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The peiitica! changes of the past 3-0 months in South Africa have had major Implications far secto-ecenomic developmenta! issues. Problems of Black poverty, apartheid inequanttes, lack of access of the majority to basic needs enjoy a high place on the agenda or most sociai and political forces in the country.

For the African Natiohal Congress and the broad Democratic Movement, addressing basic needs and deveiopmeht issues 15 the logical extension or our struggle for democratic rights and the only way of ensuring that the political changes we are struggling for are made meaningful and sustainable.

For the Apartheid Government and its development institutions/parastatais, the issue is more cne of admitting'that whilst being forced to effect certain political changes, they still want to maintain control over sacio-economic resources and continue to contra! development delivery systems in order to perpetuate the 'dependency' of the majority.

Guided by this even?! perspective, their development approach emghasises a technocratic, top-down, delivery of product process, which sees Httie for community empowerment or institution building.

This approach can generally be detected in Government-related bodies like the Development Bank of Southern AfricawBSA); Independent Development Trust (101'); Industrial Development

their lives at work and at home.

2. meeting the basic needs of the majority of people in a way which contributes to building human and institutional capacity which allows for people to participate in the process and the product.

3. To reverse the current trend of economic stagnation towards a national development strategy that places South Africa on a new growth path oriented to meeting basic needs and altering its current primary goods export emphasis, but which is both environmentally and economically sustainable.

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In South Africa we have a long tradition of mass based organisation and struggle, and have a strong network of both Community-Based Organisations (CBO's) and Non-governmental Organisations (NGO's).

In our struggle to democratise all the institutions and processes that affect our daily lives (and not merely the structures of government) the key challenge facing us is how to effectively wield power when it comes to developmental issues.

The apartheid bureaucracy is entrenched, experienced and has enormous technical, financial and human resources - but no legitimacy.

We have legitimacy, but lack the technical, financial and human resource capacity.

Thus there are key challenges facing both the future democratic government and the CBO's and NGO's of the Democratic Movement if we are to meet the critical role of initiating projects to improve local conditions.

CorporationUDC); Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC); South African Development Trust Corporation (SADT); South African Housing Trust (SAHT); Land and Agricultural Bank etc.

The policy of Apartheid (euphemistically called 'Separate Development') forms the basis for the present institutional structures of government, their development policy framework and current manoeuvres to maintain in place the present status quo.

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There are a number of features of South African society that are widely agreed upon within the ANC and the broad Democratic Movement in South Africa.

These Lemme: provide the basis for the construction of a broadly approved framework through which to approach the urgent tasks or social reconstruction, national development and nation building.

Firstly, the history of racial domination, and particularly the legacy of apartheid, has created a society of enormous inequalities in wealth, opportunity and, at the most basic level, of ability to survive.

Secondly, the economic distortions created by apartheid, coupled with the inevitable effects of the struggle against apartheid has resulted in a weak declining economy which will be unable to support a process of social reconstruction.

Thirdly, the level of violence, coupled with poverty, homelessness, unemployment and land hunger are breeding a desperation in which life is held to be cheap and the prospects of national reconstruction become increasingly bleak.

Finally, the fragmentation and polarisation of South African