

The department together with other sector departments and social partners has made significant progress in the implementation of phase one, but the transition to the second phase, enterprise development, has progressed more slowly. This is a critical area that will ensure sustainability of the programme.

To ensure sustainability, communal ownership, and effective contribution towards the overall objectives of developing rural areas, the department enters into social compacts with the community, as well as contractual relationships with unemployed community members.

To address the issue of food security, the department has crafted its plans around ensuring sustainable land reform. This is aligned with the CRDP, thereby making a substantive contribution to the availability of food for all, providing access to job opportunities and regular incomes.

- 2009/10 – 29 wards
- 2010/11 – 45 wards

Rural development through the implementation of the CRDP

Community development, facilitation and organisation forms a key part of the CRDP. The following are areas of focus when building rural communities:

- **Profiling:** This is a research process aimed at determining the matrix of household and community assets, and development needs. Findings constitute the knowledge used for formulating development decisions on a CRDP site.
- **Social Facilitation:** This involves a process of interacting with a variety of community-based development stakeholders, to ensure that there is genuine participation in all aspects of development that affects them.
- **Establishment of Council of Stakeholders:** This is a service delivery forum in which community representatives actively interact with public and civil society stakeholders when taking decisions that affect them. This forms a key part of the CRDP Management System.

Secondly the CRDP, in all its phases, focuses on infrastructure development as a driver to meeting basic human needs, and economic development linked to enterprises. The development of new, and the revitalisation of old social, economic, ICT and public amenity infrastructure, forms an essential part of the strategy.

The following is a summary of key achievements in CRDP wards across the country, focusing on the priority areas listed above. It must be stressed that the activities are not exhaustive but demonstrate the wide variety of projects being implemented nationally.

Status reports have been provided for identified wards. These reports provide a comprehensive overview of the area, focusing on the natural features; socio-economic issues; existing economic activities; infrastructure; land reform issues, and other initiatives. Analysis of conditions is supported by comprehensive mapping. The data is used to guide fresh interventions aimed at the meaningful development of these areas. The reports have been completed using in-house resources. Below is a summary of the number of reports that have been completed:

- 2009/10 – 29 wards
- 2010/11 – 45 wards
- 2011/12 – 13 Wards and 5 Municipalities including high level reports on the 23 priority District Municipalities.
## Eastern Cape

### Key Performance Area
- **Profiling and Social Facilitation**
  - 12,839 households profiled
  - A Council of Stakeholders established
  - 109 cooperatives established to facilitate various enterprises including agricultural co-ops and arts and crafts

### Food Production and Enterprise Development
- **Mhlonllo**
  - 258 vegetable gardens constructed, 15 of which are selling to local retail shops
  - 600 hectares (ha) of maize planted
  - 2 Agri-Parks (Idutywa and Alice) established

### Infrastructure: Meeting Basic Human Needs
- 350 water rollers supplied in Mhlonllo.
- A water purification (Ultra Filtration) plant will be provided at Mhlonllo (Ngxakolo Village)

### Infrastructure: Social Development
- Masibambane School for the disabled – renovated and fencing to support food gardens

### Infrastructure: Economic Development
- Mhlonllo - 229 km fencing of arable and grazing land completed
- Mvezo heritage site - 1km wooden fencing erected at the cultural site
- 40km of fencing for households gardens erected
- 2 irrigation schemes being revitalised
- 3 business plans for irrigation schemes being evaluated
- Mvezo/Ludondolo: 10 km access road and bridge (Nelson Mandela Legacy Bridge) constructed

### Infrastructure: Information, Communication, Technology
- Two Village Viewing Areas established, providing access to sporting events (including 2010 soccer world cup), State of the Nation address and other broadcasts

### Technology and Research
- Demonstration of Conservation Agricultural Technologies (CATs) in Mhlonllo (Ward 13). 15 communities are implementing CATs. 180 households are benefitting.

## Free State Province

### Key Performance Area
- **Profiling and Social Facilitation**
  - 18,373 households profiled.
  - Four Councils of Stakeholders established to assist with driving development initiatives.
  - Five cooperatives established including agricultural cooperatives

### Food Production and Enterprise Development
- **Diyatalawa**
  - 418 ha of wheat planted yielding 314 tons. Sold to Premier Foods (36 households earned R12 000 each)
  - 50 ha of dry beans planted out of own funds, and currently harvested
  - 200ha of soya beans planted
  - 25 household gardens planted
  - One beef enterprise established
  - Livestock feed (Lucerne) - 100 hectares planted

- **Makgolokoeng, Qwa-Qwa, and Paul Roux**
  - Three vegetable enterprises established as part of the master gardener training programme
**Free State Province (continued)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Area</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure: Diyatalawa (sustainable rural settlement); Makholokoeng, Meeting Basic Human Needs</td>
<td>Solar street lighting (Diyatalawa). 50 households provided with solar lighting and geysers, bulk water and reticulation infrastructure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Amenity Facilities</td>
<td>Community hall and sporting facilities constructed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>2 Crèches built in both Diyatalawa and Makholokoeng, and a school in Diyatalawa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care</td>
<td>2 clinics built in both villages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Economic Development | • 10 vegetable tunnels erected and producing food for a group of women in Makholokoeng  
• Four 5kl tanks storing water from a borehole, and used as irrigation water  
• Three hydroponic tunnels are erected for intensive tomato production in Makholokoeng.  
• 10 ha potato field fenced in Makholokoeng for commercial production  
• 3.2km access road upgraded  
• Dairy facility under construction |
| Infrastructure: Information, Communication Technology | • 2 Village viewing areas established (allowing viewing of 2010 World Cup, sporting events, and other broadcast programmes)  
• 2 ICT centres established, enabling the community access to technology and information |
| Jacobsdal | • Contractors on site for the construction of the sports complex  
• Village viewing area established  
• New crèche built |

**Gauteng Province**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Area</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Profiling and Social Facilitation | • 17 956 households profiled.  
• 4 Councils of Stakeholders established.  
• 28 Cooperatives established (including arts and crafts, agriculture, fencing) |
| Food production and enterprise development | • In Sokhulumi 100ha of maize and 115ha of dry beans planted for harvesting in May 2012.  
• An enterprise established with off-take agreement with commercial millers.  
• 2.5ha vegetable gardens established.  
• Itereleng project for the blind, machinery, fencing material, knitting material, linen, other fabric, etc., benefiting 28 households.  
• Winterveldt Citrus Project, trees bought to expand orchard.  
• Bathonjalo Poultry, and assisted with production improvement of broilers. |
### Gauteng Province (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Area</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Infrastructure Development: Economic</strong></td>
<td>• Fencing erected to protect community gardens, cemeteries, school gardens and agricultural land.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fencing for 171 household gardens erected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Infrastructure: Social Projects</strong></td>
<td>Paving around community hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Infrastructure: Information, Communication Technology** | • Two digital doorways established, providing access to ICT.  
• Two Village Viewing Areas established (2010 World Cup access, sporting events, SONA and budget speeches).  
• i-school programme implemented, providing learners and educators access to Ipods, laptops and digital cameras. The programme is benefiting 1 700 learners |
| **Infrastructure: Education**              | • Three schools currently being renovated, benefiting 11 500 learners.                                                                                                                                   |

### KwaZulu-Natal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Area</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Profiling and Social Facilitation**      | • 40 654 households profiled.  
• Seven Councils of Stakeholders established.  
• 212 cooperatives established, including arts, crafts, agriculture.                                                                                                    |
| **Food production and enterprise development** | • Malenge irrigation scheme consisting of 199 beneficiaries has been assisted with inputs to resuscitate production, and is currently working on 280ha of land, producing vegetables and grain crops.  
• 50 ha of dry beans planted.  
• Nhlahleni – 200 hectares of maize and sunflower production established - 120 beneficiaries.  
• Isibusiso Garment Making Cooperative. Is registered and located in Uthungulu District CRDP site of Umlalazi Local Municipality (Mbongolwane Village, Ward 3). This project is being assisted with additional industrial machines and material.  
• 400 ha crop fields and 100 household gardens established.  
• Maize and sunflower planted in wards 10, 11, 12, 13 and 15. The project has also contributed to job creation (22 members of the community employed).  
• Asisukume Msinga Co-op (Registered) at Msinga has a membership of 435 of which 270 are women, 165 men and 18 are young people. They have planted and harvested 24 tons of maize, 84 bags (50kgs) of sugar beans and 3.2 tons of yellow maize. Operating in a field of approximately 400 ha.  
• Ndlalifa Co-op (Registered) at Nxamalala has a membership of 625 of which 503 are women, 102 men, 1 person with disability, and 19 are young people. They have planted and harvested vegetables like spinach, cabbage, garlic. Operating in a field of 235 ha. |
### KwaZulu-Natal (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Area</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Infrastructure: Meeting basic human needs | **Vryheid**  
  - Bulk water and sanitation infrastructure provided for 903 households  
  - Provincial Department of Human Settlements is currently finalising construction of houses  
  - 500 VIP units provided  
**Msinga**  
  - Electrification of 780 households completed.  
  - Bulk water infrastructure (Ndaya Water scheme) benefitting 720 households. |
| Infrastructure: Economic             | **River Valley Catalytic Project: KwaNxamalala irrigation scheme. 250ha ploughed and planted, construction of pump house, additional hectares being developed** |
| Infrastructure: Education            | **Crèche constructed in Sekhame; Early Childhood Development Centre, 3 schools renovated**                                                                                                                |
| Infrastructure: Information,         | **Msinga**  
  - 4 Village viewing areas (2010 World Cup, SONA, sports events)**  
  - 30 ha de-bushed.  
  - 100km fencing completed.  
  - Designs and feasibility completed for Smart Growth Centre |
| Communication, Technology            |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Sustainable Rural Settlements        | **Nkandla**  
  - Development of the Nkandla Smart Growth Centre.  
  - 30 ha de-bushed.  
  - 100km fencing completed.  
  - Designs and feasibility completed for Smart Growth Centre |
| Technology and Research              | **Current projects**  
  - Demonstration of Conservation Agricultural Technologies (CATs) in Msinga. 29 communities implementing CATs. 1 112 households are benefitting. 164 jobs created (103 women; 32 young people).  
  - **Completed Projects**  
  - Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) awareness campaign was held in Msinga. 18 communities in Wards 6, 7, 8 and 9 are implementing IKS. 36 temporary jobs created. |

### Limpopo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Area</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Profiling and Social Facilitation     | • 6 787 households profiled.  
  - 10 Councils of Stakeholders established.  
  - 73 Cooperatives established (arts and crafts, agriculture) |
| Food production and enterprise        | • 400 ha summer crops in Mokwete in Sekukhune District.  
  - Poultry project in Muyexe.  
  - 15ha vegetable garden in Muyexe.  
  - 100 household gardens in Gonono and Thomo (Mopani District).  
  - 4 Institutional gardens (schools) in Makhado.  
  - Muyexe, Makhado, Makhuduthamaga and Fetagomo supported with agricultural implements including 7 tractors, ploughs, planters and trailers.  
  - Hospitality Enterprise (Women’s Cooperative) – 10 members.  
  - 2 vegetable enterprises established, resulting from the master gardener training programme |
| development                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
### Limpopo (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Area</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Infrastructure: Meeting Basic Human Needs   | **Muyexe**  
330 houses, boreholes equipped, water purification plant underwritten by Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA); internal water reticulation (Municipality), 275 sanitation units provided. |
| Infrastructure: Health Care                | Clinic in Muyexe refurbished and operational.                                                                                        |
| Infrastructure: Social Infrastructure      | **Muyexe**  
Community centre with Post Office, clinic, satellite police station, drop-in centre, sports stadium built, (Provincial Government).   |
| Infrastructure: Education                  | **Muyexe**  
Renovation of school, additional classrooms, ablution facilities at the school; new Early Childhood Development Centre with solar lighting constructed. |
| Infrastructure: Information, Communication, Technology | **Muyexe**  
- ICT centre offering community access to ICT services.  
- 2 Village Viewing Areas enables the community to view major sporting events, State of the Nation Addresses, etc.  
- I-school Africa Rural Development Programme at the secondary and primary school offers learners an opportunity to interact and forge skills in the use of new technology |
| Infrastructure: Economic Development       |  
- Completion of a 17km gabion fence between the Kruger National Park and Muyexe.  
- 17km of fencing for arable land in the area.  
- 17km of fencing of grazing land.  
- 300 household gardens fenced to support household food production.  
- Pack-house and pump-house completed to support agricultural development |
| Additional Projects in Limpopo             |  
- Solar powered street lights to be provided in Muyexe, Gonono and Dingamanzi.  
- Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) awareness campaigns held at Giyani Local Municipality (Thomo, Muyexe, Dingamanzi and Gonono). 28 temporary jobs created. |
| Sustainable Rural settlements              |  
- As part of an effort to create sustainable rural settlements, contractors have been appointed for the construction of an amphi-theatre, sporting facility, multi-purpose centre, ICT centre, library and administration facilities for the Masia community.  
- Sekhukune land being released for development; planning to continue with district municipality |
### Mpumalanga: Mkhondo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Area</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Profiling and Social Facilitation       | • 22 081 households profiled.  
• 9 Councils of Stakeholders established.  
• 78 Cooperatives established. |
| Food Production and Enterprise Development | • Mhlongamvula Communal Property Association (CPA) has planted 400 ha summer crops (200 ha soya beans and 200 ha maize). The crops are being harvested currently, resulting in a total expected income of R3.04 million. 18 people are employed.  
• 10 tractors and implements have been provided.  
• 2 vegetable enterprises established as a result of the master gardener training programme. |
| Infrastructure: Meeting Basic Human Needs | **Mkhondo**  
100 households assisted with solar units. |
| Infrastructure: Education               | • School renovated  
• State of the art education and boarding facilities built in Mkhondo (Provincial Government). |
| Infrastructure: Information, Communication, Technology | 5 village viewing areas constructed |
| Infrastructure: Economic                | 150 km fencing of arable land (Provincial Government) |

### Northern Cape: Riemvasmaak

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Area</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Profiling and Social Facilitation                   | • 17 218 households profiled.  
• 1 Council of Stakeholders established.  
• 36 Cooperatives established. |
| Food Production and Enterprise Development          | • 100 household gardens established.  
• A one hectare community garden established in Vredesvallei.  
• 22 livestock farmers provided with grazing camps |
| Infrastructure: Meeting needs                       | **Sending and Vredesvallei**  
• 128 houses.  
• 60 VIP toilets.  
• 37 km water pipeline completed.  
• Solar lighting provided to 100 households. |
| Infrastructure: Information, Communication, Technology | • 2 ICT centres established to provide the community with access to technology and information.  
• 2 Village viewing areas (2010 Soccer World Cup, SONA, sports events). |
| Infrastructure: Education                           | 2 Early Childhood Development Centres established by the DRDLR and the National Development Agency |
| Infrastructure: Health                              | 2 clinics constructed and operational, (Provincial Government) |
| Other Social Infrastructure                         | 2 sports fields; 2 community halls; solar lighting provided at sports field |
| Infrastructure: Economic                            | • 60 km road upgraded (District Municipality).  
• Cattle-handling facilities and fencing completed, (Provincial Government). |
| Other areas                                          | • Geisemap: 162 km fencing of grazing land  
• Perimonkie: 50 km fencing of grazing land  
• Phillipstown: 38 km household fencing underway |
North West: Disake, Matlemetlong, Mokgalwaneng

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Areas</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Social facilitation and household profiling   | • 24,437 households profiled.  
• 6 Councils of Stakeholders established.  
• 67 Cooperatives established including arts and crafts and agriculture.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Food production and enterprise development    | • 40 pregnant Bonsmara heifers were procured to improve the quality of livestock for an enterprise development project in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District, for the benefit of a community of 800 people.  
• The services of 12 Bonsmara bulls were procured for breeding purposes.  
40 pregnant Bonsmara heifers were procured to improve the quality of livestock for two enterprise development projects in Dr RS Mompati, for the benefit of a CPA consisting of 500 people, and a Trust consisting of 60 people.  
• 200 goats and 7 rams were procured for nine cooperatives in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District.  
• 2 Vegetable enterprises established emanating from the master gardener training programme.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Infrastructure: Meeting Basic Human Needs     | Disake, Matlemetlong, Mokgalwaneng  
• 300 houses.  
• 144 VIP units.  
• 1.5 mega litre water reservoir (impacting 2,500 households).  
• 30 high mast lights.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Infrastructure: Health                        | Clinic fully operational 24 hrs a day (Provincial Government)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Infrastructure: Information, Communication, Technology | 6 Village viewing areas (2010 Soccer World Cup, SONA, sports events and broadcasts).  
• 1 schools programme being implemented in 3 schools providing learners with access to technology.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Technology and Research                       | IKS awareness campaigns held in Moses Kotane Local Municipality (Disake, Mokgalwaneng, Matlemetlong and Matsitsinyane). 22 temporary jobs created.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Economic Development                          | 6 livestock handling facilities.  
• 160 km fencing for grazing.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

Western Cape: Dysseldorp

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Area</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Profiling and Social Facilitation            | • 30,368 households profiled.  
• 10 Councils of Stakeholders established.  
• 50 Cooperatives established.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Food production and enterprise development   | • Clinic and school food gardens.  
• 260 household food gardens.  
• 1 community garden started by the Youth, called Zenzele Agriculture Group, harvested tomatoes and green peppers. They supply this produce to a local market.  
• 2 community gardens established selling to the immediate communities.  
• 2 vegetable enterprises established.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
Western Cape: Dysseldorp (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Area</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure: Meeting Basic Human Needs</td>
<td>• 10 Sandbag houses (nearing completion).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 90 Rainwater harvesting tanks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Agricultural infrastructure installed at clinic garden.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure: Education</td>
<td>• Poplap Crèche.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 5 schools renovated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure: Information,</td>
<td>• Village viewing areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>communication technology</td>
<td>• 3 I-schools supporting 1 200 youth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1 ICT centre provided by the Western Cape Provincial Government.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Social Infrastructure</td>
<td>• Old age home renovated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Solar geysers provided to old age home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other areas</td>
<td>• Matzikama: 6km road constructed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Witzenberg</strong></td>
<td>• Paving of walkway and development of recreational area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Phase two underway including recreational facilities and swimming pool.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Houses of elderly people renovated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Crèche landscaping.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Upgrading sewer system along 1 street.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The department measures the impact of this programme in terms of:

- Jobs created
- Investments generated
- Livelihoods supported

In the implementation of the CRDP, job creation opportunities have been created, chiefly through farming enterprises, construction and NARYSEC. To date 15 336 jobs have been created, potentially impacting 60 000 households. The original target of one job per household has not as yet been reached, but it is anticipated that the NARYSEC programme will be the catalyst of the job creation model going forward.

Significant investment has been made by the State and private sector in infrastructure development of the rural areas and skills development of rural communities. As regards the priority of education, more than 10 000 learners have been positively impacted through access to improved education and sports facilities, as well as technology and information centres.

**Lessons Learnt**

In implementing the CRDP in the pilot sites, certain lessons have been learnt which have assisted the department to adapt its delivery model to better suit the needs and delivery environment of the rural areas. One of the key issues was the need to ensure that the community governance structures are capacitated to deal with planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring issues. The other issue that emerges is the need to ensure an ability to meet the needs of communities in a manner that enables replicability on a sustained basis across the country.

One of the positive lessons that emerge is that communities are able, given necessary support, to pursue activities that can lead to economic and social sustainability. Evidence also points to the fact that where there is positive collaboration of government and its social partners, significant impact can be seen both in delivery time as well as the product that is delivered.

**Challenges**

Although progress has been made in developing rural areas, the backlogs in rural infrastructure are much higher than urban areas and in some way impede delivery of services. Rural development is a transversal function. One of the challenges faced is that of co-ordination across the three spheres of government. Capacity of the State and the traditional framework of government’s work still encourages a silo approach. The challenge of co-ordination is being addressed, partially, through the outcomes-based service delivery approach, and some progress is being made in the 23 prioritised districts. However significant work remains to be done in aligning
the budgetary framework of government to enable the outcome approach of “working together”.

One of the other challenges includes conflicts between local stakeholders (e.g. traditional leaders; municipalities; communities) which in some instances cause delays in project execution.

National Rural Youth Service Corps (NARYSEC)

Government has identified high levels of unemployment, persistent and deepening poverty, and increasing inequalities as the three most stubborn development challenges the country must overcome if the vision and promises of our Constitution are to be realised. The serious impact of these three blights is etched on the faces of the rural people across the length and breadth of our country. Good intentions are inadequate to deal with this situation as everyday life presents a challenge every moment of the day for millions of people disadvantaged by the circumstances that are not in their control. Rural communities persistently face serious issues, amongst them:

- High levels of unemployment, particularly amongst the youth.
- Lack of vocational skills, which, against the backdrop of limited job opportunities, magnifies the problem.
- Lack of economic and social development, including very limited access to government services, as well as basic delivery services.

To respond to these challenges the department has implemented the National Rural Youth Service Programme which provides character-building programmes, soft and hard skills training, which qualifies recruits in rural areas to undertake various rural infrastructure development projects.

Established in September 2010, NARYSEC’s main goal is to recruit and develop rural youth to be paraprofessionals, by training them to render needed community services in their own communities. As such, NARYSEC’s specific key objectives are to:

- recruit unemployed youth in rural areas;
- train the appointed youth through Further Education and Training programmes, linked to the identified developmental community projects in rural areas;
- develop youth with multi-disciplinary skills through civic education;
- equip youth with basic concepts, methods, techniques and practical applications;
- provide youth with knowledge and skills;
- capacitate youth to retain knowledge and technical skills acquired during training;
- increase the number of rural communities receiving support in their self-development through the CRDP.

NARYSEC is very rural wards-focused, and as such, its recruitment targets four young people per rural ward, with the proviso that the fourth candidate has to be a youth living with disability, thus ensuring the programme takes the needs of disabled youth into account.

To be considered for enrolment into NARYSEC, a youth must meet the following criteria:

- Be in the 18 to 35 age group.
- Have a completed grade 10 (std. 8) certificate.
- Be from and living in a rural area.
- Be committed to staying in the programme for the entire two year duration of the programme.

The following constitutes NARYSEC’s vision for rural communities:

- A decline in the level of youth unemployment in the rural areas;
- An increase in literacy and skills in the rural areas;
- An increase in disposable income for youth in the rural areas as a result of unemployment and entrepreneurial opportunities.

The department has committed itself to a two-year long relationship with every youth enrolled in the programme, and expect youth enrolled in NARYSEC to make a similar commitment for the same period. The character-development training each NARYSEC trainee goes through also assists in underpinning this message.

In summary, this two-year commitment period consists of:

- Character-development (e.g. discipline, patriotism);
- Life skills training (e.g. rights awareness);
- Hard skills training (household/community profiling research, construction, etc.);
- Deployment to rural wards to participate in the economic and social development of rural areas.

NARYSEC’s approach to skills development and job opportunity creation for youth in rural wards is informed by, and takes into account the following important understandings:
That the department itself has initiated different projects to stimulate employment creation and skills development;

That other skills development and job creation programmes have also been initiated and developed at both provincial and departmental levels;

That the specific focus of NARYSEC interventions and the projects it undertakes is based exclusively on rural community service delivery.

Typically, from application to deployment to work in a rural ward, a NARYSEC applicant goes through various phases.

The first phase is the recruitment phase – the selection of the 4 youths (including one living with a disability), and the welcoming of the recruits into NARYSEC. This is followed by enrolment and orientation of the youth.

During the next phase the youth spends two months with the South Africa's Defence Force; a very important phase in their life skills education. Here the youth are given non-military training, focused on building their character and instilling a sense of discipline and responsibility.

Subsequent to this development exposure, the youth are trained, for a period of about four months, in household profiling. Household profiling is important in the socio-economic development of rural areas, as it is on the basis of the outcomes of the household and community profiling that community mobilisation and organisation (e.g. into cooperatives) as well as rural infrastructure development initiatives are undertaken. The youth are then dispatched to rural wards to undertake household profiling (it is also important to note that the department has targeted household profiling in all rural wards).

After this training is completed, the youth then undergo a one month finishing skills training programme, which focuses on basic administration, project administration and basic budgeting skills.

The second last training stage is the skills and development phase. Over six months, the training in this phase focuses on hard skills, and the youth have a choice of disciplines, including construction, agriculture, emergency services, and trades.

The final phase of this process is the Community Service phase; when the youths have the option of workplace deployment or of opting for the role of a job creator. In the latter case the youths will be assisted with identification of business opportunities, mentoring, etc. The youths receive a stipend of R1 320 per month throughout their two year training period.

For recruitment, NARYSEC uses conventional methods of advertising on local radio stations in different languages, and by the use of pamphlets.

NARYSEC is anxious to meet its strategic objectives and to contribute in a meaningful way to the President’s call for all to make a contribution to the creation of job opportunities, and believes that it is very important that partnerships, once created, are sustained, and that each stakeholder’s contribution is clearly identified.

The NARYSEC programme is a comfortable fit with all three phases of the CRDP. In a typical situation, the stipend paid to a NARYSEC recruit supports between three to five other people. The programme therefore supports the basic needs of between 20 000 and 25 000 people.

The first intake in the NARYSEC programme commenced on 1 September 2010 and has been rolled out in all provinces. The number of participants enrolled per province to date is set out below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROVINCE</th>
<th>MALE</th>
<th>FEMALE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GAUTENG</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>571</td>
<td>923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH WEST</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIMPOPO</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>757</td>
<td>1290</td>
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<tr>
<td>MPUMALANGA</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>984</td>
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<tr>
<td>KZN</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREE STATE</td>
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<td>250</td>
<td>412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EASTERN CAPE</td>
<td>802</td>
<td>1214</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WESTERN CAPE</td>
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<td>360</td>
<td>590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHERN CAPE</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>3216</td>
<td>4825</td>
<td>8041</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Participants trained in various training programmes

NARYSEC in construction
Four thousand, five hundred (4,500) participants have been trained in 34 FETs around nine provinces. These youths have received construction training in the following areas:

- Plumbing,
- Welding,
- Electrical infrastructure construction,
- Tiling,
- Bricklaying,
- Painting,
- Carpentry,
- Roofing, and
- Construction Masonry

The training varies between NQF level 2 and NQF level 3.

NARYSEC in agriculture
Seventy two (72) participants from Eastern Cape are trained in Animal and Veld Production by the Fort Cox Agricultural College, NQF level 2.

NARYSEC in electronic records management
Participants participated in special projects of Restitution and Land Reform. 536 participants were involved in filing, scanning, and setting up records.

NARYSEC in disaster mitigation and management
Eighty eight (88) participants have been trained on:

- Community based disaster risk management,
- Disaster risks,
- Handling of dangerous goods,
- Basic Computer,
- Communication,
- Office Administration
- First Aid course I and II

These participants are also deployed in the Thutong Services Centres, providing information to communities and informing the department on developments in the province.

NARYSEC participants in character building
- Three hundred (300) participants attended a character training building in Defence between November and December 2011.
- One thousand started a 6 months character building training at 3 SAI in Kimberley in March 2012.

NARYSEC in farm rangers
- Three hundred and forty seven (347) participants will be trained on Farm Rangers Program offered by the South African Wild Life College in Hoedspruit and the Wilderness Foundation in Port Elizabeth.
- These participants are nominated from the 8 provinces with an exclusion of Free State.

NARYSEC in household profiling
- Four thousand (4000) participants in nine provinces were trained by Stats SA, Social Development, and War on Poverty on how to conduct Household Profiling, understanding a questionnaire and how to use the NISIS hand-held device.
- Youth were deployed to the CRDP sites and rural wards prioritised.

NARYSEC in computer training
The company Bytes Technology, trained 300 participants.

NARYSEC in orientation training
Eight thousand (8 000) participants were trained on orientation as part of the foundation phase. This included the following skills:

- Life skills,
- Know your country,
- Patriotism,
- The National Flag,
- Government,
- Understanding the continent with specially emphasis to the SADC region countries.

NARYSEC achievements
- Ensuring that at least in the target wards, one young person gets a stipend through the program and the family does go not hungry again.
- Training rural youth in accredited technical skills on a large scale.
- Enabling rural youth to enter the labour market and compete with other youth.
- Stakeholder buy-in, especially MECs for Agriculture and Rural Development who are supporting the program at provincial level.
- Additional funding from the National Treasury. That is a big stamp of approval.
Rural Development

NARYSEC second intake

The recruitment of the second intake of NARYSEC started during the latter part of the 2011/12 financial year. The enrolment of these youth into the programme will be concluded early in the 2012/13 financial year. The total number of youth recruited in this process is 5 400 from the provinces of Gauteng, Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, and Western Cape. A further 1 500 are at present being recruited from KwaZulu-Natal, North West and Northern Cape provinces.

The number of NARYSEC youth per rural ward is six youth per ward and more per CRDP site, depending on the nature of activities and the size of the particular site.

The further roll-out of the programme includes the strengthening of the governance aspect in the programme. The DRDLR has recently approved posts to properly capacitate the programme, and the filling of these posts will resume once the funding has been provided. The Development Bank of South Africa has been contracted to support the NARYSEC programme by establishing a training support unit which will monitor activities at further education and training colleges and provide specialised support. The relationships with the rural municipalities also requires be strengthening.

NARYSEC challenges

- Lack of human resources has been a big challenge, especially at Provincial but also at District level where the participants are actually doing the work.
- It takes time for the program to intervene speedily on the ground when there are issues.
- Training facilities and or campus accommodation has been another challenge in some FET colleges, and this resulted in some youth protesting over conditions.
- Ill-disciple by certain young recruits who joined the program with bad intentions.
- High level of pregnancy amongst youth, keeping in mind that the youth already have their own families. Pregnancy affects the training cycle and the activities that they can participate in.
- Youth who are receiving child grants in their respective provinces. This becomes a challenge when the young people are attending training outside their own provinces, then have to return to their provinces, on a monthly basis, to receive social grant money.
- Placing youth in industries to gain practical work experience after theory training in FETs, has been difficult. Industries are not willing to take young people for training.

Disaster Mitigation

Included in the CRDP is a component dealing with Disaster Mitigation Services. The intention is to prevent or reduce the impact of potential disasters caused by either natural or human activities. The department has embarked on a Project called the Social Relief for Rural Disaster Stricken Communities. The project currently focuses on those rural communities falling under the district Municipalities stated in the National Disaster Declaration made on the 21st of January 2011 by the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

Between December 2010 and March 2011 excessive rains were experienced in eight provinces namely, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape, Limpopo, North West, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, Free State and Gauteng. These heavy rainfalls resulted in flooding which damaged property and caused some deaths. The department realised that the Socio-economic conditions of the affected communities in rural areas were such that there are insufficient resources to construct and equip their properties to alleviate the effects of the weather conditions under prolonged exposure.

Rural homesteads are mostly built of mud mortar, bricks and thatched roofing covered with corrugated iron or steel plates. During the rains referred to above, the department provided the following items to affected rural communities:

- 800 Emergency Houses for 8 provinces were supplied to vulnerable municipalities in an effort to assist in times of disaster (100 to each Province)
- 800 Lightning Conductors for 8 Provinces
- 800 Solar Lights
- 800 Solar Radios
- 800 Oil lamps.
Outcome 7

The ruling party’s election manifesto of 2009 identified five priority areas, namely decent work and sustainable livelihoods; education, health, rural development, agrarian change, food security and land reform; and the fight against crime and corruption. This was then developed into the Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) that identified 10 strategic priorities that were further developed into 12 Outcomes. The Outcome that encapsulates the renewed emphasis on rural development is Outcome 7, which calls on government to promote “Vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities and food security for all.”

The DRDLR is the co-ordinating department for Outcome 7. Key government partners in this endeavour include the Departments of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Water Affairs, Energy, Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, and various provincial and local government departments.

A key feature of the DRDLR’s work towards Outcome 7 has been the conceptualisation and launch of the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP). The CRDP seeks to address poverty and food insecurity by maximising the use and management of natural resources. It also seeks to rectify past injustices and improve the standard of living and welfare through rights-based interventions that address skewed patterns of distribution, and ownership of wealth and assets.

Another contributory factor to achieving the objectives of the programme is the creation of an enabling environment for rural people to participate in development. This includes:

- constructing new and revitalisation of old infrastructure for socio-economic development;
- facilitating access to Information and Communication Technology for development and access to information;
- ensuring access to public amenities and facilities for access to government information;
- participating in community activities as a way of strengthening social cohesion and national identity;
- revitalising small towns to be economically viable.

Conclusion

No one who has lived their lives in an urban environment can truly appreciate what life is like for the poor people locked in a deeply rural community. The vast majority have no work and no hope of getting any work since they have no skills and no chance of achieving any. No work means a complete loss of dignity, little or no food, dependence on others, a life of misery with nothing to look forward to but more misery.
This is not the lifestyle envisaged by those who defeated apartheid; those who drafted our exemplary constitution, or those who promised all South Africans a better life, no matter what their circumstances. The fact is that the majority of the people who live in the rural areas of our country are living a life that is no better than it was during the many years that their parents were trapped in poverty. The time for discussion about this unacceptable situation is over. Existing partnerships have to be strengthened, new partnerships formed, all those with strong social consciences and iron resolve must join hands to end this iniquitous situation. What we need now is action. That alone can make a difference.