

1. INTRODUCTION

Integrated development planning (IDP) is one of the key tools for local government to cope with its developmental role. The IDP process is meant to arrive at decisions on issues such as municipal budgets, land management, promotion of local economic development in a consultative, systematic and strategic manner. Integrated Development Plans, however, will not only inform the municipal management; they are also supposed to guide the activities of any agency from the other spheres of government, corporate service providers, NGO's and the private sector within the municipal area. IDO is an inter-sectoral, but priority focused planning process.

The Integrated Development Process (IDP) consists of five phases, namely

- 1.1 The Analysis phase,
- 1.2 The Strategies phase,
- 1.3 The Projects phase,
- 1.4 The Integration phase, and
- 1.5 The Approval phase.

The Integrated Poverty Reduction and Gender Equity Programme forms an integral part of the Integration phase, and although it is not legally required in terms of the Municipal Systems Act, it does play a very important role in ensuring that there are measures in place which ensure that poverty is reduced and gender equality is established.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Integrated Poverty Reduction and Gender Equity Programme is to ensure a set of measures, that is consistent, to reduce poverty and to contribute to gender equality in the municipality. This programme is meant to show the poverty and gender related efforts of all IDP projects in context. Thus it is a tool for main-streaming, rather than side-lining poverty and gender issues.

3. THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

- The disadvantaged/marginalized population groups are:
 - women
 - youth
 - the aged
 - households affected by HIV/AIDS
 - households stricken by poverty
 - child headed households
 - single parent headed households
 - disabled people
 - farm workers
- Statistical analysis regarding women, youth and the aged:

Table 3.1: **Statistics regarding women, youth and aged**

| Town units | Number of Women | Number of Youth | Number of Aged |
|------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Ficksburg | | | |
| Marquard | | | |
| Senekal | | | |
| Clocolan | | | |

4. LEGISLATION AND POLICIES

The following National and Provincial Documents play an important role in The Poverty Reduction and Gender Equity Programme:

- The Constitution, sections regarding basic needs and gender equity
- The Reconstruction and Development Programme
- The White Paper on Local Government
- The SALGA Handbook on “Gender and Development”
- The Poverty Eradication Strategy of the Free State

5. STRATEGY GUIDELINES ON POVERTY AND GENDER

Each municipality experience similar and different local poverty situations and gender related problems. The following is a set of principles/guidelines that can be incorporated within the strategies of the municipality:

- Involve disadvantaged groups at the planning stage to ensure full ownership of projects/development/transformation.
- Community profile: establish a directory of organizations and vulnerable people at ward level.
- When disadvantaged people receive ownership of land a conscious effort must be made to ensure access to sustainable methods of production.
- Engage with farmers’ unions/merging associates to enable involvement of all role-players in agriculture development.
- Involve tribal authorities in planning and projects.
- Cluster similar organizations /projects to use resource better.
- Consciously develop skills.
- Provide support to disadvantaged people with tender applications and simplify the process to promote access to tenders.
- Community mobilization e.g. street committee, networking.
- Illegal immigrants should be dealt with and planned for together with other areas and SADC.
- Implementation of free basic water.
- Focused targeting.
- Intervention based on well-researched information.
- Allocate funds over long periods.
- Appropriate support, monitoring and capacity programs.
- Integrated approach (multi sectoral)
- Strengthen local partnerships.
- Contextualise intervention (local context).

6. PROPOSED PROJECTS

The following is a summary of the poverty and gender related projects/activities, gathered from various workshops and meetings with Setsoto representatives.

Table 6.1: The proposed project regarding poverty and gender and the people being affected by it

| Project No. | Proposed Project | People being affected |
|-------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 2.2.2.7 | Emerging farmer skills training | All emerging farmers in Setsoto |
| 2.4.3.13 | SMME development programme | Previously disadvantaged communities in Setsoto |
| 2.4.4.14 | Training and mentorship programmes | Previously disadvantaged communities in Setsoto |
| 3.5.1.9 | ABET and skills training programme | Entire illiterate Setsoto community |
| 3.4.1.7 | Educational development | Entire Setsoto community |

7. MEASURES

The following measures has been established to reduce poverty and gender inequalities:

- Focus on areas of major poverty and gender related problems, when trying to alleviate these problems
- Training of skills amongst all genders and age groups
- Focus on the Affirmative Action policies

8. CONCLUSION

There are various areas of poverty and gender inadequacies, within the Setsoto local municipality. The most important aspect of the The Integrated Poverty Reduction and Gender Equity Programme is to identify areas of major poverty and gender-related problems and to ensure that these areas are adequately addressed in the proposed projects. It is also important to ensure that there is full compliance with the strategic guidelines.

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