



Agriculture & Food Security

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS & RURAL
DEVELOPMENT

Presentation to Women Conference

Venue: Richardsbay

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Introduction

- ★ Nearly one third of all South African households are female-headed which are considerably poorer than male-headed households.
- ★ Nearly 52% of female-headed households spent less than R1 000 per month in 1996, in contrast to 35% of male-headed households that spent less than R1 000 in the same period.
- ★ Unemployment rates have remained high at 38%, despite other decent economic indicators
- ★ (Statistics SA, 1998). Black households have the lowest standards of living and are much more vulnerable to poverty, and food insecurity.





Introduction Cont.

- ★ Although food insecurity is highest among Africans, it also affects a significant number of Coloured and Indian households. There are also some pockets of food insecurity among urban whites.
- ★ The **HIV/AIDS** epidemic and other communicable diseases have further undermined food-insecure households.
- ★ The vision of the Integrated Food Security Strategy is to attain universal, physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food by all South African at all times to meet their dietary and food preferences for an active and healthy life.





Approach

- Public private civil society partnerships focusing on:
- security interventions
- empowerment of food insecure population
- provision of relief measures from short-medium to term
- Monitoring and evaluation





Lead departments

- ★ a) Special Programme for Food Security - Department of Agriculture;
- ★ b) Community Development Programme - Department of Public Works
- ★ c) Integrated Nutrition and Food Safety Programme - Department of Health;
- ★ d) Comprehensive Social Security Programme - Department of Social Development;
- ★ e) Information and Communication Programme - Statistics South Africa;
- ★ f) Food Security Capacity Building Programme - all departments; and
- ★ g) Food Security Stakeholder Dialogue Programme - All departments.





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Agriculture as a convenor

- ★ Provide secretariat functions
- ★ Establish a food security unit
- ★ Develop Provincial, district and local forums
- ★ Ensure open platforms for frequent dialogue with stakeholders,
- ★ Provide expertise information





Agriculture as lead agent cont.

- Increase Safety Nets and Food Emergency management Systems
- Improve analysis and information management systems
- Provide Capacity Building
- Increase Stakeholder dialogue and develop partnership

The Programme has Five broad sub programme

- Food Production and Trade Programme
- Community Development Programme
- Nutrition and Food Safety Programme





Model of Conceptual Framework

- ★ It stands on two pillars
- ★ Seed packs
 - Seed Scoop or Pack 1
 - Household Production or Pack 2
 - Household Garden or Pack 3
 - Community Garden or Pack 4
- ★ Emerging farmer initiatives



Expected outcome

- ★ a) Greater ownership of productive assets and participation in the economy by the food insecure;
- ★ b) Increased competitiveness and profitability of farming operations and rural enterprises that are owned and managed by or on behalf of the food insecure;
- ★ c) Increased levels of nutrition and food safety among the food insecure;
- ★ d) Greater participation of the food insecure in the social security system and better prevention and mitigation of food emergencies;
- ★ e) Greater availability of reliable, accurate and timely analysis, information and communication on the conditions of the food insecure and the impact of food security improvement interventions;
- ★ f) Enhanced levels of public private civil society common understanding and participation in agreed food security improvement interventions; and
- ★ g) Improved levels of governance, integration, coordination, financial and administration management of food security improvement interventions

