



iNDAba NEWS

EDITOR'S CORNER

October is dubbed “development month”, however, for those of us and you who are involved in the progression and development of communities – this is a daily duty. There is a vital day observed annually, the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on the 17th, that commemorates what the National Development Agency aims to achieve in its mandate to eradicate poverty through providing funds to civil society organisations to implement sustainable programmes that create jobs and livelihoods within communities. The theme for this year is “Building a sustainable future: coming together to end poverty and discrimination” and it seemed fitting that we launch this news bulletin in this month to reignite ties with you, civil society organisations,

by keeping you updated with what we are doing – so as to find ways to do it together – but most importantly, also so that you know where we are and how you can reach us.

The NDA has bid farewell to the former CEO, Dr Vuyelwa Nhlapo, and we eagerly await the arrival of our new CEO and Board of Directors. I will share the news in the next editions.

Please use this publication as a platform to communicate developmental issues, resolutions and gatherings that intend to move the sector forward. My contact details appear at the end of the publication. I look forward to hearing from you.

Lesego Ranchu
Editor

Farewell to Dr Vuyelwa Nhlapo



*Acting CEO:
Nelisiwe Vilakazi.*

Dr Vuyelwa Nhlapo's term in office as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) has lapsed according to the contract period served in state agencies. She joined the National Development Agency (NDA) 5 years ago and was instrumental in positioning the Agency's focus areas and in particular with building the capacity of CSOs to implement poverty eradication programmes in their communities, as well as early childhood development programmes being implemented by the NDA. Her term in office ended at the end of August 2015.

Interim Chief Executive Officer appointed

Mrs Nelisiwe Ignatia Vilakazi has been seconded to the position of Acting Chief Executive Officer, by the Minister of Social Development Ms Bathabile Dlamini, whilst the recruitment process is underway to place a permanent CEO for the Agency.

Mrs Vilakazi's experience in development work stems back from working for the Department of Social Development in KwaZulu-Natal, holding various positions at all levels and in particular at Senior Management levels as a Director and Chief Director. She is currently employed as the Deputy Director General for Strategy and Organisational Transformation at the national Department of Social Development.

She holds Bachelors and Masters qualifications in Social Sciences from the University of KwaZulu-Natal and a B Tech Management from Durban University of Technology. Her hobbies include reading and she is currently pursuing further post-graduate studies.

Mrs Vilakazi has a passion for development around women's issues, social protection, transformation agenda and the disability sector. One of her key achievements include starting a Special School for children with intellectual impairment at Osizweni, known as Vumanisabelo, which is a resource to the community and is supported by the Department of Education in KZN.

The appointment of the new CEO will be announced in due course.

WHAT'S INSIDE

PAGE 2



- NDA CSO Dialogues
- NDA partners with HSRC to measure impact of grant funding

PAGE 3



South African
Early Childhood
Development Awards

- Entries close for SA Early Childhood Development Awards
- Jessica Fortuin Fellows appointed

PAGE 4



- Upcoming Events

National Development Agency partners with Human Sciences Research Council to measure impact of grant funding



The National Development Agency, in partnership with the Human Sciences Research Council, is conducting an impact assessment study of its poverty alleviation programmes for the period 2007–2012 across all 9 provinces. The specific focus of this study is around the economic development, food security and early childhood development programmes. The objective of the study is to provide comprehensive information on the contribution made to the funded projects on organisations, beneficiaries and households in communities where the projects are operating. The specific objectives of this study include the following:

- to provide an accurate assessment of the contribution made by the NDA poverty alleviation projects on beneficiaries, households and organisations
- to measure impact (positive or negative) that can be attributed to the NDA poverty alleviation programmes on individual livelihoods and households

- to produce an impact assessment report that can assist the NDA to enhance the planning, implementation and monitoring of its poverty alleviation projects
- to inform policy and strategies on how the country can improve developmental programmes aimed at poverty alleviation, especially on the areas of income generation, early childhood development and food security.

“The rationale behind conducting this impact study stems from the notion that despite the fact that NDA spent more than R1 billion on development management projects since 2000, there is little that is known about the actual impact of the funded programmes. The study will measure if the funded projects and programmes could have been better designed to achieve their intended outcomes and whether the resources invested in various projects were spent efficiently. Internally, the outcomes will assist us to better design, implement and appropriately monitor

future programmes and projects; and externally inform policy and strategies on how the country can improve development programmes aimed at poverty alleviation in NDA focus areas,” says Simon Baloyi – NDA’s Senior Manager for Monitoring and Evaluation.

Individual organisations funded in the prescribed 5 years will be selected and assessed to gather information on project implementation, growth and sustainability, management processes, sources of funding and savings levels, quality of services offered and quality of life for the beneficiaries.

As part of data gathering process of the study, selected NDA management and operational staff in all provinces will be interviewed. Selected project managers in sampled projects will also be interviewed. The study commenced in April and will be concluded in December 2015 after which the final report will be submitted. A workshop will be scheduled to discuss the study results.

NDA CSO DIALOGUES

By Thami Ngwenya, Senior Manager: Stakeholder & Partnerships

The National Development Agency (NDA) has gone under review by the National Treasury and the outcomes of the review led the NDA into amending the old strategy and adopting a new strategic focus. This new focus intends to ensure that the NDA maximises its impact on the Civil Society Organisation (CSO) sector and that the cooperation between the two is realigned and harmonised. There is an outcry that, in its more than 10 years of existence, the NDA has not been able to carry out its entire mandate as contained in the objectives of the Act, and as such a gap has opened up between the NDA and the CSO sector. Having identified CSOs as the primary agents through which the NDA needs to carry out its mandate, the need for realignment of the NDA strategic focus, to go back to basics and create an interlock between the government and the CSOs cannot be overemphasised enough.

The NDA recognises that:

- a) The challenge of winning the battle on poverty in South Africa does not lie solely in the hands of the government. It is also the responsibility of the communities, civil society and international agencies.
- b) CSOs are better positioned to play a



huge role in winning the battle against poverty since they have the advantage of proximity and a better understanding of the needs of the people on the ground. However,

- c) it is also noted that the shortfall of most CSOs is in their lack of financial muscle, organisational support and sector representative structures.

The new focus would arguably be partial and incomplete without the inputs from the CSOs who are the medians through which the NDA needs to carry out their mandate. Thus, the NDA is calling upon all

the relevant CSOs to provincial dialogues that will ensure that the new NDA strategic focus is well understood by the CSO sector and both the NDA and the CSO sector know what to expect from each other.

The establishment of NDA in the main was so that the needs of the CSO sector in development could be catered for and the partnership between Government and the CSOs is strengthened. The outcomes of the National Treasury review which was concluded in December 2013, amongst other things, recommended that the new mandate of the NDA be mainly capacity »



building, resource mobilisation, enterprise development as well as knowledge management. As a result, the NDA has come up with a 5 year strategic plan, annual performance plan with clarifying objectives and outcomes.

It is in this vein that the NDA has planned a number of provincial dialogues and is inviting all relevant CSOs stakeholders to these dialogues that will clarify the new NDA strategic focus with an expectation of the inputs of the CSOs to the new NDA direction document.

Government established the NDA so that the short and long term needs of the CSOs in development are catered for and the partnership between the Government and the CSOs is strengthened. The National Development Agency (NDA) is a public entity, listed under Schedule 3A of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA). It was established by the National Development Agency Act, (Act No 108 of 1998) and reports to the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa through the Minister for Social Development.

The dialogues will be held with the anticipation that their success will provide the following outcomes:

- The new NDA strategic focus will be informed, aligned and responsive to the needs of CSOs
- The working relationship between the NDA and the CSO sector will be strengthened in terms of cooperation and active participation of the sector in the governance of the NDA
- Assist NDA to maximise impact on the sector and ensure that their operations stay relevant to the CSO sector
- Assist CSOs in understanding the role, challenges and capabilities of the NDA
- Enhance the mechanism and structures that assist the NDA in capacitating the sector
- Develop institutional structures that ensure CSO sector stays linked with the NDA and
- play a leading role in lobbying government and other entities for NDA resources to assist the sector.

Please contact Elizabeth Sebuse on 011 018 5620 or elizabeths@nda.org.za should your organisation wish to participate in these dialogues.

Entries close for SA Early Childhood Development Awards



South African
Early Childhood
Development Awards

The annual South African Early Childhood Awards entries opened to all community practitioners, centres, organisations who wished to enter themselves or nominate others who have demonstrated best practice and exemplary participation in the ECD sector within the following categories:

- Best ECD Centre of the Year
- Best ECD Practitioner of the Year
- Best Programme for Children with Disabilities of the Year
- Best ECD Trainer of the Year
- Best Non-centre Based Programme of the Year
- Best Publication of the Year

The National Development Agency (NDA) is the custodian of the Awards, and have partnered with the South African Congress for Early Childhood Development, Departments of Social Development, Basic Education and Health as well as UNICEF to ensure

that all ECD policy stakeholders are represented and play a role in recognising sector services and programmes that benefit young children throughout the country.

The Awards follow a process of nomination, adjudication and verification site visits. The award ceremonies are subsequently staged in the provinces that then culminate into national awards that will take place in March 2016. Award winners are eligible for cash prizes for their organisations as well as developmental or scholarship opportunities for the practitioners.

In the coming months, the entries will be shortlisted, verified and site visits will be conducted by the various adjudication bodies. Provincial winners will be announced at provincial awards that will take place in February 2015 while the national awards will take place in March 2016 in Johannesburg.



Jessica Fortuin Fellows appointed

South Africa is faced with a major problem of unemployment especially among women and the youth. Jobs are not being created as quickly as desired and the problem of unemployment, is fuelled by lack of skills and formal work experience. The National Development Agency (NDA), through the Jessica Fortuin Fellowship (JFF), is contributing to alleviating high levels of unemployment among young graduates and provides them with opportunities to gain practical work experience for a 24 months duration.

JFF harnesses development professionals from prospective graduates in possession of a Degree and qualified in development or development associated disciplines, for example, community (rural and urban) development, monitoring and evaluation, research and development, policy development, economic development, agriculture, entrepreneurship, development management, social sciences, etc. The

identified fellows should be between the ages of 18–35 and unemployed and must be South African citizens.

The fellows are placed at advisory centres and offices of the NDA where they will serve as Information Officers. A designated mentor supports a fellow where he/she is placed within the organisation. This programme responds to the need for young South Africans to gain skills in designing, implementing and supervising development programmes and projects. The work experience enhances their employability.

“The programme has been successful in achieving recognition and awareness of career opportunities in the public sector amongst students, but most importantly, has allowed for accelerated service delivery by government through the introduction of skilled personnel where NDA didn’t have a footprint,” explains Basani Maluleke, NDA Organisational Development Manager. >>

The following have been appointed in various district municipalities, countrywide.

Free-State:

Vuyokazi Ben, Lipuo Matsoso, Tshepiso Masiloane, Refiloe Pheko and Sechaba Lofafa.

Gauteng:

Lemisa Labang and Lebohang Mbongo, Sthembiso Nkuna and Innocent Mahlakoane.

North-West:

Keotshepile Gadipedi, Sebongile Oliphant, Thulaganyo Leshope, Reneilwe Motswesjane; Kgomotso Segokgo.

Eastern Cape:

Wally Kalaka, Zikhona Tomeli, Yanga Bunu, Noluvuyo Ngantweni and Bongiwwe Maqula.

Western Cape:

Shaun Lee Roy Meyer, Diana Fortuin, Luqmaan Jacobs, Yolanda Madyira and Dyane Phillips.

Mpumalanga:

Mazwi Nkomo, David Ubisi, Thenjiwe Mvelase, Sophia Bogoshi and Abide Mathebula.

KwaZulu-Natal:

Nompumelelo Prosperous, Bhekizenzo Nxumalo, Wendy Nandipha Mfamana, Nomkhosi Portia Ntanda.

Limpopo:

Tumelo Sadiki, Tebogo Machaka, Nkateko Bvuma, Tlakale Mampuru and Dineo Moeti.

Northern Cape:

Shaun Matthys, Dariol Delmarie Cloete, Mpho Matotong, Motshidisi Witkoei.

The initial group of the JFF will finish their programme at the end of December 2015, the new group will arrive in January to finish at the end of 2018.



The NDA golf team (Prof Zach Chuenyane, Edy Baloyi, Siphon Talane, Sam Maloka) raised funds for ECD centres in Limpopo at the Premier's Golf Day.

Go to www.ndacampaigns.co.za for more information and to pledge support.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Call for CSO support for commemoration of International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

The National Development Agency is calling on the CSO sector to play an active role in commemorating the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on the 17th of October 2015 by performing any "17 Acts of Goodwill".

In numerology, number 17 symbolises – insight, responsibility, self-discipline, strength, compassion, spiritual consciousness, and wisdom, a desire for peace and love for all of humanity.

The 8 MDGs, which have not been achieved by some African countries to date, should be the guiding principles of the campaign and as a result, whatever act of goodwill is chosen, should align with one of the MDGs below:

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Achieve universal primary education
- Promote gender equality and empower women
- Reduce child mortality
- Improve maternal health
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- Ensure environmental sustainability
- Global partnerships for development

Examples are:

- Donate 17 minutes of your time towards any act of goodwill of choice
- 17 seconds messages from prominent people on social media #17actsofgoodwill
- Volunteer 17 afternoons/weekends assisting matriculants with problematic subjects such as maths and science

- Donate 17 pairs of school shoes to 17 children
- Assist 17 families to establish food gardens
- Assist 17, 17-year old in making career decisions

This campaign is a call to all South Africans, championed by the NDA and CSOs under the theme "Coming together to end poverty", to reach out to those less privileged throughout the country. The aim is to popularise the 17th of October in such a way that people and organisations automatically observe the day annually.

Please contact the Editor if you wish to take part in commemoration activities for awareness and support in your locations.

01 October 2015

– International Day of Older Persons

07 October 2015

– World Day for Decent Work

15 October 2015

– International Day of Rural Women

16 October 2015

– World Food Day (DSD Minister's Food Launch campaign in Tweeling, Free-State)

17 October 2015

- International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (NDA will commemorate this day)
- (DSD Minister's World Population Day Celebration in Albert Park, KwaZulu-Natal)

24 October 2015

– World Development Information Day

26-30 October 2015

– Older persons Golden Games, Northern Cape

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social development

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Social Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

National Development Agency is an agency of the Department of Social Development