



DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

RESEARCH DISSERTATION: MSc GEOGRAPHY

**SOCIO AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COMPREHENSIVE RURAL
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME: A CASE STUDY OF MUYEXE
COMPREHENSIVE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME SITE IN THE
GREATER GIYANI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN LIMPOPO PROVINCE, SOUTH
AFRICA**

By

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ABSTRACT

A majority of the South African population live in poverty, particularly those in rural areas. During the year 2009, the South African government identified rural development as a key priority area in socio-economic issues and the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform was created to focus specifically on this issue. This was followed by the development of the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP). The CRDP is a government policy on rural development. The main focus of the programme is on agrarian transformation and land reform as pillars of rural development, alongside infrastructure provision such as housing, energy, sanitation, schools, clinics, boreholes and water reticulation system in rural areas. Therefore, the main purpose of this study was to assess the socio-economic impacts of the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP). The study used Muyexe village in Greater Giyani Local Municipality as a case study.

The objectives of the study included assessing challenges facing the Muyexe village, such as provision of basic services, job creation, skills development and public amenities. The first phase of the literature review focused on the definitions of rural development, rural development theories, development challenges and approaches on rural development. The second phase of the literature review further explored the developmental challenges for rural areas in South Africa since 1994. For this study, the researcher collected the primary data by making use of face to face interviews, while secondary data was gathered from the compiled frameworks, policies, reports of government departments, books, journals, conference papers, proceedings, presentations and the internet.

The findings showed that a lot still needs to be done with regards to the development of infrastructure such as road, transport and adequate access to basic services. It was also found that the unemployment rate in the area is a serious concern. It was raised that most of the jobs that were created were only on a short term basis, with lower wages. While the enterprises and cooperatives established were struggling with

production and generating income. The recommendations intending to strengthen the implementation of rural development initiatives such as the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme to have a better model of addressing rural development that will yield tangible results of sustainable development were also provided.

KEY WORDS

Comprehensive Rural Development Programme; socio-economic impacts; social infrastructure development; enterprises development; basic services; food security.

DECLARATION

I Ditebogo Audry Ramovha hereby declare that the dissertation which i hereby submit for the degree of Masters of Science in Geography at the University of South Africa, is my own work and has not previously been submitted by me for a degree at this or any other institution. I declare that the dissertation does not contain any written work presented by other persons whether written, pictures, graphs or data or any other information without acknowledging the source. I declare that where words from a written source have been used the words have been paraphrased and referenced and where exact words from a source have been used the words have been placed inside quotation marks and referenced.

I declare that I have not copied and pasted any information from the Internet, without specifically acknowledging the source and have inserted appropriate references to these sources in the reference section of the dissertation. I declare that during my study I adhered to the Research Ethics Policy of the University of South Africa, received ethics approval for the duration of my study prior to the commencement of data gathering, and have not acted outside the approval conditions. I declare that the content of my dissertation has been submitted through an electronic plagiarism detection program before the final submission for examination.

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|--------|--|
| AIDS | Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome |
| ANC | African National Congress |
| ASGISA | Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative of South Africa |
| BRAC | Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee |
| CBPWP | Community Based Public Works Programme |
| CD | Community Development |
| CRDP | Comprehensive Rural Development Programme |
| CWP | Community Work Programme |
| DLA | Department of Land Affairs |
| DPLG | Department of Provincial and Local Government |
| DRDLR | Department of Rural Development and Land Reform |
| ECD | Early Childhood Development |
| ECOSOC | Economic and Social Council |
| EPWP | Expanded Public Works Programme |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| FLO | Fairtrade Labelling Organisation |
| GAD | Gender and Development |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| GEAR | Growth Employment and Redistribution Programme |
| GGLM | Greater Giyani Local Municipality |

| | |
|---------|---|
| GMO | Genetically Modified Foods |
| GNU | Government of National Unity |
| HIV | Human Immunodeficiency Virus |
| HLSP | Health and Life Sciences Partnership |
| ICT | Information and Communications Technology |
| IDS | Integrated Development Strategy |
| IDT | Independent Development Trust |
| IFPRI | International Food Policy Research Institute |
| ITK | Indigenous Technical Knowledge |
| IRD | Integrated Rural Development |
| IRDP | Integrated Rural Development Projects |
| IRDS | Integrated Rural Development Strategy |
| ISRDS | Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Strategy |
| LIBSA | Limpopo Business Support Agency |
| LLCD | Lunar Laser Communication Demonstration |
| MDG | Millennium Development Goals |
| MTSF | Medium Term Strategic Framework |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organisation |
| NARYSEC | National Rural Youth Service Corps |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| PO | Programme Organiser |
| PLAAS | Programme for Land and Agrarian Studies |

| | |
|-------|--|
| PRSP | Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers |
| RDP | Reconstruction and Development Programme |
| RDS | Rural Development Strategy |
| RRA | Rapid Rural Appraisal |
| SAP | Structural Adjustment Programme |
| SL | Sustainable Livelihoods |
| SP | Social Protection |
| SRD | Sustainable Rural Development |
| SMMEs | Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises |
| UN | United Nations |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| US | United States |
| VIP | Ventilated Improved Pit |
| WB | World Bank |
| WID | Women in Development |

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The current South African government continues to face a number of social, economic and environmental problems. Some of the problems have had their origins in colonial and post-colonial apartheid period, but others have emerged in the post-apartheid period. These include: environmental degradation (especially in rural areas), deepening levels of poverty and increasing inequalities amongst the people in rural areas, job creation and the need in general to improve the quality of life.

The two leading development strategy statements since 1994 that were meant to deal with the above challenges were the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) of 1994 and the Growth, Employment and Redistribution (GEAR) programme that was released in June 1996. The challenges that the above two policy documents meant to achieve are still haunting the nation (Briefing paper 156, April 2006).

The former President of South Africa, Thabo Mbeki (Cape Town, 25 June 1999) once alluded to the fact that the government was in a position to implement a rural development programme for the integrated development of rural areas. This was to bring together all government departments and all spheres of government, including traditional leaders. According to the National Development Vision 2030 Plan, South Africa's hinterland is marked by high levels of poverty and joblessness, with limited employment in agriculture. Therefore, in order to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality, South Africa has to raise the levels of employment through productivity growth and the earnings of the working people. In order to develop rural areas South Africa is therefore in need of capacity building. Through capacity building people can lead their own change processes and they can also be the actors, not merely the subjects of change.

Rural development is a sustained and sustainable process of economic, social, cultural and environmental change designed to enhance the long term well-being of the community (Moseley, 1996). This document aims to determine the socio-economic

impacts of the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP), and also to assess the extent to which progress has been made to alleviate specific challenges facing the community of Muyexe village since the implementation of the CRDP in 2009.

The Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) is strategic priority number three within the government's current Medium Term Strategic Framework. The design of the programme is predicated on lessons learnt from pilot sites selected through socio-economic profiling, community participatory processes and intergovernmental co-operation. A great deal of baseline data has emerged from the first two pilot engagements in Riemvasmaak in the Northern Cape, and Muyexe Village in Giyani in the Limpopo Province (DRDLR, CRDP Framework, 2009).

1.2 Background

The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR) formerly known as the Department of Land Affairs (DLA) has been given the mandate to design and implement a new rural development strategy for South Africa (CRDP Framework, 2009). The strategic objective of the CRDP is therefore to facilitate integrated development and social cohesion through participatory approaches in partnership with all sectors of society (DRDLR, CRDP Framework, 2009).

The CRDP is focused on enabling rural people to take control of their destiny, with the support from government, and thereby dealing effectively with rural poverty through the optimal use and management of natural resources to create vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities, creation of business opportunities, and expanding opportunities for women, youth, people living with disabilities and older persons who stay in rural areas (DRDLR, CRDP Framework, 2009).

During the pilot study in Muyexe the findings showed that people in the village were living in poverty due to a high number of unemployed people in the area and lack of

basic needs such as water reticulation, comprehensive sanitation infrastructure, adequate roads, health facilities, suitable house infrastructures (RDP) and lack of food security. The Muyexe community has been for many years dependent on stock farming which is restricted by a number of animal diseases and mainly foot and mouth diseases. Consequently, market opportunities are severely restricted to only selling their animals within the villages. The economic system was based on two brickworks activities, one functional and limited commercial activity (DRDLR, CRDP Consolidated Status Report, 2010).

In terms of the residential areas, the Muyexe village is dominated by traditional houses and RDPs, there are some people who do not have access to RDP houses and their mud houses are dilapidated, four shops, drop area for orphans, which are upgraded to a clinic, four sports grounds, a police station, four identifiable / built up church structures, mine structures, educational facilities (one secondary school, primary and early childhood development). There are also high levels of unemployment, income levels vary, 85% of households survive on an income of less than R 2000 a month and most of the adults are illiterate (DRDLR, CRDP Consolidated Status Report, 2010).

The village has no water reticulation as the available water resources are restricted to surface and groundwater. The major surface water resources are the Middle Letaba Dam (fed by Middle Letaba River, the Koedoes River, Brandboontjies River and minor streams) and the Nsami Dam (mainly fed by Nsami River). The current infrastructure in Giyani is inadequate to supply water to the whole villages of Greater Giyani Municipality. Although there are public boreholes in Muyexe where people get water from, the problem with the boreholes is that the water is polluted by agricultural activities in the area.

However, the community is also forced to buy water from people who own private boreholes. The cost of buying 25 litre of water is R2 but with high unemployment levels and the reliance on social grants the cost of water is unsustainable. There is no sewerage system in place, the village is using pit toilets that have the detrimental impacts in the underground water which lead to polluted underground boreholes water.

Electricity supply is available except in the newly established settlement in the village. While access to road was still a major challenge as the available road infrastructure is gravel, which become problematic for people to travel from the village to the surrounding areas and town particularly during and after rainy periods. In terms of transport, there is a bus rendering a service of collecting commuters from Muyexe village to Giyani Town twice a day. However, the condition of the road makes it difficult for the bus to reach the width and the length of the village, as a result many villagers use donkey carts as a mode of transportation to the Giyani Town (DRDLR, CRDP Status Report, 2010).

1.3 Study Area

Limpopo province is one of the first two provinces chosen in the country as a pilot project for the implementation of the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme. The province is situated in the north-eastern part of the country (South Africa). The province consists of 30 municipalities in total and this includes five district municipalities namely: Mopani, Sekhukhune, Capricorn, Waterberg and Vhembe as well as twenty five local municipalities. Of the five district municipalities, Mopani was selected as the CRDP site in the Province (DRDLR, CRDP Framework, 2009).

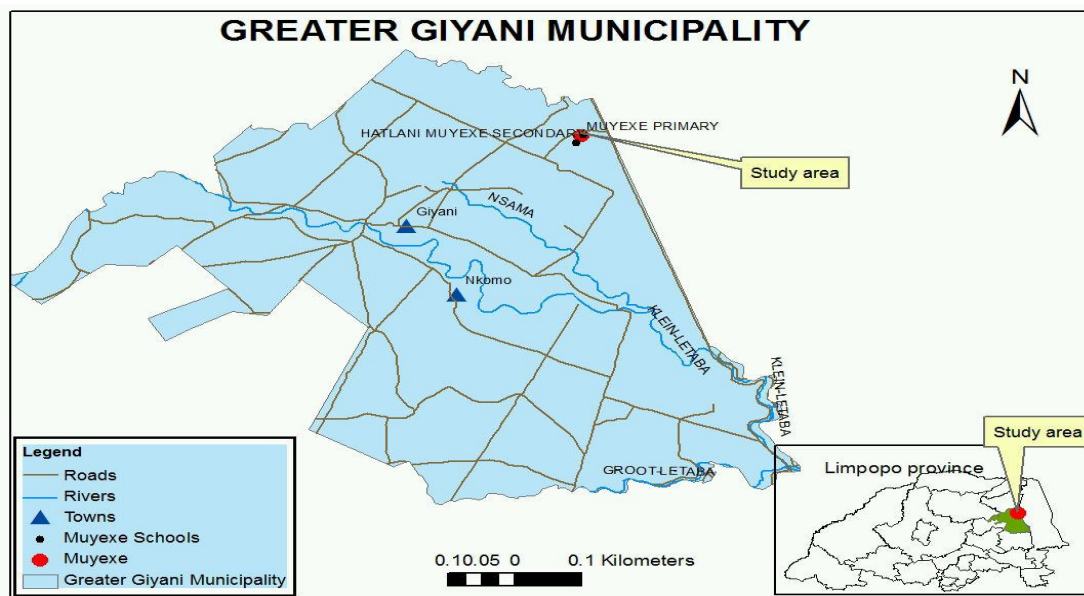
The Mopani District Municipality consists of five local municipalities namely: Greater Giyani, Greater Tzaneen, Greater Letaba, Ba-Phalaborwa and Maruleng. Greater Giyani Local Municipality is one of municipalities wherein the CRDP sites were selected. The municipality covers an area of approximately 2967, 27km² with only one urban area being Giyani Town. The municipality is demarcated into 30 wards consisting of ninety one (91) villages and urban area of Giyani. The town of Giyani is the largest centre of population concentration, employment opportunities, shopping and recreational facilities. Greater Giyani local municipality's population is consists of 244 217 (Census, 2011).

The economic activities that mostly take place in Greater Giyani (both formal and informal) are: small-scale agriculture services (maize, vegetables, tomatoes, and beef), transport and retail development. However, there are a number of factors impacting

negatively on the economic growth such as geographical location (distance to markets), shortage of skills, poor infrastructure, climatic conditions and diseases (HIV & malaria). The municipality has potential for tourism and conservation development due to the existing natural heritage sites through the area, mining, abandoned farming schemes, processing of natural products (mopani worms and marula fruit) (DRDLR, CRDP Status Report, 2010).

The Greater Giyani Municipality consists of 91 villages and Muyexe is one of them. The village is consists of a total population of 3 228, and 64.3% of households are headed by females (Census, 2011). Muyexe village in Greater Giyani, Limpopo is one of the first two areas chosen for a pilot project and for laying the foundation for the CRDP. In Muyexe, for example, a survey questionnaire was administered by local Community Development Workers and unemployed youth. This survey questionnaire was further enhanced by other qualitative rural appraisal tools such as community mapping and workshops. These combined methods produced 21 priorities for the Muyexe community. Based on these 21 priorities identified by the community, various state departments began assessing the projects for which they would be individually responsible, including detailed costing assessments and eventual implementation (DRDLR, CRDP Framework, 2009).

1.3.1 Map of Limpopo Province



1.4 Rationale for the Study

This research aimed to determine the socio-economic impacts of the CRDP. The Muyexe comprehensive rural development programme site in the Greater Giyani Local Municipality was used as a case study for the research. The study attempted to find out from the people in the village if there are any improvements in their lives since the establishment of the programme. Whilst the strategy is being implemented in other rural areas in South Africa, the impact and the extent to which the programme can improve the livelihoods of the communities is yet to be assessed and evaluated.

The CRDP is assumed to be the most effective response against poverty and food insecurity by maximising the use and management of natural resources to create vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities. Therefore, if the implementation of the CRDP becomes a success in the area of Muyexe in the Greater Giyani Local Municipality the living conditions of the community will improve beyond the poverty level. The research findings will assist a broad spectrum of the government sectors in embracing CRDP to contribute to their respective poverty reduction strategies.

Furthermore, by highlighting the CRDP implementation challenges that are deemed key to alleviate poverty, the research findings will also bring to the fore the importance of government interventions across the country.

1.5 Problem Statement

Poverty is a key development challenge in social, economic and political terms; not only in South Africa but throughout the developing world. In post-apartheid South Africa, fighting the legacy of poverty and under-development has always been a central theme of Government. This was cemented in the Reconstruction and Development Plan (RDP) of 1994 and restated in the National Development Plan (NDP) in 2011. Since 1994 in South Africa substantial attention has been given to the potential impacts of rural development on livelihoods throughout government programmes. This has led to the implementation of various rural development strategies to improve rural livelihoods and promote sustainable rural communities.

During the profiling period for CRDP in the area of Muyexe it was identified that poverty level is very high due to lack of access to basic services such as clean water, sanitation, electricity, housing, access roads, food security, high level of unemployment, low income level, lack of facilities for health and education. In the context of this situation, it was concluded that an effective implementable multi-pronged rural development strategy is needed, which is the CRDP. The CRDP is one of the key priorities of government, aimed at creating sustainable rural communities throughout the country. The ultimate goal of the CRDP is to see sustainable rural communities that are characterised by social cohesion. Therefore, this study will assess the socio-economic impact of the CRDP in improving livelihoods of Muyexe community.

1.6 Aim of the Study

The aim of the study is to assess the socio-economic activities and infrastructure developed as a result of projects initiated by CRDP.

1.7 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

- To assess the quality of infrastructure delivered in improving the livelihoods of Muyexe community.
- To assess the sustainability of the enterprises established in increasing employment and income levels in Muyexe.
- To assess the level of empowerment of the community, especially women, youth and people living with disabilities through facilitating and mediating strong institutional capabilities to take full charge of their collective destiny.
- To assess the capacity building initiatives, where people of Muyexe were trained in technical skills to drive job creation and employability.
- To assess the degree of participation and involvement of the community and the challenges faced in the implementation of the CRDP projects.
- To assess the level of establishment and productivity of food gardens in the area to improve food security.

1.8. Research questions

For this study the following questions were of importance:

- To what extent did the CRDP stimulate rural job creation and skills development in Muyexe community?
- To what extent did the CRDP promote economic livelihoods of Muyexe community?
- What was the level of establishing cooperative & enterprise support in Muyexe?
- Did the CRDP improve access to basic needs for beneficiaries in Muyexe village?
- What was the level of participation of the community in the implementation of the CRDP projects?
- What was the level of establishing food gardens for household food access as well as income generation through selling surplus produce?

- Did the CRDP reach the appropriate target population (women, youth and people living with disabilities)?
- To what extent did the CRDP reach its objectives in Muyexe?

1.9 Structure and Design of the Dissertation

In chapter one the problem is introduced and the background to the problem and the need for the study is explained. The objectives, research methodology and the scope of this study are also discussed. In chapter two the focus is on both international and local context on rural development and the socio-economic impacts of the CRDP in the area of Muyexe. In Chapter three the research methodology that was used to collect data to determine the socio-economic impacts of the CRDP in Muyexe village is also presented. In chapter four the data presentation and research findings are explained and in chapter five research analysis and discussion are presented. Finally, in chapter six the conclusion and recommendations are presented.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

SECTION A: The Meaning of Rural Development

2.1 Introduction

The purpose of this dissertation is to investigate and present the socio-economic impacts of the CRDP on the provision of basic service infrastructure such as water, electricity, sanitation, housing, job creation and economic growth to alleviate poverty and inequality. The primary intention is to assess the holistic impact of CRDP as a rural development strategy. To achieve this goal the first part of this chapter focuses on the definition of rural development. This is done in the context of competing rural development theories and associated paradigms.

The purpose of this review is to provide a deeper understanding on rural development to enable deeper insight in the analysis of research findings of this study. The second part of this chapter reviews a series of rural development approaches implemented at various stages in South Africa to address the challenges of underdevelopment in the country for socio-economic renewal, job creation, economic growth, transformation and empowerment to establish a systematic approach to the democratisation and development of the South African society. While the role of rural development both in a global and local context is also discussed.

The eradication of rural poverty has been a major concern worldwide in governments and donor agencies for many decades. Although various approaches such as the community development have been used to eradicate rural poverty, they have then lost their effectiveness in terms of reaching the poor hence they were discontinued. Similarly, the ineffectiveness of these approaches and rural development strategies were experienced in many other developing countries. This resulted in many donors and the government to retreat from the Integrated Rural Developments (IRD) projects and to begin focusing on the agricultural production intervention.

The United Nations (1971) argue that there should be a simultaneous approach in promoting economic and social progress in rural areas. This means that to achieve a comprehensive development, the programmes of community development, agriculture, education, training, health and nutrition should not be planned and implemented broadly. However, it should be stated that the effectiveness of the integrated rural development approach also depends upon the buy in and support from the governments concerned.

As stated in the BRAC (Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee) Strategy of 1992, it should be noted that changing life and prospects of the poor requires them to have an understanding of their background as well as skills and knowledge to use in improving their lives. The poor are to also acknowledge that community development is not only the responsibility of the donor or government. The rural communities must have knowledge on the methodology to apply for their own assistance. They must use the lesson learned that contributed to their poverty and use them as a basis to analyse the turnaround strategy and have power to control their own destiny. This entails that they must begin to establish their own structures and interventions that will turn around the social and economic situations to better their lives. The communities need to know that they play an important role in changing their situation especially through their actions. Communities are the key role players in changing their lives and therefore, there must be a high level of participation from them.

Before they can improve their positions, poor village men and women must acquire knowledge and above all people need to learn through their own actions how to control their situations. When designing and or applying the rural development strategy there must be participation of all key stakeholders at all levels particularly in the planning and execution or implementation of it. This may increase the buy in and ownership of the strategy. Therefore, rural development programmes must be implemented at the regional level within the framework of an overall national development plan and not in isolation. Therefore, the integrated approach should have as a primary objective the deployment of human and material resources in the rural areas as it improves the participation of the population. Participation plays a role in developing positive attitudes towards the improvement needed through community development, social service

programmes and other techniques.

According to McAreavey (2009) participation is defined as an involvement in community activities that further the development and implementation of the public policy, taking in to account formal and informal activities, as well as direct and indirect benefits of public policy.

The following are the advantages of applying an integrated approach to rural development:

- It involves the techno-economic characteristics which include the cost-return analysis and covering the various physical and economic factors relevant to rural development programmes such as land, water supply for irrigation and other uses, energy, road and communities, crop production and possible alternatives such as marketing facilities.
- It includes human resources development which focus on the need for comprehensive manpower surveys and assessment to help on the sound promotion of professional training and productive rural employment, orientation of education towards rural needs and promotion of services such as health, nutrition, housing and social welfare (United Nations, 1971).
- It focuses on the need for a sound institutional framework through institutional development to support and sustain rural development, e.g. land tenure, land ownership, public and semi-public services, voluntary rural associations and organisations, development of cooperatives, credit facilities, and administrative machinery which will facilitate integrated approach and for effective communication at all levels (United Nations, 1971).

2.2 Definitions of Rural Development

Various authors describe the term rural development in different ways. Chambers (1983), for instance, argues that rural development is a strategy to enable a specific group of people, poor rural women and men, to gain for themselves and their children more of what they want and need. According to United Nations, 1971, rural

development in the light of the foregoing is the outcome of a series of qualitative and quantitative changes occurring among a given rural population and whose converging effects indicate in time a rise in the standard of living and favourable change in the way of life of the people concerned.

Buxon (1976), on the other hand defines rural area as one that lags behind in population per square mile, in education, variety of experiences and finally in the power to control its own destiny compared to more urban areas. Finally, Bester (1994) argues that rural areas are characterised by a primitive agriculture, low income and a lack of finances and technical skills, especially among black people.

Statistically, the majority of South Africans live in the rural areas. The rural areas are characterised by inadequate resources such as water, educational facilities and employment opportunities etc. This is caused by the unbalanced distribution of resources in South Africa between rural and urban areas. Rural communities are characterised by economic stagnation; agricultural underdevelopment, whites owned farms and lack of alternative employment opportunities; poor quality of life because of the security of essential goods, facilities and money; isolation caused by distance and poor communications; unfavourable environment exposing people to infectious diseases such as HIV, Malaria, TB and Malnutrition as well as inadequate health facilities and lack of sanitation.

Sustainable rural development according to the World Bank (1997) can make a powerful contribution to poverty reduction, wider shared growth, household, national, and global food security and sustainable natural resource management. Pronk and ul Haq (1992) describe sustainable development as emphasis on the relationship between equity and access to ecological resources emphasising a different approach to economic growth that provides fairness and opportunity for the entire world's people, not just the privileged few, without further destroying the world's limited natural resources. Sustainable development is also described as a process of enlarging people's choices and freedoms so that they may lead a long, healthy and secure life, acquire knowledge, and have equal access to the resources needed for a decent standard of living without compromising the prospects of future generations (UNDP, 1998).

The success of sustainable rural development according to Gumbi (1992) is when the communities have access to adequate housing, favourable living conditions, work opportunities, proper education, well balanced meals, health facilities, adequate transport, political freedom, more land and shopping centres.

2.3. Contested Global Rural Development Paradigms

Theory is described as the analysis, revision and consolidation of the past experience and or knowledge and synthesis of the different opinions. Rural development theory largely belongs to the level of grand theories, broad explanatory frameworks. According to Nederveen, 2010 many development problems are addressed by micro theories questions of rural development. Bernstein (2005) argues that the discipline of development within rural space involves, two components, namely; how to promote economic growth and how to overcome poverty in the global South?

The concept of development goes simultaneously with the understanding that all people are following similar paths of development towards growth to transformation. Modernisation theory and the Marxist development theory are two broad approaches to development theory which were contested for authority. These are looked at in detail below.

2.3.1 Modernisation Theory In Rural Development

The term modernisation is an synonym of the word “transformation” which is commonly used locally in South Africa. Modernisation theory is described and explained as the processes of transformation from traditional or underdeveloped societies to modern societies (Eisenstadt, 1968). In the development point of view it is explained as a process of transforming the marginalised economy to the level of participation in the first

economy. This will entail closing the gaps between the rich and poor through access to equitable social and economic resources.

Modernisation theory has been one of the major perspectives in the sociology of development and underdevelopment. Armer and Katsillis (2001) attributed the achievement of modernisation as thorough processes of economic growth and change in social, political, and cultural structures. Thus modernisation theorists are concerned with economic growth within communities as indicated, for example, by measures of gross national product. Modernisation theorists study the social, political, and cultural consequences of economic growth and the conditions that are important for industrialisation and economic growth to occur.

According to Feinberg and Soltis, (1992) modernisation theory emphasises the importance of the development of human skills. This emphasis is of special significance to educators. This entails that for the transformation to be achieved there must be an investment on the improvement of skills and knowledge amongst the rural communities to be able to make effective use of innovative technologies.

Development should result in economic growth, through value adding or processing of the products within the rural areas than sending them to the urban areas for processing. The modernisation theory suggests that access in advanced technology for development can also contribute to the change in culture, structure, attitude etc. amongst the rural space. The results of modernised communities are characterised by high levels of urbanisation, literacy, research, access to health care, food security and adequate access to basic services.

2.3.2 Marxist Development Theory and Rural Development

Marxist development theorists critiqued the imperialist and neo imperialist roots of capitalist development which broadened structural inequalities both within and between countries while promoting Eurocentric values and bias. Economic theorists examining the relationships between developed countries and 'third world' countries developed the

"structuralist" thesis, which highlighted the distinct structural problems of Third World economies and their dependent economic relations with the North. For a period Third World countries attempted to counter this dependence through policy measures usually in the form of subsidies, import substitution and tariff protection (The New School, 1998).

However, the Marxist race to rural development was underpinned by the same growth and output driven economic model as the modernisation theory. The key theoretical difference was how the resultant economic benefits should be owned and controlled. As early as 1926 the Communist Party of the then Soviet Union resolved to "catch up and overtake the level of industrial development of advanced capitalist countries in a relatively minimal historical period" (Sakwa, 1998). In the process of trying to 'catch up' "Marxists, like structuralist economists more generally, developed and debated the case for development strategies based in public investment, planning and coordination" (Bernstein, 2005).

According to Feinberg and Soltis (1992), for the Marxists, the way people think, perceive and feel that is their consciousness, is related to the basic mode of economic production in their society. Yet people should be involved in the initiation, decision, planning, implementation and management of each and every development in their communities. As indicated, the success of rural development depends on the extent to which rural people can decide on the matters affecting their communities. Therefore, overall success of rural development depends on the local actions taken by rural people in complementing the development.

2.4 Evolving Ideas to Rural Development Internationally

Potter (2002) argues that the issue of rural development is characterised by a combination of theory and practice that are both concepts about the right model and methodology to put together various aspects of development into practice. The extent to which the public and private sectors are serious about reducing poverty and inequality can serve as an indicator towards rural development. Phuhlisani (2009) highlighted the debate about the relationship between the state, market and between the productive

and social sectors with respect to rural development. The thinking and the debates have been about the different approaches and key ideas on the rural development. For example:

- 1960s was about modernisation approaches emphasising technology transfer,
- 1970s was about large scale state development interventions and integrated rural development programmes,
- 1980s was about market liberalisation and attempts to roll back the State and
- The 1990s characterised as being strongly process focused with an emphasis on participation and empowerment within a context of diversifying rural livelihood opportunities.
- 2000s have a focus on poverty eradication, reinvigoration of small holder agriculture, sustainable farming systems and the location of producers within global value chains.

The period around 2000 was dominated by livelihoods approaches which replaced a more conventional and narrow sectoral efforts on small farmers, agriculture and the non-farm economy. However, people have experienced difficulties in practically applying livelihoods thinking to the design of rural development programmes and currently they appear to be refocusing on the potential of agriculture and natural resources to make a contribution to economic growth and household livelihood security. This has been accompanied by increasing concern about the depoliticisation of issues inherent in policy development processes.

2.5 Job Creation

Job creation plays an important role in improving the livelihoods of rural communities. The programmes for rural areas must challenge employment generation through the promotion of a wide range of activities. The wider the range of jobs and activities, the higher the demand for services locally, the more local markets will grow, and the more money will circulate in rural areas. Local economic development can be achieved by building on and utilising the local natural resource base and the opportunities provided

by actual and potential trade links within an area (Department of Land Affairs, 1997).

2.6 The International Evolution of Approaches to Rural Development

Worldwide, the pervasiveness of poverty and poor delivery of basic services in rural areas of developing countries continue to constrain development efforts. The prevalence of rural poverty provides major challenges to governments, organisations of civil society and developmental agencies. The failure of many rural developments projects during the past years have led those involved to consider in more detail the factors that undermined successful outcomes. Prime among these are the issues of inadequate local capacity and the excessive centralisation of decision-making (Department of Presidency, 2000).

2.7 Rural Development Strategies

According to the Presidency, 2000 rural development requires an improved provision of services, enhanced opportunities for income generation and local economic development, improved physical infrastructure, social cohesion and physical security within rural communities, active representation in local political processes, and effective provision for the vulnerable. Rural development in this context is thus much broader than poverty alleviation through social programmes and transfers. The concept of rural development places emphasis on facilitating change in rural environments to enable poor people to earn more, invest in themselves and their communities, as well as contribute toward maintenance of the infrastructure key to their livelihoods. A successful rural development strategy will thus make people less poor, rather than more comfortable in their poverty. This emphasis is complemented by specific measures to assist the vulnerable and relieve the burdens of poverty (The Presidency, 2000).

2.8 Development Challenges Facing Rural Areas

The ISRDS argues that rural areas throughout the world tend to have similar challenges which amongst others are as follows:

- Populations spatially dispersed which often increases the cost and difficulty in providing rural goods and services effectively.
- Limited resources to address rural development.
- The specific economic conditions in rural areas result in fewer opportunities than in non-rural locations.
- As a result of limited tax base, rural areas are rarely able to mobilise sufficient resources to finance their own development programmes, leaving them dependent on transfers from the centre.
- Factor markets in rural areas often operate imperfectly, rendering the search for efficient outcomes an extremely challenging one.
- Rural areas are often politically marginalised, leaving little opportunity for the rural poor to influence government policies.
- In many developing countries, policies have also consistently discriminated against agriculture through high levels of taxation and other macroeconomic policies that have adversely affected agricultural performance and the rural tax base. A net transfer of resources out of rural areas has resulted (The Presidency, 2000).

SECTION B: RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

2.9 Origins of Rural Development

There are three origins of rural development in South Africa (SA). These origins are the result of colonial land dispossession and the implementation of apartheid policies which created a separate development in rural areas.

1. The programme of massive state investment which grew and consolidated the white commercial farming sector after the dispossession of people previously living on that land.
2. The regulation of land use and production in the African reserves and 'introduction of Bantustans' which had become hugely overcrowded as a result of natural population growth and the forced removals of people from 'white areas'.
3. The series of interventions to regulate Coloured rural areas created in terms of 1909 Mission Stations Act, 1963 Act and Coloured Rural Areas Act (Act 9 of 1987) which has particular relevance in the Western Cape.

These origins are closely connected with one another. It is only in the period post 1994 with the introduction of three spheres of government that municipalities are able to begin to discuss a national rural development strategy. However, this is inevitably focused on addressing the deficits of poverty and inequality inherited from earlier historical eras and in part is focused on addressing the persistence of its social and economic impacts (Phuhlisani Solutions, 2009). This section focused mainly on the strategies and programmes that were introduced to address rural development since 1994 after the birth of new democracy till 2009.

2.10 Development Challenges for Rural Areas in South Africa

South Africa is characterised by high levels of poverty, especially in rural areas. Many people still live in poverty traps, including the former homelands, where less than 30 percent of adults are employed (compared with 55 percent in the cities). One in two

households depends on social grants compared with one in six in cities (National Development Plan, 2030). Their cost of living is high because they spend relatively more on basic social services such as food and water, shelter, energy, health, education, transport and communications services. Moreover, the natural resource base to which they have access cannot provide rural people with the means of subsistence (The Presidency, 2000).

Much of South Africa's rural space is sparsely populated. The manufacturing base is weak due to poorly developed infrastructure, more especially agricultural manufacturing in small rural towns. Agriculture and other natural resource based activities provide the basis for many livelihoods. Traditional authorities retain more influence over the population than is the case in urban areas. Rural areas are diverse, however, with concentrations of poverty and relative prosperity (The Presidency, 2000).

The demographics of rural South Africa reflect past policies and the obstacles hindering efforts of rural people to maintain their families. The legacy of the former homeland system is one of enduring, planned and deliberate poverty. Because of the past policies, rural areas in South Africa have high density population areas and disordered settlements where people live in poverty. Rural housings are non-standard and many people migrate to work and live in urban areas. At the same time, the South African population is still quite mobile in search of better living conditions and jobs in urban areas (The Presidency, 2000).

2.11 Approaches to Rural Development in South Africa Since 1994

Since 1994 the government of South Africa embarked in the process of alleviating rural poverty to uplift the life of the poor while reversing the legacy of apartheid. A number of approaches (policies) to rural development were introduced and implemented to attain strategic vision as captured in the National Democratic Revolution (NDR). Below are the strategies and programmes that were developed and implemented for integrated development of rural areas in South Africa.

2.11.1 Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) - 1994

The new democratic South Africa developed an approach called Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP), the approach (policy) was widely accepted as an important strategic milestone towards achieving the political vision of the NDR. The main focus of the approach (policy) was focussed on socio-economic renewal, transformation and empowerment to establish a systematic approach to the democratisation and development of the South African society (African National Congress 1994).

The key goals of the policy were as follows:

- ✓ Promoting good planning at all levels of government, based on good information about the rural areas;
- ✓ Developing a more diverse agriculture;
- ✓ Promotion of market days in rural areas;
- ✓ Improving access to water, sanitation and to fuel.

The RDP was introduced to create a strong, dynamic and balanced economy to address the social, economic and political inequalities among the disadvantaged South Africans. Its strategic approach was for the government to provide for the social and economic security of the state's population (ANC, 1994).

However, a fundamental question was asked as to whether the policy was appropriate to deal with the existing governance challenges as its solution lay largely in substantial investment in the economy. The RDP contained about six basic principles which included:

- ✓ integrated and sustainable programme,
- ✓ people driven process,
- ✓ peace and security for all,
- ✓ national building,
- ✓ link reconstruction and development, and
- ✓ democratisation of South Africa.

As a result there are many proposals, strategies and policy programmes contained in

the RDP, which were grouped into five major policy programmes that were linked to one another. The five key programmes included:

- ✓ meeting basic needs,
- ✓ developing human resources, which entails that people must be involved in the decision making process, in implementation, in new job opportunities requiring new skills, and in managing and governing the society,
- ✓ building the economy, which entails that the economy has its strengths and weaknesses and therefore the RDP proposed to ensure that these strengths benefit all the people of South Africa and also to address serious weaknesses in the economy,
- ✓ democratising the state and society and
- ✓ Implementing the RDP.

The first priority of the RDP focused on the provision of basic needs to the people paying attention on job creation, housing, water, electricity, telecommunications, transport, a clean and healthy environment, nutrition, health care and social welfare. The second priority focused on developing human resources, while the third priority was on building the economic growth (ANC, 1994).

The focus of the RDP was more on input and outputs than on the outcomes which is about the impact of government action in enhancing the quality of life of the citizens through the alleviation of poverty, unemployment and inequality. As a result, the RDP did not give enough emphasis on rural development based on its interventions, instead the people of South Africa, particularly those in rural areas, continued to live under poverty due to high unemployment and inequality rates and underdevelopment. Instead after the implementation, the successful progress of the RDP policy were assessed in terms of the number of RDP houses built, water, grants, electrification, number of schools, clinics, etc. provided to the poor to better their lives. While the challenges of unemployment, inequality, human capacity, economic growth and underdevelopment continued.

The RDP strategy proposed the employment of community development facilitators trained in mediation, facilitation, participatory methods, project management,

bookkeeping and gender issues to assist the poorest groups to get their needs considered during local negotiations around service delivery and infrastructure development. This followed by the establishment of the Community Based Public Works Programme (CBPWP) to provide work and skills development opportunities to the unemployed.

2.11.2 Growth, Employment and Redistribution (GEAR) - 1996

In 1996 the government, through the Department of Finance introduced GEAR, which was a conventional macroeconomic framework for economic growth intended to give rise to ample employment opportunities. GEAR was to reduce poverty and underdevelopment, as well as redistribute resources through various social and economic policies. The main objective of GEAR was to rebuild and restructure the economy in keeping with the goals of the RDP, and to attract investors by increasing stability, decreasing the unemployment rate and providing an improvement to economic growth. It also involved the analysis of patterns of development with regard to trends in the gross national product. The assumption was that people can be better off if they have reasonable access to employment opportunities and lending facilities (The Presidency, 2000).

The first objective of the GEAR programme was to achieve macroeconomic balance in the South African economy, i.e. a reduced budget deficit and falling rate of inflation. The second objective was to make the South African economy get on a 6% growth path by the year 2000. Improved performances in fixed investment and non-gold exports were meant to propel this growth path. The third objective was redistribution through job creation realised from economic growth and labour market reforms. There were two scenarios that guided the GEAR strategy: the first one in relation to how the economy could be expected to perform over the medium term in the event that no policy changes were introduced; and the second one in relation to how the economy would perform if key policy changes were made. Among others, the following policy changes were deemed necessary for higher economic growth and job creation:

- ✓ Significant reduction of the fiscal deficit and containment of debt service obligations;
- ✓ Maintenance of consistent monetary policies so as to contain inflation;
- ✓ Further liberalisation of the capital account of the Balance of Payments;
- ✓ Further reduction of import tariffs;
- ✓ Introduction of tax incentives to stimulate new investments in labour absorbing projects so as to enhance job creation; and
- ✓ Increase of the pace of restructuring of state assets (Khamfula, 2004).

The GEAR's main focus was to provide basic services to the poor, to alleviate poverty, achieve economic growth, reduce national debt, stabilise inflation and give effect to the socio-economic rights in the Constitution. The GEAR objectives were to be achieved through economic growth that would be led by private sector investment that would, in turn, create employment. This macro-economic policy framework emphasised the need to build the state's capacity to deliver through spending on social programmes such as social assistance, health, public works, and other services to the poor (The Presidency, 2000).

According to the National Development Plan (2030), South Africa remains a highly unequal society where too many people live in poverty and too few work. South Africa has one of the highest unemployment rates in the world, currently at about 25 percent and is one of the most unequal countries, with a Gini coefficient of 0.69. The share of national consumption between the richest and poorest remains constantly still. However, based on the aforementioned results on the unemployment and poverty rates the achievements of GEAR appeared to be unsustainable and impacted negatively on social cohesion. This perpetuated the division of the society into the haves and have-nots, wherein the poor grew poorer and the rich grew richer. As a result GEAR has not helped in stopping the increasing tide of unemployment and poverty in South Africa.

According to (Gillis et al, 1992; Van de Ruit, 2001), the strategies that South Africa has used to extend credit to poor households, alleviate poverty and reduce unemployment have proved ineffective. For example the RDP and GEAR could not spell out clearly what the new economic strategy would entail in terms of mobilising all the country's

resources towards alleviating poverty and what it meant for the economic policy. They lacked transparency and have proved inappropriate approaches to solving the country's most pressing economic problems such as poverty and unemployment as well as uneven access to credit.

2.11.3 Rural Development Framework - 1997

The Rural development framework originated from the RDP policy. It was an extension of the objectives of the RDP policy. The framework prioritised the following:

- Development of local institutions;
- Investment in basic infrastructure and social services;
- Improving income and employment opportunities;
- Broadening access to natural resources;
- Establishing periodic markets;
- Resource conservation;
- Ensuring the safety and security of the rural population, especially that of women (Phuhlisani Solutions, 2009).

2.11.4 Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Strategy (ISRDS) - 2000

The South African Government renewed its commitment to rural development, and initiated an Integrated and Sustainable Rural Development Strategy (ISRDP). The government did this in consultation with a wide range of key stakeholders and launched a new stage of concerted effort to improve opportunities and wellbeing for the rural poor. This approach was built on the vast experience and lesson learned from the implementation of the past rural development approaches (policies) as well as assimilating key lessons from similar efforts worldwide. Everatt (2004) described this policy as an elegantly simple idea, in which local government co-ordinates sectoral departmental delivery in order to achieve in more integrated (and responsive) development. The ISRDS identified local government as the key driver of the

programme which set out to co-ordinate existing departmental initiatives and programmes to achieve greater impact.

The ISRDP was subsequently defined as promoting integrated service delivery through coordinated planning, resource allocation and implementation by government and external stakeholders as a way of fast tracking service delivery in order to improve the quality of life of the citizens in the nodal areas (Mdaka, 2009).

The ISRDP set out to try and address the range of problems which had affected public investment programmes and which had resulted in “projects that are often characterised by poor co-ordination, poor consultation, weak participation, poor data and planning, weak institutional and regulatory mechanisms, slow delivery and weak sustainability” (Government of South Africa, 2000). It was designed to realise a vision that would “attain socially cohesive and stable rural communities with viable institutions, sustainable economies and universal access to social amenities, able to attract and retain skilled and knowledgeable people, who are equipped to contribute to growth and development”. The strategy in its totality presented an opportunity for South Africa’s rural people to realise their own potential and contribute more fully to their country’s future (The Presidency, 2000).

However, according to Kondlo and Maserumule (2010), in practice the ISRDS turned out to be neither integrated nor sustainable, nor was it in any real sense a rural development programme. Due to challenges such lack of funding and the necessary technical expertise for implementation, most of its plans were never translated from paper to practice. Moreover, from its commencement the strategy was ambiguously defined, inadequately financed, poorly implemented and weakly coordinated. It justly relapsed into erratically implemented, scattered and isolated small projects such as piggeries and poultry. Based on the structure, strategy, funding and institutional delivery mechanisms, the strategy was unsustainable and failed to impact positively on the lives of the serious mass of the poor rural communities.

2.11.5 Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative of South Africa (ASGISA) - 2006

Even after the development of the above mentioned leading strategy statements since 1994, the government continued to be faced with a number of social policy challenges. These include inadequate service delivery, poverty eradication, reducing inequality, job creation and the need in general to improve the quality of life. The challenges that the above policy documents meant to achieve are still haunting the country. The ASGISA was introduced in 2006 with the focus on rapid job creation, ensuring availability of the needed skills, creating opportunities for those marginalised in second economy and maintaining policies that will bring macroeconomic stability. According to Green Left Weekly in 2006, “the country managed to increase output growth (exports) significantly, although employment in major sectors such as manufacturing, mining and agriculture decreased.”

The ASGISA aimed at improving policy implementation and economic growth by dealing with the lack of skilled and committed staff in the public service, lack of human resource to implement policies, inadequate financial resources, corruption and mismanagement of funds. It also sought to deal with the issue of lack of people-driven development, lack of proper co-ordination between institutions, barriers to entry, limits to competition and limited new investment opportunities (Briefing paper 156, 2006).

ASGISA also aimed at promoting small business and encouraging investments, which would contribute to economic growth and further create job opportunities and thus reduce poverty. However, as argued above the government of South Africa seems to be too good with drafting and developing policies and strategies, while the implementation of such frameworks tend to lag behind, be of a long term and ends up being abandoned as a result of poor planning, lack of capacity and financing part thereof.

2.11.6 Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) - 2009

CRDP is a programme that has been implemented since 2010 to enable rural people to take control of their destiny, with the support from government, and thereby dealing

effectively with rural poverty through the optimal use and management of natural resources. In achieving its vision, the CRDP is premised on three phases, namely:

- ✓ Phase I which could be regarded as an incubator or nursery stage of the programme – meeting basic human needs as driver;
- ✓ Phase II which could be regarded as the entrepreneurial development stage – relatively large – scale infrastructure development as driver;
- ✓ Phase III is the stage of the emergence of Agrivillage, industrial and financial sectors – driven by small, micro and medium enterprises and village markets (agri-processing, village markets, finance/credit facilities)

The CRDP is aimed at being an effective response against poverty and food insecurity by maximising the use and management of natural resources. It is also aimed at improving the standards of living and welfare. Moreover, it sought to also rectify past injustices through rights based interventions and address skewed patterns of distribution and ownership of wealth and assets. The CRDP is deemed as a participatory process through which rural people learn over time, through their own experiences and initiatives, how to adapt their indigenous knowledge to their changing world (DRDLR CRDP Framework, 2009).

The CRDP therefore, planned to place great emphasis on the development of new and the rehabilitation of existing infrastructure in rural areas which include the improvement or development of economic infrastructure such as roads, community gardens, production and marketing stalls, fencing for agriculture, storage warehouses, electrification, irrigation schemes for small scale farmers, water harvesting, internet cafes and rural shopping malls (DRDLR CRDP Framework, 2009).

2.11.6.1 Lessons learned during the implementation of the CRDP Programme

Since the launch of the CRDP in 2009, there are a number publications made from the studies conducted by other scholars, reports and evaluation undertaken by the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR) in collaboration with the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPM&E) in 2013 on the lessons learned, successes and failures during the implementation of the strategy. The overall view from the results and findings of the evaluation indicated that the desired outcomes of the strategy were not achieved. The recommendations on the results, evidence, and findings contained in the study which aimed at strengthening the CRDP's design and implementation in order to improve the impact on CRDP goals and objectives were provided.

The recommendations are as follows:

1. Strengthen the CRDP's institutional arrangements and integrated planning processes;
2. Improve the CRDP's Strategy to mobilising and empowering communities;
3. Improve the CRDP's rural job creation model and support for economic livelihoods;
4. Improve the CRDP's value for money;
5. Improve the CRDP's approach to targeting appropriate groups (women, youth, elderly, unemployed, disabled, people living with hiv/aids and child-headed households);
6. Improve the CRDP's support for basic needs (DRDLR and Presidency, 2013).

According to Leabua, 2015 there were some areas of success on the provision of housing, electricity, fencing, and household gardens during the implementation of the CRDP Strategy in Muyexe. However, It was indicated that the beneficiaries were not properly consulted since their needs are still not addressed after more than four years of implementation of the strategy. The beneficiaries also felt that they were not involved

in matters affecting them. The resources allocated for this programme were limited. This is because there was no cost analysis done before promises were made. A budget was allocated without considering what needs to be achieved, when and by how much.

It was also evident, based on responses, that there were no proper communication channels. Beneficiaries did not know who to consult when there were issues around this programme. The Council of Stakeholders would refer them to the departmental officials who would then refer them elsewhere. There should be improvement in communication. Information on who the project manager is and who to consult on certain issues should have made available. Provision of adequate training to both officials and beneficiaries in implementing the CRDP projects was also not prioritised (Leabua, 2015).

2.12 Conclusion

This chapter has discussed the definitions of rural development worldwide. Focus was also placed on the two broad approaches to development theories (modernisation theory and theories associated with Marxism). Literature on rural development was also reviewed on how development should or might occur. The history of rural development strategies and programmes that were instituted in South Africa since 1994 to 2009 were also discussed. Findings from other studies conducted on the implementation of the CRDP were also reviewed.

The government policies were geared towards ensuring that smaller enterprises increase job opportunities, but only established smaller enterprises benefited rather than the emerging and survivalist enterprises. The ASGISA focused only on micro initiatives and poses challenges with integrated planning and did not indicate how public funds were to be allocated to various government departments (Kondlo, K & Maserumule, HM, 2010).

Moreover, of concern is that to what extent have the discussed policies and programmes of the post-apartheid state on rural development addressed the negative historical economic and social legacies? As discussed above, all the policies frameworks and strategies implemented over the past 20 years since the arrival of democracy were designed as major interventions aimed at improving the living conditions of the poor rural communities. These included effective response against poverty, food insecurity, meeting basic needs, building economic growth by dealing with the lack of skills, focus on fast job creation growth, poverty eradication, reducing inequality, and the need in general to improve the quality of life.

Based on the number of policies and frameworks implemented in South Africa on rural development in terms of measuring the performance of government one could argue

that the focus was more on outputs than on the outcomes which is about the impact of government action in enhancing the quality of life of the citizens. As a result, many programmes in rural areas focussed primarily on poverty alleviation through investment in infrastructure and provision of social services such as housing, water supply, schools and electricity. While there is no comprehensive analysis that has been done on the impact of these interventions, to date attention has focused on the amount of money spent rather than on the efficiency or effectiveness of spending.

As argued above in this chapter, the government of South Africa in the past decades focused much on the on physical infrastructure of public service delivery such as tangible aspects of public service delivery like houses, water, electricity, clinics and schools. What was overlooked however was the intangible but equally vital impact of public service delivery, such as the social aspects of building and sustaining the quality of life, restoration of human dignity and respect. Based on these results, it is quite clear that the government of South Africa still needs to focus seriously on both the tangible and intangible development in order to see the impact of the public service delivery particularly in the poor rural areas.

In this regard, rural development should not be only about the quantity of houses built. Rural development should rather be about the quality of services, capturing a range of socio-economic factors for total manipulation through asserting human dignity and strengthening mutual respect. Public services must be delivered where people need them most, and such delivery must be supported by social agenda which include capacity building and education to the communities affected for empowerment.

As discussed above, findings reveal that though these theories and practices in most cases were addressing the South African development challenges, most of them made impact in rural development administration but fall short of achieving the desired goal of sustaining rural development in rural areas. It also remains a concern that even after two decades after apartheid people of South Africa, particularly those living in rural

areas, continue to live under intolerable conditions of poverty, unemployment and inequality.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

The main purpose of this chapter is to present the research methods and techniques that were used to collect data to determine the socio-economic impacts of the CRDP in Muyexe village. The chapter aims to describe the research design and methods of data collection, and detailed procedures for sampling participants and the methods of data analysis. The data collected for this study was used to answer the objectives, aim and questions identified in the study. In order to obtain adequate data and information for the research both primary and secondary data sources were consulted. Data collection process involved the use of multiple sources and techniques. This includes document reviews, observation, interviews and questionnaires.

3.2 Research paradigms

A research paradigm is defined as a set of conceptual frameworks that explain a particular theoretical approach to research. It is said to cover aspects of ontology, epistemology, teleology and methodology (Babbie and Mouton, 1990). Ontology refers to what can be known (what is reality), epistemology is concerned with how something can be known, teleology is interested in the practice of science and methodology with how research is conducted (Merriam, 2009).

3.2.1 Quantitative research

The quantitative paradigm can be defined as a formalised, systematic, objective and nomothetic approach to research where numerical data and statistical analysis are used to generalise results from a sample group to the population (Pietersen, (2007).

3.2.2 Qualitative research

The qualitative paradigm is more difficult to define than the quantitative paradigm (Merriam, 2009). It is generally concerned with interpretation and meaning (Paker, 1994; Smith, 2008). According to Merriam (2009) it is interested in understanding how people interpret their experiences. Various characteristics of qualitative research are mentioned in the literature, which include a focus on meaning (Merriam, 2009; Willig, 2008), that is interpretive, it focuses on rich or deep description of a phenomenon (Merriam, 2009), it is inductive (Merriam, 2009) and that the researcher is the research instrument through which data is collected (Heppner and Heppner, 2004; Merriam, 2009).

For this study qualitative information was collected from the literature reviewed on rural development strategies, progress reports on CRDP implementation, information gathered from the interviews conducted with the sampled household representatives, traditional leader, chairperson of Council of Stakeholders, manager for Greater Giyani Local Municipality and chairpersons of the enterprises established was gathered and analysed so that a generalisation in terms of how the implementation of the CRDP projects could have benefited the community of Muyexe.

3.2.3 Mixed Methods Research

Mixed methods research has become increasingly popular in social science research (Ivankova et al., 2007). However, mixed methods research is still relatively new in the field (Leech and Onwuegbuzie, 2009). This research paradigm uses the strengths of both qualitative and quantitative research strategies in a study to provide optimal answers to a research question (Ivankova et al., 2007; Johnson and Onwuegbuzie, 2004). According to Ivankova et al. (2007), mixed methods research permits researchers to get the answers to both what and why questions and to gain a more

complete understanding of the research problem by comparing the qualitative and quantitative findings.

This study used mixed methods research wherein strengths of both qualitative and quantitative research strategies were used in order to provide best answers to a research question. For this study the data was collected by making use of both the face to face and telephone interviews. The aim of the questionnaires was to gather data on the socio-economic impacts of the CRDP Projects implemented in the area. Questionnaires are useful for asking very specific questions concerning quantifiable information such as age, income, and sex or for converting general information into a closed form through rating or ranking (Kitchin and Tate, 2000).

In the study both semi structured and structured questionnaires were used. In its simplest form, a structured interview involves one person asking another person a list of predetermined questions about a selected topic. The interviewer is allowed to explain things the interviewee does not understand or finds confusing during the interview. While the semi structured interviews are used to understand how interventions work and how they could be improved. For this study the questionnaires were administered with the individuals wherein the interviewer asked the interviewees questions.

3.3 The Rationale for Sampling and Sampling Procedures

According to Kothari (2004) a sample design is a definite plan for obtaining a sample from a given population. It refers to the technique or the procedure the researcher would adopt in selecting items for the sample. Sample design may as well lay down the number of items to be included in the sample i.e., the size of the sample. Sample design is determined before data are collected. There are many sample designs from which a researcher can choose. Some designs are relatively more precise and easier to apply

than others. The researcher must select or prepare a sample design which should be reliable and appropriate for the research study.

3.3.1 Criteria of Selecting a Sampling Procedure

According to Kothari (2004) one must remember that two costs are involved in a sampling analysis viz., the cost of collecting the data and the cost of an incorrect inference resulting from the data. The researcher must keep in view the two causes of incorrect inferences viz., systematic bias and sampling error. Systematic bias results from errors in the sampling procedures, and it cannot be reduced or eliminated by increasing the sample size. At best the causes responsible for these errors can be detected and corrected. Usually a systematic bias is the result of one or more of the factors such as inappropriate sampling frame, defective measuring device, non-respondents, indeterminacy principle and natural bias in the reporting of data.

However, it needs to be emphasised that when the population is a small one, it is no use resorting to a sample survey. When field studies are undertaken in practical life, considerations of time and costs almost invariably lead to a selection of respondents i.e., selection of only a few items. The respondents selected should be as representative of the total population as possible in order to produce a miniature cross-section. The selected respondents constitute what is technically called a 'sample' and the selection process is referred to as a 'sampling technique.' The survey conducted is known as a 'sample survey'. The researcher must prepare a sample design for the study i.e., plans how a sample should be selected and of what size such a sample would be (Kothari, 2004).

3.3.2 Different Types of Sample Designs

Sampling is an important part of any research project. In order to understand what sampling is, there is a need to understand the differences between a population and a sample. A population generally consists of all the people that researchers are interested in studying. However, it is usually not possible for researchers to include all members of the population of interest in their research. Therefore, a sample, which is a subset of the population, is selected instead. This sample group is normally much smaller than the total number of the population, but is usually intended to be representative of the original population.

There are different types of sample designs based on two factors viz., the representation basis and the element selection technique. On the representation basis, the sample may be probability sampling or it may be non-probability sampling. Probability sampling is based on the concept of random selection, whereas non-probability sampling is 'non-random' sampling. On element selection basis, the sample may be either unrestricted or restricted. When each sample element is drawn individually from the population at large, then the sample drawn is known as 'unrestricted sample', whereas all other forms of sampling are covered under the term 'restricted sampling' (Kothari, 2004).

In this study a sampling design called probability sampling was used. Probability sampling is also known as 'random sampling' or 'chance sampling'. Under this sampling design, every item of the population has an equal chance of inclusion in the sample. It is, so to say, a lottery method in which individual units are picked up from the whole group not deliberately but by some mechanical process. Here it is blind chance alone that determines whether one item or the other is selected. The results obtained from probability or random sampling can be assured in terms of probability i.e., we can measure the errors of estimation or the significance of results obtained from a random sample, and this fact brings out the superiority of random sampling design over the deliberate sampling design. Random sampling ensures the law of statistical regularity

which states that if on an average the sample chosen is a random one, the sample will have the same composition and characteristics as the universe. This is the reason why random sampling is considered as the best technique of selecting a representative sample (Kitchin and Tate, 2000).

Sampling is often done for the purpose of generalising about the larger population from which sample was drawn (Kitchin and Tate, 2000). Muyexe village consists of 826 households (Census, 2011). The study focused mainly on interviewing the beneficiaries of the CRDP in Muyexe as participants. In total 120 participants were interviewed. The questionnaires were administered randomly amongst the representatives of the households, traditional leader of Muyexe, Municipal Manager of Greater Giyani, Chairperson of Muyexe Council of Stakeholder and Chairpersons of the enterprises established in the area of Muyexe as a result of the CRDP. The aim was to understand this topic deeply and gather different perspectives of the individuals regarding the socio-economic impacts of the CRDP in the area. In this study sampling was done due to time constraints and resources that would make it impractical for the interviewer to interview the entire household representatives in the area of study.

3.4 Methods of Data Collection

The task of data collection begins after a research problem has been defined and the research design or plan chalked out. While deciding about the method of data collection to be used for the study, the researcher should keep in mind two types of data viz., primary and secondary. The primary data are those which are collected afresh and for the first time, and thus happen to be original in character. The secondary data, on the other hand, are those which have already been collected by someone else and which have already been passed through the statistical process. The researcher would have to decide which sort of data he would be using (thus collecting) for his study and accordingly he will have to select one or the other method of data collection. The methods of collecting primary and secondary data differ since primary data are to be

originally collected, while in case of secondary data the nature of data collection work is merely that of compilation (Kothari, 2004).

3.4.1 Collection of Primary Data

According to Kothari (2004), we collect primary data during the course of doing experiments in an experimental research but in case we do research of the descriptive type and perform surveys, whether sample surveys or census surveys, then we can obtain primary data either through observation or through direct communication with respondents in one form or another or through personal interviews. This, in other words, means that there are several methods of collecting primary data, particularly in surveys and descriptive researches. Important ones are: observation method, interview method, questionnaires and schedules. Other methods include warranty cards, distributor audits, pantry audits, and consumer panels, using mechanical devices, projective techniques, depth interviews, and content analysis (Kothari, 2004).

Primary data sources are original sources from which the researcher directly collects data that have not been previously collected from the sampled communities. The disadvantage of the collection of primary data is that it is costly and time consuming. The advantage is that the researcher collects data that have not been previously collected. Primary sources are important because they provide first-hand information and the current dynamics of the issue in question (Coldwell and Herbst, 2004).

3.4.2 Observation Method

The observation method is the most commonly used method especially in studies relating to behavioral sciences. In a way we all observe things around us, but this sort of observation is not scientific observation. Observation becomes a scientific tool and the method of data collection for the researcher when it serves a formulated research purpose. Moreover, it becomes a scientific tool when it is systematically planned and recorded and is subjected to checks and controls on validity and reliability. Under the observation method, the information is sought by way of an investigator's own direct observation without asking the respondent any questions. For instance, in a study relating to consumer behavior, the investigator instead of asking the brand of a wrist watch used by the respondent, may himself look at the watch (Kothari, 2004).

The main advantage of the observation method is that subjective bias is eliminated, if observation is done accurately. Secondly, the information obtained under this method relates to what is currently happening; it is not complicated by either the past behavior or future intentions or attitudes. Thirdly, this method is independent of respondents' willingness to respond and as such is relatively less demanding of active cooperation on the part of respondents as happens to be the case in the interview or the questionnaire method (Kothari, 2004).

For this study the researcher used the observation method to verify the truth of statements made by informants in the context of the questionnaire administered to the respondents. For example, the observation was done through checking the projects that were implemented in the area of study as a result of the CRDP i.e. enterprises established, fencing, household and community gardens, RDP houses, VIP toilets, jojo tanks installed, boreholes, etc.

3.4.3 Interview Method

According to Kothari (2004), the interview method of collecting data involves presentation of oral-verbal stimuli and reply in terms of oral-verbal responses. This method can be used through personal interviews and, if possible, through telephone interviews.

3.4.3.1 Personal Interviews

The personal interview method requires a person known as the interviewer asking questions generally in a face-to-face contact to the other person or persons. At times the interviewee may also ask certain questions and the interviewer responds to these, but usually the interviewer initiates the interview and collects the information. This sort of interview may be in the form of direct personal investigation or it may be indirect oral investigation. In the case of direct personal investigation the interviewer has to collect the information personally from the sources concerned. He/she has to be on the spot and has to meet people from whom data have to be collected (Kothari, 2004),

In this study the researcher used both personal and telephone interviews method in order to gather the responses from the respondents as per the questions asked in the questionnaires administered to the sampled population. According to Wayne Goddard and Stuart Melville (2001) a questionnaire is a printed list of questions that respondents are asked to answer. The main aim of the interviews was to obtain descriptive data to understand participants view based on the implementation and coordination of the CRDP projects in Muyexe. Structured and unstructured questionnaires were used wherein the detailed questions were developed and administered to the despondences.

Interviews data were recorded through writing down of the answers and additional notes were taken during the interview process. The review of notes was done in order to

identify the gaps on the information collected and conducted follow ups. Follow ups were done through the telephone interviews with the Municipal Manager of Greater Giyani, Chairperson of Muyexe Council of Stakeholder and Chairpersons of the enterprises established in the area of Muyexe in collecting the additional information with regard to the implementation of the CRDP projects in the area.

3.4.5 Collection of Secondary Data

Secondary data means data that are already available i.e., they refer to the data which have already been collected and analysed by someone else. Secondary data may either be published data or unpublished data. Usually published data are available in various publications of the central, state and local governments; various publications of foreign governments or of international bodies and their subsidiary organisations; technical and trade journals; books, policies and frameworks, reports prepared by research scholars, universities, economists, etc. in different fields; and public records and statistics, historical documents, and other sources of published information. The sources of unpublished data are many; they may be found in diaries, letters, unpublished biographies and autobiographies and also may be available with scholars and research workers, trade associations, labour bureaus and other public or private individuals and organisations (Kothari, 2004).

The advantage of secondary sources is that they are not limited in time and space. That is, the researcher using them needs not to have been present when and where they were gathered. While the disadvantage is that, while secondary data sources may provide the researcher with massive amount of information, quantity is not synonymous to appropriateness. This is simply because data has been collected to answer a different research question or objectives. The inappropriateness may be, for instance, because the data was collected many years ago, the information refers to a entire country when one aims to study a specific region, or the opposite, one aims to study an entire country but the information is given in a region wide. For the purpose of this study, documents

such as books, journal articles, reports prepared by research scholars, rural development strategies and progress reports on CRDP from the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform were reviewed.

3.5 Data Presentation and Analytical Methods

Data analysis is about “identifying patterns and themes in the data and drawing certain conclusions from them” (Mouton, 1996). All data obtained from the interviews, observations and documents reviewed was assessed with the aim of identifying whether all the research questions were responded. In this study data was classified into specific categories of theme to allow for better analysis and interpretation according to the themes for socio-economic studies. The data was organized into themes, captured, presented in to tables and graphs in order to present and summarise the findings. The data was analysed through and subjected to both qualitative and quantitative instruments data analysis wherein conclusions and recommendations were made based on the findings.

Qualitative data analysis is a non-mathematical procedure based on understanding and interpreting meanings expressed through words, non-standardised data requiring classification into categories and conceptualisation of specific themes (Saunders et al, 2003). Quantitative data analysis on the other hand is the process of presenting and interpreting numerical data. The numerical data is analysed with the use of mathematics and other tools such as charts, graphs, tables and textual write ups which makes data easier for the researcher to see. Data can be presented and analysed in various forms depending on the type of data collected.

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION AND RESEARCH FINDINGS

4.1 Introduction and Background

The Greater Giyani municipality was selected as a pilot project site for the implementation of the CRDP by the Minister of DRDLR, Honourable Gugile Nkwinti. The choice of Greater Giyani Municipality as a pilot site was inspired by the high levels of poverty rate in the area. In order to implement the project a team was deployed to the Limpopo province to meet with provincial stakeholders to discuss the implementation of the project. As per the Minister's directive, a leadership team from the DRDLR, together with the technical team in consultation with the district and local municipal officials, embarked on a process to identify a specific village within the GGLM to be used as a pilot for the programme (DRDLR, 2009).

A need analysis process was undertaken to determine the community needs in Muyexe. Various methods of public participation were used to identify community needs. These included household surveys, community meetings and appraisals as well as engaging school pupils. The findings identified some priorities and needs that were to be implemented such as the provision of water, roads, housing, electricity, sanitation, fencing, irrigation systems for crops, community gardens, education, health facilities, business opportunities and skills development (DRDLR, 2009).

The previous chapters presented research methods and techniques, procedures and processes that were used to collect and analyse the data for this study. The data collected was intended to provide answers to the research statement of this dissertation which include the infrastructure provision (areas with a low level of basic service infrastructure, water, electricity, sanitation); income levels; employment (high unemployment levels, employment sectors); provision of community facilities (health, education); existing initiatives (proposed projects etc). This chapter presents the findings of this research. This chapter is structured according to specific themes relevant to the research statement and including research questions.

The themes presented include; demographic characteristics of the population of Muyexe, (gender and age of respondents; marital status of respondents); education levels and size of households; employment trends and households' income in Muyexe; employment creation; access to basic services including social and economic services; business initiatives; food security and community participation in skills development and community perceptions regarding services provision.

4.2 Demographic Characteristics

A random sample of 120 respondents was drawn from the target population of the household representatives, traditional leader, chair person of the Council of Stakeholder, manager of Greater Giyani Municipality and chairpersons of the enterprises established in the area of study. It is of critical importance to look into the demographic information of the respondents in order to accurately assess the study.

4.2.1 Age of the respondents

The number of respondents in terms of the various age groups that participated in the study is indicated in **Figure 1**. The Researcher attempted hereby to discover whether there are any child headed households in the area.

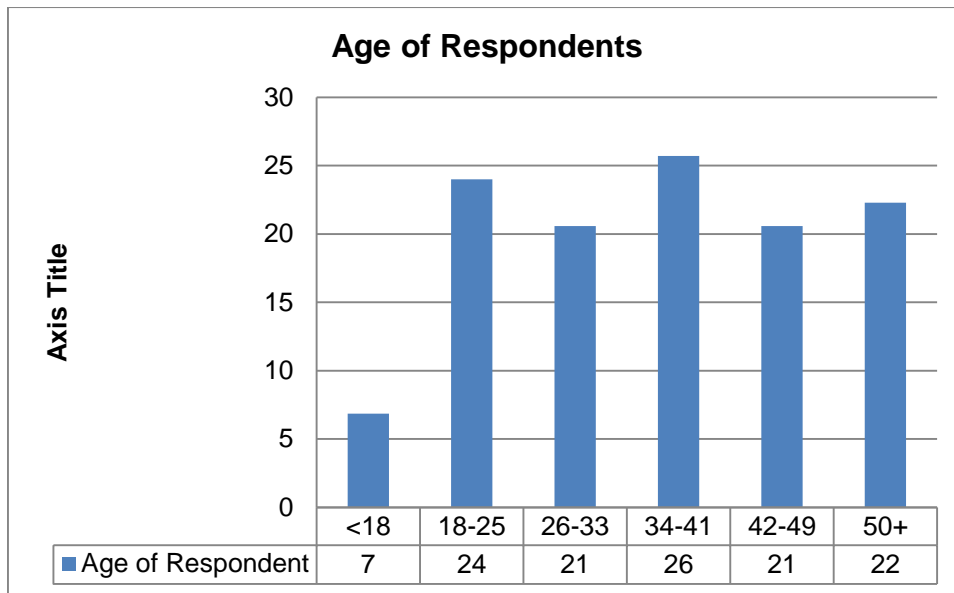


Figure 1: Age of respondents

Figure 1 indicates that about 26 of the respondents who participated in the survey were between the ages of 34 and 41. This is followed by 24 participants, who were between the ages of 18 and 25. Twenty two of the respondents were 50 years of age and above. This figure equates to the total number of respondents between the ages of 26-33 and 42-49 which were both at 21 and seven were less than 18 years of age. The results of the study indicate that there were few child headed households. However, it is worth noting that not all of the respondents were heads of the households. The reason for the latter is that during the data collection process, the interviews were conducted during the day when most of household heads were at work.

4.2.2 Gender of the respondents

According to research studies conducted throughout the world, a majority of poor people, particularly in rural areas, are women. The gender of the respondents is critical to gain insight into the profile of the respondents. Therefore, it is worth noting that random sampling method was used during the collection of data. However, a generalisation cannot be made in this regard since the purpose is just to have an

understanding on gender issues. The gender of the respondents is indicated in **Figure 2**.

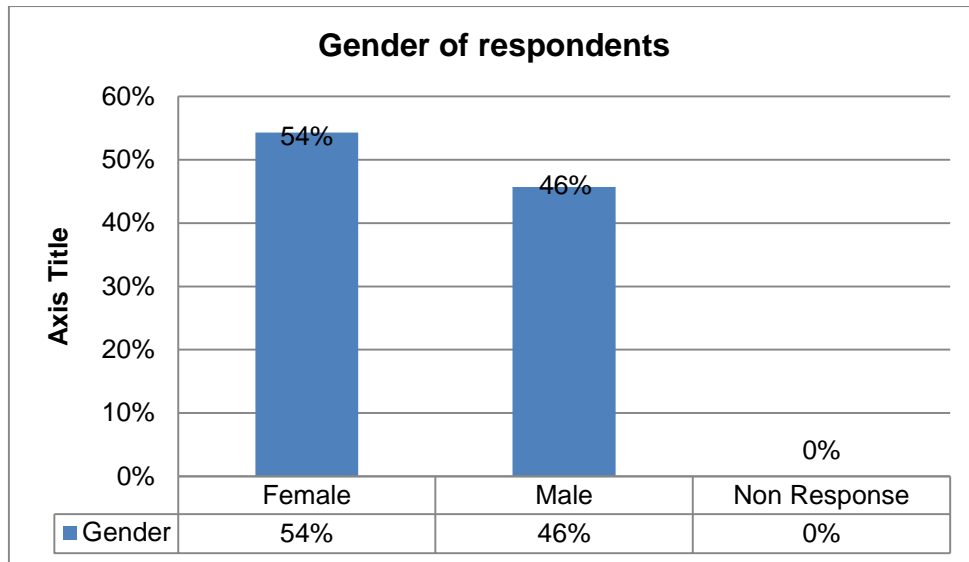


Figure 2: Gender of respondents

The figure above indicates that there were more female than male respondents. The results are based on the sampling method that was used in selecting the participants, therefore generalisation cannot be made in this regard. About 54% of the respondents who participated in the survey were females and 46% were males. There is a difference of 8% between the two sexes, which can be due to the fact that most women remain behind at home while men go to work or look for employment during the day. It is also worth noting that the survey method used was not favouring any gender as participants were selected randomly and based on availability.

4.2.3 Marital status of respondents

According to Stats SA Census of 2011, the percentage of female headed households was 57.3%, which was higher than that of male headed households, therefore, the researcher needed to check the status in the area of Muyexe as per the aforementioned results. The difference in the percentage could be due to the fact that when men cannot

find employment in their villages they move to the nearest towns and cities to look for work while women are left with the children in rural areas. The marital status of respondents is indicated in **Figure 3**.

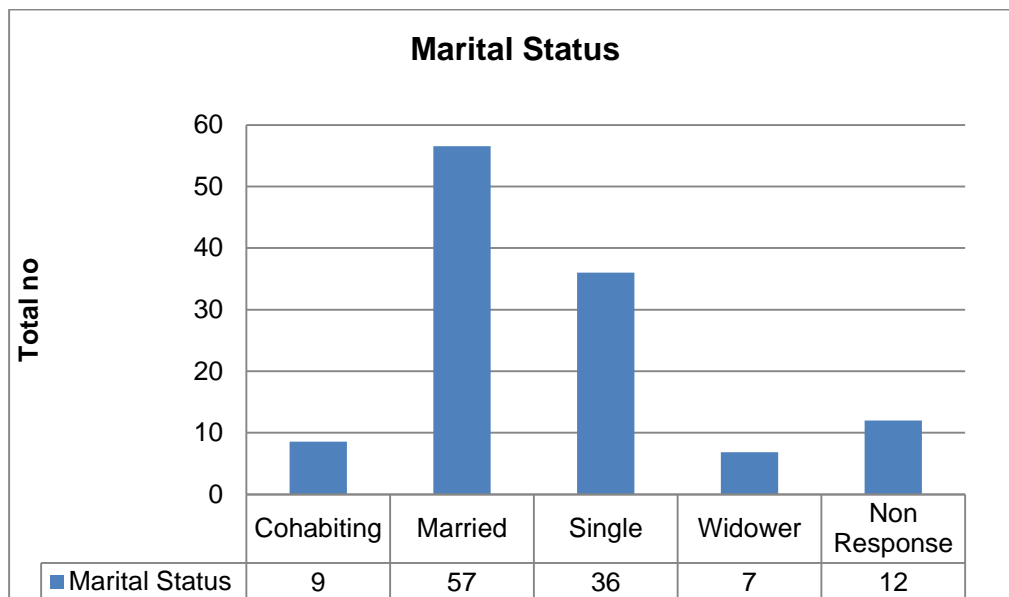


Figure 3: Marital status of respondents

The above figure indicates that the majority of respondents, i.e. 57 indicated that they were married, followed by 36 being single. While 12 did not indicate their status. Moreover, the figure indicates that nine respondents cohabit while seven are widowers.

4.2.4 Educational level of the respondents

Education has a significant role to play in the contemporary society. Illiteracy and low levels of schooling make any development or economic programme challenging. Therefore, educational status of the respondents is critical to gain insight on the level of schooling of the respondents. The educational level of the respondents is indicated in **figure 4**.

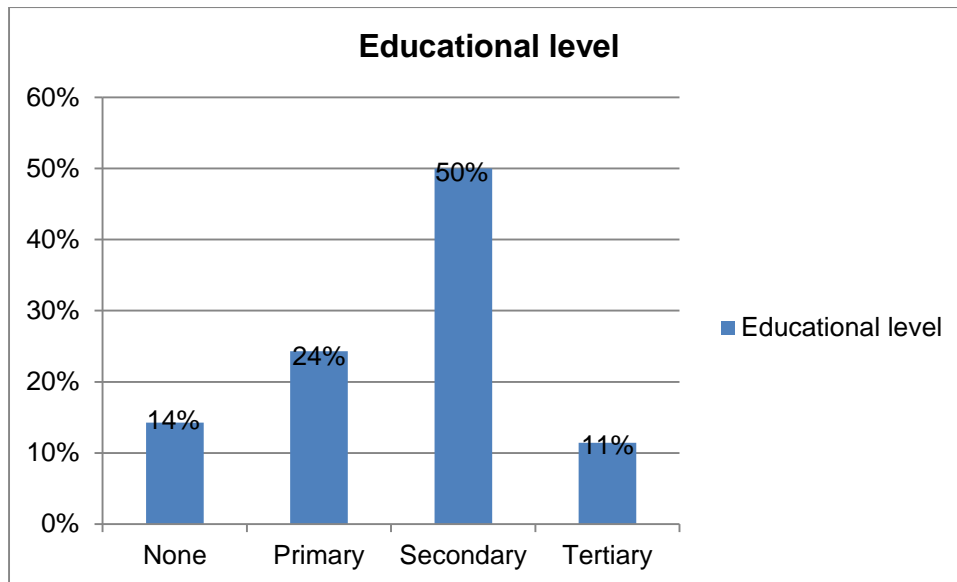


Figure 4: Educational level of respondents

The majority of respondents, i.e. 50% indicated that they attended secondary school, while 24% indicated that they attended primary school, followed by 14% who have not gone to school and at least 11% reached tertiary level.

4.3 Level of employment amongst household members

The area of Muyexe was characterised by high levels of unemployment wherein the majority of the population were dependent on social grants as an income generation source. Of those that are employed, most of them are working in tourism and agricultural sectors such as farms in Levubu, Moeketsi, Tzaneen, Lethaba and Phalaborwa. While the other portion of the employed are in government sectors working as nurses, teachers, cleaners, security, police and clerks, with certain portion employed in the retail sector.

According to Statistics Sough Aafrica Census of 2011, the unemployment rate amongst the population of Greater Giyani Local Municipality was at 47%, while youth

unemployment was at 61.2%. Unemployment has a negative impact on society, which might eventually result in an increase in crime, grant dependency, and non-payment of services. Unemployment is also a critical contributor to poverty in South Africa. As a result, many of the poor in South Africa are unemployed and cannot find work to earn an income, they also lack skills that would render them employable in the first economy. According to ANC, 2009 poverty can only be reduced or eradicated in a sustainable way if people have access to decent work. Decent work is work that provides for the rights of workers and their adequate protection, better quality jobs, access to social security and fights against poverty and inequality (ANC, 2009).

The number of unemployed people within the Greater Giyani municipality has increased from 20534 (50.7%) in 1996 to 31636 (60.4%) in 2001. In the other hand most females were employed than males, this may be as a result of job opportunities within the municipality and due to the effort done to address gender equity in labour intensive work such as construction and mining (Greater Giyani Municipality, IDP, 2015/16).

The average income for all members of the community within Greater Giyani between 2007 and 2011 shows that the percentage of people earning no income decreased from 82.34% in 2007 to 78.04% in 2011. The percentage of people earning less than R400 per month increased tremendously (number of persons doubled from 5764 in 2007 to 18631 in 2011) and there was a decline in those earning between R401 and R800 per month. The high statistic of low earning people may be in relation to the employment industry. For example, agriculture in general employs more people, but pays very low wages. People that are earning higher incomes are professionals who are usually fewer in number (Greater Giyani Municipality, IDP, 2015/16). Table 1 indicates the population by individuals' monthly income within Greater Giyani between 2007 and 2011.

Table 1: Population by individuals' monthly income, Greater Giyani, 2007 & 2011

| Persons | 2007 | 2011 |
|----------------|--------|---------|
| None | 185284 | 130,547 |
| R1 – 400 | 19631 | 62076 |
| R401 – 800 | 18131 | 9968 |
| R801 – 1600 | 4668 | 24584 |
| R1601 – 3200 | 4867 | 5010 |
| R3201 – 6400 | 3216 | 5586 |
| R6401 – 12800 | 1257 | 4280 |
| R12801 – 25600 | 143 | 773 |
| R25601 – 51200 | 76 | 56 |

Table 1 indicates that there was a significant increase in those earning between R1 to R400 per month since 2007 to 2011, as the number increased from 19 631 to 62 076. This was also followed by those who earned between R801 to R1 600 as the number increased from 4 668 to 24 584. However, there was a decrease on those who earned between R401 to R800 as the number decreased from 18 131 to 9 968. Based on the statistics above, the level of employment increased during the time when the CRDP was introduced in the area of Greater Giyani Municipality. Muyexe as one of the areas under Greater Giyani Municipality is affected by this statistics with regard to the level unemployment. This suggests that CRDP failed to create decent employment for the people of Muyexe which could have had the positive impact to the level of employment within the Municipality of Greater Giyani. The status on the total number of household members employed is presented in **figure 5**. The researcher attempted hereby to discover the breakdown of employment/unemployment level of the household members in Muyexe.

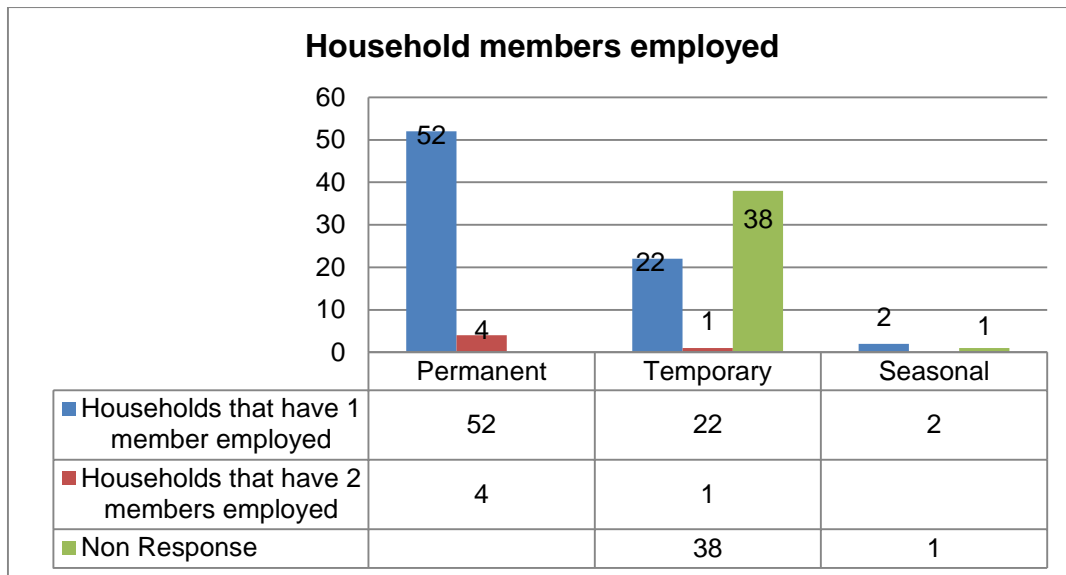


Figure 5: Household members employed in Muyexe

Figure 5 indicates that 52 of the households have at least one member employed permanently, followed by 22 being employed temporarily and two seasonally. While about four households indicated that they have at least two members employed permanently and one being employed temporarily. These results show that employment is still a major challenge that needs to be addressed in the community of Muyexe. However, it is worth noting that most of the jobs which were created in the area of Muyexe, for example through the CRDP, were short term jobs. Therefore, of those who mentioned that their household members were employed permanently, most of them were employed in government and municipality sectors as teachers, nurses, administrators, police officers, and as security guards at the surrounding town and municipalities. Others migrated to the bigger cities such as Polokwane and Johannesburg in search for employment.

Therefore, more employment and income generating initiatives still need to be initiated or strengthened in the community to ensure that at least one member of the family works, produce products not only for family consumption but surplus for income generation. Also employment opportunities should be created through rural, industrial

and financial sectors marked by Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises (SMMEs) and village markets as per Phase 3 of the CRDP Model on employment creation. These include the entrepreneurial and cooperatives development (manufacturing, construction, quarrying, catering, accommodation, construction, agriculture, whole sale trade, retail trade, and etc.). Therefore, there is a strong need for government and other employment creation sectors to support the existing businesses while additional viable businesses are created in the community towards economic restructuring and poverty alleviation.

4.4 Infrastructure Development

Infrastructure means those basic facilities and services which facilitate different economic activities and thereby help in economic development of the country, education, health, transport, communication, banking and insurance, irrigation, power, science and technology. Therefore, it is an admitted fact that the level of economic development in any country directly depends on the development of infrastructure. The developed countries have made a lot of progress due to tremendous growth of social and economic infrastructure (World Development Report 2003). Infrastructure can be divided into two categories and these are economic infrastructure and social infrastructure.

This section looks at the extent to which the CRDP has achieved or is likely to achieve its specific goals and objectives towards the development of the infrastructure in Muyexe. Lack of socio-economic infrastructure in the area of Muyexe was a major challenge prior to the establishment of the CRDP. Access to both the main road to town and the surrounding villages and internal roads was a major challenge particularly during rainy seasons. Access to RDP houses was not comprehensive and most of the mud and traditional houses were dilapidated and life threatening, particularly during heavy rain and storm seasons.

The other challenges on social infrastructure were lack of water, poor sanitation (VIP toilets) and poor health services. In this regard, the community depended much on water from rain during rainy seasons and also buying water from privately owned boreholes at a rate of R2, 00 per 25L. This was a burden to some of the households as most of them were unemployed and depended mostly on government social grants for living. With regard to lack of sanitation (VIP toilets) people had to relieve themselves in the bushes, which was unhygienic, particularly during rainy seasons since the dirt would be flushed into the rivers where they sometimes fetched water for household use.

Access to electricity was also not comprehensive as a majority of the households, more especially those in new extensions, were not connected to the electricity. People, more especially women and young girls, sometimes still go to the nearest fields to fetch fire wood for cooking and warming themselves up during winter seasons when it was cold.

With regard to education level in the area, prior to the introduction of the CRDP initiatives in Muyexe it was indicated that there was only one ECD centre, one primary and one secondary school in the entire village. However, the infrastructures were not enough to accommodate the entire community looking at the number of classrooms per school. Moreover, lack of public amenities such as clinics and hospitals was also a problem, initially there was a mobile clinic which would visit the area twice a month and people had to travel for about 10 km to the nearest clinics.

As part of government intervention through the CRDP in addressing the aforementioned challenges, a total of 36 communal boreholes were installed in the area, however, it was reported that only nine boreholes were equipped while the remaining boreholes were not equipped due to poor yield. Two of the nine functioning boreholes were connected to the reservoir which supplies water to the entire village through the purification plant. Of concern was that a cable from the plant was stolen at a later stage. The other intervention that was put in place to address the challenge of water was through the

installation of 826 rain water harvesting tanks to households. However, due to lack of adequate rainfall in the area the tanks did not serve much purpose.

The other intervention which was believed to be a long term solution to shortage of water was to extract water from Nandoni dam, which is situated in Thulamela Local Municipality in the Vhembe District, to Nsami dam in Giyani through the Department of Water Affairs and Mopani District Municipality. However, the project was never an easy exercise looking at the distance between the two areas which are 45 KM apart. It was indicated that the project was at 50% complete during the process of data collection and currently on hold due to contractual disputes being dealt with in the court of law. It is envisaged that once the court has concluded on the matter the community of Giyani will be provided with the necessary water.

In addressing the challenges of housing and sanitation, a total of 383 RDP houses and 552 VIP toilets were built to the households in need as per the results of the profiling and community participation processes conducted to identify the needs. With regard to sanitation, a total of 500 participants were enrolled into the Community Work Programme (CWP) through the department of Cooperative, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) to clean the streets in the area and were given a monthly stipend of about R500-00. With regard to education, one additional ECD centre was built, as well as renovations of both primary and secondary schools, construction of additional classrooms and toilets.

In addressing health service challenges, the Thusong Centre was established during the year 2010 to offer health services. The centre used to operate eight hours a day, five days a week and consisted of two professional nurses and two auxiliary assistant nurses. In 2013 the construction of a new clinic started and it currently operates for 24 hours a day. The residents are currently able to conveniently and confidently use services such as primary care, emergency, overall physical, social, and mental health status, prevention of disease, detection and treatment of illnesses, preventable death,

life expectancy and other public health services. Residence can now reach and use services without paying for transportation fees to services which may be located at a distance, and the ability to communicate with healthcare providers with their home language more especially those that are not fluent in English.

The clinic offers primary health care services, consists of six professional nurses and one doctor who visits the clinic once a week. With regard to electricity, additional 350 households were electrified as a result of the CRDP intervention made and the other 100 households were provided with solar energy panels, to enable access to energy at no cost. A total of 65 solar streets lights were also installed in the area.

As raised earlier, basic needs are being met mainly through the construction of infrastructure and provision of facilities and services. In successful cases, the establishment of socio-economic infrastructure managed to transform the lives of communities and living standards greatly. A common concern raised by beneficiaries is that the budget for maintenance has not kept pace with the level of infrastructure development. Complaints about contractors not being monitored have come out from some of the respondents. It was reported that construction sometimes stops before completion with no explanation provided to the community. There were also several reports of very poor quality infrastructure being built by some contractors, such as with Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) toilets and RDP houses. It was mentioned that the foundation for some houses built were not deep enough and the pit for the toilets were not deep enough and as a result the toilets will be full in no time.

The findings of this study indicate that inadequate water supply remains the key challenge in the area. In Muyexe there are boreholes and water taps that have been installed but which rarely have water. The pumps from five boreholes were stolen and others are no longer working. Community members explained that they were not consulted adequately with regards to where the boreholes were installed. Consequently contractors put boreholes at the edge of the village, which exposed them to thieves. Currently there are only two boreholes providing the community with water but not on a

daily basis. At some stage water is still bought (normally at a rate of R2,00 per 25 litre) in Muyexe which is a great strain on poor households due to lack of employment. Lack of water is also undermining productivity of household food gardens in the area. Sanitation projects are also undermined by the lack of water as well as a great need to construct a tarred road for easy access to the area and increase access to transport.

4.4.1 Access to basic services

According to the CRDP strategy, the success of the Comprehensive Rural Development can be measured by the rural household's access to basic services infrastructure. In order to give expression to this, the status on access to basic services is presented in figure 6.

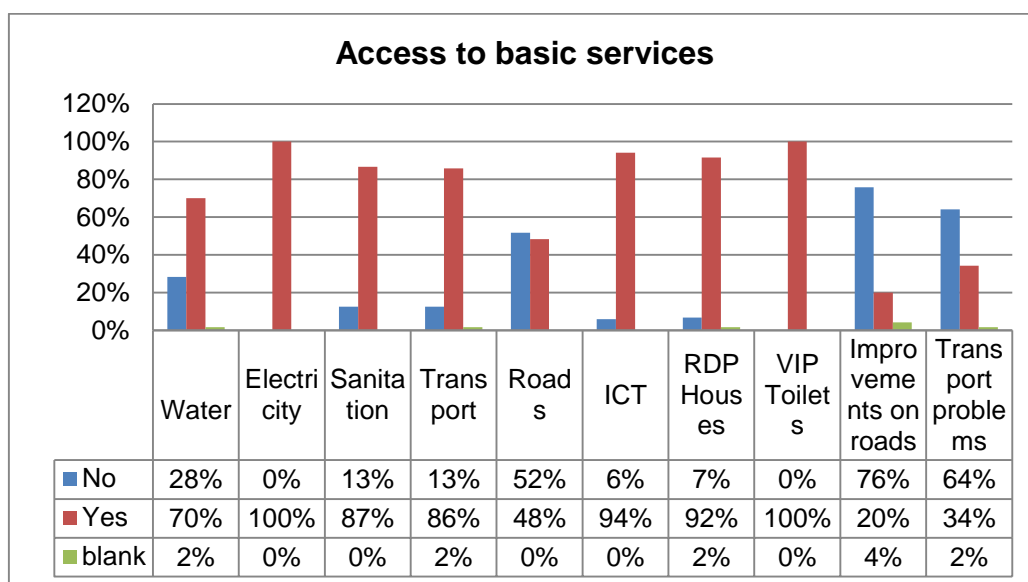


Figure 6: Access to Basic Services

The figure above shows that level of satisfaction regarding access to most of the basic services is positive. The results showed that 70% indicated that there is access to water, while 28% showed that there is no access to water. A total of 100% indicated that there is access to electricity (prepaid). While 87% agreed that there is access to sanitation with only 13% who showed that there is no access to sanitation. A total of 86% showed

that there is access to transport, 94% showed that there is access to ICT, 92% indicated that there is access to RDP houses and 100% showed that there is access to VIP toilets. A total of 52% of respondents indicated that there is no access to roads and 48% said there is access to roads. While 64% indicated that transport is no longer a major problem, 34% indicated that transport is still a major problem. A total of 76% indicated that there is no improvement on the roads and 20% showed that there is improvement.

However, it is worth noting that before the government intervention through the CRDP, access to water and roads was a major challenge in the area. There was no water reticulation in the area and instead to gain access to water, the community had to buy water from people who own private boreholes. Access to roads was also a major challenge as the taxis could not access the area to transport people to and from the surrounding villages and town. The electricity supply was available but not in all households, while sanitation was not comprehensive. A total of 350 households were electrified since the launch of CRDP in 2009 in the area and the other 100 households were provided with solar energy panels, a total of 65 solar streets lights were also installed in Muyexe.

In terms of housing, some of the households had RDP houses while others did not have the RDP houses. During the data collection process it was indicated that there were only 90 RDP houses built in the entire village prior to the government intervention through the CRDP. As a result of the CRDP in the area, a total of 383 RDP houses were constructed to certain households. Then access to ICT was as a result of the CRDP when a computer laboratory with about 22 sets of computers, network points and about 25 Ipads were provided in the area. However, it was indicated that some computers were stolen and network cables destroyed at a later stage. The computer centre was not working and the community was waiting for the government to repair the destroyed network cables. The table below indicates the type of projects that were established and completed in the area since the launch of the CRDP for the period 2009 to 2014.

Table 2: Basic service projects

| Projects | Status |
|--|---|
| Supply and installation of 826 rain water harvesting tanks | Completed |
| Fencing of 300 household vegetable gardens | Completed |
| Construction of 383 RDP houses; 108 houses fitted with ceiling and three model houses. | Completed |
| Fencing; 17km buffer zone | Completed |
| Fencing; 17km grazing land | Completed |
| Fencing; 10km arable land | Completed |
| Construction of a pump house and borehole in the grazing land | Completed |
| Construction of a dipping tank and crush pen | Completed |
| Supply and installation of prepaid electricity to new extensions (350 households) | Completed |
| Installation of water purification plant (challenge with the provision chemicals) | Completed |
| Construction of two drinking troughs and reservoir | Completed |
| Drilling of two boreholes and storage facilities | Completed |
| Roads (construction of storm water drainage for 6 km) | Completed |
| Renovation of Thusong centre (clinic) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operates eight hours a day, five days a week • Consists of two professional nurses and two auxiliary assistant nurses | Completed |
| Construction of a new Muyexe clinic | Completed |
| Installation of solar panel to 100 households (12 volt used for lights) | Completed |
| Installation of solar system to the ECD | Completed |
| Drilling of boreholes (nine newly drilled and equipped, only two boreholes are working , seven concrete house pumps constructed and pipe line to the reservoir constructed) | Completed |
| Nandoni dam to Nsami dam pipe line Reticulation of pipe lines in the village and installation of stand pipes | In progress (80% clearing; 50% digging of trenches 50% pipe laying |
| Construction of 552 VIP toilets to the households | Completed |

4.4.2 Improvement on the road infrastructure

According to the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP), a policy framework, the link between meeting basic needs through an infrastructural programme and reviving economic growth in manufacturing and other sectors is the essence of the link between reconstruction and development. However, it is more than just providing electricity, water and telecommunications. Therefore, there is an urgent need to develop an integrated and rapid transportation system that links the domestic economy and the markets. This entails the upgrading of road networks in rural areas and their extension to the other areas.

Improvement on road access was one of the top list of priorities and needs for the village of Muyexe during the piloting of the CRDP sites. The result of the study shows that there were improvements on roads to advance the accessibility to transport as a result of the government intervention through the CRDP in the area of Muyexe i.e. construction of storm water drainage system for 6 km. However, a lot still needs to be done to upgrade the roads as they can be inaccessible during strong rainy seasons. Therefore, the roads need to be fixed and upgraded into all-weather roads.

4.4.3 Suggestions on transport improvement

The majority of people depend much on public transport in order to move from their dwellings to the other surrounding areas and nearby towns, meaning more frequent public transport is required at an affordable cost. More rural areas do not have adequate access for emergency services due to poor condition of the road infrastructure and services. Most people in rural areas are unable to afford private transport and they depend on public transport such as buses and taxis for traveling. However, at the same time critical bottlenecks in the road infrastructure should be improved so that the full capacity of the existing road networks are realised. Therefore, efficient transport systems are key to economic and social development, and without adequate and

affordable transport systems people cannot reach jobs and essential social services, products on the other hand cannot reach markets for business.

Amongst others, one of the CRDP's objective is to place great emphasis on the development of new and the rehabilitation of existing infrastructure in rural areas i.e. improvement or development of economic infrastructure such as roads and transport networks. However, in the area of Muyexe the findings show that improvement on roads is still a major challenge. Therefore, there is a need to improve the road from gravel to tarred road in order to be flexible enough, promote safety and make best use of the available public transport which is affordable to the users. This is evidenced by a total of 75.7% of the respondents indicating that there was no improvement on the road infrastructure. As a result, there is a strong belief that if the road can be developed there will be improvement on the day to day transportation of people from and to the area.

4.4.4 Other infrastructure development

During the data collection process it was of importance for the researcher to get understanding of the projects that were still under construction from those that were already completed. The table below indicates the types of projects that were on the pipeline since the launch of the CRDP at the site of Muyexe:

Table 3: Projects still on the pipeline

| Projects | Status | Implementer |
|--|--|------------------------------------|
| Paving of 8km internal street | Contractor appointed. | DRDLR |
| Construction of Muyexe police station | Construction in progress | SAPS |
| Construction of Library and museum | Construction in progress | DSAC |
| Muyexe arts and craft project and cosmetic cooperative | Two mobile structures in place | DRDLR |
| OMET structure for Macena garden | Construction of OMET structure for Macena garden in the conception stage | DRDLR/Hlanganani Training Services |

4.4.5 Access to social services

Social services mean activities and services which in addition to achieving certain social objectives indirectly help various economic activities. For example, education centres, community halls, sports centres, health service centres, roads, transport, and rural malls or towns. According to the findings of this study it is clear in area of Muyexe that the CRDP has a positive influence on speeding up the delivery of social infrastructure. As a result of the government intervention through the launch of the CRDP in Muyexe, for example a sport centre, clinic, ECD centre, extension of primary and secondary schools, satellite police station and Thusong centre were built and the structures are complete. One additional Early Childhood Development (ECD) centre was established by the Department of Social Development in 2010. The ECD centre consists of two classrooms and three blocks of toilets.

It was indicated that the Department of Social Development offers a stipend for the staff working at the above mentioned centre, food parcels and toys for the kids. The community had reported very positive benefits about it as it had brought much hope in the area and currently having about 85 kids attending early childhood development activities. Some women acquired new qualifications as they were trained as ECD Practitioners. It was also stated that the community hall and library are still under

construction. However, a need to establish Adult Basic Education and Training (ABET) centres was identified by several members of the community as desperately needed infrastructure that they feel would greatly improve their livelihoods. The status on access to social services is presented in **figure 7**.

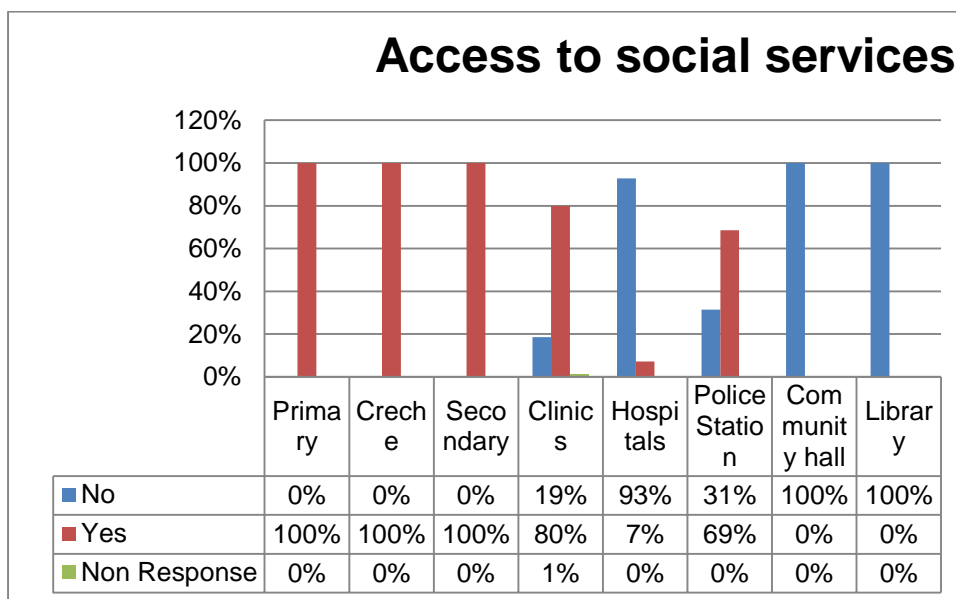


Figure 7: Access to social Services

The above figure indicates that there is access to social services such as crèche, primary and secondary schools, clinic and police station. However, access to community hall, library and hospital is still a major problem in the area of Muyexe. The majority of respondents, i.e. 100% indicated that there is access of social services such as schools (crèche, primary and secondary school), while 80% indicated that there is access to clinics, 96% saying there is access to a police station. A total of 100% respondents interviewed indicated that there is no access to a community hall, library and 93% indicated that there is no access to a hospital.

However, it is worth noting that of those indicated that there is access to a hospital, they were referring to the hospital in Giyani which is the nearest town to the village. In terms of the police station there is currently a satellite police station in the area. While in terms

of the clinic, the infrastructure has been completed but not yet functional, however, there are health services rendered at the Thusong centre in the area during the week even though it does not operate for 24 hours. Over and above, table 4 entails the projects that were initiated and implemented since the launch of the CRDP and status.

Table 4: Social services projects

| PROJECTS | STATUS |
|--|--|
| Satellite Police Station & SANDF | Completed |
| Post office | Completed |
| Fifa World Cup viewing sites | Completed |
| Renovations of school (Building of Toilets and four Classrooms) and Building of a new block | Completed |
| Computer Lab – construction | Completed |
| Construction of ECD – new Practitioners and other workers | Completed |
| Construction of Visitor’s room/ area | Completed |
| Installation of Solar Energy to the ECD | Completed |
| Construction of Sports centre | Completed |
| Construction of Secondary school ablution block (four toilet blocks were completed at Hatlani Secondary School in Muyexe) | Completed |
| Primary school ablution block (4 toilet blocks were completed at Muyexe Primary School) | Completed |
| Primary and secondary schools renovation and construction of new block | Completed |
| Drop in center/ Tihlaheseni health organisation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile office and drop in centre office • One borehole drilled to cater both new ECD and drop in centre. • Transformer installed to cater drop in centre | In operation Delivered Not yet equipped Connected |
| Construction of MPCC Building (eight offices, Hall with 100 chairs and Post Office is in operation in one of the offices) | Completed |
| Roads | Storm water drainage for 6 km completed |
| Roller Drums and play pumps (Two play pumps installed 150 roller drums (90L each) donated to 150 elderly people) | Completed |

| | |
|--|--|
| Communication (Vodacom network installed) | Completed by Vodacom network service providers |
| Donation of 12 Bicycles to sub committees leaders | completed |
| Disposing of 25 computers to Hatlani Muyexe primary school | Completed |

4.4.7 The quality of the RDP houses and VIP toilets build in Muyexe

Providing basic needs for people living in rural areas are one of the CRDP's key focus; these include sanitation and housing. As a minimum requirement for human living standards, housing must provide protection from weather, a durable structure, and reasonable living space and privacy. A house must include sanitary facilities, storm water drainage, a household energy supply (electricity supply or other sources such as solar energy) and convenient access to clean water. During the process of data collection in the area of study it was indicated that most of the RDP houses and VIP toilets that were built as result of the CRDP are of good quality. The houses were reported to be of good quality as they address or respond well to the above mentioned qualities when coming to the development of houses. Thus, most respondents were quite happy with the structures. From the total number of sampled representatives, looking at the rating of outstanding, good, fair and poor, 42% stated that infrastructure was good, followed by 30% at poor, 20% at fair and 7% at outstanding.

Since 2009, the government through the CRDP intervention built a total of 383 RDP houses and 552 VIP toilets. The immediate needs of the community were identified through the processes of household profiling, community participation in meetings held, appraisals and through engagement with school pupils. Through these processes the results showed that there was a need to ensure access to clean water in the area, electricity, RDP houses and VIP toilets to the households whose traditional houses were dilapidated. The results further showed that there was a need for the establishment and maintenance of available roads infrastructure, construction of a clinic, fencing grazing

camps, playgrounds, post office, community hall, police station, shopping mall, renovations and extensions of dilapidated school class rooms, toilets and a library.

4.4.8 The contribution of CRDP to economic activities

Economic services are those basic facilities which directly benefit the process of production and distribution of an economy. Irrigation, power, transport and communication are some examples of economic services. The quality of roads remains in very poor condition more especially during rainy season in the area of Muyexe and this is undermining the growth of rural economies and local enterprises. Therefore, there is a need to develop tarred road that will be suitable to all weather conditions.

Amongst others, one of the objectives of the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme is to place great emphasis on the development of new and the rehabilitation of existing economic infrastructure in rural areas. Those who said there are business activities in the area were referring to the enterprises/cooperatives that were established such as the following: the Macena garden, Pfunanani Brick Laying Project, Muyexe perfume cooperative, Muyexe art and crafts cooperative, Nwasati wa pfuka brick making project and a poultry project. The status of CRDP's contribution to economic activities is presented in figure 8.

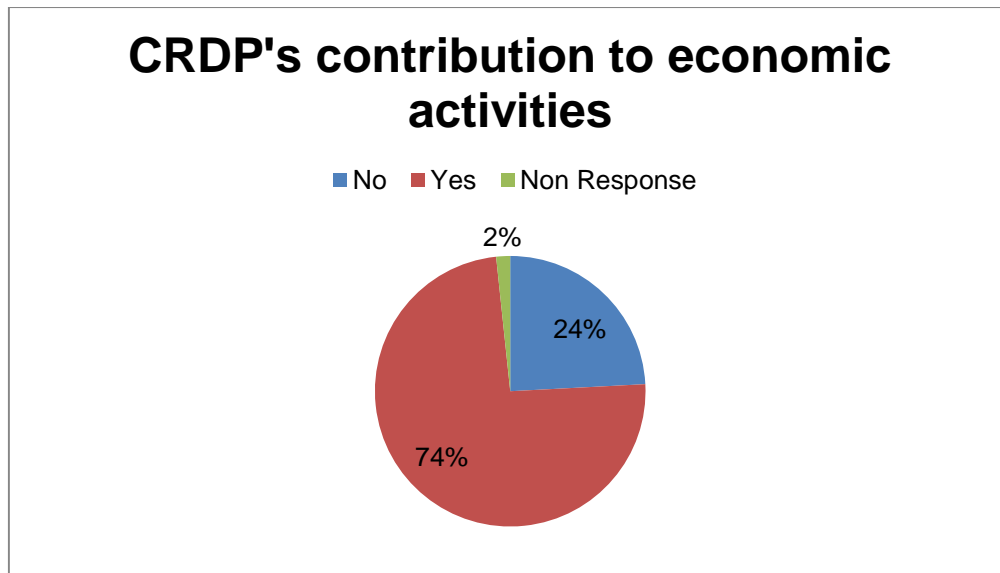


Figure 8: CRDP's contribution to economic activities

Figure 8 indicates that 74% of the respondents indicated that there are economic activities as a result of CRDP in the area. While 24% indicated that there are no economic activities in the area and 2% of the respondents were not sure.

4.4.9 The long term economic benefits of the CRDP

The CRDP is aimed at being an effective response against poverty and food insecurity by maximising the use and management of natural resources to create vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities. The CRDP's focus is on the establishment of rural business initiatives, co-operatives, cultural initiatives and vibrant local markets in rural settings. It also focuses on the empowerment of rural people and communities (especially women and the youth). Moreover, it focuses on the revitalisation of old, and revamping of new economic, social, and information and communication infrastructure, public amenities and facilities in villages and small rural towns (DRDLR, CRDP Framework, 2009).

The findings of this study indicate that the CRDP contributed to the development of economic benefits in the area of Muyexe. This is evidenced by the development of a post office where in the community is now able to get services such as posting and receiving goods, buying airtime and electricity. The development of the Macena garden brick laying and poultry projects where in jobs were created also show that the CRDP contributed to the economic benefits of Muyexe. These projects have facilitated the production of vegetables, bricks, chickens and as a result the community is now buying fresh vegetables and chickens for feeding their families. The community is also able to buy bricks for construction of their houses within the area at a low price without travelling long distances to town which is far from the village at about 34 KM.

4.4.10 CRDP contribution to business activities

During the year 2009 the component: Rural Livelihoods and Food Security within the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform established an ethanol gel cooperative through a partnership with ChemCity (Sasol) which sells ethanol gel and stoves to the community of Muyexe. It supported five cooperatives that are operational in Muyexe, ranging from brick making to catering in bakery, poultry, arts and crafts, agricultural cooperatives (Macena garden). Three of the catering cooperatives are registered on the database of the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR Annual Report, 2010).

Creating employment through SMMEs and self-help income generating initiatives is one of the CRDP objectives for poverty alleviation and sustainable development for sustainable rural livelihoods. In this regard the following enterprises were established:

4.4.10.1 Macena Community Garden

The Macena Community Garden is a project that has 17 hectares of land used mainly for crop production. Beneficiaries formed a co-operative which was registered in 2009. The project has 36 beneficiaries, five are male and 31 female of which 15 are youth.

The garden is currently used for agricultural purposes and their main enterprise is crop production. The garden currently produces vegetables such as beetroot, butternut, sweet potatoes, spinach, cabbage, tomatoes, green peppers and maize. Beetroot, spinach, butternut and green peppers are planted on one hector each; sweet potatoes on half a hector whereas maize and tomatoes are planted on two hector each.

All beneficiaries are working on the project on a daily basis as employees. All the beneficiaries have received training on plant production provided by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. The project has the following infrastructure; two boreholes of which one is not equipped and the other one is fully functional, a 2000 L capacity reservoir, water tank, farm implements, electricity, one storeroom, nursery, shade nets and a fence. The project is able to operate with the available infrastructure (DRDLR, Muyexe progress report, 2014).

The challenge faced by project is that there is no direct link to a formal market where they can sell their products produced, instead they sell their products to the local communities and Spar Supermarket in Giyani Town. The other challenge is that there is no adequate road infrastructure for selling and transporting products from the garden. The latter challenges are bad for business, particularly during harvesting season as per different commodities from the garden. Also the available water is not enough for irrigation purposes, which means they cannot plough the entire hectares in the garden as a result they end up ploughing maize meal on the other land. The project generates income through selling the vegetables. They manage to generate R16 000-00 per month by selling vegetables, especially tomatoes. The project is assisting in improving the livelihoods of the beneficiaries as they get a monthly salary between R500-00 to R900-00 per month depending on the profit made on monthly bases.

4.4.10.2 Muyexe poultry project

The Muyexe poultry project was also established in the area of study in 2009. During the data collection process it was indicated that the project has seven beneficiaries of which are all females and four being youth. The project has three broiler houses, two

with 1000 carrying capacity each and the other one with 500 carrying capacity. It was indicated that materials were provided by the departments of Rural Development and Land Reform, Social Development and Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. The project was also provided with a fence on four hectares of land, electricity, a storeroom and a water tank for storage of water. However, it was indicated that water is still a major challenge in the project as it still depends on water from the community which is hardly available.

There is one borehole installed in the project, however, during testing the results revealed that there is no water. The other challenge is lack of market where the beneficiaries can sell their chickens rather than depending on the locals. Another challenge is lack of transport to deliver stock to and from town. It was also indicated that there was electricity at the project but they had a problem with Eskom as they are saying the account is not registered by the names of the beneficiaries who opened it. Therefore, there is a serious need for the issue of the electricity account to be fixed to avoid trouble with Eskom.

Like in the Macena community garden, the poultry projects also do not have a direct market for the selling of their products, instead they depend on the local communities for selling their products. The project generates income through selling chickens at R45-00 each and makes revenue of about R18000.00 per month depending on the sales made. The latter revenue is not sufficient to sustain the project and the beneficiaries' families considering that they still have to buy stock, feeds and pay for transport from the Giyani town which is about 35 KM to Muyexe village. In terms of skills development, one female youth has received accredited training on poultry farming, while others were offered informal training at the local Thusong Centre on project management and financial management. The beneficiaries indicated that they were all unemployed before the establishment of the cooperative.

4.4.10.3 Wansati uwa pfuka brick making project

The Wansati uwa pfuka brick making project was established in 2010 and initially started with 15 members. The project however currently consists of seven beneficiaries of which four are female, three are male and one youth. Through the government intervention the project was initially equipped with a borehole, office block, brick making machine, water tanks, fence and a truck. The beneficiaries indicated that they are able to produce the products frequently with the provided infrastructure. However, they indicated that there is a need for a big truck to help in delivering the bricks to the customers as currently the clients are hiring trucks for R300-00 per load to transport bricks from the site to their hoses and this is a challenge because most of the customers end up buying bricks from the other brickmaking projects to avoid the expensive delivery charges.

The other challenge experienced from the project was lack of security and as a result the brick making machine which was fast in production as well as a truck were stolen at some stage. As a result, they are currently making bricks manually and this delays the production particularly when there is higher demand of bricks and as a result the customers end up buying the bricks from other suppliers. It was indicated that the project is currently struggling with production hence some of the members had to leave the project. With regard to theft, it was indicated that a case was reported to the police and later closed due to lack of evidence. The project does not have formal market and sells their bricks to the local communities.

The project also generates income through selling bricks and they make R5 000-00 per month depending on the demand of bricks. The profit that is generated by the project also helps to sustain the livelihoods of both the beneficiaries. The beneficiaries indicated that they usually receive a monthly stipend ranging from R300-00 to R400-00 depending on production and sales of the bricks. It was also indicated that the beneficiaries received accredited training on Financial and Business Management provided by Limpopo Business Support Agency (LIBSA).

4.4.10.4 Pfunanani brick making project

The Pfunanani brick making project was initially established in 1993 and comprised of ten women. In 2009, through government interventions, the project was supported with a borehole, electricity, admin office and a brick making machine. It was indicated that the project hires temporal workers when there is a higher demand of bricks, in most cases they hire four male youth which are paid on a daily basis and receive R10-00 per one bag of cement processed. The project generates income through selling the bricks, with a maxi block costing R3-00, medium block R2-50c and a small block R1-60c. In total, they make income of R10 000-00 per month. The beneficiaries sustain their livelihoods and those of their dependents through monthly salaries ranging from R500-00 to R1 000-00 depending on production and sales. The beneficiaries have received training on brick manufacturing provided by the Department of Trade and Industry.

4.4.10.5 Twananani Muyexe beads work project

The abovementioned project was established for the first time in 2007 and was registered in 2009. It consists of nine beneficiaries which are all females and adults. Through the government intervention, the project was provided with a working facility, two sewing machines and materials for the beadwork. The project generates income through selling of products that they make. The project makes products such as beads and Xitsonga traditional cloths, which they sell to the local people and those who visit their village. It was indicated that in total the project can generate a maximum of R1 000 per month depending on sales made. The beneficiaries sustain their livelihoods and that of their dependents through monthly salaries they get from the project depending on sales. The beneficiaries have indicated that they have received training on bookkeeping and business management provided by the Department of Labour, however, no certificates were issued to them.

Of the concern was that there are no direct links to the markets where they can sell their products. One other challenge was that there are no sponsorships for delivery and supply of materials that are needed for production to assist the project to grow in order for the employees to sustain their households. Looking at the income that they normally

make on monthly basis, the situation cannot sustain the project, hence some members decided to walk away from the project and stay at home. The other challenge was that there is more need for training on fashion design for the beneficiaries which can assist them to grow the project through the designing of dresses, skirts, trousers and shirts.

4.4.10.6 Muyexe multipurpose cosmetics

The Muyexe multipurpose cosmetics project was established in 2010 and it initially comprised of 15 beneficiaries, but currently is left with two females and they are all youth. The beneficiaries that are left running the project indicated that the rest of the team left the project due to lack of sales to generate income at the project. The project seem to be generating income through the selling of both male and female perfumes to the local people as well as through exhibition made by Department of Trade and Industry.

In total, they make an income of R500 to R1 000 per month depending on sales made. The beneficiaries sustain their livelihoods and those of their dependents through monthly salaries ranging from R500 to R800, depending on production and sales. The beneficiaries have indicated that they have received a two day's training on perfume mixing provided by a professor at the University of the Witwatersrand, however no certificates were issued to them. The beneficiaries indicated that the cooperative was registered.

Of the concern was that there are no direct links to the markets where they can sell their products. One other challenge was that they buy the products such as bottles or containers and mixing products for production of the perfumes from a company called Bontark which is situated in Johannesburg and this is challenging because it is far away from where they are located. Looking at the income that they normally make on a monthly basis the situation cannot sustain the project hence some members decided to walk away from the project and stay at home.

4.4.10.7 Muyexe art and crafts project

Muyexe art and crafts project was established in 2010 and it comprised of eight cooperatives which are all registered. The project consists of 84 beneficiaries, 83 are females, one is male and some are youth. The project generates income through the selling of products that they make such as bowls, beads, rhino models and other households decorating products to the local people as well as also through exhibitions arranged by the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform which can take place five to eight times a year.

In total, each person can sell and make an income of R1 000 as a maximum and R20 as a minimum per month depending on sales made. The beneficiaries sustain their livelihoods and their dependents through monthly salaries they get from the project depending on sales. The beneficiaries have indicated that they have received training on art and crafts provided by Mninizo Trading and Urban Icon, however, no certificates were issued to those who were trained by Mninizo. The beneficiaries indicated that the cooperative was registered.

Of the concern was that there is no direct link to the markets where they can sell their products. One other challenge was that the project depends on the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform for the delivery and supply of materials that they use for production, which tend to be delivered later than expected. Looking at the income that they normally make on a monthly basis the situation cannot sustain the project hence some members decided to walk away from the project and stay at home. The graph below indicates the perception of beneficiaries towards the status CRDP's contribution to business services.

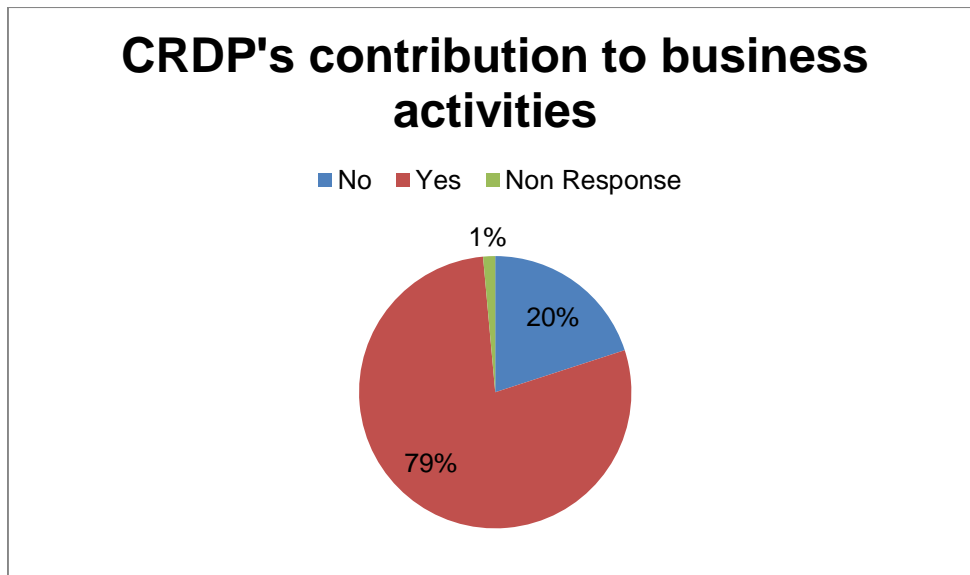


Figure 9: CRDP's contribution to business activities

Figure 9 indicates that 79% of the respondents showed that CRDP contributed to the establishment of business activities in the area. Twenty percent tend to differ with the fact that the programme contributed to the establishment of business activities, while 1% of the respondents could not respond to the question. As a result, this is evidenced by the availability of the Macena garden which is now producing vegetables and selling to the communities within and around Muyexe village at affordable prices. It was also indicated that this has cut the distance which the community members had to travel to town to buy some of the vegetables that are now sold at the garden.

4.4.11 Members of the households employed in the CRDP projects

Job creation is necessary for poverty alleviation and sustainable development for sustainable rural livelihoods. However, it is worth noting that the majority of the jobs created in these projects were for a short term period based on the life span of each project i.e. three to five days, two to three weeks, one to six months and twelve to twenty four months. As a result, only few permanent jobs were created at the projects that are currently running such as the Macena garden, Poultry and Brick laying projects, post

office, Creche and satellite police station. The status on the number of household members employed is presented in **figure 10**.

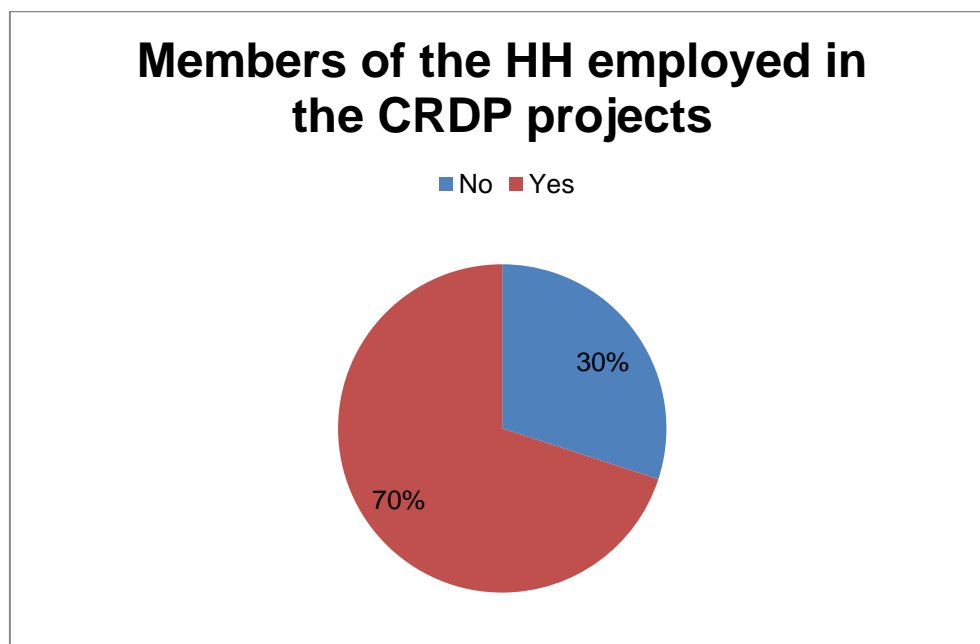


Figure 10: Members of the households employed in the CRDP projects

Figure 10 indicates that 70% of the respondents showed that some member/s of their households were employed in the CRDP projects, while 30% indicated that none of their household members were employed in the CRDP projects.

4.4.12 Employment alternatives and job creation in Muyexe.

Central to the three-pronged CRDP strategy is an employment creation model. The model was to create para-development specialists at ward level. The specialists would be equipped to train and mentor selected community members who are unemployed. These community members were to be employed for a minimum of two-years using the Expanded Public Works Programme principles. In Muyexe, for example, the job creation model was to potentially secure one job per household, in effect creating 900 jobs. One of the conditions of this employment was that each of the employees share 50% of

her/his wages with her/his household (CRDP Framework, 2009). However, progress to date indicates that where contractors have employed local people through the EPWP, CWP or NARYSEC, short-term jobs have been created (DRDLR, CRDP Evaluation Report, 2013).

According to Census (2011) of the 48 065 economically active people in the Greater Giyani municipality, 47, 0% are unemployed. The unemployment rate among the youth (15 – 34 years) is higher at 61, 2 %. Key sectors of the local economy are manufacturing, trade, catering, government, finance, transport, communications and agriculture. The labour force consists of skilled and semi-skilled people and also a large percentage of unskilled people. All these suggest that unemployment is still a major challenge in the area. According to Muyexe Progress Report of February 2014, the table below indicates the types of jobs created per project and duration.

Table 5: Types of jobs created per project and duration

| Type of jobs | No. of people employed | Duration |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| Construction of MPCC building | 36 | 75 days |
| Irrigation system for Macena garden | 18 | 14 days |
| Satellite police station & SANDF | 1 | Permanent |
| Rain water harvesting tanks | 60 | 6 months |
| Households survey | 36 | 3 Weeks |
| Fifa World Cup | 8 | 1 month |
| Renovations of school (building of toilets and four classrooms) and Building of a new block | 27 15 | 1 month |
| 383 RDP Houses 3 model houses and sanitation | 311 | 6 Months |
| Construction of computer lab | 8 | 2 months |
| Construction of a new ECD Centre | 8 (construction) and 10 (practitioners and other workers at the centre) | 2 months Ongoing for 24 months |
| Construction of visitors room/ area | 8 | 2 months |
| Manganyi fencing | 6 | 1 month |
| Macena fencing | 6 | 1 month |
| Fencing; 17km buffer zone | 70 | 6 months |

| | | |
|---|----|-----------|
| Fencing; 17km grazing land | 70 | 6 months |
| Fencing; 10km arable land | 70 | 6 months |
| Pump house and borehole in the grazing land | 4 | 5 days |
| Drilling of borehole in Macena gardens | 2 | 3 days |
| Construction of a dipping tank and crush pen | 6 | 3 months |
| Construction of Manganyi reservoir | 6 | 3 months |
| Installation of solar energy to the ECD | 4 | 4 days |
| Buffer zone, arable and grazing fence maintenance workers | 6 | 24 months |
| Electrification of new extension (400 households) | 9 | 2 months |
| Installation of purification plant | 22 | 2 months |
| Construction of two drinking troughs and reservoir | 07 | 3 months |
| Drilling of two boreholes and storage facilities | 14 | 3 months |

Acknowledging that job creation is necessary for poverty alleviation and sustainable development for sustainable rural livelihoods, the CRDP committed to create jobs through various initiatives. Amongst others, these initiatives include infrastructure development, rural enterprise development and agricultural related projects. The table below shows the types of employment and projects created jobs in the area.

Table 6: Types of employment and projects created jobs

| Project | Type of employment |
|--|---|
| Irrigation system for Macena garden | Installation of irrigation system |
| Satellite police station | Cleaner |
| Rain water harvesting tanks | Installation of rain water harvesting tanks |
| Fencing of household vegetable gardens | Fencing |
| Households survey | Household profiling |
| Renovations of school | Building of toilets and classrooms |
| Construction of RDP houses VIP toilets | Building |
| Computer lab- construction | Building |
| Construction of ECD center | Building |
| Macena fencing | Fencing |
| Fencing 17km grazing land | Fencing |
| Fencing 10km arable land | Fencing |
| Pump house and borehole in the grazing land | Installation of pump house and borehole |
| Drilling of borehole in Macena gardens | Drilling of borehole |
| Construction of a dipping tank and crush pen | Construction |
| Installation of solar energy to the ECD | Installation of solar energy |
| Construction of sports centre | Construction |
| Poultry project | Construction |
| Electrification of new extension households | Digging of trenches |
| Installation of purification plant | Construction, digging of trenches |
| Construction of two drinking troughs and reservoir | Construction, digging of trenches |
| Drilling of two boreholes and storage facilities | Construction, digging of trenches |
| Construction of a clinic | Construction |
| Nandoni to Nsami dam pipe line | Digging of trenches and pipe laying |

4.4.13 Challenges faced with in relation to employment

Over and above, it is worth noting that these jobs created were for a short term basis and also at the very bottom end of the compensation scales, thus suggesting that the employees are general labourers and do not manage and take decisions in these enterprises. This is again observed to be detrimental to the CRDP objectives of ensuring

that rural residents have the requisite capabilities and competences to run enterprises to the satisfaction of the last two phases i.e. enterprise development and rural industries. As a result, this shows that employment is still a major challenge in the CRDP site of Muyexe due to lack of sustainable job creation activities.

4.4.14 Life improvement since the launch of the CRDP

According to the CRDP Framework (2009) the basic thrust of Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) 2009 – 2014 is to improve the living conditions of all South Africans and contribute to building a better Africa and a better world. Amongst others, the MTSF outlines ten strategic priorities. The CRDP arises from the strategic objective number 3: comprehensive rural development strategy linked to land and agrarian reform and food security. The MTSF has further stated that the CRDP will include the following elements:

- Aggressive implementation of land reform policies
- Stimulation of agricultural production with a view to contributing to food security
- Rural livelihoods and food security
- Improvement of service delivery to ensure quality of life
- Implementation of a development programme for rural transport
- Skills development
- Revitalisation of rural towns
- Exploring and supporting non-farm economic activities
- Institutional capacity development
- Cooperative development

The status on the improvement of life since the launch of the CRDP is presented in **figure 11**.

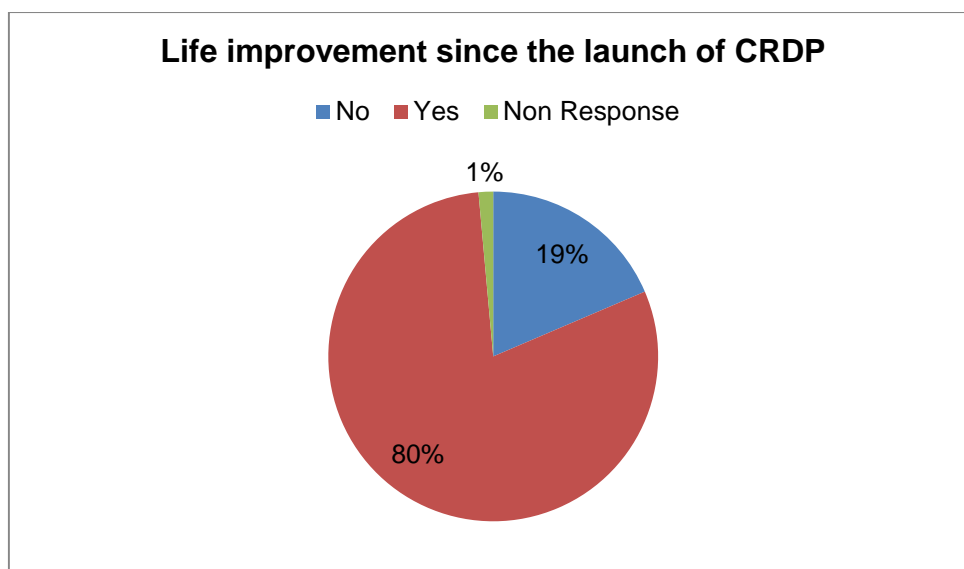


Figure 11: Life improvement since the launch of the CRDP

Figure 11 shows that the majority (80%) of the respondents indicated that their lives improved since the launch of the CRDP in the area, while 19% disagreed and 1% did not respond to the question.

4.4.15 Community participation and implementation of the CRDP projects

One of the interventions for social mobilisation of communities is organising the people residing in rural areas into organised communities of interests through formations dedicated to ensure that residents of rural areas participate actively and take ownership of the development initiatives happening in their areas from planning to implementation.

In this regard, the Councils of Stakeholder (COS) was established in the CRDP site of Muyexe. Amongst other functions, Councils of Stakeholder serve to enforce compliance with national norms and standards for the state's support to the CRDP beneficiaries. They also serve to ensure compliance to agreed codes of conduct in the partnership agreements, identify community needs and initiate project planning and play an oversight and monitoring role.

However, of concern is that, the findings showed that limited progress has been made

towards mobilising and empowering communities. In this CRDP case study site respondents claimed that the COS is not consulting adequately with the wider community in decision making and implementation of the projects. Low levels of education and skills were also identified as key challenges influencing the extent to which the community is empowered and mobilised to participate in their own development.

The strategic objective of the CRDP is to facilitate integrated development and social cohesion through participatory approaches in partnership with all sectors of society. For development to be meaningful and sustainable, the beneficiaries should not be seen as spectators but as contributors in their own development. It is also important to include the poor in decision making at local level by involving and consulting them in the process from the start in line with Batho Pele principles (CRDP Framework, 2009). The level of involvement by the community in the decision making of the projects is presented in **figure 12**.

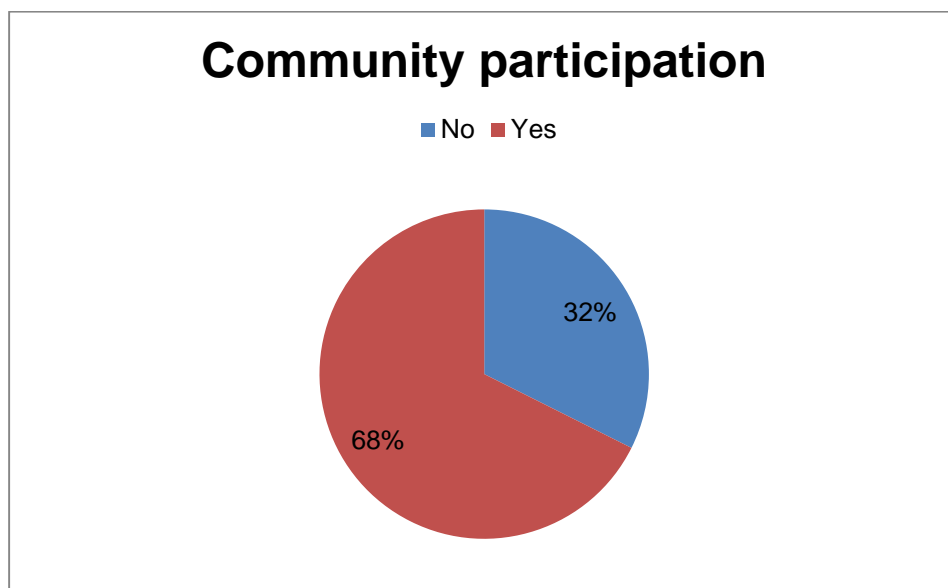


Figure 12: Community participation

Figure 12 indicates that 68% of respondents were of the view that members of the community were fairly involved in the meetings to discuss the projects to be implemented, followed by 32% of the respondents who could not agree on the matter.

However, it is worth noting that even though the community members took part in the meetings held, some of the respondents indicated that most of their suggestions were not implemented or taken into consideration as intended during the implementation of the projects.

4.4.17 Gender equality and vulnerable groups in implementation of CRDP

Training and equipping youth and women for all forms of production and business initiatives in enabling them to think and acting strategically and making sound decisions is one of the CRDP's objectives. The CRDP's main concerns is that rural communities, especially women, youth and people living with disabilities should be empowered through facilitating and mediating strong organisational and institutional capabilities and abilities to take full charge of their collective destiny (CRDP Framework, 2009). According to this study, the benefits of the CRDP have successfully reached most members of the target groups, including women, youth, and the unemployed. However, the CRDP has had challenges with targeting people living with disabilities, simply because most of the projects implemented in the area were hard labour (construction and fencing).

The level of gender equality representation especially on women, people living with disabilities and the youth through facilitating and mediating strong organisational and institutional capabilities and abilities during the implementation of the projects is presented in **Figure 13**.

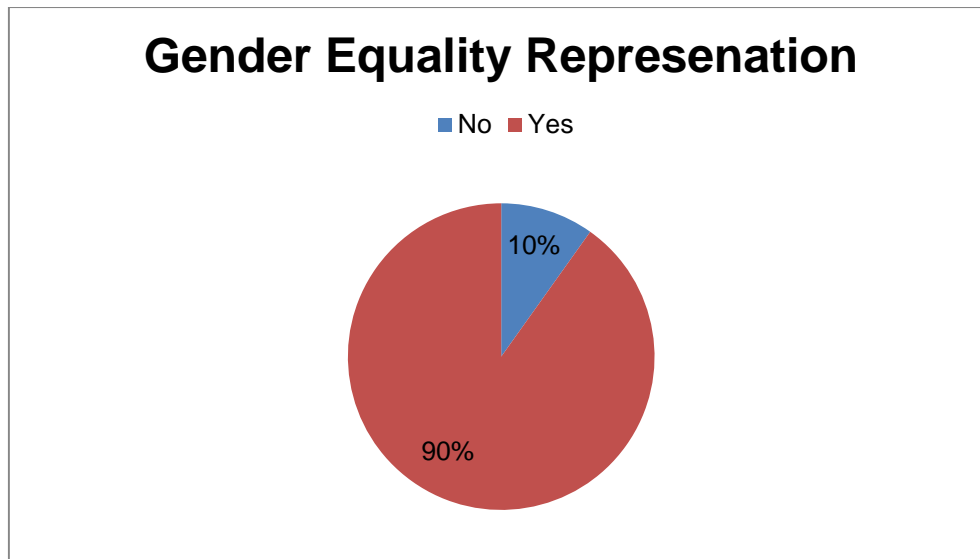


Figure 13: Gender equality and vulnerable groups in CRDP Projects

Figure 13 shows that 90% of the respondents indicated that most designated groups e.g. women and youth, were empowered during the implementation of the projects. The majority of women and youth were employed and trained in most of the projects. Only 10% of the participants are in disagreement. This is evidenced by the fact that most projects such as the Macena garden, bricks making, poultry, households survey, Seriti (CWP) and NARYSEC programme recruited many women and youth to participate in the projects.

4.4.18 Skills Development

Acknowledging that skills development is critical for sustainable rural livelihoods, the CRDP committed to provide training to people residing in rural areas in order to build the required skills base. Strengthening education and training initiatives through centres of excellence in rural areas is one of the CRDP's key focuses. The status on skills development in the area of study is presented in the figure below:

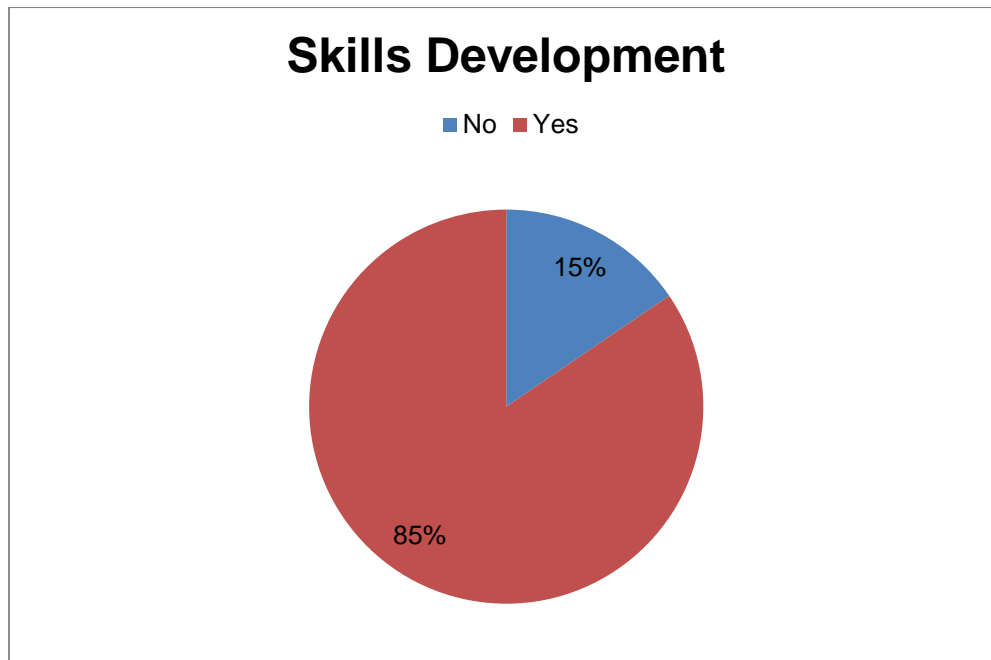


Figure 14: Skills Development

Figure 14 shows that majority of the respondents i.e. 85% indicated that community members were trained on technical skills to improve employability and capacity building initiatives. While 15% indicated that there was no training of community members.

4.4.18.1 Types of training provided

The training programmes implemented thus far to build the necessary skills amongst the people of Muyexe is presented in **table 7** indicate the types of training provided to the community members.

Table 7: Types of training provided

| No | Types of training |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | Computer Literacy |
| 2. | Bookkeeping |
| 3. | Business Management |
| 4. | Arts and Crafts (bead making) |
| 5. | Dairy Farming |
| 6. | Horticulture |
| 7. | Household Profiling |
| 8. | Construction (house building) |
| 9. | Disaster Management |
| 10. | Pest Control |
| 11. | Crop production |
| 12. | Fencing |
| 13. | Brick Laying |
| 14. | Project Management |
| 15. | Paving |
| 16. | Sewing |
| 17. | Catering |
| 18. | I-school project (ICT) |
| 19. | APPDP |
| 20. | Fruit Production |
| 21. | Soil Preparation |
| 22. | Environmental Awareness |
| 23. | Governance Training |
| 24. | Waste Management |
| 25. | Chain Saw Operations |
| 26. | Marketing |
| 27. | Irrigation |
| 28. | Cooperative Training |
| 30. | Livestock Production |
| 31. | Small Holder Farming |
| 32. | Manufacturing of Clothes and Design |

4.4.19 Improvement on Food Security

In line with the objective of creating sustainable and vibrant rural communities, constant availability of affordable food supplies to rural communities is at the centre of the CRDP's food security interventions. The government's departments together with other stakeholders committed to assist households in the CRDP sites to produce their own food. In an attempt to do so, household gardens were established in the area of Muyexe. Of concern is that the households' gardens do not show signs of viability, almost all of gardens are not in operation. However, the observation was that these gardens are not intending to be graduated to the subsistence level. The Macena Community Garden was also established and registered as a cooperative in 2009. The project has 17 hectares of land used mainly for crop production. The project is assisting in improving the livelihoods of the beneficiaries to be food secured. The Muyexe Poultry Project was also established as another food security intervention in the area. The level on food security intervention in the area of Muyexe is presented in **figure 15**.

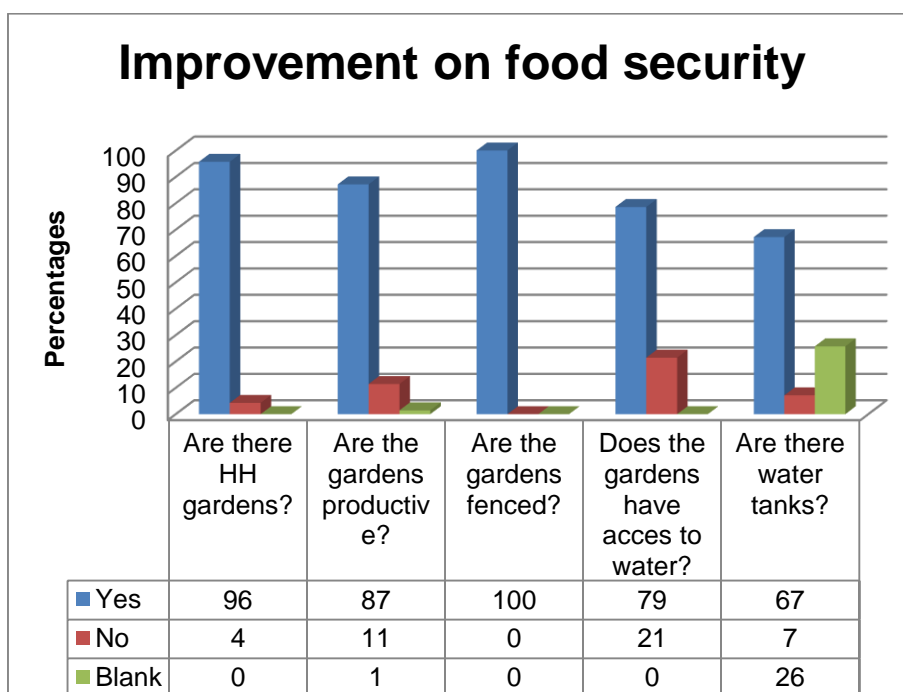


Figure 15: Improvement on food security

The figure above indicates that about 96% of the respondents indicated that there are household gardens established in the area, while 4% indicated that there are no household gardens. In terms of the productiveness of the gardens, 87% stated that the gardens are productive, however, production is only in the community garden (Macena) and 11% said they are not. As a result, this is in contradiction to the status on fencing as all the respondents indicated that the gardens are fenced. A total of 79% respondents indicated that the gardens have access to water, while 29% said they do not have access to water. To answer the question on the installation of water tanks (if there is no access to water) about 67% of respondents indicated that there are water tanks, 7% said there are no water tanks and about 26% of the respondents did not answer the question.

4.4.20 Challenges experienced at the gardens

It was indicated during the data collection process that most of the household gardens are not productive due to shortage of water as they only get water once or twice in week or two. Therefore, even if there are some water tanks installed water is still a challenge particularly when there is no rain. Although there is production in the community garden, the community can only plough only certain parts of the garden since the available borehole is unable to produce enough water to irrigate the entire hectares of the garden.

4.4.21 The beneficiary perceptions on the CRDP Programme

The respondent's opinion on the achievement of the CRDP objectives is presented in **figure 16**.

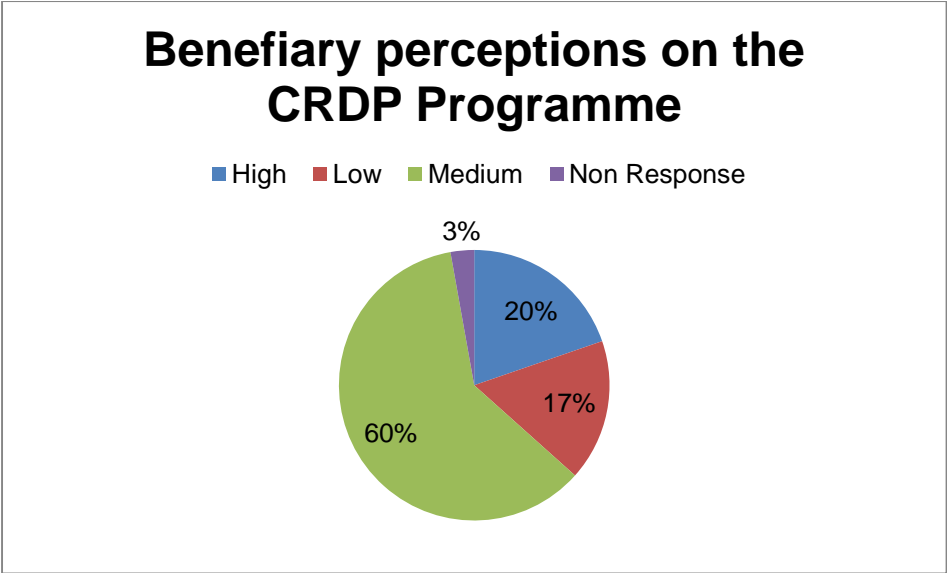


Figure 16: Beneficiary perceptions on the CRDP Programme

Figure 16 shows percentage of the community’s opinion on how the CRDP programme has achieved its objectives. About 60% of the respondents showed that the programme’s objectives were met at a medium rate; followed by 20% of those who said the objectives were met at a higher rate and 17% who said the objectives were met at a low rate. However, the majority of the respondents indicated that a lot still needs to be done for the community to be fully developed.

4.4.22 Rating on the overall success/achievement of the CRDP

The overall success of the CRDP is presented in **figure 17**.

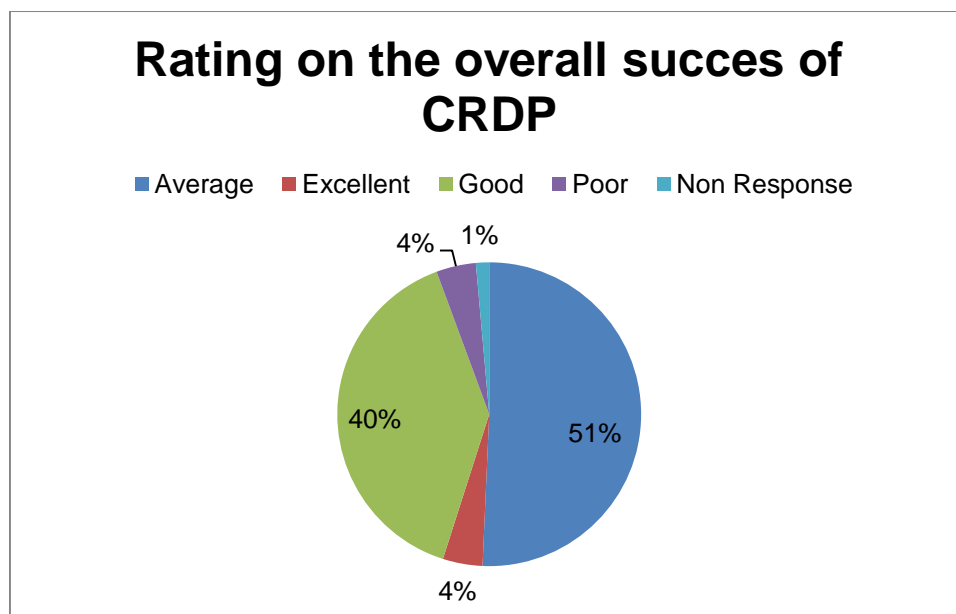


Figure 17: Overall success of the CRDP

The figure above shows the rating on the overall success of the CRDP Programme in the area of Muyexe. A total of 51% of the respondents rated the success of the project at an average level, followed by 40%, i.e. good. This figure equates to the total number of respondents who rated the success of the CRDP as poor and excellent, both at 4%.

4.4.23 The overall challenges of the CRDP

One of the main objectives of the CRDP is providing basic and social needs for rural communities, including water, sanitation, electricity, housing, food and etc. The findings of the study indicates that even though there is an improvement more especially on provision of basic and social needs such as housing, electricity, VIP toilets, water tanks and etc., a lot still need to be done for the area to be developed. Benefits of certain infrastructure investments in terms of meeting basic and social needs are not achieved.

This is evidenced by the fact that quality of roads remains in very poor condition which lead to negative impact to the growth of rural economies and local enterprises. Transportation problems and unemployment are still haunting the area of Muyexe even after the implementation of the CRDP. Inadequate water supply remains a challenge in the area even though there are existing infrastructure for water. The respondents also indicated that some of the infrastructure that were to be implemented in the area have yet to be built e.g. improvement on road, construction of a mall, taxi rank and police station. It was also indicated that construction of infrastructure such as a community library and hall were long started but still under construction, which is way long than expected. It was also indicated that theft is a major challenge in the area because some of the infrastructure that were provided in the area such as borehole pumps, a mini truck and brick making machine were stolen in the area.

Amongst others, job creation and poverty reduction benefits are not being sufficiently achieved due to insufficient skills or experience and provision of effective business support services. This is backed by the fact that even though many projects that were believed to have created jobs during implementation, it is worth noting that such jobs were only for a short term basis depending on the project and there was no sustainability. In terms of skills development, most of the trainings offered to the community were on the job training and informal training meaning the beneficiaries have nothing to show of this, for instance they were not awarded any certificates.

Even though it was strongly believed by the respondents that there is a production in the community garden, it was also indicated that market access is problematic due to poor road conditions for transportation and selling of goods produced to the nearest town and villages. Health care facilities are still a major challenge in the area due to lack of medical supplies, inadequate staffing, irregular opening hours and poor ambulance services due to lack of adequate road. The ICT centre that was constructed has become a 'white elephant' as there is no access to internet.

4.4.23 Conclusion

This chapter presented the results that were collected from the questionnaires, which include the actual responses of the respondents in relation to the questions asked in the questionnaires under specific themes. The findings presented the views of the beneficiaries, while assessing their level of satisfaction on the impact of the CRDP in the area. The findings indicated the level of satisfaction from the respondents regarding the provision of some basic and social services in the area such as ECD centre, renovation and extension of schools, sports centre, clinic, water, RDP houses, VIP toilets, electricity, Thusong centre and post office. However, the findings indicated that a lot still needs to be done regarding the development of infrastructure such as road which is still gravel and can be difficult to use particularly during rainy times.

The other challenge raised was on the level of employment and job creation in the area. It was raised that most of the jobs created in the area were only for a short term basis, with very low wages and were not sustainable. Therefore, more employment and income generating initiatives still need to be initiated or strengthened in the community to ensure that most members of the family work, produce products not only for family consumption but surplus for income generation. Looking at the enterprises and cooperatives established, it was indicated that they are not sustainable as they cannot generate income for those who are working on them to get a monthly income to support their families.

CHAPTER FIVE: ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

5.1 Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to present an analysis and discussion of research results presented in chapter four of the dissertation. The analysis and discussion of results is done in the context of literature review as presented in chapter two. The primary purpose of this research is to evaluate the impact of the CRDP interventions in Muyexe rural area and the extent to which the programme has facilitated rural development and its potential to improve quality of life of rural populations. The chapter is divided into sections and subsections. These are: the demographic implications of South Africa; the socio-economic implications for the programme; access to social and basic services; employment alternative and job creation; the level of community participation; gender equality; skills development; food security; success and challenges of the CRDP.

5.2 Social and Demographic challenges and opportunities for CRDP

Most of the South African population lives in poverty, with the poorest in desperate conditions struggling to live. This means that many people in South Africa have not yet experienced the benefits of the newly found freedom. According to Global Insight's 2009 report, about 15.9 million South Africans live in poverty; and of these, 11 million people, representing 69 per cent of all South Africans that live in poverty, live in rural areas. South Africa remains one of the most socially unequal countries worldwide. The findings of this study indicate that over the past 20 years of freedom, the poor still do not have access to socio-economic gains. Instead capital flow is easily accessible amongst people who already have access to resources.

The gap between the poor and the rich does not decrease but is highly increasing, which is a cause of concern. Those who are in power continue to enjoy the fruits of democracy while the poor get even poorer. Rural areas are characterised by poor households as well as high dependence on subsistence farming, social grants and allowances from family members working in the cities and mines for food security. Statistically, rural areas are home to a larger numbers of women than men, as well as young people under

the age of 20 who are not economically active.

The challenges of poverty and unemployment are due to limited access to basic municipal services such as housing, water, sanitation and electricity, as well as a lack of good quality social services (education and health) as well as transport services (buses). Hence in order to address the challenges of poverty faced in rural areas, a successful rural development strategy is critical for the long term sustainability of vibrant and equitable rural communities.

The government policy on rural development was informed by the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP). The objectives of the CRDP were to mobilise and empower rural communities to take control of their own development with the support of government through employment creation; provision of basic services to address the needs of communities in rural areas ranging from running clean water, sanitation, housing, electricity, health and other socio-economic development issues such as education, ICT, entrepreneurs and cooperatives, roads and transportation.

5.3 CRDP Interventions for Poverty Reduction in Rural South Africa

Research results for this study indicate that it is not just the lack of income which determines poverty and underdevelopment in rural communities. Lack of access to basic human needs such as water, sanitation, housing, energy and health facilities creates a cycle of poverty from which it becomes extremely difficult for rural communities to break. The central objective of the rural development strategies that were implemented since 1994 to 2009 was to improve the living conditions of all South Africans and in particular the poorest communities. The provision of basic services with the focus on creating opportunities for all South Africans to develop their full potential, improving production and households income through job creation, improving living conditions through better access to basic physical and social services such as housing, water, sanitation, electricity, transport, health care, education and training, and establishing a social security system to protect the poor became a key focus of government (DRDLR, CRDP Framework, 2009).

Therefore, since 1994 and to date access to very basic needs in poor rural areas in South Africa is still a challenge. After twenty years of democracy in South Africa, poverty and underdevelopment remain defining features of rural communities, regardless of the number of strategies that were put in place to address the challenges of poverty since 1994. The continued marginalisation and social barring of the majority of the people of South Africa constitute a serious threat to economic development and poverty reduction. Yet the government still has to deal with the socio-economic challenges of unemployment, poverty, underdevelopment, inequality and rural marginalisation.

Findings of this study indicate that economic and social development in rural areas, the provision of efficient trained manpower, planning, finance and transport systems are crucial. Therefore education, training and planning are necessary economic factors for rural development. This research indicates that without adequate and affordable transport systems on the other hand people cannot reach markets, while isolated regions are demoted and urban areas become congested due to movement of people from their places of origin to nearby towns and cities in search for employment and better services. Therefore, reducing poverty requires clear and integrated policies which address simultaneously the political, economic, social causes and effects of poverty.

The findings of this research are aligned to some key objectives of the National Development Plan, 2030 vision, which is that South Africa needs to invest in a strong network of economic infrastructure designed to support the country's medium and long-term economic and social objectives. This economic infrastructure is a requirement for providing basic services such as electricity, water, sanitation, telecommunications and public transport, and it needs to be robust and extensive enough to meet industrial, commercial and household needs.

Of concern is that in South Africa, different government development programmes are implemented as a means of developing rural communities. However, several programmes which begun with great eagerness but were left uncompleted due to poor planning as a result of lack of money for completion and maintenance thereof. For example, schools are being built but due to lack of adequate teachers and other resources such as books, labs for experiments and computers are abandoned to

deteriorate. While clinics, health centres and hospitals are been started but either left uncompleted or even when completed they remain unused due to a lack of medical and clinical facilities. This can be attributed to lack of planning and inefficient utilisation of the resources, human capacity and financials. Moreover, roads infrastructures are being improved from traditional to tarred, but a few years after implementation are then dilapidated due to natural and human causes and end up being in worse conditions as a result of lack of maintenance.

As discussed above, Muyexe village as the area of study is also faced with the challenges as discussed above. With regard to the provision of socio-economic services, interventions such as access to education, training, ICT, health care, water, sanitation, housing and electricity were established. However, of concern is that the established infrastructure are currently not serving the purpose due to lack of finance and manpower for maintenance and continuity. With regard to access to clean tap water on a daily basis to improve livelihoods, there is still a major challenge in the area due to theft wherein some of the pumps from boreholes were stolen and while other boreholes that are broken are not fixed as there is no money to maintain them. A common concern raised by the beneficiaries is that the budget for maintenance has not been put in place with the level of infrastructure development.

As a result, the infrastructure become damaged with no budget to fix them. Some of the boreholes were installed but they are unable to pump water due to lack of water where they are being drilled. This simply suggests that the process of drilling of boreholes in the area was not adequately done. Other projects which seek to address the long term provision of water in the area were initiated, but still incomplete due to many factors including lack of finance and poor planning. Theft is also a major challenge in the area wherein most of the infrastructure that were put in place such as computers, network cables, and other production machines were stolen without a trace of where and who are the people responsible. Other infrastructure such as sports centres and libraries are being built, but they are not fully serving the purpose due to lack of some facilities needed to render services. As a result, such infrastructure end up being white elephants as they are not functional as such.

The quality of roads remains in very poor conditions in the area of Muyexe and this is believed to be undermining the growth of the economy and local enterprises. The state of the roads and difficult terrain in the area make it difficult for the community to access transport to and from the area particularly during and after rainy seasons as the road becomes more damaged. The community strongly believe that developing tarred roads will make a huge investment to the economic status of the area and open more doors for business development. It will also ensure regular movement and easy transportation of goods and services in and outside the village.

With regard to the provision of electricity, interventions were made wherein prepaid electricity were installed to the households which had no electricity in partnership with Eskom. Solar street lights were also installed. However, of a concern is that due to continuous challenge of unemployment amongst the community members, access to energy is still a major challenge as they cannot afford to purchase electricity as source of energy for household use. Instead, people are still forced to collect fire woods for cooking and keeping warm during winter and end up only using electricity for lights and other appliances which tend to consume less energy i.e. TVs and radios.

As discussed above, the provision of access to basic and socio-economic services is not sustainable, therefore, the adequate meaning of rural development in Muyexe case study was not comprehensive. The community on its own will not be able to maintain and sustain the provided infrastructure due to lack of adequate planning, manpower, training and finances for maintenance while ensuring continuity and sustainability thereof.

According to Statistics South Africa Census of 2011 under the Greater Giyani Local Municipality, the provision of social and basic services such as flush toilets connected to sewerage was at 11.9%, while the weekly refuse removal was at 11.7%, piped water inside dwelling units at 13, 4% and lastly electricity at 89%. This shows that there is still a need to ensure the establishment of social and basic services, while strengthening adequate access to services in rural areas such as Muyexe to become vibrant and equitable areas where people will live in harmony. Therefore, based on the context of theories and literature discussed on rural development, CRDP like many other Rural

Development Strategies and Programmes in South Africa failed to address the challenges that are faced by most rural communities such as Muyexe village in the Greater Giyani Local Municipality.

5.4 CRDP and Employment Creation for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods

Unemployment is a critical contributor to poverty in South Africa. Many of the poor South Africa are unemployed and cannot work to earn an income. According to the Department of Public Works (2004) all work opportunities in South Africa are combined with skills development and training, which aims to increase the ability to participate and earn income. The biggest challenge faced by South Africans in rural area is that the majority of the population lack the skills that would enable them to be employable in the market.

Sustainable livelihoods encompass material and social resources as well as the capabilities and activities required to secure a means of living. A livelihood is considered to be sustainable when one can cope with and recover from stresses, shocks and preserve its capacities in future. A sustainable livelihood enables poor households to build assets and reduce their vulnerability to economic and financial shocks, and improve household conditions in general. According to the Department of Public Works (2004), around 25% of South Africans were unemployed and a very high proportion of the unemployment have never worked, 70% of youth aged 15 to 34 and 59% of the total number of unemployed. As a result, the poor households show a very low participation in the labour market due to lack of income. The employment problem in South Africa is chronic and structural, and this is due to the higher number of people who are entering the labour market which exceed the number of available jobs in the markets.

Knowing that job creation is necessary for poverty alleviation and sustainable development for rural livelihoods, the CRDP committed to create jobs through various rural development initiatives. Amongst others, these initiatives include infrastructure development, rural enterprise development and agricultural related projects. As part of alleviating poverty in the area of Muyexe, the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme was to place great emphasis on the development of new and the

rehabilitation of existing economic infrastructure.

In this regard, enterprises and cooperatives were established in order to alleviate poverty and improve the level of employment in the area. The enterprises established were ranging from community gardens to arts and crafts projects. However, of a concern is that the aforementioned enterprises and cooperatives are failing to serve a purpose. These enterprises and cooperatives are more of a survivalist nature. They generate income below the poverty line, with no paid employees and minimal asset value hence most of the members resigned from participating in the enterprises. Therefore, this does not support one of the CRDP objectives of creating employment through enterprises and cooperatives to help income generating initiatives in rural areas.

The enterprises and cooperatives established in the area of study are struggling to produce their products and generate income to alleviate poverty. There is lack of sustainability, self-reliance, market perspective and entrepreneurial spirit. As a result, the entrepreneurial benefits generated in the village will still depend on government's continual presence or the availability of donor subsidies. This is due to lack of access to credit, information about markets, business and negotiating experience. The enterprises and cooperatives are also characterised by social distance from the markets and discrimination by the formal financial institutions which deprives them from the power needed to interact with others. Therefore, in this regard poverty cannot be reduced unless amongst other things, provision of access to finance and markets is made. This can enable such enterprises to build assets and reduce their vulnerability to economic and financial shocks, thus contributing to building sustainable livelihoods and generating income.

Looking at the types of jobs that were created from the projects implemented in Muyexe, of concern is that most of the jobs created were seasonal, of short term, paid low wages and could not ensure adequate incomes and labour standards. For example, in most of the CWP projects workers were paid R67 per day which is very low taking into account the high dependency ratio in rural area. This is incongruent with the objective of sustainable rural livelihoods and building skills that will drive and sustain the last phases of CRDP i.e. enterprise development and rural industries. Also worth noting is that the

jobs that were created were at the very bottom end of the compensation scales thus suggesting that the employees of the jobs created are general labourers and do not manage and take decisions in those projects. As a result, this is against the objective of ensuring that all workers are entitled to a living wage and human conditions of employment in a healthy and safe working environment.

The jobs that were created did not provide a long term solution to the problems of unemployment in the area. This simply means that most of the people who were employed in such projects were faced by the challenges of unemployment thereafter. This is again observed to be detrimental to the CRDP objectives of ensuring that rural residents have the requisite capabilities and competences to run enterprises to the satisfaction of the last two phases i.e. enterprise development and rural industries.

The other frustration raised was that outside contractors were being used instead of local capacity. The contractors were not even following specifications to utilise local labour in the implementation of the projects, and they left after the completion of the projects. Rural development initiatives are still failing to address the challenge of equality and unemployment in the country. While the other focus of the RDP, 1994 was on creating productive employment opportunities at a living wage for all South Africans, South Africa in general is still confronted with high unemployment rate. This means that supply side interventions have only limited potential to address the unemployment problem.

Therefore, the government of South Africa is still faced with the challenge of creating more job opportunities, improving conditions of employment, and minimising job losses experienced in the economy. Also support must be provided to the survivalist enterprises to enable people to improve their standard of living and in so doing it is necessary to make the distinction between entrepreneurs or small enterprises and self-employed survivalist enterprises that operate in the second economy. This simply suggest that there is a strong need for South Africa to change the way it does business with regard to rural development, otherwise the country will forever be developing.

Therefore, in order to provide long term solutions to unemployment in rural areas like

Muyexe, the rural development programmes such as the CRDP must seek to establish job-creation programmes that tackle employment generation through the promotion of a wide range of activities as possible for rural areas. The wider the range of jobs and activities, the higher the demand for services locally, the more local markets will grow, and the more money will circulate in rural areas. Local economic development can be achieved by building on and utilising the local natural resource base and the opportunities provided by actual and potential trade links within an area. The job creation programmes must ensure adequate incomes and labour standards, link into local, regional or national development programmes and promote education, training, community capacity and empowerment.

Such job creation programmes must also cater for the provision of education, training and the involvement of communities in the process so that they are empowered to contribute to the economy. The programmes should also improve the involvement of women and youth in the poorest rural areas such as Muyexe and create assets such as water, electricity, sanitation, and clinics which will have significant socio-economic benefits which meets women basic needs. According to Stats South Africa, 2011 census, the unemployment rate at the area of Greater Giyani Municipality was still high at 42%, while the youth unemployment rate was at 61.2%. This simply shows that employment rate is still far to be corrected in within the area.

5.5 Community Participation in CRDP Projects for Rural Areas

Participation is an ongoing vibrant process requiring constant attention in different possibilities for rural development communities. In most cases of development, promoting the interest of communities can be a challenging issue, even if the community can be precisely defined. The diversities of different interests that exist dictate that certain individuals are subject to power as their interests are side-lined. However, participation on the other hand would improve life for the residents of the community by allowing them to work together and develop cooperative relationships, wherein as a group they can trigger further activities in development. In actual fact if a community can

see one positive change they are more likely to get involved and it is important that the achievements are promoted as broadly as possible.

One of the six basic principles of the RDP is a people driven process, according to the RDP Framework, 1994 people's most immediate needs, and it relies in turn on their energies to drive the process of meeting their needs. Regardless of race or gender, or whether they are rural or urban, rich or poor, the people of South Africa must together shape their own future. Therefore, development is not about the delivery of goods to a passive community, it is about active involvement and growing empowerment. Furthermore, people affected must be involved in the programmes by being made part of the decision making on where infrastructure is to be located, by being employed in its construction and by being empowered to manage and administer the programmes.

Organising the people residing in the rural areas into organised communities of interests through formations dedicated to ensure that residents of rural areas participate actively and take ownership of the development initiatives happening in their areas from planning to implementation, is one of the CRDP objective of mobilising and empowering rural communities to take control of their own destiny with the support of government. According to the CRDP Framework, 2009 each and every development site needs to establish a Council of Stakeholders (COS) which is composed of either civil society, government, business, beneficiaries, traditional authorities and other relevant stakeholders.

Amongst other functions, Councils of Stakeholders serve to enforce compliance with national norms and standards for the state's support to the CRDP beneficiaries, ensure compliance to agreed codes of conduct in the partnership agreements as well as identify community needs and initiate project planning and play an oversight and monitoring role at a site level. Moreover, it also serves to improve participation and ownership of the beneficiary community in the CRDP. In this regard, the Muyexe Council of Stakeholder was established in the area of study.

However, the Council could not serve the purpose as discussed above and this was due to the key factors which impacted negatively on the functionality of the COS such as irregular meetings, poor attendance by departmental representatives at COS meetings, the tendency to send uninformed junior staff to meetings which impacts on the ability for efficient decision making. Moreover, community representatives did not receive stipends, there was poor consultation with and feedback to the broader community and beneficiaries and lack of follow up on decisions taken during the meetings.

The COS also did not have any legal power to enforce compliance to the CRDP by the various departments and service providers which was undermining its capability to play its oversight and monitoring role. It was also indicated that the COS was not consulting adequately with the wider community in decision making and implementation of the projects. Low levels of education and skills were also identified as key challenges influencing the extent to which the community was empowered and mobilised to participate in their own development.

One of the strategic objectives of the CRDP was to facilitate integrated development and social cohesion through participatory approaches in partnership with all sectors of society. For development to be meaningful and sustainable the beneficiaries should not be seen as spectators but as contributors in their own development, wherein it is also important to include the poor in decision making at local level by involving and consulting them in the process from the start in line with Batho Pele principles.

Even though community members took part in some of the feedback and discussion meetings held during the implementation of the CRDP in Muyexe, some of the respondents indicated that most of their suggestions were not implemented or taken into consideration as intended during the implementation of the projects. While on the other hand theory of rural development must be responsive to the needs of the community instead of being imposed on them. Members of the community indicated that they were not really involved in the implementation of the projects, as they were not part of the decision making process with regard to which projects were to be implemented and how money should be spent.

Even those who were involved more fully were doubtful about their capacity and role to apply influence. They believed that government officials and municipal councils were in control of decision making and so they were powerless to make change. Some of the members felt that the meetings held to discuss development in the area ignored all of their issues, which they felt needed specific attention. Residents also felt that they were promised similar things even before but nothing happened so they decided not to get involved again. It was also stated that there was no clarity with regard to where responsibilities lie during the implementation of the projects.

Therefore, training of village organisation leaders both male, female and youth must be designed to encourage broadened political participation and to help such leaders to gain access to information to such an extent that they can hold officials of their own organisations and those of the government accountable.

5.6 CRDP and Gender Equality Issues in Rural Development

During the apartheid era girls and women were frequently denied education and training opportunities because of their gender. Furthermore, in the past girls and women were educated and trained to fulfil traditional roles which perpetuate their oppression. Therefore, in all education and training programmes special attention must be given to the special interests of girls and women in order to empower them. This means that adult basic education and training programmes should give special emphasis to women in rural areas as they were previously denied to access education and training.

The key focus of rural development strategies is to ensure that both women and youth are given full and equal role in every aspect of economy and society. Therefore, in developing human resources potential, special attention must be given to women and youth. Programmes for training, education and job creation must enable women and youth to play a full role in the reconstruction and development of their society.

Training youth and women and equipping them for all forms of production and business initiatives in enabling them to think and act strategically, make sound decisions and become efficient project managers is one of the CRDP objectives. One of the CRDP's

main concerns is that rural communities, especially women, youth and people living with disabilities should be empowered through facilitating and mediating strong organisational and institutional capabilities and abilities to take full charge of their collective destiny (DRDLR, CRDP Framework, 2009).

5.7 Skills Development and Rural Development

One of the key objectives of rural development programmes is developing human resources. People, particularly in rural areas, must be involved in decision making processes, in implementation of projects, in new job opportunities that require new skills, managing and governing the society. As a result, in order to empower people, education and training programmes are critical. Human resource development must address the development of human capabilities, abilities, knowledge and knowhow to meet the people's ever growing needs for goods and services to improve their standards of living and quality of life. Furthermore, rural communities should acquire and develop the knowledge and skills necessary for occupational tasks and other social, cultural, intellectual and political roles that are part and parcel of vibrant rural communities.

The achievement of sustainable and effective rural development hinges on the availability of adequate capacity (capabilities and competencies) amongst people residing in rural areas. According to Modernisation Theory, for the transformation to be achieved there must be an investment on the improvement of skills and knowledge amongst the rural communities to be able to make effective use of innovative technologies. Therefore, skills development becomes a critical driver of sustainable rural development. It is also worth noting that the type of skills transferred also play a significant contribution in sustaining rural development and improving rural livelihoods. The provision of skill development opportunities for people to develop themselves in order to improve the quality of their own lives and the standard of living of their communities is a central objective of rural development.

Acknowledging that skills development is critical for sustainable rural livelihoods, the CRDP committed to provide training to people residing in rural areas in order to build

the required skills base. Of a concern is that the question of skills development, education and training continued to be a challenge. This is evidenced by the fact that most of the skills development opportunities offered in the area of study were on the job training. the other challenge was that such trainings were not accredited, which had negative impacts to the beneficiaries in such a way that they were unable to market themselves further in the employment markets due to lack of competency or and qualified certificates acquired during the time of training. While the other challenge was that such training opportunities were only available to a small number of people in the area.

Those who did receive training were very few and mostly limited to NARYSEC participants who were basically youth and women in the enterprises and cooperatives established. Most of the beneficiaries, specifically women, felt that exposure to education and training would enable them to compete with men in the job market. The other concern raised was that the CRDP failed to ensure that the skills provided to the beneficiaries improve employability in the job market and improve rural livelihoods. It was also raised that there is no comprehensive exit strategy in place to ensure that recruits can use skills attained to be self-employed or alternatively to be placed with existing enterprises.

Therefore, there is a need for government programmes such as the CRDP to strengthen and develop integrated systems of education and training that should address the development of knowledge and skills that can be used to produce high-quality goods and services in such a way as to enable the communities to develop their cultures, society and economy. There is also a need to ensure that education, training and development opportunities are provided in accordance with national standards of qualifications rather than offering a one or two day training attendance and regard it as training or skill.

5.8 CRDP and Food Security issues

According to Van der Merwe (2011) food security can be defined as physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious foods which meet an individual's dietary needs and preferences for an active and healthy life. The most important step towards food security in South Africa remains on the provision of productive employment opportunities through land reform, job creation programmes and the restructuring of the economy. The overwhelming majority of the population in the urban and rural areas are net purchasers of staple foods. This is particularly true for poor rural households who are also likely to remain net purchasers of food in the post land reform period. Therefore, policies to ensure low and stable food prices are of crucial importance to the standard of living of the poor communities. It is basically known that the poor always spend a high proportion of their income to food purchases and they lack the bargaining control to achieve rapid increase in their real wage/income in response to increases in food security.

For many countries, one of the main and most basic problems they suffer from is food security. Food security is seen as a poverty reduction measure as it looks at both the supply and demand issues that make countries' food secure. Sometimes the problems of food security may be short term, caused by a specific event such as a conflict, but more often there are long term chronic and structural issues which worsen underlying difficulties associated with fragile ecosystems or harsh climates such as drought conditions (European Commission, 2001).

Therefore, moving a country towards a position of sustainable food security requires donors and recipient countries to adopt comprehensive food security strategies. As well as tackling issues such as irrigation and agricultural practices. These strategies need to address a range of different sectoral issues like health, education, private sector development, trade and so on (European Commission, 2001). Also there is a serious need for the government of South Africa to ensure that sufficient amounts of food through commercial farming are being produced, while developing policies that will emphasise on the realisation of sufficient levels of food security for all the people of South Africa.

The ability of an individual to obtain and maintain adequate access to be food secured is determined by how much money she or he can produce. Therefore, government food security programmes should seek to address both sides of the coin by embarking on how to increase income and production. The security programmes should also address how to best market what is produced and how to ensure that what is being produced is used in the best way. In the past, donors and governments thought more in terms of helping countries to become self-sufficient in food production. However, this frequently led to countries switching to produce commodities which were suited to local agricultural conditions or available more cheaply elsewhere, while ignoring products that could have earned valuable export income (European Commission, 2001).

In South Africa there is a serious need for the government to introduce food security programmes that are committed to implementing comprehensive food security strategy. The strategy should cover everything, from crisis management to improving the nutritional quality of food; from improving infrastructure to increasing non-agricultural income. Such strategies should be drawn up by the government itself with the help of experts in food security programmes.

As part of food security intervention in the area of Muyexe through the CRDP, the government established the household and community gardens for production of vegetables not only to support their families but also to generate the income. However, due to lack of constant water supply, lack of suitable seeds for plantation, and capabilities the gardens never served the purpose, instead they are used for maize meal plantation during summer as it is most likely to rain. Only the community garden served its purpose of producing different crops such as tomatoes, cabbages, spinach, potatoes and other traditional vegetables due to the availability of boreholes which are pumping water for irrigation purposes.

While the other challenges that have been faced by the projects as food security measures were lack of direct formal markets to sell the crops produced during harvesting periods. Instead the vegetables produced from the community garden were sold only to the local communities with less prices to accommodate members of the

community. The other major challenge was that there is no adequate road infrastructure for selling and transporting of products from the garden, which affected the income generation, particularly during harvesting season as per different commodities that could have been sold from the garden. Also the available water supply was never enough for irrigation purposes, of which it was not possible to plough the entire hectares in the garden.

Based on the intervention provided to address the challenges of food security in the area and the challenges observed towards sustainable development of the community, food security and poverty alleviation strategies were not comprehensively addressed. Therefore, there is a serious need to establish efficient transport systems which are keys to economic and social development, not forgetting that without adequate, affordable transport systems people cannot reach jobs, essential markets services and products cannot reach the markets. Therefore, in order to help the rural communities to be sustainable and alleviate poverty, the focus of the government and all other stakeholders involved in developing rural communities must be on sustaining the vital transport systems in rural areas not the other way round.

The other aspect of initiatives or activities that can be provided to rural communities in promoting and ensuring food security in poverty reduction must include measures to assist marketing, transportation, distribution or processing of agricultural and food products. Moreover, rural credit support schemes targeted particularly for women, schemes to improve access to drinking water, sectoral programmes and reforms in the agricultural sector, and reforms in the trade sector should also be included.

5.9 Overall success of the CRDP in Muyexe

According to the CRDP Framework (2009), rural development is about enabling rural people to take control of their destiny, thereby dealing effectively with rural poverty through the optimal use and management of natural resources. The overall success of the CRDP in Muyexe is looked in to what rural development is said to be or aims at achieving in societies. It is acknowledged that there have been major shortcomings in

the delivery of rural infrastructure services. In South Africa, backlogs in infrastructure delivery tend to be very high and are particularly severe in rural areas that still receive less attention despite efforts made to self-finance their infrastructure in the past. CRDP planned to place great emphasis on the development of new and the rehabilitation of existing infrastructure in rural areas.

Interventions were made to ensure access to social and basic services in the area of Muyexe. However, access to some of the services on a daily basis such as running clean water, was still a major challenge in the area. The latter challenge was due to stolen pumps from boreholes and other boreholes that were broken as well as lack of maintenance of the water purification plant. A common concern raised by the beneficiaries is that the budget for maintenance has not kept pace with the level of infrastructure development. As a result, the infrastructure become damaged with no budget to fix them. The other challenges with regard to ICT were that the computers that are available in the computer lab do not serve purpose as such to the community due to lack of internet connection.

Judging from the above statements, a lot still needs to be done in the community of Muyexe in order to ensure a comprehensive development, poverty alleviation and sustainable livelihoods. Just to list a few, the following socio-economic infrastructure are lacking and still need to be developed or improved: roads, production/ marketing stalls, distribution and transport networks, irrigation schemes for small scale farmers, internet cafes, shopping malls, communal sanitation and ablution systems, showers, clinics, libraries for developing a reading nation, rehabilitation and development of schools as centres of excellence, community halls and ABET centres for capacity building and appropriate skills development.

Even though some of the aforementioned infrastructure were built there is also a need to ensure that the developed infrastructure are maintained, functional, accessible to the beneficiaries and serving their purpose at all times to avoid them being white elephants and turned to be a waste of tax payers money. Therefore, it is plausible to argue that CRDP did not meet most of its objectives and goals of comprehensive rural development and poverty alleviation in Muyexe site.

5.10 Overall challenges of the CRDP

Even though a slight progress was made as a result of the CRDP in the area with regard to the provision of basic and social services, a lot still needs to be done for the area to be adequately developed. The benefits of certain infrastructure investments in terms of meeting basic and social needs were not achieved. This is evidenced by the fact that quality of roads remain in very poor condition which lead to negative impact to the growth of rural economies and local enterprises, transportation and unemployment are still haunting the area of Muyexe even after the implementation of the CRDP. Inadequate water supply remains a challenge in the area due to non-functional infrastructure that were established for water supply. These include the boreholes pumps which were stolen, boreholes which were installed but unable to pump water and a water purification plant which was broken and never fixed due to lack of budget for maintenance.

While some of the infrastructure that were said to be on the pipeline for development in the area were still not done e.g. improvement on road, construction of a mall and a taxi rank. It was also indicated that theft is a major challenge in the area because some of the infrastructure that were provided in the area which includes borehole pumps, a bakkie and brick making machine just to list few were stolen.

Amongst others, job creation and food security for poverty reduction remain a challenge due to insufficient skills/experience and provision of effective business support services. This is backed by the fact that even though many projects that were believed to have created jobs during implementation, such jobs were only for a short term depending on the project life span and the jobs were not sustainable. With regard to skills development most of the training services that were offered to the community were on the job and informal training meaning the beneficiaries did not receive accredited certificates showing that they are able to perform some of the skilled technical jobs.

Lack of the direct markets linked to the enterprises and cooperatives established in the area for selling of goods and products was also a major challenge, which affects negatively the production and sustainability to generate income. While some of the

infrastructure that were established which include the sports and ICT centres have become 'white elephants' as they are not been used. The problem being some of the computers were stolen from the computer centre together with the network cables which were damaged and never repaired. Lack of budget put in place for maintenance of the infrastructure to insure continuous usage and availability of services for easy access by the community is also a big challenge.

5.11 Conclusion

This chapter has discussed the findings of the study and the literature reviewed, which specifically addresses aspects pertaining the demographic information of Muyexe, the socio-economic and basic services, employment alternatives and job creation in Muyexe, community participation in the implementation of the CRDP projects, gender equality during the implementation of the CRDP projects, skills development, food security, overall success of the CRDP as well as the overall challenges that were experienced during the implementation of the CRDP in the area of Muyexe.

Despite the slight progress made in achieving sustainable development and reduction of poverty, underdevelopment and poverty are still haunting the community of Muyexe. Lack of access to basic needs such as water, sanitation, transport, roads, communication as well as unemployment rate remain a challenge due to lack of sustainable enterprises that can generate income and create more job opportunities for the community. It was argued that renewed focus on sustainable development and poverty alleviation strategies are crucial.

This requires a move from isolated efforts towards stronger partnerships with coordinated policies, projects and programmes. In order to understand and tackle poverty the starting point is for government and other stakeholders to know and understand what is happening in poor communities that are engaged in informal and survivalist activities and how such activities are carried out. Therefore, there is a serious need for the government of South Africa to develop strategies that help poor households to bridge the effects of hunger, disease, death, unemployment, low levels of education and improve the household conditions in general.

Poverty can be reduced through among other things, provision of access to finance, which can enable poor households to build assets and reduce their vulnerability to economic and financial shocks, thus contributing to building sustainable livelihoods. Therefore, in order to provide long-term solutions to unemployment in rural areas, the rural development strategies must seek to establish job-creation programmes that tackle employment generation through the promotion of a wide range of activities as

possible for rural areas. While the establishment of strategies and policies that are coherent and integrated which will address simultaneously the political, economic, social causes and effects of poverty remain crucial.

The ability of an individual to obtain and maintain adequate access to food security is determined by how much money she or he has to purchase food and how much food he or she can produce. Therefore, there is a need for food security strategies and other poverty alleviation programmes to seek to address both sides of the coin tackling how to increase income and production, how to best market what is being produced and how to ensure that what is produced get to be used wisely. The development, rehabilitation and maintenance of roads infrastructure in the area must be prioritised to ensure safety while travelling and efficient transport systems that will allow people to reach labour and job markets.

Human resource development in form of training and education must be provided to people in the area more especially women, youth and people living with disabilities to develop their capabilities, abilities, knowledge and knowhow to meet their ever growing needs for goods and services to improve their livelihoods. However, people in the area must be involved in their own development through participating in the jobs created from the projects and involved in the decision making of the projects to be implemented. Education and training have a fundamental role to play in the society's development and its fight against poverty. Many studies show that education and training may increase income, reduce gender inequality, improve living standards (social welfare) and contribute to the sustainability of the community. Therefore, there is a serious need to ensure that the educational and training institutions are largely funded to promote human resources in rural areas.

Therefore, it is highly recommended that government agencies must work closely or hand in hand with the NGOs in addressing issues of rural development and poverty alleviation. This means that national systems need to be changed, policies reoriented and work modes strengthened. Therefore, NGOs working in rural development must be strengthened in helping to bring changes in governmental and private market systems. NGOs should also engage actively with government agencies to improve rural services

and concentrate on technical services to overcome constraints and break bottlenecks in relevant economic sectors.

In instances where the government and private sector have not or cannot seem to create necessary service institutions, NGOs may need to create new institutions large enough to provide essential local services on a sustained self-financing basis. Therefore, there is a need for government agencies to establish banks designed as self-sustaining, self-financing which will operate as Rural Credit Projects that will provide banking services to the poor people in rural areas. As income generating projects could not stand alone without credit programmes, while credit programmes could not be successful without the discipline of savings and income generating, skills are required, so training must be provided to the people in rural areas with regard to how to apply for a credit, making repayment and savings.

CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Conclusion

The purpose of the study was to examine the Socio-economic impacts of the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) in Muyexe village. The researcher conducted interviews with households representatives including the beneficiaries of the enterprises and cooperatives established in the area. The availability of the secondary data made it possible for the researcher to identify the challenges faced by rural areas worldwide, as well as the strategies on rural development that were put in place to address such challenges. The provision of access to basic services in rural areas is deemed as an important agent in the reduction of poverty and underdevelopment while strengthening the social capital. The findings of the study indicated the level of satisfaction from the respondents regarding the provision of some of the basic and social services in Muyexe.

Some of the challenges raised by the beneficiaries of the projects that were implemented in Muyexe concerned high level of unemployment in the area. It was raised that most of the jobs that were created during the implementation of the CRDP projects in the area were not sustainable. Therefore, more employment and income generating initiatives still need to be initiated while providing support to the established agricultural and non-agricultural enterprises in the area.

With regard to the enterprises and cooperatives that were established in the area, it was indicated that they are not vibrant as they cannot generate income from their products due to lack of markets for supply, while lack of access to road and transport is also a contributing factor. Therefore, the development of road infrastructure is needed in order to enable easier access to goods and services within Muyexe and the surrounding urban areas. The other challenges that were identified as predominant among the enterprises and cooperatives within the area included: lack of finance, lack of relevant experience

and skills to run the businesses. Other challenges were: lack of professional mentors to coach the emerging entrepreneurs, high cost of transportation of products as well as lack of technology machinery due to the lack of finance to purchase.

Moreover, lack of finances for the maintenance of the established infrastructure such as boreholes, pipes, water purification plants and ICT facilities in the area when broken or damaged was one of the biggest concern. Therefore, budget allocations must cover and cater for the maintenance of such infrastructure in rural municipalities. Importantly, monitoring of such funds must be strengthened to ensure adequate utilisation where services are needed most.

From the arguments and findings presented in this study, it is therefore plausible to argue that socio-economic impacts of CRDP in Muyexe are still yet to be fully realised. A lot more still needs to be done in Muyexe for the village to be developed at a level in which most and not just a few of the goals and objectives of CRDP are realised. Government programmes such as the CRDP are great initiatives, however, they need to be properly implemented so that they are just not good in paper and but also good in practice. Therefore, the findings of this study will assist the government during the planning process on similar programmes.

6.2 Recommendations

The chapter presents the recommendations obtained from the results, evidence, and findings from the study. The recommendations are intended to strengthen the implementation of rural development initiatives such as the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme to have a better model of addressing rural development that will yield tangible results of sustainable development. The evolution of the programmes to address rural development since new democratic south Africa administration in 1994 postulate that the right model is yet to be realised noting the significant progress made. Therefore the study recommends that:

- It is imperative to spend adequate time in the conceptualisation and/or understanding of new rural development strategies particularly on their approach and expected results when introducing a programme, particularly through conducting a design evaluation study before implementation.
- The point of departure in introducing a new programme must build on the lessons learned from previous models to avoid repeat of similar results.
- It is also important to establish quality basic services, such as health facilities, education, and provision of basic services such as clean running water, housing, sanitation, transport services and affordable energy in rural areas.
- There is also a need to strengthen and institute proper monitoring mechanisms to ensure tracing of results from the projects and putting corrective measures to address the challenges experienced during the implementation process.
- There should be an establishment of effective and direct financial support, provision of tools and technological equipment to rural farming, enterprises and cooperatives. Strong facilitation of access to markets is also key for the development of rural poor.
- There is a need to support the growth of rural entrepreneurs and smallholder farmers through the provision of infrastructure and skills development for them to establish associations with producers, inputs suppliers and marketing cooperatives as well as ease coordination.

- The use of an integrated approach to development particularly during planning, execution is key in tackling rural development.
- There is a need for all the key stakeholders such as the government (at national, provincial and local level) as well as traditional leaders to work together for rural communities to find sustainable ways to meet their social, economic and basic needs to improve their quality of life.
- The best model for rural development should be comprehensive enough to cover variation in demographic, social, economic and creation of proper employment opportunities and skills development instead of seasonal employment in rural areas.
- There is a need to ensure adequate development and improvement of roads and transport system in rural communities. This sort of development will connect rural areas to urban areas and thus facilitate the mobility of goods so as to improve marketing.

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