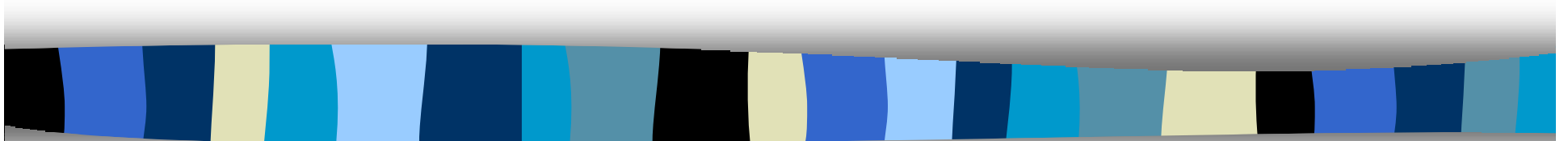


THE SOCIAL PROTECTION CHALLENGE: BOTSWANA



Presented by
Boitumelo Matlhaga



BACKGROUND

- Location: Southern Africa
- Population: 1.7 million
- Climate: Semi arid, partly dessert
- Middle Income Country: GDP per capita from \$80 in 1966 to \$3000 currently.
- Economical and Political stability
- Prudent fiscal policy: savings from diamond revenues
- Poverty estimated by UNDP to be 37% of population in 2001
- Majority of population and most of poor in rural areas
- Main economic activity in rural areas is agriculture, lack of employment opportunities



MAJOR SHOCKS

1. Drought

Serious threat to household food security, low agricultural production, loss of income and assets (cattle).

2. HIV/ AIDS

Mostly affected (15-49), infection rate 38.5%

Deterioration in incomes and assets of affected households

Increase in poverty and orphanhood

Decline in labour productivity

Vulnerable Groups

The poor

Elderly

Orphans

Disabled

Children

Farmers

Unemployed



DROUGHT STRATEGY

1. Institutional framework to mitigate effects of drought.
2. Vulnerability and Risk assessment: Drought Assessment Tours

Interventions

- Drought Relief Labour Based Public Works
- Blanket feeding of the under fives
- Vulnerable Group Feeding Programme
- Free seed distribution to farmers
- Price subsidy on livestock feeds
- Strategic Grain Reserve

Budget: 34 million USD for 2001/02



DROUGHT INTERVENTIONS CONTINUED

Targeting

- Universal but Public Works self-targeting

Impact

- Reaches the intended beneficiaries
- Feeding programs contributed to reduction in malnutrition rate of < 5s
- Strategic grain reserves prevented food crisis
- Employs high for public works, majority women

Problems with Public Works

- Implementation capacity, monitoring and evaluation weak
- High political influence

Recommended strategy

- Geographical targeting based
- Monitoring and evaluation to be built into the design and budget of programs



HIV/AIDS STRATEGY

- Institutional Framework for AIDS
- Partnerships

Interventions

Home Based Care

Orphan Program

Antiretroviral therapy

Budget: \$ 4 mil for capacity building and \$ 100 mil (2002-2005)

Targeting

- National
- Selects patients with CD4 cell count of < 200
- Selects patients with AIDS defining illness

Challenges / Problems

- Critical shortage of skilled staff
- Inadequate infrastructure to ensure safe and effective delivery



CONCLUSION

Direct Social Support Programs

- Labour Based Public Works
- Feeding Programs
- Destitution Program
- Orphan Care Program
- Home Based Care
- Antiretroviral Therapy
- Old Age Pension
- World War II Veterans
- Agricultural Subsidies

Major Challenge

- Mechanism to ensure people graduate from dependence on government
- To improve coverage, targeting, accessibility, efficiency and effectiveness
- Monitoring and Evaluation