

# **NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK [2002 – 2007]**

## **TOWARDS INTEGRATED NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMMES TABLE OF CONTENTS**

### **FOREWORD**

*By Dr Essop Pahad, Minister in the Presidency*

One measure of a progressive state is the way it treats its youth. South Africa, soon to be heading towards its first decade as a democracy, has shown that it appreciates this, and has put in place effective structures to ensure that young people fully participate in national and community life.

The claim of youth to a bright future is unquestionable. Our youth have, in our history of blood and effort, borne much of the brunt of struggle. For many years under apartheid they were, quite literally and deliberately, deprived of a future by a system, which kept all blacks in bondage in the country of their birth. For young people, it meant enormous deprivation just at the very time when people should expect to look forward to a full life. The educational system was specifically designed to keep blacks as hewers of wood and drawers of water. The ghettos of *apartheid*, in towns and cities but also in alienated, bogus statelets called bantustans, kept blacks in conditions, which were depressing and hopeless. Blacks' medical needs were neglected by the state, which meant many youths grew up vastly disadvantaged. As youths emerged from the meager training and education that was available, they were prohibited from pursuing many avenues of employment reserved for whites. They grew into a society, which was in the iron grip of repression. They knew arrest, torture, death itself.

In the mid-1970s, it was black youth who decided that enough was enough, and that they were going to have their freedom, within their own lifestyle. They revolted in Soweto, and this spread to many parts of the country. They were shot down in the streets, but their amazing spirit, their tenacity and their fearless self-sacrifice contributed greatly to a historic liberation struggle that had been going on since the early part of the 20th century in South Africa. And so, in 1994, all South Africans

blinked their eyes, in pleasurable surprise, in the full light of democratic day and set out on a nation-building expedition on which the youth had earned a prized place.

The National Youth Commission was established, as the Government demonstrated its intense interest in the future of youth. Government departments across the board interacted with the NYC, and worked towards ensuring that youth issues were central to their activities. The huge challenge of unemployment required creative responses from organised youth, and programmes were put in place to secure the future of youth generally, in the very interests of the new nation. The broader planning at Governmental level seeking the revival of the continent through a modern-day renaissance, which would distinguish the period ahead as the world's African century, has gone ahead with the active involvement and enthusiasm of the youth.

We now have pleasure in introducing the National Youth Development Policy Framework, a critical document that sets out in comprehensive form a plan for youth achievement and development as our country's future unfolds. The work covers an extensive range of subjects of underlying interest and value to the nation. This framework can be commended to all who place a high price on the worth of our youth, and who value the future of South Africa.

## PREFACE

*SINCE it is necessary to create a united, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous society, in which the youth of South Africa shall promote national reconciliation and unity, build a new patriotism and foster peace, justice and a human rights culture; AND SINCE it is imperative that South Africa recognises the role that youth played and will still play in society, and since the youth in South Africa constitutes an energetic, creative and the largest sector of our population, and given the challenges this sector faced and continues to face. 1*

The National Youth Development Policy Framework represents an important milestone towards an integrated and holistic approach to youth development for the advantage of the young women and men specifically and for South Africa as a whole.

Before 1994, the apartheid government not only violated the rights and opportunities of young people through repressive and institutionalised racial policies, but also denied them the opportunity to develop and realise their full potential. No recognition, support or direction was given to the needs and concerns of young women and men.

We celebrate the roles of young women and men in South Africa and their contribution to the reconstruction and development of their communities and the country.

We recognise the contributions young people make to our society and build upon the imagination, energy, vibrancy and talents of all young women and men. These contributions need to be enhanced through initiatives that will bring about personal development for young people and their organisations.

We acknowledge the challenges we face in addressing the needs and development of young people in an integrated and holistic manner. Whether these exist as a legacy of

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<sup>1</sup> Preamble NYC Act, No 19 of 1996

apartheid or as a result of our own social practices, young people deserve fair treatment and a safe and nurturing environment.

Youth development cannot be the responsibility of young people alone. There is a role for all sectors and role-players and this Policy Framework advances a holistic and integrated approach to youth development. An approach of prioritising youth development in the context of the creation of appropriate mechanisms and allocation of resources and sensitising government institutions and civil society organisations about the initiatives of young men and women.

United in action - young and old, government and community, business and youth development organisations – we can achieve a lot. We shall redress the legacies of the past, deal with the challenges of the present, and focus on achieving a brighter, fuller future for all.

The National Youth Development Policy Framework has been developed through the participation of young men and women, under the leadership of the National Youth Commission and in collaboration with government departments.

## **CASE FOR A NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK**

### **Background and Historical Context**

Since the start of the colonial era, South African young people have been victims of adverse political and socio-economic conditions. They have been subjected to poverty, blatant political manipulation and racial segregation.

As a sector of South African society, young people had to face the challenges of being overlooked and controlled by governments that had little intention of advancing their well-being. They experienced poor housing conditions, restricted and racially segregated access to education, training and employment opportunities, high levels of crime and violence and a general disintegration of social networks and communities. The Apartheid government did not develop any specific policies or programmes to address the equal development of all young women and men.

Prior to the democratisation of South African society in the 1990s, youth development occurred within a context of political, social, economic and cultural oppression. This situation contributed directly to many of the current dilemmas young women and men face. The apartheid government did not address the development needs of young men and women as a specific category. The particular needs, challenges or opportunities faced by young people were either ignored, or not considered important enough to warrant more focused policy or programmatic interventions.

The non-governmental sector has been very active in terms of the history of youth development. In most cases youth development involved political mobilisation and identification within this sector. Many international agencies and foreign countries supported youth services and development through non-governmental and community-based organisations.

However, from the earliest decades of the last century young people have asserted themselves by forming youth organisations, protesting against injustices and insisting on decent education and living conditions. Young people actively participated in the national liberation struggle to gain freedom, basic human dignity and the recognition of

universal human rights for all people in South Africa in which some of them paid the supreme price.

These realities in many cases resulted in a significant number of the young people not being afforded the opportunity to develop and advance their full potential.

The 1994 elections marked the beginning of the creation of a new South African nation. The fundamental challenge ahead was to put into practice the vision of building a better life for all.

The new democratic government recognised the importance of youth development for the fundamental transformation of South Africa and moved fast to address the specific needs of young men and women. The establishment of the National Youth Commission (NYC) in 1996 through the enactment of the National Youth Commission Act (No. 19 of 1996) represents a major commitment by government to treat the needs of this sector in a serious and comprehensive manner.

The establishment of the NYC was in direct response to the recommendations of a Youth Summit convened by the then Deputy President, Mr TM Mbeki, in December 1994. Representatives of all major youth organisations at the Summit called for the establishment of a Commission that would serve to highlight and monitor the situation of young women and men whilst coordinating and initiating the development of appropriate policies and strategies for youth development. The creation of the NYC highlighted the need for all spheres of government (central, provincial and local) to work co-operatively with non-government and community based agencies in the design, implementation and monitoring of youth development programmes and services.

The responsibilities of the NYC in advancing youth development as central to transformation and addressing poverty and underdevelopment in South Africa, includes:

- developing principles and guidelines and make recommendations to the Government regarding such principles and guidelines, for the implementation of an integrated national youth policy
- co-ordinating, directing and monitoring the implementation of such principles and guidelines as a matter of priority
- promoting a uniformity of approach by all organs of state, including provincial governments, to matters relating to or involving the youth;
- maintaining close liaison with institutions, bodies or authorities similar to the Commission in order to foster common policies and practices and to promote co-operation;
- co-ordinating the activities of the various provincial government institutions involved in youth matters and to link those activities to an integrated national youth policy; and
- developing recommendations relating to any other matters which may affect the youth.

In April 2000 Parliament passed the National Youth Commission Amendment Act, which provide for a more streamlined National Youth Commission as well as mechanisms for co-operation and coordination between the National Youth Commission and Provincial Youth Commissions.

In terms of the crucial role that civil society has to play the South African Youth Council (SAYC) was established in mid 1997 as a national, representative, non-governmental body of youth organisations. SAYC aims to develop and empower all young women and men through providing a forum for youth organisations to contribute to policy and programme development and to up-hold the democratic gains of the country.

In discharging their duties and responsibilities the NYC engaged in a process of developing a policy document that could be used as a policy guide by both government and civil society for youth development in the South Africa. This policy document, The National Youth Commission Policy 2000, was submitted to and accepted by former President N.R. Mandela in 1997. This document was widely used by government departments as well as civil society institutions in conceptualising and implementing youth development programmes. In developing the NYC Policy 2000, the NYC undertook an extensive process of consultation with youth organisations, sectoral groups, provinces as well as young women and men.

On the basis of the policy positions in this document the NYC worked with various government and civil society agencies, at different levels, lobbying for and forming partnerships for implementing the concept and practice of a holistic and integrated youth development programme. This resulted in the piloting of a number of initiatives and programmes such as the Youth Information Service, the HIV/AIDS Project of Young Positive Living Ambassadors, Youth Employment and Training initiatives such as the Youth Employment Clearing House as well as the first of several National Youth Service initiatives.

The National Youth Development Policy Framework as outlined in this document draws from these processes of consultation and also incorporates the experiences of the NYC since it started its work in 1997. Similarly the experience and initial programmes from various departments assisted in providing benchmarks and identifying the challenges for the years ahead.

The Policy Framework is designed to provide an outline for the mainstreaming of youth development as an integral part of the broader transformation project and challenges in South Africa. The importance of an integrated and holistic approach towards youth development is highlighted through the identification of strategic intervention areas to address the specific needs, challenges and opportunities confronting young men and women in South Africa today.

### ***Approach to Youth Development in SA***

Youth development is an integral part of addressing the challenges of post Apartheid South Africa. In devising policies and programmes for the development of all South Africans the integration of issues and the specific challenges faced by young people are essential.

Youth development is part of building a non-sexist, non-racist, democratic South Africa and it should be approached in a similar manner and with similar vigour as other crucial areas in need of transformation, vis disability, gender and economic participation. This should be done in line with Government's broad approach to fundamentally address poverty and underdevelopment through comprehensive, integrated, cross-sectoral and sustainable policies and programmes.

Youth development in SA should be addressed in an environment where all stakeholders, including young people themselves, work towards common goals. It should demonstrate the distinctive and complementary roles of all ministries and departments, the private sector, civil society, non-governmental organisations, youth groups and young people.

The implementation of youth development programmes is the responsibility of all the institutions of government. To this end, much of the responsibility for planning,

coordinating and initiating effective and innovative strategies for youth development will rest equally with the National Youth Commission and individual government departments at the national, provincial and local spheres, forming the basis for the development of action plans and programmatic interventions at national, provincial and local spheres.

An important departure point for youth development lies in the active involvement of young people in national development. Young women and men are not only a major resource to and inheritors of future society, but they are also active contributors to the nature of society today. Youth development provides a foundation and mechanism for youth participation in socio-economic development whilst recognising that young people should be protagonists of their own development and not merely recipients of government support.

By placing young people and their development in the broader context of reconstruction and development, common developmental goals and a spirit of co-operation and co-ordination is encouraged.

Youth development should be approached from a perspective that encourages an understanding amongst young men and women of the processes of governance and provides opportunities for their participation in national, provincial and local programmes.

The National Youth Development Policy Framework establishes national goals and central objectives. While the Youth Development Policy Framework is not prescriptive, it does establish principles for youth development and identify strategic intervention areas.

Whilst individual departments will need to tailor their strategies and programmes within their areas of responsibility, there are nevertheless ground principles which should inform the processes of planning and implementation.

Broadly speaking this includes the promotion of youth development through integrated planning and service provision and raising awareness of the centrality and integral nature of youth development with all clients and stakeholders in the private sector and civil society

The National Youth Development Policy Framework addresses youth development across all sectors. It endeavours to ensure that all young women and men are given meaningful opportunities to reach their full potential, both as individuals and as active participants in society. The Policy Framework highlights the major concerns and issues critical to the youth and gives direction to youth programmes and services provided by government and non-governmental organisations.

### Definition of a Young Person

The term “youth” has a range of different meanings and connotations within the South African historical, social, cultural and political context. Since the youth uprising of 1976 and the concurrent mobilisation of young women and men against apartheid policies and racial oppression, the term “youth” has represented a potent and important element of the political struggle. It has also been used to characterise a segment of the population seen as violent, unruly, undisciplined and / or underdeveloped.

The legacy of apartheid affects all young people. However, young black people have borne the brunt of many repressive and constraining policies and, as a result, are facing greater degrees of disadvantage. Not all young people are the same, some are at school or training institutions, others are not; some are employed, others are not; there are young women in rural and urban environments, others live in informal settlements and peri-urban environments; some live with their parents, some do not; some are themselves parents, including single mothers; some are disabled whilst others have been the victims of abuse or maltreatment.

The move from childhood to adulthood is a time in life when most people are going through dramatic changes. Whilst there might be people who fall outside a defined age range they may experience similar circumstances. An age definition should not exclude those who may share similar circumstances. Whilst this transition period is characterised by youthful energy, enthusiasm, ambition, creativity and promise, it can also be influenced by uncertainty, fear and alienation. The young face many challenges and threats that are unique to them as a social group.

Currently Government departmental policies and practise define ‘young people’ very differently. This was done in an attempt to define target audiences and groups for specific interventions and / or programmes within the financial and administrative feasibility of the respective departments.

The National Youth Commission Act (1996) broadly defines and refers to young people as all those between the ages of 14 and 35. Whilst some departments ascribe to this definition most have identified more specific, targeted age categories to enhance the feasibility of their interventions.

This is due to the reality that the 14 - 35 definition is broad and ascribing to it has serious financial implications and increases the magnitude and complexity of designing and implementing focused programmes and projects.

In looking for a more coherent and focused approach to defining the target audience for youth development interventions in South Africa it assists to have a broad picture of the current definitions in use, with some relevant international pointers which could impact on South Africa’s approach to defining the target audience for youth development.

The United Nation’ General Assembly has for statistical purposes defined youth as being between the ages of 15 and 24 years and acknowledges that, “the meaning of the term youth varied in different societies around the world and that definitions of youth had changed continuously in response to fluctuating political, economic and socio-cultural circumstances.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) applies to children and young people aged 0 – 18, 18 is also the legal age definition in South Africa;

The Child Care Act of 1997 ascribes to the legal age definition;

The White Paper for Social Welfare defines youth as all those between the ages of 16 and 30;

Correctional Services refers to young offenders as all those in the age range 14 to 25; and

The National Health Policy Guidelines focus on the adolescent and youth as all those between 10 and 24.

Given these differences in approach and recognising that the term “youth” and “youth sector” has a range of meanings and connotations within the South African historical, social, cultural and political context, it is imperative that a

more focused definition is adopted as a guideline for a National Youth Development Policy Framework.

This will assist in developing key indicators for youth development interventions of government and do away with the current situation where different things are measured and monitored because of the diverse definitions used.

The National Youth Development Policy Framework defines young people as all those between the ages 15 and 28. This approach will essentially assist to focus government planning and intervention in the period between 2002 and 2007. This would also bring the lower end of the definition in line with the upper limit of compulsory schooling and the minimum age for recruitment into the armed forces.

The adoption of this age definition as the target audience for youth development interventions should not affect the legal age definition and all its implications for the justice and crime prevention sector. Nor does it affect the definition of children in terms of the UNCRC. Although the overlapping in age definition (15 – 18) between the target audiences of the National Programme of Action for Children (NPA) and the National Youth Development Policy Framework will need careful coordination so as to prevent duplication and omission.

It is recognised that there might still be a need for segmenting certain age categories within this definition. Such segmentation can only enhance and focus interventions in addressing particular issues and concerns related to age groups. For example the broad age definition could be broken down in a 15 – 19 range with a focus on education and training; a 20 – 24 range focusing on the transition from school to work; and a 25 – 28 range with a focus on training and learnerships, and self and direct employment creation.

The implementation of the use of this definition is to be done in a phased approach and will amongst others need to realign the definitions used in the National Youth Commission Act (1996) and respective departmental policies and definitions. The phased approach should be implemented over a period of two to three years.

### ***Rights & Responsibilities***

Young people enjoy all the rights, responsibilities and obligations as normal citizens of South Africa as contained in the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. The Bill of Rights is a cornerstone of democracy, enshrining the rights of all people in the country and affirming the democratic values of human dignity, equality and freedom.

Further to these all young men and women irrespective of their socio-economic status, gender, disability and / or other defining factors, have the right to an opportunity to:

enjoy their youthfulness;  
participate in policy formulation, decision making and leadership in youth development and youth development issues; and  
build a secure future.

Concomitantly young people have the responsibility to promote and advance these rights as they relate to other young people in particular and fellow South Africans in general. They have the responsibility to build and guarantee the democratic order through playing a positive developmental role in South Africa, the region and the continent. This should be done through:

promoting peace, security and development;

promoting human dignity and respect for adults and fellow young people, sound family and community values (recognising variations in family structures) and community well-being;

ensuring a society free from racism, violence, coercion, crime, degradation, exploitation and intimidation;

promoting positive lifestyles and behaviour by young women and men; and

promoting active participation in the democratic processes in the country.

Given the specific history of South Africa and the impact of poverty and under development on all South Africans and their families and communities a specific responsibility exists to rebuild the relationships between parents and young people and re-establish safe and nurturing environments in families, also where young people themselves are parents. In this regard all South Africans should value, promote and understand the importance of:

supporting the psychological, emotional and physical well-being of young men and women;

acting as and providing positive role models;

encouraging participation by young men and women in community life and development;

allowing young women and men to develop responsibility for themselves;

supporting the development of young men and women;

assisting young people in reaching their full potential; and

respecting and accepting the contribution made through the talents, resources and ideas of young men and women in society today - and not just in the future.

## **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

### **Vision**

Integrated, holistic and sustainable youth development, conscious of the historical imbalances and current realities, to build a non-sexist, non-racist, democratic SA in which young people and their organisations not only enjoy and contribute to their full potential in the social, economic and political spheres of life but also recognise and develop their responsibilities to build a better life for all.

### **Principles and Values for Youth Development**

All youth development initiatives should be based on and influenced in its design, direction and implementation through a set of principles and values. These are:

#### **Holistic and Integrated**

Youth development is an important focus area for all government agencies, non-government organisations and development institutions. Policies and programmatic interventions should reflect an integrated, cross-sectoral and holistic approach.

#### **Redress**

Recognition of the differential manner in which young women and men have been affected by the injustices of the past and the need to address these injustices through equitable policies, programmes and the allocation of resources.

#### **Non-Discriminatory**

A non-sexist, non-racist approach to youth development initiatives and programmes, where the socialising influences of gender, race and disability and the impact of these are acknowledged and equal opportunities and treatment, based on fundamental human rights, for all is promoted.

**Acknowledging Diversity**

Recognition of cultural, spiritual and language diversity and the important role tradition, spirituality, culture and language can play in the development of young men and women.

**Responsive**

All stakeholders have to reconsider how they respond to, view and interact with young people and youth organisations. This means being influenced less by organisational boundaries and definitions and more by understanding and acting in the best interests of young people and integrated youth development in terms of the current realities.

**Sustainable**

Sustainability to ensure the needs of the present is met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. For example the needs and aspirations of youth living in rural and urban areas are to be addressed within the frameworks of the Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Programme and the Urban Renewal Programme.

**Participatory and Inclusive**

Creating opportunities to share information with and involving young people, acknowledging youth leadership and encouraging responsibility. Young people should become active participants in their development as opposed to passive recipients of services. This includes the creation of an environment that supports the continued life-long development of young men and women and their skills and capacities, their involvement in democratic processes, as well as in nation building initiatives.

**Transparent and Accessible**

Institutions and organisations involved in youth development and the implementation of youth development programmes should operate in a transparent and accountable manner, accessible to young women and men.

***Priority Target Groups***

This Policy Framework forms the basis for developing opportunities for all young women and men in South Africa. However, certain priority target groups have been identified for specific attention due to the specific difficulties they face. Policies and programmes should be properly targeted on the basis of race, gender, age, class and location.

The identification of target groups reflects the needs of certain categories of young women and men. These groups should be given particular prominence within the specific sectoral interventions.

**Young women**

Young women face particular difficulties in our society today. Young women experience unemployment more frequently than their young male counter-parts and tend to have fewer occupational opportunities. The high number of teenage pregnancies also suggests that young women require specific support measures. In addition, it must be recognised that young women are often the victims of violence and abuse creating a situation where young women often feel threatened and powerless.

**Young men and women with disabilities**

Young women and men with disabilities require specific support and assistance to ensure they have adequate access to education, services

and opportunities to participate fully in society. This will require measures to be taken within schools, the work place, and the broader community. This involves a greater awareness of the issues faced by young women and men with disabilities, the removal of disabling attitudes, the creation of accessible environments and the empowerment of young people with disabilities and their representative organisations.

#### Unemployed young women and men

The experience of unemployment can bring with it a number of other social ills, including participation in crime, drug and alcohol abuse, poor health and the loss of confidence to participate in broader society. Unemployed young people require specific attention to deal with the wide range of concerns and problems they can experience.

#### School aged out-of-school young women and men

Those school-aged young people who are not attending school are of great concern. Apart from missing proper education, they can be at risk in many other ways. They may be in danger of becoming “street kids” or homeless if not provided with appropriate support and encouragement to continue their education. They may also become victims or perpetrators of crimes; may suffer great risks to their health; or may undertake high-risk activities, such as the abuse of alcohol and drugs. Interventions for this priority group should be closely coordinated with the interventions of the National Programme for Action for Children and the Department of Education.

#### Rural and urban young women and men

Young women and men in rural areas are often more disadvantaged than those who live in urban settings. They have less access to services and facilities and the opportunities for employment are far less than in urban areas. The migration from rural areas to urban centres can be largely attributed to the under-development of rural areas and the lack of opportunities. Interventions here should address the situation of young people in rural areas specifically, within the framework of the Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Programme.

#### Young men and women at Risk

Young women and men at risk refer to those young people that are in serious danger of being neglected or falling through existing societal safety nets. Included here are young people living with HIV/AIDS, teenage mothers, young single parents, and victims of specific circumstances and realities over which they have no or little control. Specific attention should also be given to those who came into conflict with the law and as a result find themselves in residential facilities such as places of safety, reform schools and prisons.

### Goals of Youth Development in SA

Youth Development in SA strives to:

*Instil* in all young women and men an awareness of, respect for and active commitment to the principles and values enshrined in the Bill of Rights and as well as a sense of national identity;

*Enable* young men and women to initiate actions that promote their own development and that of their communities and broader society;

*Develop* an effective, co-ordinated and holistic response to the issues facing young women and men; and

*Create* enabling and supportive environments and communities for young women and men, presenting them with positive role models and ensuring not only organisational capacity but also personal / individual development.

### **Strategic Objectives**

Through the National Youth Development Policy Framework we:

*locate* youth development in a holistic strategy that encompasses political, economic and social dimensions;

*build* an integrated and sustainable approach to youth development and youth development initiatives based on multi-sectoral interventions and creating enabling environments;

*identify* priority areas and sectors of possible intervention in terms of the existing cluster system used in government and experience of government and the NYC in the past 7 years; and

*clarify* roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders in youth development [young people, government, civil society and independent institutions]

## **STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS / POLICY GUIDELINES**

The legacy of apartheid has resulted in a large proportion of young people being subjected to poor-socio-economic conditions characterized by poverty, poor living conditions, abuse, unemployment and a lack of access to education and recreational facilities. The prevalent poor socio-economic conditions severely impinge on young peoples' holistic well-being and further exacerbates their vulnerability to peer pressure, substance abuse, crime and ill-health.

The identification of the proposed strategic areas for intervention is done in terms of the broad cluster approach of government. Based on the experience of the past 7 years both in government and through the activities of the NYC in terms of pilot programmes / initiatives and the latest available indicators in terms of young people's situation today. The proposed areas of intervention are inter-related and integrate promotion of income generating initiatives with complimentary initiatives in health, education, social welfare, housing, infra-structure development and institutional development. All areas focus on prevention, promotion and development.

Some pointers in terms of the status of young people today:

Youth (those aged 15 to 28) comprise about 37% of the total population. Unemployed people tend to be poor and young. Most of the unemployed live in households with a monthly income of less than R800 a month. Youth unemployment is highest in the 25 to 29 age group<sup>2</sup>;

Youth comprise about 70% of the unemployed, 46% of the working population and 33% of the self- employed;

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<sup>2</sup> OHS -1999 and Nicoli Nattrass, 2001

The economic participation of youth differs by age, race, gender, location and education. African youth with primary and less than secondary education tend to be in the majority among the economically inactive population;

Young people are at risk from a broad range of health problems. This includes the risk of physical and psychological trauma resulting from sexual abuse, gender-based violence, and other forms of physical violence and accidents. Other health needs are sexual and reproductive health disorders, which include sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, unwanted pregnancies and pregnancy related complications and tuberculosis. For example, by age of 19 years, 35% of all teenagers have been pregnant or had a child. It is estimated that in 1999, about 11% of terminations of pregnancy were on women under 18 years of age<sup>3</sup>;

Young adults tend to continue with their school education way beyond the age of 16 years. For example, 44.7% of those aged 20 years in 1999 were still at school. This reflects, among other things, relatively high repetition rates<sup>4</sup>;

Of those aged 20 years and older, 17.5% of African women and 13.2% of African men had no schooling, as against 0,3% of white women and 0,2% of white men. While 29,1% of white women and 33,9% of white men in this age group had received a tertiary education, as against 5,5% of African women and 5,2% of African men<sup>5</sup>; and

The majority of learners in technical colleges are youth, with 73% in the age group 15-24 years old. The proportion of those attending a university or technikon among those aged 18 to 30 years is, however, relatively low. For example, among those aged 22 years, 3,0% were attending university, 2,5% technikon, and 2.9% other educational institutions such as a college<sup>6</sup>.

## Social Well Being

### **Background**

The challenge for sustainable youth development and the sound well being of young people are the ability to meet the basic needs of the present generation and to improve their quality of life without destroying the environment or depleting non-renewable natural resources, which would inhibit the future generations' ability to meet their own needs.

Young people remain some of the key beneficiaries of existing social security provisions. The grants paid out to them as recipients or the elderly members and/or disabled members of their families, assist in sustaining their livelihood.

A sound physical and psychological health status is central to the social functioning of young people. Poor socio-economic conditions, environmental hazards, pressures of a transforming society and likelihood to engage in risky behaviour, increase the young peoples' vulnerability to ailments, substance abuse, suicide, early pregnancy, physical and sexual abuse.

Over and above victims of violence and young people in general are overwhelmed by life experiences are in need for positive mental health support services.

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<sup>3</sup> South African Health Review, 2000

<sup>4</sup> OHS, 1999

<sup>5</sup> OHS, 1999

<sup>6</sup> HRD strategy, 2001

Experimentation with alcohol and drugs are detrimental to both the young peoples' physical well being and the peaceful social relations in communities. Substance Abuse could facilitate the evolution of crime and family disintegration as the young person strives to keep up with the addiction.

The high incidence and prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) such as HIV/AIDS amongst young people and the vulnerability of this sector of society to future infection, is an issue of concern. An inter-sectoral approach to the realities of STDs and HIV/AIDS need to be further strengthened in the context of a comprehensive health for all strategy.

Many local communities across the country have inadequate facilities in which youth development programmes, services and activities can be located. The concept of multi-purpose youth centres has been broadly accepted as an effective means of drawing together youth-specific services in a local community setting.

Arts and Culture promotes the intellectual and spiritual advancement of young people and insight into their cultural heritage. A small proportion of young people are actively engaged in the sector, as a majority perceive the sector to be unattractive and not financially rewarding.

Sports and recreation contributes to greater personal health, improved psychological well being, and instils personal discipline, creativity, independence, leadership and teamwork skills. While at the community level, sport and recreational activities have a distinctive indispensable role to play in strengthening social relations and alleviating crime, poverty and unemployment.

For many South African young women and men, participation in sport and recreation has overtime been frustrated by the inadequate or non-existence of facilities and the limited financial support provided to these facilities. For the physically challenged young persons the issue of access remains an issue of concern.

The role of information in terms of enabling young people to tackle challenges, needs, concerns, problems or opportunities they are confronted with, is a key component to advancing the status of young people.

#### Policy implications

Promoting a safe and supportive environment, which involves families, friends, peers, and communities;

Building on the life skills programme to ensure that settings such as secondary school, the work place and health facilities support and reinforce life skills including the development of norms and standards for peer education programmes in communities, schools and other facilities;

Forging partnerships across sectors to ensure that the health needs of young people are approached in a holistic manner through a health policy for all and in the provision of youth friendly health services;

Provision of youth focused, and specific, services in the areas of justice and correctional services;

Addressing poor living conditions as a threat to the social functioning and well being of young people and their families through increased access to poverty alleviation programmes. Both as participants in the implementation of these programmes, and as a specific target audience;

Investigating multi purpose youth centres;

Exploring comprehensive and integrated information services in conjunction with the existing Multi Purpose Community Centres; and  
Completion of the National Policy for Sport in Schools.

Proposed areas and categories for intervention

#### Poverty

Young peoples' active involvement in the conceptualisation, implementation and monitoring processes of youth driven poverty alleviation programmes in local communities.

#### Social Security

Ensure increased equitable access to social security provisions for disabled young people, especially those located in rural, peri-urban and informal settlements;  
Strengthen the provision of capacity building and developmental services aimed at young women, including those receiving the Child Support Grant.

#### Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and HIV/AIDS

Finalisation of a National Youth Health Action Plan and the South African Aids Youth Programme (SAAYP);

Increase youth-driven and peer programmes aimed at curbing the spread of STDs and HIV/AIDS;

Expansion of viable community-based care and support services for young people living with HIV/AIDS;

Support and Expansion of the Youth AIDS Ambassadors Programme.

#### **Life Skills Programmes**

Promotion of comprehensive life skills programmes and sexual reproductive health programmes for young men and women;

Strengthen initiatives aimed at building the capacity of parents/caregivers to confidently address issues of sexuality with their children;

Support and expand preventative drug awareness programmes geared at the youth audience;

Ensure increased youth access to developmental rehabilitation services;

Facilitate increased youth access to leisure and recreational activities through the establishment of multi purpose youth centres; and

Support and expand initiatives to enhance resilience of young people to social pressures and life challenges to enhance psychological well being.

#### Arts and Culture

Introduce programmes that engage young men and women to develop a sound understanding of the national culture and heritage and the integration of arts, culture and heritage education into the school curriculum;

Use arts and culture as an instrument for young people to contribute to nation building, community mobilisation and realising the vision of the African Renaissance;

Promote the widespread participation of young women and men in all forms of art and culture activities, also in terms of career-paths;

Engage arts and cultural activities in youth health promotion programmes;

Expose young aspiring artists to both local and international markets; and

Facilities to host arts and cultural activities in communities.

#### **Sport and Recreation**

Widespread promotion of youth involvement in diverse sports and recreation activities including indigenous sport and recreation;

Increase youth access to sport and recreation facilities and ensuring maximal use of existing sporting facilities by local communities (also for people with disabilities);

Increase young peoples' participation in sport decision-making structures;

Encourage use of sport and recreation activities in fostering community development and alleviation of poverty and unemployment.

### **Access to information**

Strengthening of initiatives relating to the provision of youth-specific information and resource based services, including cooperation with and expansion of the services provided through MPCCs and the Higher Education and Information Application Service;

Youth information services should include information on issues such as crisis help, health services, employment support programmes, unemployment support services, drug and alcohol abuse advice, emergency services and youth and human rights;

Explore linking all mechanisms and processes that provide labour market-, employment opportunity- and education and training information to enhance a balanced distribution of learners between Further and Higher Education institutions.

### **Education and Training**

#### **Background**

Personal development of young people, development of local communities and that of the country as a whole are inextricably linked to the provision of quality, relevant and well-managed education and training. The current transformation process finds expression in the unfolding processes of implementing new curricula, physical construction of schools, reconfiguration of institutions of further education and higher learning, teacher training and retraining as well as the new forms of governance.

To be more responsive to challenges necessitated by the rapidly changing local and global economy, the concept of life long learning is important. Education should not only be about transmission of knowledge, but needs to further encourage collaborative learning, build on learners interests and experiences, encourage creativity and flexibility. Life long learning encourages the development of an education system, which prepares one for the working life and labour market.

Access to education will develop the natural linkages between education and a better future for young people. Some of the current limitations and challenges include:

Low pass rates of people with high grades to obtain university exemptions <sup>7</sup>;

Low pass rates of people with technical subjects, such as mathematics and science at high school level;

Lack of coherence between aspirations of young people and education, particularly aspects of delivery and access;

#### **Policy implications**

A comprehensive and coordinated approach to address issues of access to education including financial assistance, specific challenges faced by young people in rural areas, learner participation in structures of governance and the mobilisation for examinations and scarce subjects;

Ensure that youth under 19 years of age are fully preoccupied with education and training and maintain good pass rates and a lower drop-out rate, as well as the early identification of youth at risk as part of a programme for all young people who are illiterate and / or under-qualified; and

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<sup>7</sup> Human Resource Development Strategy for South Africa, 2001

Broadening the involvement and capacity of communities, the private sector and other stakeholders in learning and education.

Proposed areas and categories for intervention

#### *Access to education*

Formulation of a mobilisation strategy or programme for students and teachers for bi-annual preparation towards matriculation examination;  
 Campaigns to demystify and raise the interest of young people in technical subjects to achieve the objectives of the Human Resource Development Strategy for South Africa;  
 Increasing meaningful participation of young people in structures that deliberate on education and training;  
 Facilitation of access to a national system of bursaries and loans whilst paying special attention to increasing access for Further and Higher Education and Training learners through the National Students Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS); and  
 Developmental programmes to promote structured learning for youth who are outside the formal education system.

#### Mobilisation and Stakeholder involvement

Mobilising communities and the private sector to increase shared responsibility for education infrastructure and investment.

#### *Economic Participation and Empowerment*

#### **Background**

Youth comprise about 70% of the unemployed, 46% of the working population and 33% of the self-employed. The economic participation of youth differs by age, race, gender and education.

The economic participation of African youth is low between the ages of 16 and 19, increases to a maximum at the ages of 20 to 25, and declines as age approaches 25 to 34. The economic participation of white youth increases with age but tends to decline for the 25 to 34 year age group. Female youth predominate among the economically inactive population at ages below 20 years of age<sup>8</sup>.

The Department of Trade and Industry found in 1997 that 44% of employment is derived from the small business sector and that this sector has a great potential for growth<sup>9</sup>. Promotion of the development of Small, Micro, and Medium Enterprises (SMME's) and cooperatives depends on, a coherent programme that include, among others, training, mentorships, and a clear articulation of Private Public Partnership in the interest of the development of successful enterprises and cooperatives of young people.

Learnerships is an instrument to ensure factories, offices and shops, service agencies, and mines becomes not only places of work but also places of structured learning”<sup>10</sup>. This should increase the chances of finding employment through providing both theoretical learning and practical experience. Employment of young people will hinge on how

<sup>8</sup> Guy Mhone, *The Labour Market Status of Youth: Implications for employment Policy and Programmes*

<sup>9</sup> Department of Trade and Industry: Centre for Small Business Promotion, with Ntsika Enterprise Promotion Agency (1997) *The State of Small Business in South Africa*, p 6.

<sup>10</sup> Minister Mdladlana: Learnership launch speech

learnerships can be implemented to address the specific needs of young people.

Lack of specific skills among young people, especially those that are out of the social and economic mainstream act as a serious debilitating factor for the latter's massive involvement in income generating activities.

Lack of institutional support such as "adopt a new SMME or cooperative" by established enterprises and entrepreneurs in either the public or private sector have militated against the success of these new entities. Sustainability of SMME and cooperative development hinges strongly on well-defined role of the Public Private Partnership, and roles of each individual member of each member of the partnership.

#### Policy implications

Development of a comprehensive economic empowerment strategy for young people;  
A youth training programme to be accommodated within the institutional framework of learnerships within established SETAs;

Coordinated internship programmes to address the lack of skills through the involvement of government, communities, parastatals, development finance institutions, NGOs and CBOs.

#### *Proposed areas and categories for intervention*

##### *Learnerships*

Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETA's) to identify youth specific learnerships using the same principles of identifying adult learnerships;  
Establish learnership agreements with employers for long-time unemployed young people as part of a National Youth Service initiative.

##### *Training*

Market driven, practical and accredited training for unemployed young people and out-of-school youth focusing on entrepreneurial and business skills;  
Ensuring that the processes of training provide a platform for the establishment, and an increase in the success rate, of new SMMEs; and  
Similarly the use of mentorships to advance the establishment and success of SMMEs.

#### **Public Private Partnerships**

Public and Private partners to play a role in defining how procurement and outsourcing can be best utilised to create a base for SMME and cooperatives development for young people;

These partnerships can also assist with a strategy for making micro finance accessible for the establishment of SMMEs and cooperatives of young people.

#### **Youth Business Development**

Strengthening of the Umsobomvu Fund through sustainable funding streams;  
Broadening of possible funding and grant making avenues in the Umsobomvu Fund.

#### *Justice and Safety*

##### *Background*

Young men and women form a substantial part of the population and are affected by crime and violence either as perpetrators or victims.

By the nature of their age, some young people at entering adulthood are very prone to experimenting, including with criminal acts. Some young

people find themselves with abundant free-time which they cannot use in a constructive way.

In certain instances communities tend to have a high tolerance for criminal activity. In such a tolerant environment young people are socialised to think that there is nothing wrong with being involved in a life of crime.

Young people grow up in an environment, and are themselves victims and live in fear, of crime and bullying in their schools and neighbourhoods. They are further seen as potential criminals because of their age, and sometimes colour, by their communities and the authorities.

In their schools and communities, young people are not informed about the law and there are either no information services on legal advice and human rights, or young people are not aware of such services where they exist. In instances where such services are available, they are not easily accessible in a language that is understood by the young people.

Imprisonment of young offenders with hardened and adult prisoners aggravates the situation of a young person and graduates him/her into a full criminal, minimising the possibility of that young person being rehabilitated and integrated back into the society. Rehabilitation programmes provided are not effective and cannot compete with the impact of the long-standing prison culture that operates and sustains itself inside and outside the correctional facilities.

Young people found engaged in criminal activities often spend an unspecified period while awaiting trial and during that period they come under further criminal influence and often become more hardened themselves.

#### *Policy implications*

Clarification of the definition of 'young' offenders vis a vis the legal age definition and specifically insofar it relates to the initiatives taken by the Department of Justice to cater for offenders between the ages of 15 and 18;

Defining of community responsibility and involvement in the full cycle of the criminal justice system;

Training of officials in the safety and security, justice and correctional services for understanding and interaction with young people;

Prioritising young people, specifically those between the ages of 15 and 18, in the criminal justice system, given the huge challenges faced in this sector;

Youth correctional facilities - diversion programmes have to be strengthened and spread across all provinces. Emphasis on restorative justice can address the concerns of victims and making offenders take responsibility for their actions through meaningful participation of families and communities at large; and

Training of young offenders for re-entering society within the context of understanding the issues that place young people at risk.

#### *Proposed areas and categories for intervention*

#### **Communities and Crime**

Schools, communities and municipalities to be seen as part of, and be responsible for the development of initiatives and preventative solutions at community level. Inter-sectoral initiatives should serve the purpose of educating young people about issues of justice, safety and responsibility in their schools, communities and at local government level. The culture of being responsible citizens as far as law and safety are concerned

can to be cultivated at an early age. These programmes should also integrate aspects of human rights and prevent anti-social social behaviour such as bullying and racial harassment and use of crime for livelihood;

Life skills programmes to integrate aspects that discourage youth involvement in crime -such as drug education;

Training of police, justice and correctional services personnel on youth issues.

Youth In Conflict With The Law

Where young people are found engaged in crime, a proper assessment on conditions (home situation, etc) surrounding the young person and the actual crime has to be made;

Young people to be housed in places of safety rather than prisons when found in conflict with the law. During this education and training programmes should be pursued to minimise participation in and exposure to prison culture and to maintain a sense of belonging to society;

Alternatives to the incarceration of young women and men – especially for first offenders or those who have not committed serious crimes - should be explored, these could include community service orders, community intervention programmes, occupational skills training and rehabilitation programmes.

Possible different strategies of attending to criminal cases of young offenders should be explored. Young offenders need special attention from the courts, specifically designed to attend to youth cases and manned by specialised personnel.

Rehabilitation of young offenders should include exposure to and engagement in after-care education and training programmes, to assist with re-integration into society and prevent re-offending;

*Social Mobilisation, Capacity Building and Advocacy*

### **Background**

The concern about the seeming increase in apathy and a lack of faith in traditional structures among young people is not a South African concern only. A United Nations background paper to the fourth session of the World Youth Forum said, “While democracy is gaining new ground in many parts of the world, there may be a reason to re-evaluate the traditional infrastructure for democratic decision-making from the perspective of the new generation.”

Social mobilisation, capacity building and advocacy should seek to rally young people behind the transformation discourse rooted in the Reconstruction and Development Programme. These include:

A reversal of the effects of apartheid on young people;

Effecting drastic change in the status of young women and man and the societal perception of the youth;

Integrating the youth into family, community life and national development planning;

Empowering young people to make meaningful contributions in the development of their society, thus preventing alienation and creating a sense of belonging and responsibility in the youth generation;

Preparing young people to fulfill their responsibilities as future leaders in all spheres of society; and

Creation of youth employment opportunities through the implementation of the provisions of programmes such as a National Youth Service Programme, the Job Summit Resolutions on Youth Brigades and Youth Learnerships.

### *Policy implications*

Development of a broad and coherent framework for the implementation of a coordinated National Youth Service programme;

Strategies to build vibrant civil society organisations dealing with Youth Development.

*Proposed areas and categories for intervention**National Youth Service*

A National Youth Service programme as defined in the Draft White Paper on the National Youth Service is “special government initiatives that engages youth in prioritised national development programmes, seeking to involve them in activities that provide a service that benefit communities whilst developing the abilities of individual young people through service and learning”.

In the past 18 months the NYC in conjunction with various departments implemented Youth Service Pilot projects, which showed that, not only is it possible to engage in service type activities for young people but also that stronger institutional and coordinating mechanisms will have to be developed to ensure the success of a National Youth Service.

Youth Service initiatives should encompass:

Expressions of voluntarism by supporting young people to participate constructively in nation building and promote civic awareness through service opportunities as part of a comprehensive social security system;

Developing skills, knowledge, and ability to make the transition to adulthood, and improve their employability through opportunities for work experience and to provide a vehicle for national development through their deployment to areas of need specifically at community level for example in clinics;

Introduction of capacity building programmes for youth leadership facilitating youth-driven poverty alleviation programmes;

Creation of youth employment opportunities in infrastructure- and service orientated development programmes, examples of these have been piloted with the Department of Public Works;

Community service as an integral part of tertiary education curriculum need to be expanded beyond current community service for doctors; and

Short-term service initiatives in the SA National Defence Force.

A mechanism for the coordination and expanding of youth service initiatives should be established as a core function of the National Youth Commission in conjunction with government.

***Youth Organisational Capacity Building***

Clarification of civil society structures and their respective roles should be pursued, including relationships between government and national and provincial statutory bodies;

Norms and standards for the different categories of civil society structures at national provincial and community level to be developed with the possibility of central register for all organisations involved in youth development;

Nationally and internationally accredited organisational training and development programmes; and

Linkages to be developed with tertiary institutions in furthering the academic discourse on youth development.

**INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT**

Achieving co-ordination and coherence at policy and implementation levels, is a major challenge for government in general but specifically in terms of advancing integrated youth development. Processes and structures have evolved significantly since 1994 and helped to achieve the comprehensive and integrated goals of government. There

is value in bringing together government departments around youth development, an issue that cuts across traditional departmental lines of responsibility. This will advance a forward-looking youth development agenda by introducing different perspectives, ideas and innovative approaches.

Mechanisms to facilitate integration and coordination in youth development have to focus on four broad categories of institutions and organisations involved in youth development.

### ***Government***

All three spheres of government (national / provincial/ local) should be centrally involved in their areas of influence.

The National Executive is responsible for all executive decisions. Including the making of government policy and the overall monitoring of implementation of the government's programme of action in line with the broad national agenda and policy framework.

Central to this decision making structure is the government's medium term expenditure framework and the medium term strategic framework. The priority areas for broad transformation of South Africa have been identified amongst others as gender, disability, children, and the youth sector. The National Executive also take responsibility for country to country agreements and country reporting responsibilities in terms of multi lateral agreements with the multi lateral organisations to which South Africa belong.

In terms of the role players involved in this decision making process Cabinet is the apex and Cabinet Committees and Directors General Clusters plays a supportive role. It is proposed that in terms of youth development issues the Cabinet Committee and DG Cluster meeting for the Social Sector take primary responsibility for spearheading the processes in terms of the implementation of comprehensive youth development initiatives.

The Inter Departmental Committee on Youth Affairs (IDC), as established through the work of the National Youth Commission, should be strengthened through the representation of departments by officials of adequate seniority. Further to this strong institutional and coordination mechanisms should be established for interaction between the IDC and the DG Cluster for the Social sector.

It is further proposed that youth development initiatives and the work of the NYC, IDC and Social Cluster in this regard, be closely coordinated with the work of the Offices on the Status of Women and Disabled People as well as the Office on the Rights of the Child in the Presidency.

### ***Legislatures***

Both National and Provincial legislatures has a monitoring and evaluation role to play in terms of the implementation of youth development initiatives on a national provincial basis and also has responsibility for passing national and provincial legislation in their respective spheres of competence. Similarly the municipal legislatures will be monitoring and evaluating youth initiatives at a local level.

In terms of the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces the establishment of the Joint Monitoring Committee on the Quality of Life and Status of People with Disabilities, Children and Youth has a crucial role to play in terms of monitoring the youth development programme of government. It is proposed that similar Committees be pursued in the provincial legislatures.

### ***Independent Institutions***

A range of statutory and Constitutional and other independent bodies have been established to monitor government's programme of action, hear complaints, do research and report to parliament within their area of competence.

In terms of the youth development the National Youth Commission (NYC) has a primary role to play in terms of youth development initiatives. The NYC was established in 1996 to not only report to and advise Parliament on policy and programmatic issues affecting young people but also to report to and advise the President in this regard. The National Youth Commission is mandated to relate and work closely with Youth Commissions and Directorates established at provincial level.

The National Youth Commission has further, through their work in the past five years, established close working relationships with civil society organisations working with young people. They have further established good relationships with international and foreign government funding agencies to advance capacity building programmes and other pilot projects in terms of youth development. These relationships and coordinating mechanisms has to be broadened to and strengthened with organisations and institutions with similar objectives and mandates on the Continent and in the region.

The NYC has an ongoing role to play in terms of the monitoring and advise on youth development programmes of government specifically and for South Africa as a whole. In this regard ongoing research, capacity building and the running of pilot programmes in specific areas will continue to be an important function of the NYC.

Other independent, statutory and constitutional bodies with whom the NYC has to closely interact and coordinate in so far as it relates to youth development and matters affecting young people include the SA Human Rights Commission, the Commission for Gender Equality, Independent Electoral Commission, the Public Protector and the SA Law Commission.

### ***Civil Society***

Civil society has an important and complimentary role to play in terms of a coordinated and holistic youth development programme. The development and sustaining of healthy civil society organisations can best be served by a strong umbrella / coordination body. The South African Youth Council established in 1997 has the potential to fulfil this role and should be supported through interaction with the National Youth Commission to build capacity, clarify roles and responsibilities and identify critical areas of intervention within their areas of influence.

A strong umbrella / coordinating body for civil society organisations working with and for young people has a critical role to play in terms of implementation of identified programmes, building the capacity, and the voice, of the youth sector, as well as advocacy and the mobilisation of young people and their organisations.

Other role players in civil society who have to be integrated in the broad consensus of youth development and its aims and objectives are political party youth formations, the SA National NGO Coalition, research focused NGOs and community based organisations catering for the needs of young people.

Lastly the role of the private sector both in terms of possible funding avenues for youth development programmes as well as a constructive role in terms of partnerships have to be further developed and enhanced.

## **TOWARDS INDICATORS**

The development of indicators for monitoring both the general advances made in terms of the improvement of the quality of life of young people as well as the more specific impact of targeted interventions will be done in conjunction with the respective

initiatives and programmes departments embark upon in consultation with the National Youth Commission.

The Inter Departmental Committee for Youth Affairs will make proposals as to the specific indicators of success, for the each of the proposed areas of intervention, to the DG Cluster for the Social Sector. This will be done in close liaison with the DG Clusters in the process of finalising the monitoring and evaluation framework for government.

The National Youth Commission will as a matter of urgency liase with Statistics South Africa regarding the alignment of statistical approaches and methodologies as well as envisaged survey outcomes. The soon to be released selected findings from Census 1996 regarding the status of young people in South Africa should serve as a basis for establishing this partnership.

As part of the NYC Annual Report, as required in terms so the NYC Act 1996, the NYC will annually submit indicators of progress made in terms of the identified strategic intervention areas as well as provide indication of new / other strategic approaches / initiatives that has to be pursued.

Further to this the NYC will take responsibility to report on the viability of coordination mechanisms implemented in terms of achieving an integrated and holistic approach to Youth Development in SA.

In general the indicators for monitoring and evaluating youth development will be aligned with the principles and values for youth development programmes and initiatives in this framework and departments are requested to make these indicators part of their initial budgeting, planning, implementation and evaluation frameworks.

## **CONCLUSION**

Forward to an integrated youth development future!!!!