HSRC Review

HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Putting poverty and inequality reduction at the heart of SA's green economy transition

Contents

Editor's note

This edition of the HSRC Review brings you findings from the South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS) that indicate a public recognition of corruption as a societal priority in South Africa. The authors examine survey data on the public concern with corruption over the past fourteen years to determine whether such assumptions can be corroborated with empirical evidence.

Tracking societal values in changing times, SASAS is a nationally representative, repeated crosssectional survey conducted annually by the HSRC since 2003. The survey series charts and explains the interaction between the country's changing institutions, its political and economic structures, and the attitudes, beliefs and behaviour patterns of its diverse populations.

The article concludes that the intensifying salience attached to corruption represents an appeal from the public for a concerted and decisive policy response; the authors state that South Africa appears to be witnessing the emergence active citizenship striving to hold leaders to account, and ensure a democracy free of corruption.

Another SASAS article in this edition focuses on the critical issue of food insecurity and the role of social grants in South Africa. Ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition is an international imperative and a national objective. Yet, ensuring that all South Africans have sufficient food to meet the needs of their households remains an enduring challenge. The article examines trends in self-reported food insecurity between 2007 and 2015 and the role of social grants in assisting families to cope with food insecurity.

The authors' message to policy makers is that forging sustained progress towards eliminating hunger and improved nutrition despite such set-backs is instrumental in ensuring personal and national wellbeing in the country. It will require a monitoring and evaluation system focused on food and nutrition security that provides rapid and effective support to vulnerable households, and helps address the effects of livelihood, food and climatic shocks. Identifying and experimenting with mechanisms to stabilise food prices will also need to be a factor in national and municipal food security policies.

As a publicly funded and mandated entity, the HSRC orientates and marshals its capacities behind addressing the most urgent social questions facing South Africa and the continent. While there are many issues which can be raised, poverty and inequality are the major questions which the country has to address. Poverty and inequality provide the macro-determinants against which the issues of deprivation, and their opposite, the capacity to flourish, play themselves out.

As such the research we conduct and the articles we feature on the pages of the HSRC Review will increasingly reflect our attempts to understand the structural factors that are in play in producing these conditions and, through various forms of innovation which explore creative and hybrid approaches, how they may be undone. In this vein, this edition includes a ook at informal settlements, which represent spaces of marginality inequality and deprivation in the urban landscape.

The authors reflect on the implications for policy and impact evaluation through the upgrading of government's informal settlements programme (UISP). Their recommendations include the utilisation of the UISP indicators to collect data on the effectiveness and impact evaluation of upgraded informal settlements. The authors recommend that the Department of Human Settlements formulate a policy that addresses the emergence, growth and upgrading of informal settlements. Linked to policy is the need for Treasury to increase funding for the UISP and to municipalities in particular, to help tackle the challenge of informality and improve the quality of life of the inhabitants.

Finally the study recommends that the high levels of unemployment

particularly among women suggest that programmes designed to tackle unemployment and improve income opportunities need to be gendered, if unemployment and dependence on social grants are to be reduced. Programmes for income generation also need to be spatially targeted to women and youth in informal settlements.

Although a public research organization focused on the human and social sciences, the HSRC's research intersects with the natural and physical sciences. An article in this edition looks at a new vaccine to help smallholder farmers strengthen food security. Another article on technology transfer in South Africa offers a case for building a strong

technology transfer office to expedite the journey of a researcher or entrepreneur's good idea into a viable and scalable technology that can be commercialised.

We hope you enjoy this issue and don't forget to have a look at the new titles available from the HSRC Press. Books that make a difference.

News roundup

South Africa and Namibia to collaborate on producing national indicators on **science, technology and innovation**

The HSRC's Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (CeSTII) and Namibia's National Commission on Research Science and Technology (NCRST) have concluded an agreement to collaborate on the production of national scientific and innovation statistics.

This agreement, concluded on the margins of the 2017 annual conference of the Southern African Research and Innovation Management Association (SARIMA) in Windhoek, will advance the ongoing collaboration between the two agencies in the areas of learning exchanges, joint research projects and joint publications.

Science, technology and innovation indicators enable a country to measure, monitor and evaluate its scientific and innovative capabilities.

Speaking from Namibia, CeSTII Executive Director Dr Glenda Kruss said, "These capabilities matter because they can contribute to inform contextualised solutions to persistent development challenges, among others, water and food security, healthcare and livelihoods."

Dr Glenda Kruss

Dr Eino Mvula

"When looking at international case studies and analyses of best practice in economic development, we see that innovation and technology diffusion can play a significant role. We are therefore keen to understand what Namibia is doing well in this area and share lessons learnt, so that our countries can benefit from our collective experiences, and contribute to build expertise across the southern African region," concluded Dr Kruss.

Meanwhile, NCRST Head Dr Eino Mvula welcomed the finalisation of this agreement adding that, "Collaborations such as these are crucial to sharing the outcomes of work done in areas of mutual interest which could, among

others, assist in identifying best practice and lessons learnt. Partnerships can also yield significant outcomes and contribute to how we leapfrog the learning and experience curves in the area of technology transfers, innovation and R&D," concluded Dr Mvula.

While in Namibia, the HSRC's CeSTII shared new plans to pilot surveys of innovation in the informal economy, and disseminated findings from its most recent national surveys, including its R&D Survey 2014/15 and the first national survey on intellectual property and technology transfer.

More about CeSTII:
http://bit.ly/1xZ0cRC

News roundup

Africa Week focuses on research and innovation

To mark the annual commemoration of Africa Month, the HSRC in collaboration with a range of partners lined-up thought leadership platforms for Africa Week from 21 to 25 May 2017. The Africa Week activities included the African Unity for Renaissance (AUR) International Conference, a PhD Colloquium and an Africa Day Expo.

The AUR Conference at Freedom Park in Pretoria brought together more than 100 established African researchers and scholars to deliberate on emerging theories and practice in the fields of sustainable development, science and technology, green economy and renewable energy, economics, environment and systems science. The scholars deliberated on Africa's approach to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals under the theme: *Placing Africa firmly in the realm of Sustainable Development Goals.*

Discussions revolved around how knowledge derived from research output can drive social innovation, novel products, processes and methods. Herein will lie durable solutions to some of Africa's most persistent challenges.

Since its inception seven years ago, this conference has been an important annual gathering of African scholars who use the opportunity to explore and propose ideas aimed at finding solutions for Africa's developmental challenges.

With a view to bringing young minds into the conversation to enable their contribution to the solutions we must develop and implement, the PhD colloquium saw the participation of 65 PhD students and post-doctoral researchers. This event served as a capacity building and skills transfer opportunity where PhD students

receive feedback on their research from their peers, senior scholars and other experts. The young scholars identify and learn how their research can achieve practical impact in the sustainable development space and they learn to interact and form networks with peers, senior scholars and other experts with various perspectives and from different institutions and countries.

The Africa Day Expo was held at Kara Heritage Institute. The day included a learner's educational session and presented ordinary members of the African community with the networking opportunity with various African embassies, influential government departments as well as African artists and cultural groups. Africa Day is celebrated annually on 25 May to mark the commemoration of the 1963 founding of the Organisation of African Unity, represented since 2002 by the African Union.

Fieldwork completed on new **Rural Innovation Survey**

The Economic Performance and Development (EPD) research programme, along with university partners, recently completed fieldwork for the 2016/17 survey on rural innovation activities. This milestone of the Rural Innovation Assessment Toolbox (RIAT) project heralds a great leap forward in addressing the general lack of reliable information on innovation in rural areas and creates a clearer pathway to defeat the scourge of rural socio-economic deprivation.

RIAT has a dual purpose. It seeks to harness innovation for improved human wellbeing and living standards and it urges local municipalities to entrench an innovation-driven approach to their socioeconomic development initiatives. Since 2012, eight distressed district municipalities on government's list of priority intervention sites have benefited from exposure to this set of novel information and decision tools.

Targeting resource-poor local municipalities as the main end-users of the toolbox makes sense. It is in these localities where economic and social marginalisation is most severe. Lifting residents in these marginal and under-resourced locations out of poverty is an information-intensive task. Accurate and up to date information is required and through RIAT the Department of Science and Technology (DST) has dedicated investment in policy-relevant information-gathering and decision-making tools.

The new dataset substantially expands what is known about the nature and composition of rural innovation landscapes in eight local municipalities. The questionnaire in the toolbox profiles the composition and business operations of diverse enterprise types. Less than 20% of the 740 enterprises interviewed in the latest survey round appear in existing databases of local municipalities. In this context, sharing the survey information with local municipalities reduces crucial information gaps about the scale and potential of local innovative economic actors.

Items in the questionnaire derive from a flexible but consistent meaning of innovation. This conception sets RIAT apart from traditional innovation surveys. It yields a dynamic map of new ideas, processes and practices being used to do things better in some of the poorest localities in South Africa.

RIAT also departs from data extraction from willing respondents inherent in research cultures. Instead, the complementary tools unleash a novel two-way information flow dynamic from local municipalities to knowledge producers. It moves municipalities beyond passive owners of the toolbox for local innovation assessment towards internalising reflexive self-learning.

A research team in EPD, with support from the DST, has been leading the design and testing of RIAT. The team has systematised how the five universities of Venda, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, North West and Walter Sisulu interact with matched local municipalities to support embryonic local innovation networks.

More about RIAT:
http://bit.ly/2sUf2JZ

News roundup

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
supports radical city transformation

The HSRC co-hosted the 2017 annual eThekwini-Academic Research Symposium with the city's Municipal Institute of Learning (MILE). The event is aimed at providing a common platform for city practitioners and academic partners to engage on key thematic areas that could respond to the transformation agenda of the city under the broad theme, Strengthening Research Collaboration to Support Radical City Transformation. The theme proved popular, attracting close to 200 delegates representing city practitioners and academic partners.

The symposium was structured around three core focal areas including Economic Transformation: Accelerating transformation at the city level; Transformative Governance: Strengthening partnerships and Changing Spaces: Towards transforming cities as safe and liveable spaces.

The annual research symposium was held at the Durban Chief Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre on 1-2 June 2017 and was officially opened by the Municipality's Mayor, Councillor Zandile Gumede.

On the first day of the conference the HSRC as co-host of this year's symposium and the Vice-Chancellors of the universities form part of the academic partners, participated in a closed breakfast meeting with the Mayor. This provided a forum for those present to raise critical issues around research and the university sector and the role they can play in the city.

Shirin Motala of the HSRC's Economic Performance and Development (EPD) research programme was the Programme Director of the opening session and HSRC CEO Prof Crain Soudien presented the message of support. HSRC researchers presented papers in various sessions during the symposium.

RESULTS FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL ATTITUDES SURVEY (SASAS)

CHALLENGING CORRUPTION

Changes in the public recognition of corruption as a societal priority in South Africa
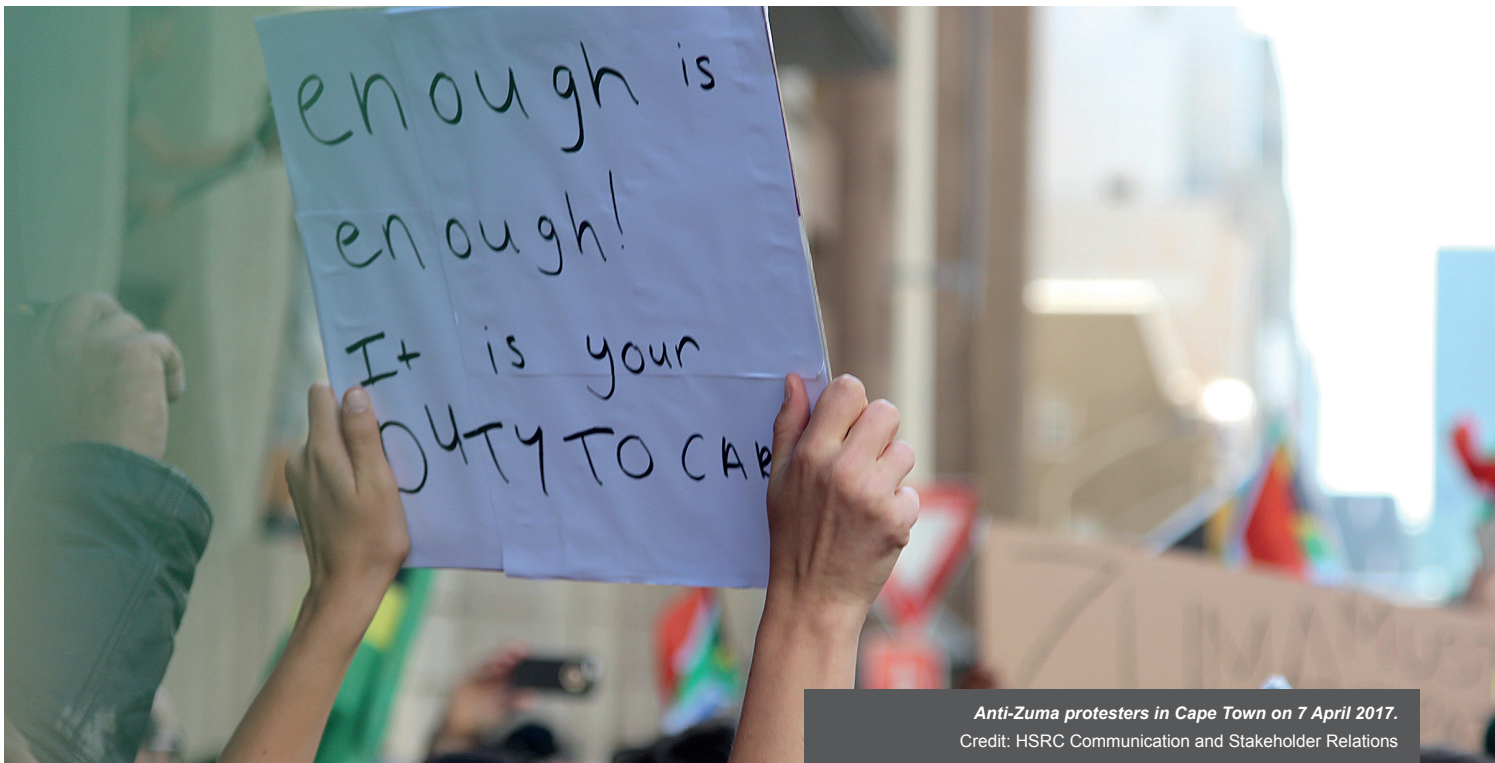
Anti-Zuma protesters in Cape Town on 7 April 2017.
Credit: HSRC Communication and Stakeholder Relations

Corruption in South Africa has become a source of considerable debate over the last decade. The subsequent rise of social movements and anti-corruption protests has created the impression that citizens are becoming more aware of, and concerned with corruption. In this article, *Benjamin Roberts, Ngqapheli Mchunu, Steven Gordon,* and *Jaré Struwig* examine survey data on the public concern with corruption over the past fourteen years to determine whether such assumptions can be corroborated with empirical evidence.

Corruption is often regarded as a significant impediment to efforts aimed at promoting social and economic development, and consolidating democracy in both developing and developed countries. The South African government has pledged to take a tough stance on corruption. The country is a signatory to the United Nations (UN) Convention against Corruption, while the National Development Plan 2030 envisages a South Africa that has zero tolerance for corruption. Despite such commitments, increased reporting by the media, whistle-blowers, and watchdog institutions on corruption involving leaders in government, the private sector and civil society has raised concerns about the fragility of South African democracy, and led to appeals for a vigilant public and accountable governance. Questions, however, remain concerning the extent to which the public gives attention to, and demands a response on, issues of corruption and how has this changed over time.

Data

In an attempt to provide initial responses to such questions, we analysed data from the South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS). The SASAS series consists of nationally representative, repeated cross-sectional surveys that have been conducted annually by the HSRC since 2003. The survey series has an average sample of approximately 3,000 adults aged 16 years and older living in private residence, with surveying typically conducted in the last quarter of each calendar year. We use data from all fourteen annual rounds conducted to date, covering the period from 2003 to 2016. Specifically, we rely on a standard question aimed at assessing public opinion about national priorities, which is phrased as follows: "Please

tell me what you think are the three most important challenges facing South Africa today?" Respondents provided up to three answers in their own words, which were recorded and then grouped into broader analytical categories. The question refers to the country as a whole, so responses deal with national concerns, rather than local-level or personal problems.
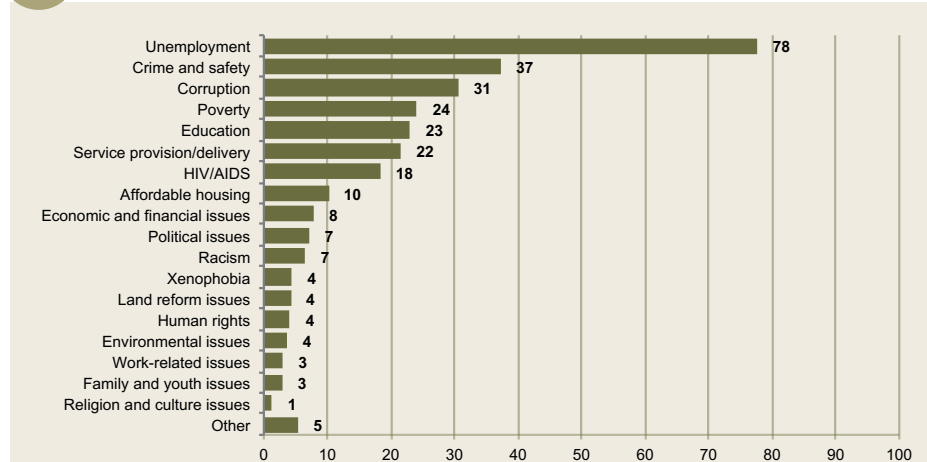
Corruption as a societal challenge

In Figure 1, we present the 2016 national distribution of results based on the above mentioned question. Unemployment remains the most pressing issue mentioned by the

public, reported by 78% of the adult population. This is the predominant concern among the public by a considerable margin, a finding that has remained consistent across all rounds of interviewing conducted since the early 2000s. Crime and safety is the second highest ranked concern (37%), followed by corruption, which was reported by slightly less than a third of South Africans (31%). A third cluster of reported priority challenges were mentioned by between a fifth and a quarter of adults, and include poverty, education, service delivery and HIV/AIDS. All other issues featuring on the public agenda were mentioned by a tenth or less of adults.

Fig 1   **The three most important challenges facing South Africa today, 2016 (% mentioning each challenge)**

Challenge	%
Unemployment	78
Crime and safety	37
Corruption	31
Poverty	24
Education	23
Service provision/delivery	22
HIV/AIDS	18
Affordable housing	10
Economic and financial issues	8
Political issues	7
Racism	7
Xenophobia	4
Land reform issues	4
Human rights	4
Environmental issues	4
Work-related issues	3
Family and youth issues	3
Religion and culture issues	1
Other	5

Source: South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS) 2016
Note: Data are weighted to be nationally representative of the adult (16 years and older).

The fact that corruption is listed by the public as one of the top three challenges facing our society is particularly noteworthy. It suggests that this issue is recognised as a sizeable threat to the functioning of democracy that warrants as much policy attention as issues such as crime, poverty and education. The question remains whether this has always been the case. To provide further insight into this, in Figure 2 we examine changes in the reporting of corruption as a societal challenge over a period from 2003

to 2016. What we observe is a dramatic shift in public attitudes on the importance of corruption as a national problem over the period 2003-2016 (Figure 2). The share of the adult population that viewed corruption as a 'most important' challenge grew by 21 percentage points between 2003 and 2016, rising from 9% to 31% over this period. The largest part of this surge in concern occurred during the latter half of the period under review.

Fig 2 Percentages identifying corruption as one of the top three challenges, 2003-2016

Source: South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS) 2003-2016
Note: Data are weighted to be nationally representative of the adult (16 years and older).

Changes in the ranking of items in the list of societal challenges mentioned by the public has a tendency to be shaped by contextual circumstances, especially the perceived responsiveness and performance of government in addressing social problems through policy and programmatic interventions. Consider, for example, public concern about HIV/AIDS. Between 2003 and 2008, approximately 50% of adult South Africans said that HIV/AIDS was a critical challenge facing the country. In the subsequent period from 2008 to 2016, great improvements were being made in the fight against the epidemic through the rapid rollout of antiretroviral therapy (ART), and the successes of the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) programme. During this time, the public responded favourably to these developments, resulting in a reduction in their general concern for this problem. By 2016, only 18% cited that HIV/AIDS was one of the top challenges. By contrast, for issues such as job creation and crime reduction, which features as the most pressing challenges in the public agenda, there has been little change between 2003 and 2016, accompanied by broad-based dissatisfaction with evaluations

of government performance in dealing with these issues. Over the past five years (2012-2016), only a 12% average were satisfied with government's efforts in addressing corruption. This poor evaluation of state performance in fighting corruption is likely to explain, in part, why the issue has been steadily rising as a priority in the public agenda.

Who is worried about corruption?

Having observed the appreciable rise in concern over corruption since the early 2000s, a remaining consideration is whether this

concern is broadly or differentially shared. To give some insight on this, Table 1 presents changes in the share identifying corruption as a top challenge based on select socio-demographic characteristics. Firstly, we find a significant, broad-based increase in concern over time, based on race, geographic location and educational attainment. Secondly, there are distinct differences in the size of the increase over time. This means the important group-based variation in levels of concern continue to exist despite the general tendency towards rising levels of worry about this issue.

Table 1: Percentages identifying corruption as one of the top three challenges by selected subgroups, 2003-2016

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change 2003-2016
Population group															
Black African	6	10	7	8	11	10	15	16	22	23	20	20	26	28	+22
Coloured	17	9	20	20	24	19	17	23	26	30	30	28	32	30	+13
Indian	15	16	23	16	20	20	22	36	37	41	42	38	38	45	+29
White	23	22	31	37	32	35	37	34	50	46	52	50	60	50	+27
Geographic location															
Urban formal	11	12	13	17	18	17	19	24	30	34	29	27	36	37	+26
Urban informal	8	5	8	7	9	8	13	11	28	18	27	26	27	20	+12
Trad. auth. area	6	11	8	6	9	10	17	14	19	18	16	18	15	21	+16
Rural formal	9	9	20	12	19	13	17	13	22	29	16	16	22	32	+23
Educational attainment															
Primary and below	6	8	10	7	10	11	16	20	18	23	17	20	26	22	+16

Anti-Zuma protesters in Cape Town on 7 April 2017.
Credit: HSRC Communication and Stakeholder Relations

For instance, concern over corruption has grown exponentially for all population groups over time, especially over the 2009-2016 period. For all, except coloured adults, the share mentioning corruption as a societal priority rose by more than 20 percentage points between 2003 and 2016. In 2003, the share of black African adults mentioning corruption as a national priority was nearly four times lower than white adults (6% versus 23%), with Indian and coloured adults slightly less inclined than white adults to mention this issue as a challenge (15% and 17%). The changes observed show that approximately a third of black African and coloured adults cited corruption as a critical challenge in 2016, however, such concern still remains higher among Indian and white adults (45% and 50% respectively).

Among formal urban dwellers concern rose from 11% in 2003, to 37% in 2016, while for those living in rural, traditional authority areas, the rate of growth in concern was slower but nonetheless sizeable (from 6% to 21%). Interestingly, educational differences are also apparent. For those with a tertiary education, there was a 22 percentage point change in their level of concern over this period. This change was higher than for those with lower educational levels. This pattern means that by 2016, 45% of the tertiary-educated mentioned corruption as a challenge compared to 22% of those with primary or no formal schooling.

Concluding remarks

This article has shown that a growing share of South Africans recognise corruption as a challenge facing the country, to the extent that it now features in the top three ranked issues by the public in general. This mounting concern is not confined to particular segments of the population, but is evident across a range of socio-economic and demographic groups, even though disparities continue to exist. Based on the evidence, it is our opinion that the intensifying salience attached to corruption represents an appeal from the public for a concerted and decisive policy response. We appear to be witnessing the emergence of more vigilant, demanding and active citizenship that are striving to hold leaders to account, and ensure a democracy free of corruption. In line with the constitutional principles of responsiveness to people's needs and accountable public administration, it is imperative that political and civic leaders in South Africa take heed of public concerns, and work together with all sectors in society to offer responsible leadership on this important issue.

Authors: Ben Roberts and Jarè Struwig are coordinators of the South African Social Attitudes Survey, Steven Gordon is a postdoctoral researcher, and Ngqapheli Mchunu is a Master's intern in the Democracy, Governance and Service Delivery research programme.

RESULTS FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL ATTITUDES SURVEY (SASAS)

The stomach is crying: Patterns of food insecurity and the role of social grants in South Africa

HSRC Mandela Day 2016 at Pikkieland Crèche in Cape Town.
Credit: HSRC Communication and Stakeholder Relations

Ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition is one of the core UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and features in the National Development Plan, both as a national objective, and as a core element in the strategy to uplift rural areas. Yet, ensuring that all South Africans have sufficient food to meet the needs of their households remains an enduring challenge, especially given food price inflation, climatic vulnerability, and crop diseases and pests. In this article, ***Benjamin Roberts, Samela Mtyingizane, Steven Gordon and Jarè Struwig*** present SASAS trends in self-reported food insecurity between 2007 and 2015, examine geographic differences in such patterns, and report on the results of a micro-study from rural KwaZulu-Natal that examines the role of social grants in assisting families to cope with food insecurity.

The South Africa Social Attitudes Survey series consists of nationally representative samples of adults aged 16 years and older living in private households. In each survey round, a random sample of between 2500 and 3200 participants are asked a range of questions on themes of national relevance. Questions on food security have been a common feature of the series since its inception in 2003.

Changes in reported food insecurity over the last decade

Since 2007, one particular question that has been included asks respondents the following: 'To what extent was the amount of food your household had over the past month less than adequate, just adequate or more than adequate for your household's needs?'. This question forms part of a broader set of items addressing the adequacy of specific types of consumption in households as the basis for determining poverty levels based on subjective evaluations, rather than expert opinion. This is seen as a more democratic approach to examining phenomena such as poverty and deprivation.

In Figure 1, the national trend in self-reported adequacy of food consumption is provided for each of the nine rounds of evaluation conducted between 2007 and the end of 2015. Due to the nature of the survey design, the figures refer to the percentage of adults stating that their households have inadequate, barely adequate or more than adequate food to meet the needs of all members, rather than the share of households that are food insecure or not.

The bar chart suggests that the percentage of adults saying that the amount of food consumed in the month prior to interviewing in their household was inadequate has varied between 26% and 35% over the period. A larger share (47-
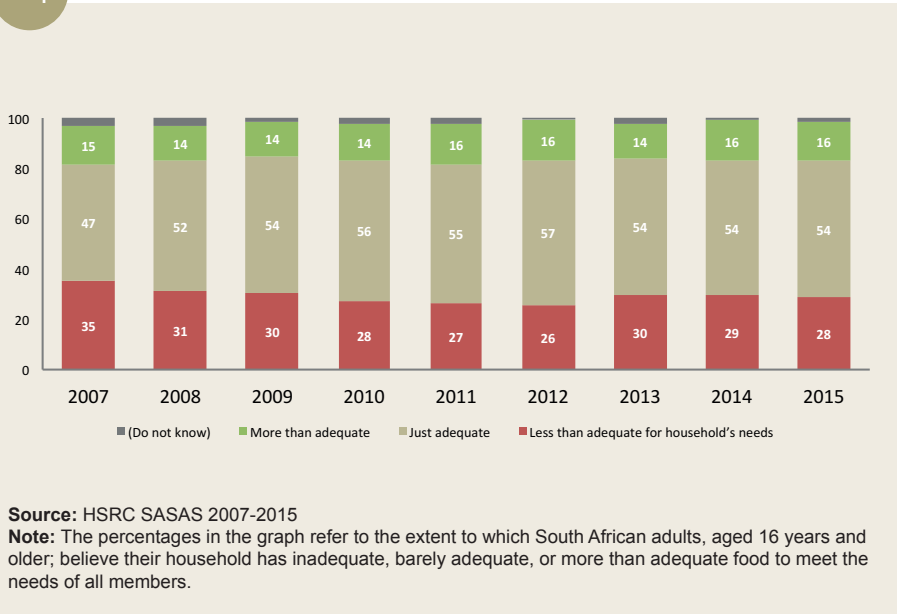
57%) state that the food available for consumption purposes is just enough to get by on, while less than a fifth (14-16%) in any given year say they have more food in their households than is required. These figures admittedly do not address seasonality, intra-household food allocation, or the quality and diversity of the food being consumed. Since the individual weights applied to the data mean that the results tell us about the extent of food insecurity about adults, they also underrepresent food insecurity among children, which, as the recent Demographic and Health Survey has shown, remains a critical challenge facing the country. The figures do nonetheless starkly convey the fact that a significant proportion of South Africans remain in a food insecure living environment.

problem was more acute in 2007, when a third (35%) of respondents mentioned food inadequacy within their households. The corresponding figures in 2008 and 2009 were slightly lower, at 31% and 30% respectively. Between 2010 and 2012, the proportion of respondents reporting inadequacy of food consumption was lower than during the 2007 to 2009 period, progressively decreasing to 26% in 2012. In 2013, there was an increase in self-reported food inadequacy for the first time in seven years, though in 2014 and 2015 the figures have remained virtually unchanged.

The geography of hunger

Is there a distinct spatial patterning to reported food insecurity? To find out, we focus in on the results of the 2015 SASAS round. From the

Fig 1 **Trends in self-reported adequacy of food consumption, 2007-2015 (% of adults)**

Source: HSRC SASAS 2007-2015
Note: The percentages in the graph refer to the extent to which South African adults, aged 16 years and older; believe their household has inadequate, barely adequate, or more than adequate food to meet the needs of all members.

There are some observable fluctuations in food security that have occurred over the decade. Given the food price inflation crisis on 2007 to mid-2009, it is unsurprising to see that reported food inadequacy is moderately higher over this interval than in subsequent years. The food security

provincial analysis presented in Figure 2, the results for KwaZulu-Natal stand out immediately. In this instance, 45% of respondents reported that there was insufficient food in their households, which is 17 percentage points higher than the national average, and appreciably higher than in all other

provinces. In the Eastern Cape and Mpumalanga, the share reporting food inadequacy (31–32%) is also above average. The figures hover around the national average in Limpopo and the Northern Cape, they are slightly lower but still worryingly high in North West and Gauteng (24%), and are lowest in the Free State (20%) and the Western Cape (14%).

To provide more context as to why food insecurity stands out in KwaZulu-Natal, we disaggregated the results in this province by geographic type, using three categories: metropolitan area, small towns and rural areas. We did the same for the other eight provinces combined and compared the results (Figure 3). The results are quite revealing in that they show that in all three types of area, food inadequacy is substantially higher than in the other eight provinces. Two-fifths (40%) of respondents in eThekwini municipality reported that they experienced food insecurity, compared to 24% in other provinces. Food insecurity was reported by a third of small town residents in KwaZulu-Natal versus 22% elsewhere, while in rural areas the figures were 54% in KwaZulu-Natal in contrast with 29% in other regions.

These are important findings that suggest that food insecurity, while highest in rural areas, is most certainly a challenge in towns and large city areas. This is particularly true in eThekwini, and is likely to be a source of real concern for municipal planners.

one wonder about the role of current policy and programmatic interventions in helping families cope. One important example is the role of social grants in providing support in the face of food inadequacy. To provide some insight, we provide a summary of

Fig 3 Self-reported adequacy of food consumption by geographic location, 2015 (% of adults)

Source: HSRC SASAS 2015
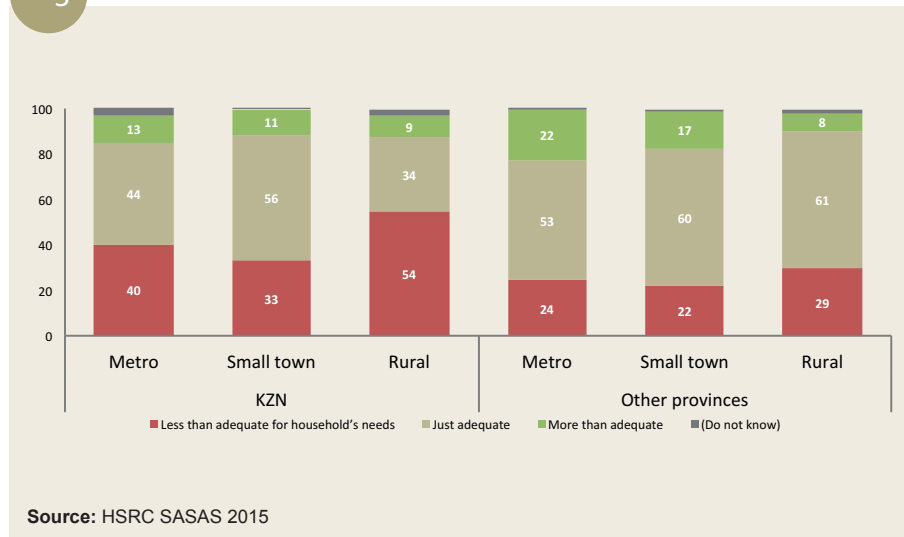
Food security and social grants in rural KwaZulu-Natal

Findings such as those reported above inevitably lead to questions about the actions needed to be taken to eliminate hunger and food insecurity. They also make

some of the notable findings that emerge from a micro-study that was conducted by a co-author of this article (Ms. Mtyingizane) as part of her Master's thesis.

Examining the effectiveness of social grants in promoting household food security in four traditional authority areas in uMhlathuze Municipality, in north-eastern KwaZulu-Natal, the study concluded that for many households, the possession of grants represents the difference between being food insecure, and completely destitute. Most grant beneficiary households interviewed reported running out of food at some stage during the month despite the presence of grant income, while nearly two-thirds reported they would not survive if the grants were taken away, as a sizeable share of grant expenditure is devoted to food. As a form of social protection, grants assist in reducing poverty and provide a means of

Fig 2 Self-reported adequacy of food consumption by province, 2015 (% of adults)

Source: HSRC SASAS 2015
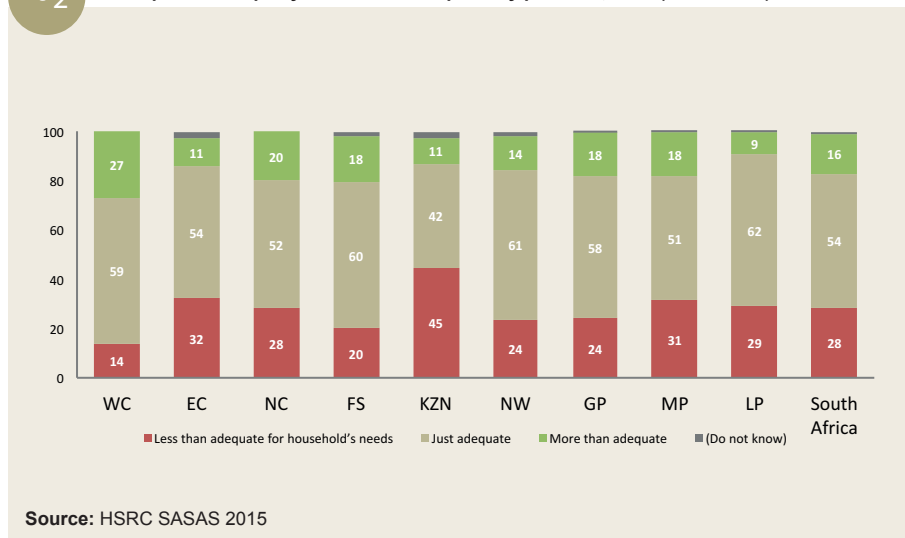
maintaining food consumption. Yet, this is clearly not enough to stave off hunger, and its potentially far-reaching effects.

Ending hunger

There is no quick fix to ending hunger and ensuring food security in South Africa. The results of the analysis presented here and in other studies confirm that millions of citizens continue to be affected by inadequate food consumption and hunger, even taking into account the range of state interventions, including social grants. Food insecurity also cannot be seen in isolation from broader socio-economic and environmental developments, including unemployment, wage levels, altering food prices, and climatic and

agricultural shocks such as drought, flooding and crop disease and pests.

The data examined cover a period that includes the food price crisis between 2007 and2009, and the subsequent global economic crisis. It however predates the worst effects of the 2016 drought, and the emerging challenge of armyworm in three of the country's maize-producing provinces. The effect on food availability and prices has the potential to exacerbate some of the food inadequacy trends discussed, and further tests the resilience of households.

Forging sustained progress towards eliminating hunger and improved nutrition despite such set-backs is instrumental in ensuring personal

and national wellbeing in the country. It will require a monitoring and evaluation system focused on food and nutrition security that provides rapid and effective support to vulnerable households, and helps address the effects of livelihood, food and climatic shocks. Identifying and experimenting with mechanisms to stabilise food prices will also need to be a factor in national and municipal food security policies.

Authors: Ben Roberts and Jarè Struwig are coordinators of the South African Social Attitudes Survey, Steven Gordon is a postdoctoral researcher and Samela Mtyingizane is a Master's intern in the Democracy, Governance and Service Delivery research programme.

HSRC staff preparing for Mandela Day 2016.
Credit: HSRC Communication and Stakeholder Relations

EXPERT OPINION

FROM STUDENT ENRAGEMENT TO STUDENT ENGAGEMENT:

What is your theory of change?

Since 2015, a series of student protests known mostly by Twitter hashtags such as #FeesMustFall, #StopOutsourcing, and #RhodesMustFall have shaken the core of South Africa's universities, and some TVET colleges, disrupting the academic project and administrative functions. Students have forcefully voiced legitimate demands related to the trauma of runaway costs of studying, irrelevant curricula, institutional racism, and other academic and social ills. In some institutions,

such as the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), there is talk of a student protest culture, which perpetually threatens the stability of the university, and its academic project.

Against this, TUT themed its institutional student affairs conference of May 2017 "Repositioning Student Affairs and Extracurricular Development to effectively contribute towards advancing stability at TUT". This is an edited version of an

address given by Dr Luescher at the conference as a contribution to shifting the narrative from a preoccupation with crisis, to critical self-reflection and practical response.
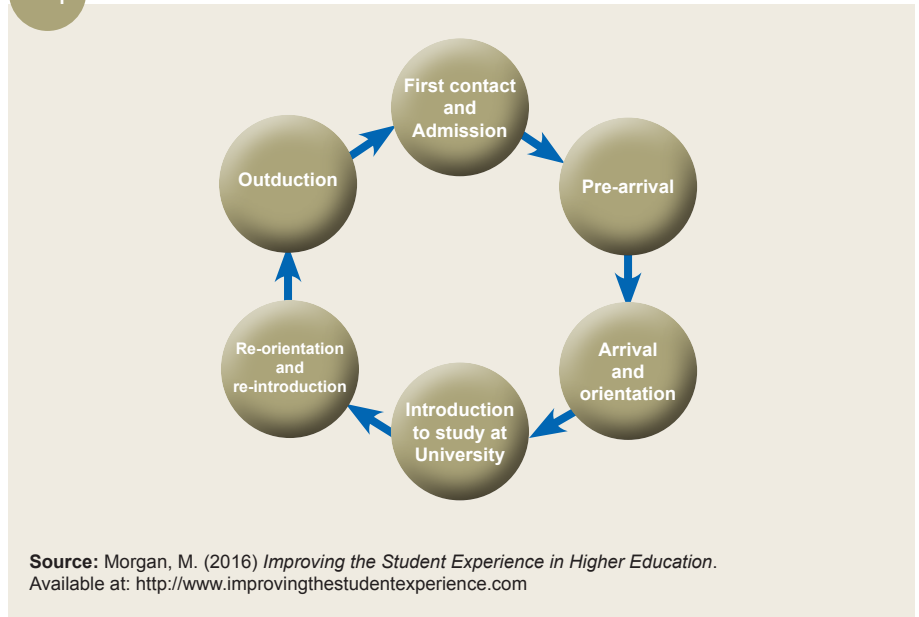
Student life cycle models

Student cultures have unique characteristics, which distinguish them from youth culture in general, the institutional culture of a university overall and the political culture in the country.

To understand student culture in general and student political culture (including protest culture) in particular, it is important to first have an understanding of student life, the student experience, and eventually the role that the university, curricular and extra-curricular life play therein.

There are typical life stages in the student experience that involve various transitions. One way of conceptualizing this is by means of student life cycle models, which conceptualise the student experience in terms of various transitions into higher education, through higher education, and into the world of work. Simple student life cycle models, such as those by Michelle Morgan and Alf Lizzio, map the student experience to ask what student affairs can, or should do in terms of providing various services, programmes, and interventions. More complex models, such as the ones being developed in the Higher Education and Development in Africa unit within the Education and Skills Development programme of the HSRC, go far beyond this 'student affairs perspective' into the micro, meso and macro factors that impact on the student experience. Life cycle models have an important heuristic function; they also have immediate practical application. For instance, it is possible to ask quite deep and refined questions of what students from different backgrounds expect at different stages in the student life cycle, and how the higher education system, institutions, and academic and student affairs can respond to those expectations: to anticipate them and meet students at their point of need; to exceed their expectations; or to manage expectations by either creating them or moderating them in line with the available resources.

Fig 1   **Morgan's six-stage "Student Experience Transitions Practitioner Model"**

First contact and Admission

Pre-arrival

Outduction

Arrival and orientation

Re-orientation and re-introduction

Introduction to study at University

Source: Morgan, M. (2016) *Improving the Student Experience in Higher Education.* Available at: http://www.improvingthestudentexperience.com

The student life cycle models alert us that student life starts at the aspirational stage; that is before a student actually is a student. Different students move through the first year experience quite differently, encountering different kinds of trauma and excitement and having different capabilities for navigating academic, social and personal struggles. Complex life cycle models conceptualise different stages and transitions in ways that allow for theoretically sound, evidence-based policy making and intervention, at all levels, with reference to dimensions or themes such as finance, teaching and learning, support, and employment. There are so many moments when things can go terribly wrong, and so little of the knowledge of the processes that students undergo to the point that it is systematically worked through. Meanwhile, millions are spent on transformation offices, institutional culture surveys, and all manners of 'traditional' and ad-hoc services and programmes. If the system, its institutions, and the various role-players involved fail students' (and non-students' and drop-outs') expectations again and again: what then is your theory of change?

A culture of student political enragement

If there is an emerging culture of student protests, at what point is it emerging? At which stage of the student life cycle has the enragement of students that we have witnessed over the last two years started developing? In relation to what experiences? Are students coming to campus with that anger? If so, what can be done to empower and support them to process their prior experiences, and reading of their present and future in a way that these experiences become a catalyst for engagement, rather than fertile soil for further disillusionment and enragement?

It is here where student life cycle models provide a theoretical framework for understanding and for guiding change: to move from

student enragement to student engagement. Engagement with disciplinary knowledge, teaching, learning, and research; engagement with politics and becoming an active academic citizen who develops those graduate attributes required to live a meaningful life; engagement with community, society, and the world of work, to be fully rounded and have that sought-after experience.

There is a wealth of theory on student protest culture and activism: Philip Altbach wrote about it internationally for half a decade; Mokubung Nkomo analysed and theorized it in relation to the student culture of resistance in historically black universities in the 1970s; and Saleem Badat studied in depth the black student political organisations under apartheid. A student protest culture is context-bound and has specific characteristics. It relates to national political culture: the political 'regime' and its legitimacy; the university type: location, history and institutional culture, what if offers, what staff it employs; the academic core functions and ways in which learning is facilitated and responsive to students; the extent and quality of student affairs programmes and services; and, crucially, the composition of the student body, for student politics cannot be abstracted from the student body as Mzukisi Qobo reminded me a few years ago. What students from what backgrounds, their student experience, their expectations and the extent to which these expectations are congruent with what they encounter in higher education.

Moreover, protest involves agency, and this agency is sparked into action. In student protest literature, the spark is provided by the trigger event: Chumani Maxwele's performance at the CJ Rhodes statue at UCT in March 2015 sparking #RhodesMustFall; the announcement of the Wits Council on fee increments triggering #FeesMustFall in September 2015; the racist confrontation at the Intervarsity rugby game at UFS sparking the removal of the CR Swart statue, and #JansenMustFall in February 2016; and so forth.

Towards a culture of student engagement

What would we prefer to a student political culture of protests? One of student apathy? The most critical in terms of the emergence of a culture of student protest are not so much structural factors, student agency, and trigger events. Student political culture develops dialectically from the response that student activists receive, and eventually expect to receive, from the authorities: foremost university managements, but frequently also national authorities. The response must be measured in order for a culture of student engagement to emerge, rather than one of enragement to fester. The immediate response is important: violence breeds violence, and can indeed establish a pattern of violent confrontation. We have seen too much of that across the country. Rather, other responses are preferred: negotiation, measured concessions, and change. In the medium term, understanding student life cycles, including the life cycle of student politics, is important; addressing at the level of the student experience what can be addressed there. Eventually, the long term response must be to re-think student life beyond life cycle models, thinking beyond student life indeed, to think through the bigger picture, learning pathways through schooling, post-school education, and into the world of work in elaborate ways whereby empirically grounded, relevant theory and theory-based models inform policy so that no student, indeed no youth, is left behind.

Author: Dr Thierry M Luescher is Research Director: Higher Education and Development in Africa, in the Education and Skills Development Programme of the Human Sciences Research Council, Cape Town. He recently published the open access book Student Politics in Africa: Representation and Activism, with M. Klemencic and J. Otieno Jowi (2016, African Minds).

tluscher@hsrc.ac.za;
021 466 7994 / 8093; 083 350 5959

STATUS OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS TARGETED FOR UPGRADING:
Implications for policy and impact evaluation

South Africa is characterised by various forms of inequality, which are magnified in informal settlements. In a population of over 51 million, income inequalities by race continues to persist. Income inequality results in other forms of exclusion, the most glaring being access to adequate housing which explains the overrepresentation of Africans and Coloureds in informal settlements. *Catherine Ndinda, Charles Hongoro, Demetre Labadarios, Tholang Mokhele, Ernest Khalema, Gina Weir Smith, Konosoang Sobane* reflect on the implications for policy and impact evaluation through the upgrading of informal settlements programme.

Informal settlement in Caledon Western Cape.
Credit: HSRC Communication and Stakeholder Relations

Introduction

Informal settlements represent spaces of marginality, inequality and deprivation in the urban landscape. Informal settlements are characterised by illegal occupation of land, and lack of basic services such as water, sanitation, and electricity (Department of Human Settlements [DHS], 2009). Given that the residents live on land occupied illegally, the improvements made to the dwellings are minimal to ensure protection from the elements of the weather, and from crime. The poor living conditions are the cause of poor health outcomes that are often compounded by lack of affordable nutritious food, poor access to health facilities and other social amenities, and general overcrowding in the dwellings and settlements as a whole. The existence of informal settlements alongside affluent planned settlements represents what has been referred to as the "urban divide" (UN Habitat, 2010:6). The UN Habitat (2014) report identifies the growth of slums and informal settlements, poverty and inequality, among the challenges that Southern African cities are confronted with.

Since the transition to democracy in 1994, the South African government has consistently sought to address the challenge of inadequate housing whose most glaring manifestation is the existence of informal settlements. By 1994, 13.5% of all households lived in "squatter settlements" (Department of Housing, 1994: section 3.1.3d). In 1994, it was estimated that new households accommodated themselves in informal settlements at a rate of 150,000 per annum (National Department of Housing [NDOH], 1994). In the

Reconstruction and Development Programme, adequate housing was identified among the top priorities of the post-apartheid government (ANC, 1994). Informal settlements were also prioritised for upgrading (DOH, 1994) through the inclusion of the consolidation subsidies in the housing subsidy scheme (HSS). In the Breaking New Ground (BNG) strategy, the country explicitly identified informal settlements as a growing challenge and proposed to tackle these through the creation of the upgrading of informal settlements programme (UISP) (DHS, 2009).

Objectives of the Upgrading of Informal Settlements Programme

The objective of the UISP is to ensure health and safety, security of tenure, and community empowerment. At the inception of the UISP, the underlying assumption was that the baseline status of informal settlements could be derived from census or periodical data collected by Statistics South Africa (StatsSA). However, such an assumption negates the fact that census or other general surveys do not provide detailed indicators related to either informal settlements, or adequate housing in general. The complexity in determining the magnitude of settlements and the population therein is compounded by the way these emerge, and local government response to informality.

In 2014, the Department of Human Settlements and Department of Monitoring and Evaluation commissioned a Baseline Assessment for future impact evaluation of informal settlements targeted for upgrading, to establish the baseline status of selected informal settlements (Ndinda et al, 2016). The scope of the baseline evaluation was limited to settlements targeted for upgrading, implying that they were already included in the medium term

> In the Reconstruction and Development Programme, adequate housing was identified among the top priorities of the post-apartheid government

municipal budgets (2014-2019). The indicators for the baseline evaluation were based on twelve (12) dimensions of measurement developed from the UISP objectives. This paper reports on key findings from the baseline study on informal settlements which employed mixed methods which consisted of questionnaires administered to households in selected municipalities across the nine (9) provinces. Qualitative data was also collected using focus group discussions, and key informant interviews. The findings in this paper are based on the weighted data collected (in July to September 2015) in 75 informal settlements with a total of 2 380 households. The household data was computed and analysed to generate descriptive statistics and frequencies related to indicators in each of the twelve dimensions developed for the study.

Findings

Demographic profile

South Africa is characterised by various forms of inequality, but these are magnified in informal settlements. In a population of over 51 million, income inequalities by race is persistent (StatsSA, 2011). Income inequality results in other forms of exclusion, the most glaring being in access to adequate housing which explains the overrepresentation of Africans and Coloureds in informal settlements. Although the proportion of households living in informal settlements declined from 16.4% in 2001 to 13.6% in 2011 (Census, 2011), the findings of the baseline study on informal settlements targeted for upgrading

indicate that these are home to a large proportion of the population: that is young Africans in their economically active stages of life.

The population distribution based on the weighted data (2380 households) indicates that residents of informal settlements were predominantly (87.6%) African (n = 7 246), with few Coloureds (12.2%) (n = 1 007), and a very insignificant proportion of Whites (0.1%), Others (0.1%), and Indians/Asians (less than 10 per ethnic group). In terms of citizenship, 95.2% of household members were South Africans, 4.3% were "other Africans", and 0.5% were "other" (not African). The inhabitants are predominantly female (53.1%). The settlements with the largest female population were in LP (57.9%); EC (56.2%); and NC (55.9%). Most households were male-headed (54.7%). In five out of the nine provinces, the households were male-headed. The provinces with the largest proportion of female-headed households were Free State (61.0%), Northern Cape (56.2%), and KwaZulu-Natal (54.7%). Majority of informal dwellers (69.4%) were below 35 years, and if those between 35-44 years are included, the proportion rises to 83%. The average household size in the settlements was 3.75 members, which is higher than the national average of 3.4 members per household. The highest household sizes were in Kwa-Zulu-Natal (4.53), and Northern Cape (4.03). Free State recorded the lowest household size of 3.35. Most residents (46.8%) had lived in their settlement for more than eleven years, few (28.6%) had lived there for less than six years, and fewer (24.6%) between 5-10 years.

Employment rates and income opportunities

The baseline findings on unemployment, levels of income, and few business opportunities are consistent with previous studies which suggest that informal settlements are characterised by high levels of unemployment, varied and inconsistent sources of income, and high levels of deprivation (Tipple, 2004; Kigochie, 2001; Majale, 2008). In the baseline study, household members (15 to 64 years) who worked for a wage, salary, commission or any payment in kind (including paid domestic work) during the calendar week preceding the survey, amounted to 1 317 (Ndinda et al, 2016). The gender break-down indicated that 62.8% of the unemployed informal dwellers were females, while the rest were males. The rates of unemployment were highest in the Northern Cape (83.6%) (Ndinda et al 2016). The Western Cape had the lowest rates of unemployment at 45.9%. On average, 68.8% of household members in the informal settlements targeted for upgrading were unemployed (Ndinda et al, 2016).

Unlike in other contexts where small businesses were reported as a major source of income (Tipple, 2004), most informal dwellers reported their main source of income as salaries/ wages, followed by social grants. Nationally, an average of 8.2% of household members reported participation in business. The three main sources of income identified by households were salaries/ wages (52.3%); social grants (26%), and businesses (6.4%). Although salaries / wages are listed as main sources of

income, most household heads (47.5%) earn less than R2000 per month and a large proportion have no income (8.5%). Social grants in informal settlements are so critical to the survival of informal dwellers that without these, a third (32.6%) of the population would be destitute. The high rates of unemployment and low rates of participation in informal businesses suggests that meeting basic needs such as food is a struggle, and this compromises the nutritional needs of household members.
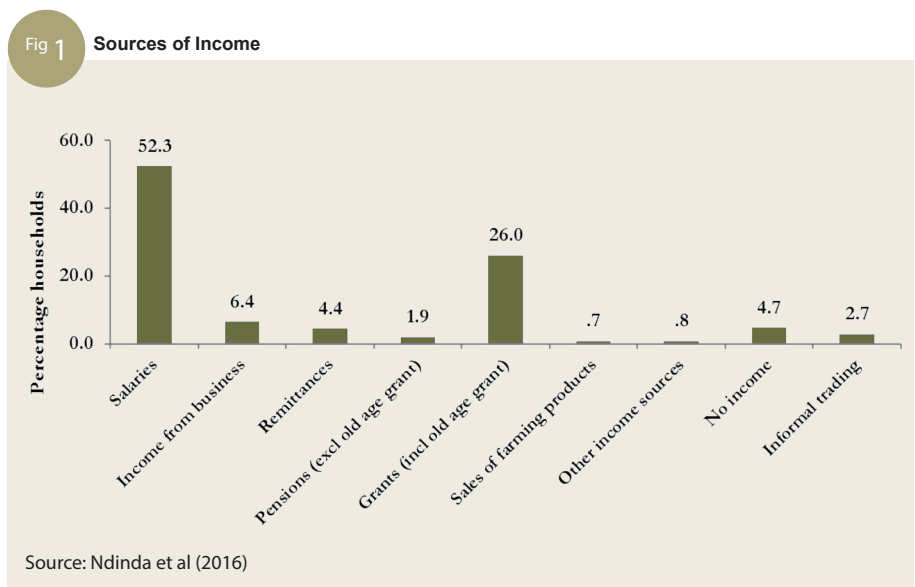

Fig 1 **Sources of Income**

Source: Ndinda et al (2016)

Table 1: Employment/Unemployment Rates by Province

Province	Employed		Unemployed		Total
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	n
Eastern Cape	31.4	[23.6-40.5]	68.3	[59.4-76.0]	639
Free State	29.9	[21.6-39.8]	69.3	[59.9-77.4]	503
Gauteng	28.2	[26.3-30.1]	71.5	[69.6-73.3]	1788
KwaZulu-Natal	28.4	[26.3-30.5]	71.6	[69.5-73.7]	460
Limpopo	31.7	[30.5-33.0]	68.3	[67.0-69.5]	173
Mpumalanga	27.3	[25.9-28.7]	72.1	[71.5-72.8]	94
North West	30.1	[25.0-35.6]	69.9	[64.4-75.0]	382
Northern Cape	16.1	[9.3-26.6]	83.6	[73.3-90.5]	310
Western Cape	54.1	[49.2-58.9]	45.9	[41.1-50.7]	401
Total	30.9	[28.1-33.8]	68.8	[66.0-71.5]	4750

Although salaries / wages are listed as main sources of income, most household heads (47.5%) earn less than R2000 per month and a large proportion have no income (8.5%)

Recommendations

Impact Assessment of the UISP

The findings discussed in this brief provide a glimpse into the status of informal settlements, and suggest that the detailed indicators based on the twelve dimensions of measurement of the UISP provide a basis upon which effectiveness and impact assessments can be designed. We recommend the utilisation of the UISP indicators to collect data on the effectiveness and impact evaluation of upgraded informal settlements. With the large number (n=75) of informal settlements, where baseline evaluation data is available, we recommend that the DHS employs the experimental design in assessing the impact of the UISP as there are sufficient cases to set up intervention and control cases (informal settlements), in order to determine the impact of upgrading informal settlements.

Policy on the emergence growth and upgrading of informal settlements

The magnitude of informal settlements and the levels of deprivation therein suggest that the DHS needs to formulate a policy that addresses the emergence, growth and upgrading of informal settlements. Linked to policy is the need for Treasury to increase funding for the UISP and to municipalities in particular, to help tackle the challenge of informality and improve the quality of life of the inhabitants.

Employment and income opportunities

The high levels of unemployment particularly among women suggest that programmes designed to tackle unemployment and improve income opportunities need to be gendered, if unemployment and dependence on social grants are to be reduced. Programmes for income generation also need to be spatially targeted to women and youth in informal settlements.

Informal settlement in Grabouw, Western Cape.
Credit: HSRC Communication and Stakeholder Relations

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IN SOUTH AFRICA: The road ahead

The journey of a researcher's good idea to a viable and scalable technology which can be commercialised can be helped along by a strong technology transfer office. *Nazeem Mustapha, Firdous Khan* and *Gerard Ralphs* reflect on how is South Africa faring when it comes to building this capacity within its publicly-financed research institutions.

Technology transfer is big business in leading university towns around the world. In Cambridge, Massachusetts, where Harvard and MIT are based, and which houses the famous innovation district Kendall Square, between 1999 and 2013, 1,400 start-ups created 40,000 jobs and raised close to $2 billion (or about R19 billion in 2013) worth of venture capital.

For South Africa, the results of a brand new baseline study of the performance of technology transfer offices (TTOs) at publicly funded research institutions reveal how far we have come in commercialising inventions. The results also gesture toward what challenges and opportunities lie up ahead.

Institutional capability is growing

The widespread institutionalisation of technology transfer at South African universities is relatively new, and the practice of technology transfer far less established than in the US, for example.

Between 2008 and 2014, just 45 start-up companies were formed from the activities of just five South African universities, the study found; a mere fraction of the output from Cambridge alone.

While there are several South African institutions with a deeper track record of technology transfer activity—for example, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), which has employed dedicated staff to perform technology transfer since 1955—highly-resourced universities only set up their TTOs from about 1999 onward. Since the inception of the Intellectual Property Rights from Publicly Financed Research and Development Act (IPR Act) in 2008, most other publicly-financed research institutions have followed suit.

What R1bn worth R&D does for technology transfer in SA

South Africa's universities and science councils, which are funded by the Department of Higher Education and the Department of Science and Technology respectively from tax revenues, are tasked with the performance of research and experimental development (R&D). Current policy thinking is that some of this investment in R&D will have return in the form of socio-economic benefits to the country, which is partially why there has been a push from government to set up technology transfer offices.

Quantified, every tax-paying citizen in South Africa would have spent about R100 in 2013 to fund just R1
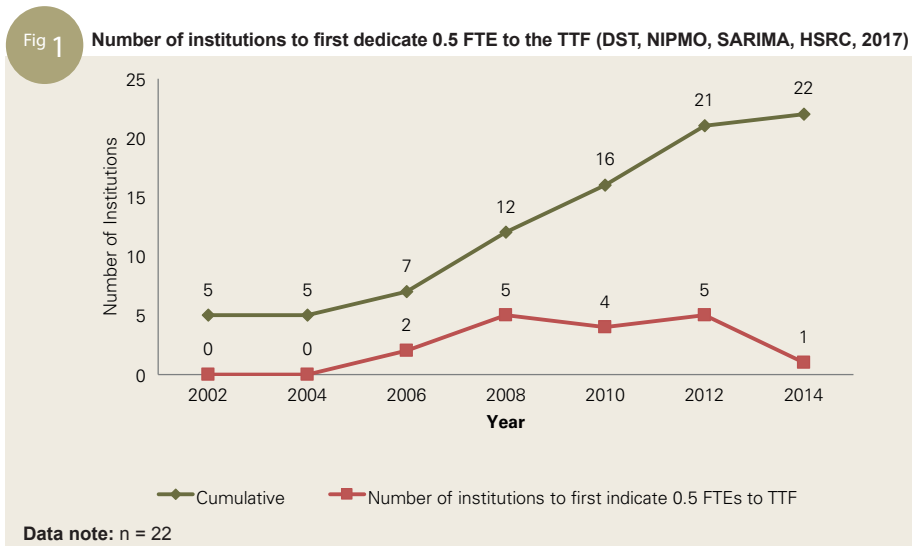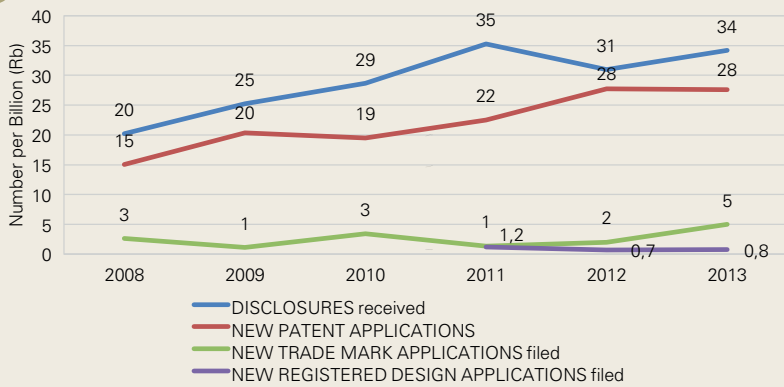

Fig 1 Number of institutions to first dedicate 0.5 FTE to the TTF (DST, NIPMO, SARIMA, HSRC, 2017)

Cumulative — Number of institutions to first indicate 0.5 FTEs to TTF

Data note: n = 22

Fig 2

IP related activities per billion Rand of institutional research expenditure in constant 2010 prices (DST, NIPMO, SARIMA, HSRC, 2017)

Legend:
- DISCLOSURES received
- NEW PATENT APPLICATIONS
- NEW TRADE MARK APPLICATIONS filed
- NEW REGISTERED DESIGN APPLICATIONS filed

Data note: n = 21
* Plant Breeders Rights (PBR) data was not included due to insufficient data.

billion worth of R&D. So what does this investment yield?

The answer has a few dimensions. First, R1 billion worth of R&D expenditure invested in public research institutions and higher education institutions was used by TTOs to administer and manage various forms of IP protection arising from disclosures by university-based inventors.

Thus, for every billion Rand that taxpayers invested into R&D in 2013, TTOs received 34 new disclosures and continued to manage 151 technologies.

Second, as a measure of the return on the investment of R1 billion in any one year, the technology transfer process at public research institutions eventually led to five start-up companies that were still operational at the end of 2013.

These start-up companies stem from the activities of just five institutions, mostly those institutions that had dedicated staff for technology transfer prior to 2001, which suggests the lifecycle from an idea at a public research institution into a functioning company is one that can take several years, sometimes even decades.

Why the outputs are so low

It is in the nature of national technology transfer systems worldwide that only a handful of universities in a country have the resources to function at a level where they are producing viable start-ups.
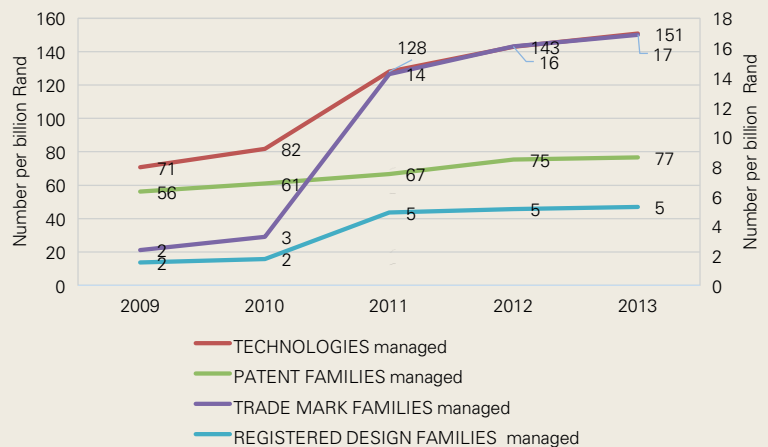
Despite the hard work that TTOs are putting into the system, and the creative and entrepreneurial capacity of university inventors, the current state of technology transfer is simply not yet operating at that level of dynamism that is seen in technology-focused areas in the US.

There are probably many reasons to explain this state of development, but we highlight what we believe are three key reasons policy makers within and outside of these institutions should consider.

First, the TTOs we studied identified the current level of funding as being insufficient to their operations, which is an obvious impediment to performance. The Kendall Square example is powerful because it illustrates that venture capital is attracted to excellent ideas with strong potential for scalability. They are also attracted to the track records of the universities, their graduates and researchers, and their research infrastructures. In South Africa there is not much venture capital activity around technology transfer offices (indeed, the level of venture capital investment in South African businesses is low, generally speaking). However, this does beg a set of questions as to why venture capitalists are not more in tune with what is coming out of universities in South Africa, or whether they are aware, and not yet interested enough to commit their bottom line to new ideas.

A second area that was identified as inhibiting future growth in

Fig 3

IP related activities managed per billion Rand of institutional research expenditure in constant 2010 prices (DST, NIPMO, SARIMA, HSRC, 2017)

Legend:
- TECHNOLOGIES managed
- PATENT FAMILIES managed
- TRADE MARK FAMILIES managed
- REGISTERED DESIGN FAMILIES managed

It is in the nature of national technology transfer systems worldwide that only a handful of universities in a country have the resources to function at a level where they are producing viable start-ups

Fig 4 IPercentage of institutions that indicated which specific skills were "much" or "critically" needed, as at 2014 (DST, NIPMO, SARIMA, HSRC, 2017)
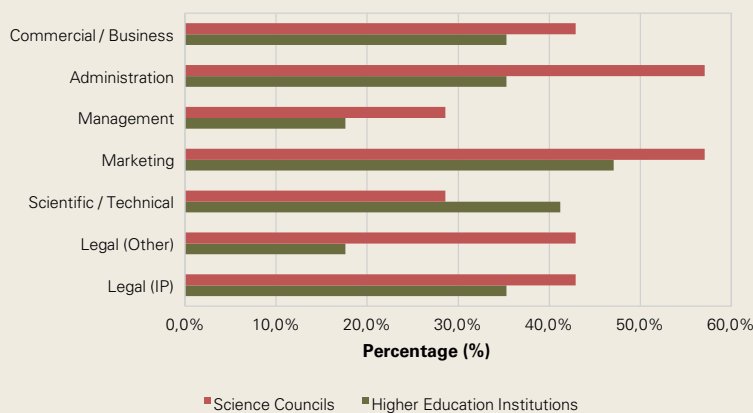
Data note: HEI n = 17
SC n = 7
These percentages were computed based on the number of responses per skill, divided by the total number of respondents by institution type.

technology transfer was the skills profile of TTOs. Survey results indicated that staff within the TTOs are made up primarily of individuals with undergraduate qualifications in the natural sciences, most of them with a Master's degree. Because technology transfer requires knowledge of legal stratagems and processes, it is not surprising that general legal skills, as well as specific legal skills in IP protection, are perceived as a skills shortage in the TTOs. Critical, too, were TTOs that highlighted a key need for individuals with marketing skills

Third, the territory on which IP protection battles are being fought is changing rapidly, as firms jockey for position in the context of the so-called Fourth Industrial Revolution. It may be that the very nature of TTOs—as organisational forms—need rethinking to cope with the demands of the emergent global business environment.

The road ahead

Technology transfer capacity is essential for South Africa if we aspire to economic development principles such as export-led growth.

Equally, we must be realistic about what a technology transfer office within our universities or science councils can achieve over the short- and medium-term, and develop compelling visions for what they might achieve over the long-run.

The study was conducted by the Human Sciences Research Council in collaboration with the Southern African Research and Innovation Management Association (SARIMA), the National Intellectual Property Management Office (NIPMO), and the Department of Science and Technology (DST), and is available for download from the HSRC's website http://www.hsrc.ac.za/en/departments/CeSTii/reports-cestii. To watch the live launch of the study, visit YouTube https://youtu.be/J0gp_ejfpXs.

Authors: Dr Nazeem Mustapha is Chief Research Specialist in the HSRC's Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (CeSTII). Dr Firdous Khan is a Postdoctoral Fellow at CeSTII. Gerard Ralphs is CeSTII's Programme Manager & Policy Analyst.

New vaccine to help smallholder farmers strengthen food security

Research shows that 40% of all livestock in South Africa is owned by rural communities. Primary animal health care is crucial for animal husbandry and it ensures the health of animals which consequently leads to improved livelihoods for smallholder farmers. *Mbongeni Maziya, Alexis Habiyaremye, Petronella Chaminuka*, and *Zimbini Mdlulwa*, reflect on a new vaccine which can assist smallholder farmers because of its cost effectiveness and its ability to prevent multiple diseases.

Animal husbandry is one of the most important farming activities in South Africa as it constitutes the primary source of livelihood for a sizeable number of rural farmers across the country. As such, it plays a crucial role in contributing to food security and rural employment. There's a general consensus in development economies literature as well as in research in African economies and livelihoods, that smallholder livestock farming provides pathways out of poverty, towards food security and sustainable livelihoods. Livestock rearing provides a source of income, and cattle specifically serve as a measure and a store of wealth. For many smallholder rural farmers, livestock is used as a 'bank', whereby cattle can be sold to pay for emergency needs (e.g school fees, funerals, etc). Livestock serves diverse functions for rural communities and is central to their livelihoods.

According to data from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), approximately 40% of all livestock in South Africa is owned by rural communities. Considering the large number of livestock owned by smallholder farmers, it is therefore not a coincidence that the Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Strategy of 2004 identified livestock farming as one of the strategies to alleviate poverty and improve food security in rural South Africa. This also places communal livestock farmers at the core of livestock value chains. Smallholder farmers are often misunderstood regarding the main reason why they keep livestock but most government interventions (i.e Agriparks and Agrivillages) have focused on the commercial part.

Diseases are a threat to the livelihood of smallholder livestock farmers

The livestock sector is highly vulnerable to disease outbreaks and this has a direct effect on livestock owners. The livelihoods of small scale livestock farmers are intermittently threatened by disease outbreaks, which put an enormous strain on their livelihoods. Diseases cause a reduction in the productive capacity of livestock and the subsequent reduction in meat and other animal products. Lumpy skin disease, rift valley fever, black quarter and heart water are some of the most prevalent diseases in South Africa.

To adequately face the challenges posed by epidemic outbreaks, farmers are called to develop sufficient knowledge of the diseases, adopt appropriate attitudes for preventing the diseases, and direct their perceptions towards practices that optimize their livestock production while minimizing the risk of disease outbreaks and other causes of livestock loss. Given their central role in maintaining healthier cattle and preventing animal loss due to diseases, cattle vaccination and animal healthcare contribute to food security in South Africa.

Smallholder Livestock farmers Spending on Primary Animal Health Care (PAHC)

In 2016 the Human and Social Development unit of the HSRC in collaboration with the Economic Analysis unit of the ARC conducted a study which looked at smallholder livestock farmer's knowledge, attitudes, and practices towards vaccinations. The project aims at developing a new vaccine targeting diseases that affect cattle, goats and sheep. The HSRC was invited to join the project to provide insights into the human and social dimensions of animal health among farming communities across disease prevalent places in South Africa. The involvement of the HSRC is part of the notion that cattle rearing cannot be separated from the broader issues of social and human development.

The study was conducted across five provinces in South Africa: Eastern

Cape, the Free State, KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga and North-West and was aimed at providing a picture of livestock farmer's spending and preferences with regards to animal vaccines and medicines and this will in turn be used in informing the production process of the new vaccine. Moreover, a total of 593 livestock farmers were interviewed across the five provinces.

According to our findings, farmers generally spend a sizable amount (R2 272.44 on average) of money per annum on animal healthcare and prevention products (i.e. medicines, vaccines, de-wormers, dipping, antibiotics and food supplements) (Figure 1). We found that close to 80% of smallholder livestock farmers purchase antibodies to boost the immune system of their animals and that approximately 62% of the surveyed farmers purchase animal vaccines. Approximately 55% of the surveyed farmers purchase animal feed. However, when it comes to spending on animal feed and supplements, we found that less than half of the farmers purchased these products, 49% of the farmers do purchase animal feed while 43% reported to have purchased supplements in the past 12 months. We also found that factors such as education level, total household income and number of cattle owned significantly influenced farmers' spending on animal healthcare. Despite the spending on animal healthcare, farmers view vaccines as too expensive. In addition, most rural livestock farmers prefer a vaccine which can be used in cattle, sheep and goats and a vaccine which can be used to prevent multiple diseases. Although most farmers were able to differentiate between vaccines and medicines, it emerged that they did not know much about vaccines and this is attributed to the lack of training on primary animal healthcare.

Fig 1 — Farmers spending on PAHC
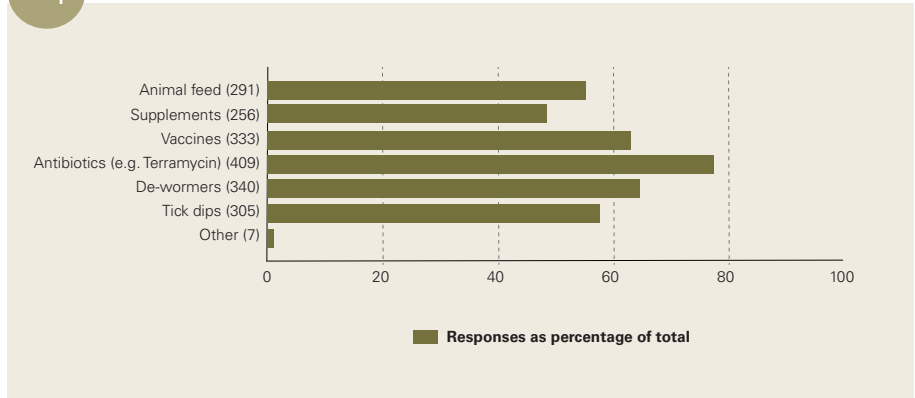
New vaccine to target smallholder livestock farmers

The Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC) funded The Agricultural Research Council-Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute (OVI) to develop a 2-in 1 vaccine for the prevention of lumpy skin disease and rift valley fever. The 2-in-1 vaccine will be a single dose, meaning, farmers will buy one vaccine which will protect their cattle from both diseases. This is expected to be cheaper as farmers will only be buying one vaccine instead of buying two. The new vaccine will be a low cost, easy to administer, stable and will provide long term protection for livestock. It is also worth noting that most vaccines require refrigeration in order to maintain the vaccine's cold chain but the new vaccine will not require any refrigeration. This will benefit marginalized smallholder rural farmers who do not own refrigerators.

Both rift valley fever and lumpy skin diseases are classified as notifiable diseases, which means that every suspected case of either disease must be reported to the nearest state veterinarian. This notification procedure has been put in place because both diseases can result in dire economic consequences if an outbreak is not prevented. Therefore, the use of the 2-in-1 vaccine will go a long way in preventing both diseases and the expected outcome will be improved food security for livestock farmers. In addition, the study found that an overwhelming majority of farmers are willing to purchase a 2-in-1 vaccine for prevention of Rift Valley fever and Lumpy Skin disease.

Concluding remarks

Primary animal health care is crucial for animal husbandry and it ensures the health of animals which consequently leads to improved livelihoods for smallholder farmers. The new vaccine presents a real opportunity for smallholder farmers because of its cost effectiveness and its ability to prevent multiple diseases. To better prepare future users for an optimal deployment of this new vaccine when it eventually hits the market, state interventions in the form of training and policy change will be needed in order to ensure that smallholder farmers develop adequate knowledge to use these preventative methods effectively for more food security.

Authors: Mbongeni Maziya, Researcher, Human and Social Development: Alexis Habiyaremye, Senior Research Specialist, Economic Performance and Development, HSRC: Petronella Chaminuka, Principal Economist, Economic Analysis unit, ARC; Zimbini Mdlulwa, Economist, Economic Analysis unit, ARC.

a previous article on Prof Attri was published in the HSRC Review Volume 13 Number 2 April – June 2015

Interview with **Prof Vishva Attri**, chair of Indian Ocean Studies at the University of Mauritius

The HSRC hosted *Prof Vishva Attri* from 12-15 June 2017 with a view to create more awareness of the blue economy and to finalise the Blue Economy Handbook of the Indian Ocean Region co-edited by *Prof Narnia Bohler-Muller*, to be published by AISA Press. This is an interview with *Professor Attri* who spoke to *Dr Michael Cosser* from the Democracy, Governance and Service Delivery programme.

Rather than focusing on short-term gain, governments should be seeking to secure the futures of their countries and peoples by ensuring that the oceans are farmed responsibly, and that what is taken out is replenished.

The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), composed of the 21 states that abut the Indian Ocean, owes its genesis to a sentiment expressed by the late Nelson Mandela during a visit to India in 1995: "The natural urge of the facts of history and geography should broaden itself to include the concept of an Indian Ocean Rim for socio-economic co-operation and other peaceful endeavours. Recent changes in the international system demand that the countries of the Indian Ocean become a single platform" (IORA, 2017a). This statement led to the formation of the Indian Ocean Rim Initiative in March 1995 and the subsequent establishment of the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Co-operation (now known simply as IORA) two years later.

The IORA Secretariat, hosted by the Government of Mauritius in Cyber City Ebène, and currently headed by Secretary-General Ambassador K V Bhagirath, is responsible for the management, coordination, and monitoring of policy decisions adopted by the Council of Ministers of Member States as well as for servicing IORA meetings, promoting the Association, collating and disseminating information, maintaining an archive, depository and registry for IORA documentation and research material, and mobilising resources (IORA, 2017b).

A Chair in Indian Ocean Studies has been established at the University of Mauritius to provide research support to the Secretariat. The incumbent is Prof Vishva Attri, who was a guest of Prof Narnia Bohler-Muller, Executive Director of DGSD and leader of the South African Chapter of the IORA Academic Group. As Chair, Prof Attri is responsible for promoting research in the six priority areas of IORA: maritime safety and security; trade and investment facilitation; disaster and risk management; fisheries management; academic, science and technology; and tourism and cultural exchange. "Women and economic empowerment" and the "Blue Economy" (BE) have since been added as cross-cutting areas.

The BE has been recognised as "the top priority for generating employment, food security, poverty alleviation, and ensuring sustainability in business and economic models in the Indian Ocean … [which is] the world's preeminent seaway for trade and commerce … [and a region] endowed with a wealth of natural resources … largely untapped" (IORA, 2017c). Beyond this official description, Prof Attri characterises the BE as a major paradigm shift in terms of the way in which humanity is responding to the potential of the oceans – and of course in IORA's case of the Indian Ocean – to provide employment, boost trade, investment and tourism, as well as a source of food and agro-processing. However, he cautions that that all ocean-related activity must be conducted in a sustainable way. Rather than focusing on short-term gain, governments should be seeking to secure the futures of their countries and peoples by ensuring that the oceans are farmed responsibly, and that what is taken out is replenished. Promoting

IMAGE COURTESY: stockfreeimages.com

awareness about the impact of maritime pollution on fish stocks, for example, and about which fish can be sustainably harvested is just one of the initiatives with which IORA is concerned.

Goal 14 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals – "Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources" (UN, 2017) – provides an undergirding framework for IORA. However, Prof Attri says the real test lies in the extent to which ocean-state governments are prepared to assume responsibility for, and invest in meeting the targets that contribute to meeting the following goals: reducing marine pollution; sustainably managing and protecting marine and coastal ecosystems; minimising the impacts of ocean acidification; regulating harvesting and ending overfishing; conserving (by 2020) at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas; regulating fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing; increasing the economic benefits from the sustainable use of marine resources to small Island developing States and least developed countries;

increasing scientific knowledge, developing research capacity, and transferring marine technology; providing small-scale artisanal fishers access to marine resources and markets; and implementing the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

While Goal 14 and its 10 targets are of global significance, the particular focus of IORA is naturally on the Indian Ocean Rim. Prof Attri acknowledges the important role played by South Africa in providing a platform from which some of the key IORA initiatives could be launched. The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) and the HSRC hosted three Blue Economy lectures in South Africa in 2015: the first, at the HSRC offices in Durban on 6 May, on renewable energy; the second, at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) in Port Elizabeth on 7 May, on the contribution of IORA to member states; and the third, at the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA) in Johannesburg on 8 May, on IORA more broadly, which was attended by officials from the South African Navy, and by

heads of missions from Canada and New Zealand. The broader purpose of all three lectures was advocacy.

As CIOS, Prof Attri has been involved in two major projects over the past three years. The first is a study of bilateral trade and investment among IORA member states. A collaborative project with the IORA Secretariat begun in 2015. The project, which will feature in a six-chapter book, focuses on trade in relation to economic growth and economic conditions in member states. The second, launched also in 2015 in the wake of an HSRC lecture on the BE organised by Prof Bohler-Muller, is a handbook on the BE, which Prof Attri describes as "the first modest attempt by any organisation to present the Blue Economy in a systematic way." The first draft of the 21-chapter book written by authors from seven IORA Member States and one Dialogue Partner, a highly ambitious project, is being finalised at the time of writing. The book, to be published by AISA Press, will appear in October 2017.

PLAY
FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD
DEVELOPMENT

Dr Cyril Adonis and *Dr Konosoang Sobane* reflect on the importance of play in contributing to development of children.

Child playing in park.
Credit: HSRC Communication and Stakeholder Relations

Play is an innate childhood instinct that is not only enjoyable, but also essential to the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical wellbeing of children. Internationally, children's right to play, recreation, leisure, art and cultural activities is set out in Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), as well as Article 12 of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC). In South Africa, Chapter 2 of the Children's Act (2005) highlights the significance of play. In addition to this, the National Plan of Action (NPA) 2012-2017 on Play, Sports and Leisure aims to encourage and resource play activities for children and adolescents through the national school curriculum. Despite this commitment, play does not appear to be integrated in the formal school curriculum in South Africa.

The Play Every Day Project

To address these shortcomings, Sesame Workshop with funding from the LEGO Foundation, developed *The Play Every Day Project,* which was implemented in India, Mexico, and South Africa. The project aimed at helping children become creative, lifelong learners by unlocking the power of play to create transformative hands-on learning experiences. Furthermore, the project aimed to increase parents' awareness about the importance of guided play for

children's development, and build parents' capacity for engaging in play. In order to inform the development of the project, needs assessments were conducted in each of the implementing countries. During the second half of 2016, a team from the HSRC's Research and Impact Assessment Unit (RIA) was contracted to conduct the South African needs assessment.

The needs assessment was aimed at:

- learning more about families' access to materials and media, which can support play;
- understanding the role of play in children's lives;
- assessing parents' understanding of the value of play;
- examining barriers to play.

Workshops were conducted at three early childhood development (ECD) centres in Diepsloot, Protea South, and Meadowlands. The study targeted children aged between three and six years who attended the ECD centres, as well as their parents. In total, 85 parent-child pairs participated in the study. Data was collected through a demographic questionnaire, as well as a parental and a child interview protocol.

Results

A significant proportion of parents confirmed that they have children's books (53%), and art and craft materials (60%) at home. The majority (70%) did not have toys or other learning materials. The most widely owned media device was a TV with over 80%, and the least owned was a tablet with a little over 20%. Smartphone and TV usage were the highest for both parents, and children. Parents also valued the role of play in providing the foundation for the realisation of the dreams they have for their children. In addition, they distinguished between learning through play and formal education. They believed that the main reason why some parents do not hold positive conceptions of play is because of ignorance, lack of education, or because they do not have time. Parents further had positive attitudes towards play, including that adults should play with children often; and that children learn problem-solving and self-regulation through play. Negative attitudes include the view that adults don't need to play with children because children can play on their own; and that play keeps children busy and out of the way.

Because of limited physical living spaces, children tend to play outside rather than inside. As a result, they risk being knocked over by cars. The children's explication of the indoor and outdoor play routines were similar to that of their parents. There were clear child gender differences in terms of toy and game preferences. While 75% of the children have siblings, most of them preferred friends as play partners. Most of them (76%) also listed their mother as the likely parental play partner. In addition to this, many of the children seemed to lack imagination when it came to what they could do with some of the play objects they were presented with.

Implications for programming

The needs assessment findings highlighted the fact that parents need to be educated on the importance of play, and how to exploit objects around them for the benefit of their children's development. Parents would also benefit from training aimed at helping them engage their children in pretend play, particularly as it relates to their future professional interests. Given the high TV, DVD, and smartphone ownership, these devices would be the most ideal avenues through which video content could be consumed.

> They believed that the main reason why some parents do not hold positive conceptions of play is because of ignorance, lack of education, or because they do not have time

The programme should aim to counter the misconceptions that parents have around play and the implications it has for early childhood development, while also reinforcing the positive attitudes that parents have. It should emphasize the importance of quality rather than the quantity of the play interaction; and it should focus on promoting play activities that are not physically demanding in order to bridge barriers attributed to lack of time, exhaustion, and ignorance. In addition, the programme should make provision for safe outdoor play and focus on the development of group play activities, as well as activities that can be pursued individually.

Conclusion

Informed by the results and recommendations of the needs assessment study, the Play Every Day Project was developed through a series of play workshops. The project piloted two play workshops in Orange Farm in November 2016. On the basis of the evaluation of these workshops and the needs assessment, Sesame Workshop developed a series of play workshops. These were to be implemented in three phases, i.e. the Prototype, Alpha, and Beta phases, during the course of 2017 in preparation for scale-up to reach 2000-2,500 families during its lifetime.

Authors: Dr Cyril Adonis and Dr Konosoang Sobane

Putting poverty and inequality reduction
at the heart of SA's green economy transition

Dr Andreas Scheba, Post-doctoral Research Fellow, *Ms Setsoheng Mayeki*, Research Assistant and *Dr Amber Huff*, Research Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies (U.K.) and ESRC STEPS Centre discuss how South Africa's green economy can positively contribute to the country's quest to reduce poverty and inequality.

Homeless men in Cape Town CBD.
Credit: HSRC Communication and Stakeholder Relations

This article argues that the reduction of poverty and inequality must be at the centre of South Africa's green economy transition. Therefore, HSRC researchers and social scientists/humanities more generally, have an important role to play in contributing practical and policy-relevant knowledge that can bring the concerns of marginalised groups to the fore of sustainability debates. The article reports on recent activities within a British Academy Newton Mobility grant project, which aimed to address and provide answers to the questions of how green economy initiatives can work better for the poor in South Africa.

The rise of the green economy

The green economy has become a buzzword globally. In South Africa, it has firmly taken root among local policy makers, civil society organisations and business associations, who frequently refer to it in their public speeches and official communication. Recently, it has become an indispensable element of major national policy frameworks and strategies, making it the official path to sustainable development in the country.

The Medium Term Strategic Framework, National Strategy for Sustainable Development and Action Plan, New Growth Path, National Climate Change Response, National Development Plan and Green Economy Accord all point to our government's commitment to a green economy transition.

Politically, the green economy has gained traction during the global economic crisis in 2008. Amidst heightened levels of poverty, unemployment and inequality, international organisations such as the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Bank and OECD have promoted the idea of 'green growth' as a way to revive growth, create inclusive economies, generate jobs and develop new green industries, all while reducing environmental damages and protecting our planet's invaluable natural resources. These global and national political commitments have brought about new considerable sources of finance and other public support that aim to unlock opportunities for achieving sustainable and inclusive growth.

Green economy in a context of poverty and inequality

But how well do green economy initiatives contribute to overcoming major challenges of poverty reduction, employment creation and achieving a more just, equitable and prosperous world for all? What are the risks of green economy initiatives actually reinforcing existing inequalities and socio-economic exclusions that are so prevalent in a country like South Africa? There are many reasons for remaining cautious. Countless examples exist around the world where well-intended environmental policies resulted in livelihood losses and increased hardship to the poor, while enriching an elite minority. Such processes of 'green grabbing' have occurred in all kinds of sectors (water, forests, energy, land, waste) and geographical regions, crossing urban and rural divides. Against this backdrop, how do we ensure that green economy initiatives actually work for and not against the poor in South Africa? How can we put concerns of marginalised groups at the forefront of the green economy transition and build a productive society that is truly inclusive, equal and sustainable?

Tackling these questions through a new partnership

These questions were at the heart of recent activities organised by Dr Andreas Scheba from EPD in the HSRC and Dr Amber Huff from the Institute of Development Studies/STEPS Centre, as part of a British Academy Newton Mobility grant partnership project. From 29th May until 6th June, Dr Huff and Dr Scheba conducted training workshops, public seminar + roundtable, group discussions and a stakeholder engagement workshop that built capacity within the EPD unit, and initiated new partnerships with external green economy stakeholders and academic research institutions. During the first two days, a small but dynamic group of young researchers within EPD participated with other researchers from UCT and CSIR in a training workshop where conceptual and methodological tools were discussed to engage in sustainability research. The workshop provided an open platform where interactive learning from each other's experience/knowledge in the field took place. The diverse background and knowledge base of the participants led to great discussions, new insights and widened participants' perspectives.

The public seminar and roundtable discussion, that brought together a diverse group of researchers, government officials and civil society members to discuss South Africa's green economy vision and practices, reaffirmed the project's primary premise of strengthening social science research in sustainability debates. Participants highlighted the important task of bringing to the fore the different viewpoints, values and meanings of the 'green economy' among the public, the complex interdependencies within socio-ecological relations, and how institutions, power, and politics shape the costs and benefits of changing resource use and consumption. Participants articulated the clear need for inter- or transdisciplinary research that can cut across traditional academic boundaries, and communicate with a range of stakeholders to co-create useful and policy-relevant knowledge that can help to overcome the grand challenges of the 21st century.

Some of the themes discussed in the public seminar also came to the fore in the stakeholder engagement workshop titled "Bamboo and sustainable development in South Africa" that was hosted in Durban. The commercialisation of bamboo has experienced growing interest in South Africa and other African countries as a promising way to promote local economic development, climate change mitigation, and landscape rehabilitation. The South African Green Fund, our country's major public finance initiative to kick start the green economy, provided R161 million (R97 million non-recoverable grant and R64 million recoverable grant) to the Green Grid Beema Bamboo project in Kwa-Zulu Natal to demonstrate the environmental and financial benefits of commercial bamboo cultivation for bioenergy. However, the project and other similar bamboo initiatives have faced many challenges including local conflicts over land, complex and plural governance arrangements, heterogeneous communities with varied interests, financial and technical challenges of setting up and operating the plantation, management of labour, environmental risks and trade-offs, market uncertainty and underdeveloped policy and regulatory framework. When participants came together in groups to discuss these challenges, the key lesson was that managing social, political and economic dynamics will be decisive in shaping the outcomes and success of a green economy initiative like this.

Researching the green economy within its social, political and economic context

As the green economy is an emerging phenomenon in South Africa, there is an important opportunity for the HSRC and social scientists in general, to shape the design and implementation of the transition. As the STEPS Centre at the University of Sussex has highlighted for several years now, there are many pathways to sustainable development, each relying on different processes and leading to different outcomes. The imperative for us is then to engage in the complex sustainability debate, and open up discussions about what different people mean and want from the 'green economy' and how policies and practices become embedded in specific social, political and economic contexts. The challenge is to go beyond a narrowly technical understanding of the green transition and recognise the inevitable trade-offs, conflicts and institutional configurations that influence opportunities and losses created by green growth in specific places, as well as across scales. Practical and policy-relevant knowledge, informed by social science research using multiple-methods and sound theory, has thus an indispensable role to play in assisting marginalised groups to voice their concerns and participate in the design, implementation and benefit-sharing of South Africa's green economy transition. Especially as HSRC researchers, our task must be to put the objective of an inclusive economy that actually reduces poverty and inequality in all their forms and guises at the centre of sustainable development discussions, and provide policy-makers and the public with the right tools to realise this vision.

Making progress on children's rights:

Evidence and consultation for greater accountability - South Africa reports to international human rights treaty bodies

Isabel Magaya, a PhD Research Trainee from the Human Sciences Research Council looks at the development of a culture of national reporting to international treaty bodies on South Africa's efforts to protect the rights of children, how, and why this should be strengthened.

Since 2013, South Africa has started to actively engage in reporting processes to international treaty bodies giving an account of how it is safeguarding the rights of children. This emerging trend is a positive development for children's rights. It demonstrates political will to mainstream children's substantive rights contained in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC), and a willingness to keep pace with international trends in the protection of children's rights.

These reporting processes are consultative and participatory where States Parties, as well as CSO, submit State and shadow reports to both the UN, and the African Committee. Subsequent to these submissions, countries receive recommendations and concluding observations on how to improve the situation of children. This is done with a view to assist in the application and translation of international law into national law, policy and practice. This process is a good example of

an accountability mechanism by which government is required to demonstrate, explain and justify how it has fulfilled its obligations to realize children's rights.

The recommendations and concluding observations highlight inadequacies and inconsistencies in protecting children's rights. South Africa has received its concluding observations and recommendations from the United Nations and the African Union. Government and civil society must now engage with these recommendations in a constructive and meaningful manner.

The role of research

Researchers' active engagement in the process of interrogating the recommendations and concluding observations is key. Evidence suggests that protecting ALL CHILDREN requires more than technical solutions. Addressing protection gaps requires collective action, not least by engaging communities, CSO and government. Social accountability and policy researchers as well as child rights

experts can also come together to discuss how, we can collectively, accelerate the benefits for children.

There is no doubt that research provides a credible evidence base to support policy design and implementation. Research plays the key role of enquiring and synthesizing data in a robust way, thus documenting the good, the bad, the effective, the ineffective, the radical and the revolutionary ways that children can access their rights. In South Africa, a gap typically exists between the research community and the policy-making community. The notion of evidence-based policy making is increasingly gaining momentum.

With this in mind, one can argue that the State reporting exercise is an opportune time to aggressively pursue the feeding of research into both policy and practice. This would be especially valuable if these recommendations and concluding observations are to be translated into results for children, and incorporated into various national and provincial programmes.

Following the review of South Africa's compliance with the UNCRC in September 2016, the UN Committee issued a comprehensive set of recommendations to the government of South Africa. Some of the key issues that emerged included the need to establish inter-ministerial level leadership and coordination on children's rights; strengthening the independent oversight mechanisms in place, and ensuring effective child

Evidence suggests that protecting **ALL CHILDREN** requires more than technical solutions

rights budgeting in order to allow laws, policies, and practice to be implemented in a manner that positively impacts children.

Popularly cited barriers of using research to improve policy and practice, such as the lack of interaction between stakeholder groups or researchers' lack of awareness of policy contexts, amongst others, come to the fore. In these reporting exercises we know that consultative workshops are held where researchers, policymakers and members of civil society can get together and talk to the same issues.

The question is: how do we promote networking among researchers, policy makers and practitioners, with the aim of creating a community of practice around key issues affecting children?

The question is: how do we promote networking among researchers, policy makers and practitioners, with the aim of creating a community of practice around key issues affecting children? How can we constantly be sharing insights and allow critical and deeper thinking? What roles, obligations and responsibilities do we all have towards achieving an ideal future for South Africa's children?

There is an argument that although South Africa has the best policies,

implementation remains elusive. Very often we talk about what doesn't work, but I would like to argue that this reporting exercise should encourage us to shy away from this view, and thus start talking more about what works, and why it works. I believe that research can play a significant role in this regard. A good place to start is to ask, from these recommendations, what are the 3-5 issues that we want to take forward e.g. ECD has a lot of political space at the moment. Therefore, government and other stakeholders could benefit from more research on best practices in this area.

The academic community can make use of this opportunity to collaborate with government departments in their reform processes and, where necessary, research can provide forward-looking perspectives on the

development of an integrated approach to child rights issues.

In conclusion, this process is a good accountability mechanism, and a great opportunity for researchers to get involved in. It presents the prospect of solidifying streams of communication between government, CSO and academia on national priorities in the area of children's rights. It has become apparent that addressing protection gaps plaguing the child rights sector requires collective action, therefore academia must play a key role by providing a strong evidence base to support policy design and implementation. Their main focus should be on feeding into the process robust evidence of what works and why it works.

Author: Isabel Magaya is a PhD Research Trainee in the Research Use & Impact Assessment Unit of the HSRC

![HSRC PRESS logo]

HSRC PRESS

Taking African research to the world

Copies of all HSRC Press published titles are available from leading booksellers nationally and from the sales agent, Blue Weaver, at orders@blueweaver.co.za.

www.hsrcpress.ac.za

The Other Side of Freedom

Stories of Hope and Loss in the South African Liberation Struggle, 1950–1994
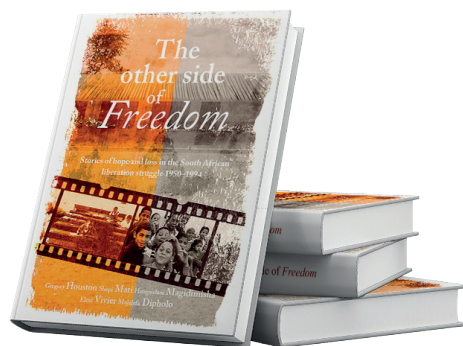
Authors:	Gregory Houston, Shepi Mati, Hangwelani Magidimisha, Elmé Vivier and Mojalefa Dipholo
Pub month and year:	March 2017
ISBN soft cover:	978-0-7969-2557-2
Format:	240 x 168 mm
Extent:	308 pages
Rights:	World Rights

About the book

The Other Side of Freedom: Stories of Hope and Loss in South African Liberation Struggle 1950–1994 presents a compilation of 26 profiles of a diverse selection of activists and leaders in the liberation struggle. The stories present a better and fuller portrait of the nature of the struggle for freedom – the untold story or the other side of freedom.

The book presents a deeper understanding of the liberation struggle beyond what we already know. A common theme in a significant number of the stories is the disappearance of the values that underpinned the liberation struggle which led many to make the sacrifices that led to freedom.

These values encapsulated in the history of the liberation struggle and its relationship to our current context of poverty and inequality are more relevant now than ever.

Price **R350.00**

Competition in Africa

Insights from Key Industries

| Author/Editor:	Simon Roberts
Pub month and year:	February 2017
ISBN soft cover:	978-0-7969-2545-9
Format:	240 x 168mm
Extent:	176 pages
Rights:	World Rights

About the book

The nature of competitive rivalry, and the power and interests of large firms and their owners, is at the heart of how countries develop. Competition authorities and economic regulators are critical institutions in restraining the market power of firms while at the same time taking into account the need to incentivise investment.

Competition in Africa maps out key issues in competition through four key industry studies across Southern and East Africa. It considers the nature and extent of market power, the development of large firms, their production, investment and the prices of products across countries. Competition authorities have now been established in many African countries in order to counter anti-competitive conduct and the implications of industrial policies; however, it is critical to understand the regional scope of the operations of companies to assess the possible effect of these within individual countries. This thought-provoking book brings together these insights in a way that no other publication has.

'Why are consumers in often poor developing countries paying exorbitant prices for basic necessities of life? This invaluable book provides a unique window into questions such as this that bedevil policy-makers.' *- Prof Eleanor Fox, Walter J. Derenburg Professor of Trade Regulation, New York University*

'These analyses of cement, sugar, and poultry are the kind of studies that lead competition authorities to look at particular industries in particular ways. The excellent research here is cutting-edge, collaborative and cross-country.' *- Prof Jonathan Klaaren, University of the Witwatersrand*

Price **R280.00**

Postcolonial African Anthropologies
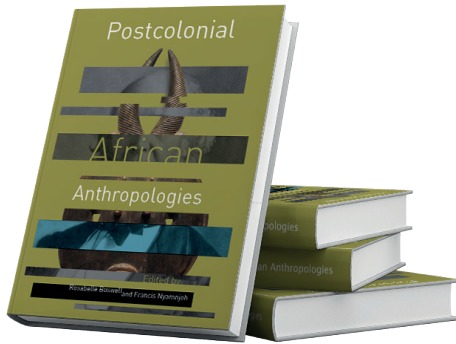
| Author:	Edited by Rosabelle Boswell and Francis Nyamnjoh
Pub month and year:	March 2017
ISBN soft cover:	978-0-7969-2569-5
Format:	240 x 168 mm
Extent:	256 pages
Rights:	World Rights

Price R350.00

About the book

Postcolonial African Anthropologies showcases a selection of recent African ethnographies and critically discusses anthropology's engagement with decolonisation and postcolonialism. The ethnographies in the book show that contemporary anthropology in Africa is dynamic and deeply self-reflexive, engaging issues of power and life in Africa and its nearby diaspora in multi-vocal and diverse ways.

The book offers insight into gender relations in southern Africa, the politics of healing and mutual support, identity in North Africa, the intellectual relationship between India and Africa and cultural continuities in Indian Ocean Africa. This book then, offers a timely and important discussion on Africa and in particular, a 'postcolonial' Africa to understand the position of anthropologists, the position of Africans and the positioning of the discipline of anthropology in Africa.

# Rethinking Reconciliation
Evidence from South Africa
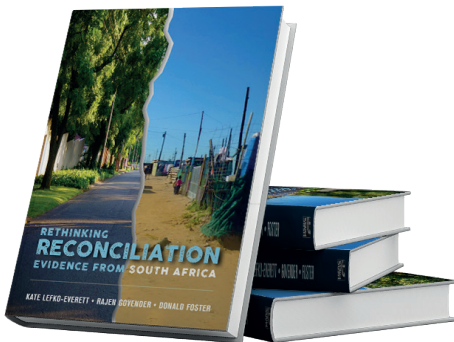
Authors:	Kate Lefko-Everett, Rajen Govender & Don Foster
Pub month and year:	March 2017
ISBN soft cover:	978-0-7969-2554-1
Format:	240 x 168mm
Extent:	384 pages
Rights:	World Rights

Price R350.00

About the book

Following the peaceful transition from apartheid to democracy in 1994, South Africa has become a world-renowned model of successful transition in post-conflict societies. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) has inspired, and provided the foundation for, truth commissions in many other countries, based on the principles of restorative rather than retributive justice.

However, life in South Africa also provides daily reminders that some places and people are fundamentally unchanged, and that the legacies and 'unfinished business' of the apartheid past remain intact. The reconciliatory project seems to have completely fallen away from the national agenda, and many of the TRC's recommendations remain unimplemented and unrealised. Has reconciliation been successful? Do South Africans feel reconciled? What is the way forward?

This book brings together leading social scientists and researchers to critically interrogate the success of the reconciliatory project, using ten years of public opinion data collected by the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR) through the South African Reconciliation Barometer survey. Offering new and unique insights into contemporary South African society, it will be of particular relevance to the field of transitional justice and post-conflict studies, including universities and students, researchers, policy-makers and the civil society sector.

Books that make a difference
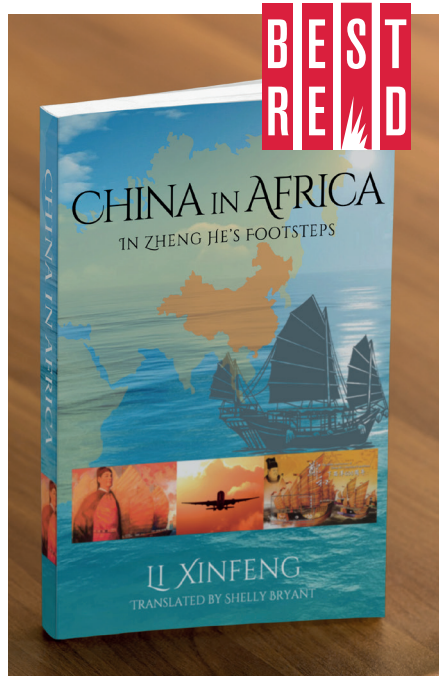
China in Africa
In Zheng He's Footsteps

Author:	Li Xinfeng	Translation: Shelly Bryant
Pub month and year:	January 2017
ISBN soft cover:	978-1-9282-4610-7
Publisher:	BestRed
Format:	210 x 148 mm
Extent:	352 pages
Rights:	World Rights

About the book

The years Li Xinfeng spent as a Chinese correspondent in South Africa are evident in the insights he shares in *China in Africa: In Zheng He's Footsteps* – the narrative of his research into the traces left by the famed navigator during his travels in and around Africa. Beginning on Kenya's Pate Island, Li's research led him to travel around much of the southern part of the African continent, searching for signs that Zheng He's fleet had been there some six centuries earlier.

China in Africa: In Zheng He's Footsteps is more than just one person's quest to retrace the journey of an alluring historical figure, shrouded in legend: Zheng He has become an important symbol for the Chinese people and the world of peace-loving cultural exchange in general. Li's comprehensive research into the African travels of this iconic figure presents a challenge to the postcolonial world, highlighting the stark contrast between colonising and fair exchange for mutual benefit. A consistent thread in the narrative is how best to respond to the challenge of overturning the exploitation of colonial relationships with friendly collaboration in modern times.
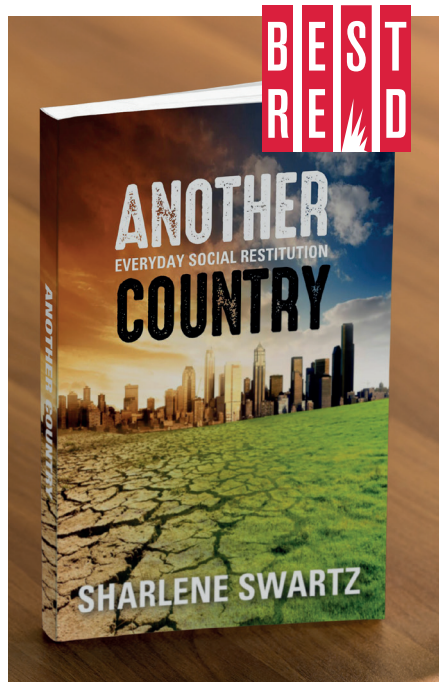
Price **R350.00**

Another Country
Everyday Social Restitution

Author:	Sharlene Swartz
Pub month and year:	October 2016
ISBN soft cover:	978-1-9282-4611-4
Publisher:	BestRed
Format:	210 x 148 mm
Extent:	352 pages
Rights:	World Rights

About the book

In *Another Country: Everyday Social Restitution*, author Sharlene Swartz relates Black South Africans' experiences of dehumanising racism alongside White South African's shame for the past and anxiety for the future. She introduces the concept of 'social restitution', understood as the actions and attitudes that everyday people can undertake in dialogue with each other to 'make things right', and offers new ideas about restitution based on reflection with ordinary South Africans. This book offers stories, ideas and strong theories for how South Africa can be *Another Country* in our lifetime, with transferable insights for all contexts where injustice has occurred.

A book Black and White South Africans must read together. Swartz has answered Steve Biko's call for a new consciousness among Whites and Blacks al - *Xolela Mangcu, sociology professor*

What a breath of sorely needed fresh air – a timely call to everyday, no-strings-attached restitution, guided by sustained, humble conversations with those dishonoured by Apartheid. - *Wilhelm Verwoerd, peace builder*

When last did we hear anybody talk about a just society, a better life for everybody, suggesting that enough was a feast? One of the most insightful suggestions is that inheritance should be more widely shared. - *Antjie Krog, author and poet*

Price **R320.00**