

All the state developmental interventions in South Africa have been characterised by a systematic disempowerment of black communities, especially the women. This has resulted in, and increased, the inequality and inequity in the delivery and distribution of social services. Besides the fact that South Africa is a patriarchal society and therefore 5' oppressive to women, women's oppression is further augmented by the colourism of their skin, and by the limited job entry opportunities. 10; the majority of the unemployed. Additionally, women have the lowest levels of health, education and skills. They bear the burden of domestic labour: many are the sole providers of food, clothing and shelter for the children, the disabled and the elderly. I - I t r Much of the most abject poverty, gender inequalities and differentiation is to be found in the rural areas where there are no employment opportunities (, including agricultural possibilities, and where there is an inadequate infrastructure, a lack of housing, an unhygienic environment, and inadequate clean drinking water. The majority of women live in rural areas. On the other hand, there is an increasing rate of urbanisation as a result of the impoverishment of the soil. (collapse of the rural economy. lack of land, violence and abject poverty Urbanisation has, in turn, increased the rate of overcrowding in the townships and the mushrooming of informal settlements. The lack of

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toilets and no refuse disposal. constitutes a major health hazard. It is t  
important to remember that mat of the households in these areas are headed  
by women.

Political violence cannot be particularly promtive 'of development,  
especially that of uohuen. who are its worst victims. Violence has created  
an added atmsphere of instability. generating tensions and conflict. loss  
of property. disruption of felines and the social fabric with resultant  
psychological trauma. The perpetuation of violence increases the dennds  
on both social and physical rehabilitaion capacities.

Even though the AIDS/BIV infection is a fairly new/epidenic in South  
Africa. its spread is rapid with a doubling period of 6 - 8 mnths. Intel  
has become the epicentre of AIDS/EIY. The incidence is higher amgst  
heterosexual partners and there is a rapid increase in paediatric AIDS.  
This epidemic is definitley going to undermine further any economic  
development and women's initiatives for their empowerment if there are no.  
urgent Strategic and significant programs.

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It is important to identify projects for empowerment to facilitate  
participatory democracy by women. Projects should not only focus on  
"traditional women's skills'.

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Education and knowledge will empower women to participate fully in all  
decisions and activities. not only within the MC but in society in  
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general. It will also enable women to ruin projects both effectively and  
efficiently. OOver 46% of woenn in South Africa are illiterate and this  
poses a constraint in participatory demoracy.

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Branches have undertaken to share resources in an effort to share aid transfer skills. Neighbouring townships will run literacy classes. There are literacy classes run at adult education centres. The literacy level is usually that of Operation Upgrade and classes are held in Zulu and/or English. These centres are located in a number of townships. Students from the University of Intel who do an adult education course and are an internship also run literacy classes especially in the rural areas. This project will require some subsistence allowances and tuition fees for a: & \$;

Forty-five (45) lesson programs take 90 hours and this program is for mail 3-1

basic literacy skills and increases the reading and comprehension skills' dlf'v'i'x 1 ram \$15,993? .1"

average students by 5 years. A fund to meet the basic literacy classes 101-1 100 women in the first year of- the project is estimated at 229nm

Most women bear the burden' of domestic work and are the stale minders of children. This deprives them of the opportunities to engage .zsnri e 4w

developmental activities. In some cases women spend long periods 01 t1!

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.taking care of disabled children .n isolation rather than in orgalieadariiui

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child-minder projects.

A fundamental principle of child care and provision of creche facilities 18 H\_., it

that these need to be community-based with communities supporting the running-costs of the creche.

To relieve women of these tasks - particularly in the rural areas. - proposed that creches be set up.. QJ

There have already been consultations with the Association for Training 3111.", -.,\_- 13%:

Resources in Early Learning (TREE) in Hathi/KwaZulu for them to share and '-'

transfer skills for the running of educate projects. It is hoped that the AIC VL. Southern Intel. will establish creches (10) initially in the area. not far from those run by TREE in order to facilitate the sharing of resources.

TREE has also undertaken to assist with the training of both educate workers and facilitators.

The proposed training scheme for facilitators includes:

10 days of observing in grassroot creches and preschools with TREE inservice training

20 days - practical work in a preschool unit with TREE inservice training

5 days - facilitators course which includes inter-personal skills;

problem solving; conflict resolution; community ownership and

management of projects; budgeting; understanding needs; the

establishment of a support network; use of check-lists;

progress evaluation.

monthly one-day follow-ups and evaluation form part of the programme.

The training of educate workers and facilitators will cost R 150 000

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Some creches already in operation in places like Uganda and Umlazi Township.

are short of toys and wish to know how to produce toys.

TREE is also willing to train people in toy production using appropriate

technology and materials that are easily available.

The initial installation fee and training costs for making toys would cost

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for twenty people who would train for twenty days.

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Urbanisation. as has been noted. has caused a high rate of homelessness and

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establishment of informal settlements. The violence that has resulted in destruction of property and the infrastructure in rural areas has compounded this problem. The lack of safe and proper housing has multiplied health hazards.

At the same time the women need income generating projects that will make them economically independent. It is to release women to take advantage of such projects that the establishment of creches has been recommended.

Brick making is one project which will produce materials used for building creches and houses, VIP toilets and 'foul-runs'. This will have a holistic approach to development. 'twang?

It is hoped that in one day each brick-making project will produce over 500 bricks. The actual brick-making must be preceded by a training course. The training course will require wages for 30 women. This period will be:-  
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'un-productive' in terms of income generation. Included in the costs will be 14. --  
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also be funds to purchase materials used in the training process.

The estimated amount will be W

The installation costs for each brick-making project will include equipment purchase and site fixtures at an estimated cost of W ' m

For the project to be viable it will be necessary to provide transport for the delivery of the bricks. This is estimated to cost W

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As has been stated, women will be empowered by income-generating projects.

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The Lansindilela Research Project of the University of Natal offers the following training 'courses of two/three months duration in general poultry ' ' '1 2- E; .

management. full knowledge of feeds and feeding. together with basic Ww

keeping and cash flow. At the end of the course students are awarded certificates of attendance. In this regard the course is both empowering in income-generating skills and also status in society. In turn, train others on the job in these skills. Initially it would be expected to train 10 students at 32.09. per month for 2/3 months and to set up 10 chicken projects an estimated cost of mg. for 500 2-hour old chicks. The bricks for building the chicken run will be purchased from the women who will be making bricks.

Costs: Subsistence allowance R200 x 10 x 2 R4000

Setting up h 35000 x 5 m

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Transformation, reconstruction and development can and will be seriously undermined if there are no urgent intervention strategies against the spread of AIDS/HIV infection. AIDS/HIV awareness health education and the prevention of the spread of AIDS/HIV epidemic is always effective where national prevention programmes are community-based and linked to credible community structures. In this regard, women can generally play a very important role in developing strategies for controlling the spread of HIV infection.

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women. A well conceived programme will also incorporate a literacy component. This project will have profound empowering implications for participatory democracy and emancipation. especially with regards to the woman's right to control her own fertility.

The training programmes will be run over weekends in workshop format. The costs, for 100 women over a period of eight weeks, are estimated at . .

1: 0 The programme will be developed and run in conjunction with:-

. other organisations that are concerned with the problem of AIDS/HIV\_

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The A16 V1. Southern latal hopes to contract to manufacture the 00 Kg

the A16 nmrshalls uniforms initially as well as any other viable mung.

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This will demand the production of quality end products. For this ng't 1

will be necessary to begin training a core of mu 1: targetam' " '

sewing skills.

There are courses available in the area offering training 1; dream: 531":

skills including pattern drafting and cutting. These are sirmth n

costing 350 a month per trainee. The tailored courses can 1:211! 9.2.15

women at a time.

an opportunity for women to meet and need and also an opportunity for them to meet together and form discussion groups around various gender issues. Income-generation will be an additional benefit. Training in basic book keeping and cash flow will be necessary to make this a viable concern. This project would need a training component in the skills of candlemaking and also in basic management skills. The costs are estimated at W for 20 groups.

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chi cken proj ect 29000. 00  
LlDS/HIY 15000. 00  
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