



NDA

National
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FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY PRESENTATION

(Food, nutrition and care security during the first 1,000 days - Seminar)

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social development

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SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL SECURITY AGENCY



INTRODUCTION

- South Africa features as one of the top 20 countries with the highest burden of under-nutrition;
- Peter Jacobs' study on food insecurity (2010) indicates that few people are able to afford a food basket that is diverse and high in essential macro- and micronutrients.
- Jacobs finds that approximately 80% of households could not afford to buy a basic nutritional basket of food costing an average of R 262/ 35 USD per person per month (at 2005 prices)
- His study indicates that few people would be able to afford a food basket that is diverse and high in essential macro- and micronutrients especially in the rural areas;
- Of this 80%, one in every four additional households would achieve an acceptable level of nutrition if they had R 200 more to spend on nutritious food per month.
- We also know that household food secure for the majority of the poor is very precarious and sensitive to shocks and stresses linked to employment, inflation, rising prices and also natural disasters especially for small farmers and fishers.

WHY A FOOD SECURITY POLICY

The establishment of the food security Policy in South Africa is based on the bill of rights enshrined in the constitution - Section 27,1 (b) of the bill of rights, states that every citizen has a right to access to sufficient food and water and the state must take reasonable legislative and other measures within its available resources to achieve the realization of this right

- Section 28, 1(b) states that every child has a right to basic nutrition, shelter, basic care services and social services

Other reasons why we needed a food security policy –

To ensure that key stakeholders reach a consensus on food security diagnosis

Goal of Food Security Policy

The goal of the food security policy is to improve South Africa's adequacy and stability of access to safe and nutritious food at both national and household level.

Strategic objectives of the policy

- ❖ To eradicate hunger and poverty.
- ❖ Increase public investment in infrastructure, health, education, research and technology development and information systems development within the comprehensive rural development framework is integral to the attainment of this policy strategic objective

INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY (IFSS)

The Integrated Food Security Strategy (IFSS) of 1996, which was launched aimed at consolidating and improving coordination of the diverse and multifaceted food security interventions being implemented by different stakeholders within the three spheres of government.

The Basic Tenet of the IFSS

is sharing and overlapping with goals of government departments. It involves a lengthy process of consultation with stakeholders.

- The basic issue is to bring various sectors to work together to
- achieve food security objective by
- harnessing resources necessary to make the efforts a success.

While the strategy takes a long view and is designed to

- have an enduring impact on food security,
- it is viewed as a living approach that will be updated as changes comes in the rural economy, national priorities, and external factors.

Government has adopted this broad-based (integrated) approach to address

- food security problems at both household and national levels in recognition of
- the multidisciplinary nature of food security problems. In pursuance to this, a
- one-day workshop was organised with various national departments and
- other stakeholders to discuss the approach in order to reflect both the policy statement as well as possible interventions.

The IFSS informed the development of an Integrated Food Security National Plan with the following strategic pillars:

1. Increasing food production and trade;
2. Improving nutrition and food safety;
3. Improving income generation and job creation opportunities;
4. Increasing safety nets and food emergency management systems
5. Improve the analysis and information management systems
6. Provide capacity building

Some of the key developments following the implementation of the IFSS were:

1. In 2002 FIVIMS, the food insecurity and vulnerability information mapping system was implemented;
2. In 2003 as part of the IFSS food fortification was introduced which compelled millers by legislation to fortify maize and white and brown flour with micro nutrients.
3. National School Feeding Programme was transferred from DoH to DoE and schools were encouraged to establish food gardens as part of a sustainable food production system.

- 4. The social grant system for children was progressively expanded to include children over the age of 6 and the means test threshold was reviewed to include more vulnerable children.
- 5. The Expanded Public Works Programme was implemented to address short term unemployment and introduced a social sector component focussing on home and community based care and early childhood development.

Shortfalls of the IFSS

- The 2006 review of the IFSS noted the following challenges from the implementation of the program:
 1. The lack of capacity to implement the intentions of the IFSS
 2. Lack of effective coordination mechanisms between government structures – it was recorded that the Task Team coordinating the IFSS known as the IFSNPTT did not function well due to lack of commitment by members to attending and the poor quality of reporting of the TT to the DG Social Cluster Forum

- 3. Concern over duplication of services – for example several government departments (Agriculture, Health and Social Development) are implementing food garden initiatives and distributing starter packs with little coordination between them
- 4. Programme coordination involving so many government departments was complex and extremely slow, lacking effective communication procedures.
- 5. Other challenges that the IFSS faced included:

Cont...

- a. Increasing number of food emergencies resulting in an increase of dependency on direct food distribution;
- b. Limited access to safe drinking water and poor sanitation increasing the occurrence of chronic diseases;
- c. High prevalence of HIV/AIDS aggravating vulnerability and food insecurity;
- d. Illiteracy or low level of education leading to a low level of awareness and access to information as slow adoption of technology; and finally
- e. General poverty leading to insecurity and discouraging small farmers to invest.

Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Programme:

- Alongside the implementation of the IFSS government introduced in 2000 the Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Programme (ISRDP) in response to the problem of uncoordinated development which arose under the RDP. The ISRDP was aimed at promoting sustainable development through economic improvement, provision of social amenities and development of viable institutions.
- Similar to the IFSS the ISRDP did not have an independent budget. In 2009 government launched the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) as an effective poverty and food insecurity response through maximising the use and management of natural resources.

Zero Hunger Strategy

- In 2012 the Chief Directorate for Food Security introduced the Zero Hunger Strategy. Some of the objectives of the Zero Hunger Strategy are:
 1. To provide an effective mechanism for the coordination and collaboration of national, provincial and Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) inputs and resources in the pursuance of the common goal of increasing household food security and rural development.
 2. To ensure the establishment of effective support structures for famers through capacity building and institutional strengthening for their improved participation.

Zero Hunger Cont.

- 3. To demonstrate opportunities for diversification and increasing income through the production of vegetables, small stock and small scale aquaculture.
- 4. To build an effective capacity at local level through intensive training and access to information that will provide effective support services to the farming communities.
- 5. To evaluate the impact of the interventions, to identify gaps and quantify any constraints that still need to be addressed and make recommendations for extending pilot activities into a broader development initiatives.

The Zero Hunger Programme

It has short term, medium and long term responses and identifies the lead agencies in the implementing of the different components of the programme. Under the Zero Hunger Programme, nutrition security interventions would be led by the DoH, while improving food production activities would be led by DAFF.

Objectives of the Zero-Hunger Programme are to:

- Ensure access to food the poor and vulnerable members of our society
- Improve food production capacity of households and poor resourced farmers.
- Improve nutrition security of the citizens.
- Develop market channels through bulk government procurement of food linked to the emerging agricultural sector.
- Fostering partnerships with relevant stakeholders within the food supply chain.

Review of the IFSS:

- The Integrated Food Security Strategy (IFSS) has been largely considered a failure mainly due to the fact that food insecurity remains a pressing concern with over 14 million food insecure people in South Africa and very little progress in realisation of the Millennium Development Goal target of halving those in hunger by 2015.
- While the objectives were and remain laudable the lack of real integration of policies and programmes across the various Ministries and the lack of effective implementation are reasons for its failure.

- An Integrated Food Security Strategy for South Africa provided a relevant multi-sectoral framework for addressing food security.
- However its lack of implementing and coordinating power diminishes its potential for effecting substantive change
- A key achievement is that Food and Nutrition Security has been made a national policy priority across all government departments and reflected also in the fiscal contribution to food security programmes.

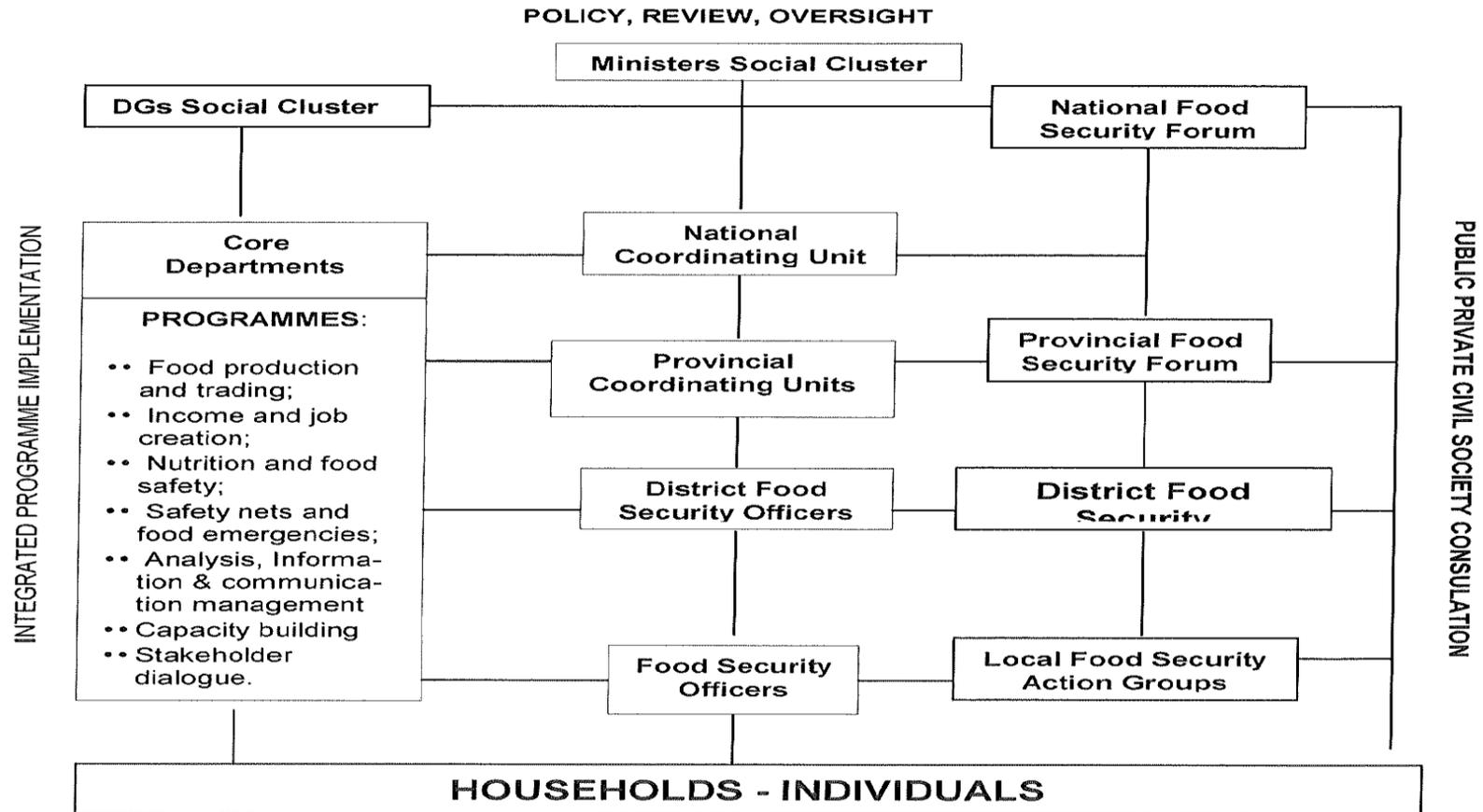
As a response to the challenges faced by the current measures aimed at ensuring food and nutrition security, the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on food and nutrition security has developed an integrated food and nutrition security implementation plan.

The implementation Plan was developed with an aim of providing long term Results Based Framework for the direction of food security and nutrition implementation in South Africa.

An integrated approach to ensuring delivery of food security programmes has been pursued through the implementation of the Integrated Food Security and Nutrition Programme (NPFNS).

- Government of South Africa approved the National Policy on Food and Nutrition Security and the household Food and Nutrition security strategy in 2013 to continue responding to the hunger challenges in the country.
- The National Policy on Food and Nutrition security provides a common for all players in tackling the food and nutrition problem with emphasis on synergy that will minimise undue duplication and inefficient deployment of resources.
- National Food and Nutrition Security Policy aims at ensuring availability, accessibility and affordability of safe and nutritional food at national and household levels (NPFNS, 2013)

Institutional Arrangements and Organisational Structures



Provincial Food Security Forums (PFSF) will be constituted by stakeholder from government, private sector and civil society at each of the nine provinces.

Institutional framework cont...

- **The Cabinet / Provincial legislatures / MINMEC**
 - Should oversee the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy
 - Enhancing inter-governmental relations through improved programme co-ordination amongst Government Departments
- **Ministerial food security advisory committee**
 - This will be a non-bureaucratic multi-sectoral national advisory body
 - It will be consisting of experts in organised agriculture, food security, consumer representation, climate change and environmental practitioners to provide expert advice to the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in relation to the country, regional and international food security issues.

Institutional framework cont...

- **Food Security Co-ordination in S.A.**
 - i) The Food Security Co-ordination Units
 - The co-ordination of food security requires a high level co-ordination to be at both the Premiers and Presidency offices,
 - The existence of the Food Security Co-ordinators at this level is therefore crucial,
 - ii) The Food Security Units - They already exist at National and in almost all nine provinces but elevation if these units is pivotal, - They should provide the expert knowledge in the implementation of the food security programmes,
- **The National and Provincial Food security forums** - This will be a platform for the plethora of different stakeholders engaged in food security and nutrition issues in South Africa to participate in shaping the Government's plan of ending hunger in South Africa.

Strategic Issues for the Implementation of IFSS

To implement food security policies and to develop new policies, considerable information is required on the situation of food supply and demand in different parts of the country.

This information can be used to identify risk areas, with respect to food access and use.

Further, certain actions are required to sensitise and organise stakeholders. This will be supported by detailed discussions among stakeholders to ratify the proposed interventions, objectives and targets. The components of the strategy should be finalised at the national intergovernmental workshop



THANK YOU

