SA YEARBOOK 2009/10
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Constitution enshrines the rights of all people in the country to dignity, equality before the law, freedom and security. The Constitution commits government to take reasonable measures, within its available resources, to ensure that all South Africans enjoy an acceptable standard of living.

The main objective of the Department of Social Development is to build a caring and integrated system of social-development services that facilitates human development and improves the quality of life for all people, in particular those living in poverty or confronted by other vulnerabilities.

The department's key programmes include:
• assistance through the South African Social Security Agency (Sassa)
• social-welfare services
• integrated developmental services, including community development
• research in the area of population and development issues and social policy to enhance evidence-based policy development and planning.

The departmental mandate has also widened in recent years to include initiatives aimed at improving the livelihoods of South Africans by coordinating home- and community-based care (HCBC) for people living with HIV and AIDS (including probation services, childcare and protection, and family counselling and support services), sustainable livelihoods and food-relief programmes, with a focus on programmes for particularly vulnerable groups.

The Department of Social Development collaborates with other government departments within the framework of intergovernmental-relations legislation and cooperative governance. It also collaborates with non-governmental organisations (NGOs), faith-based organisations (FBOs), the business sector, organised labour and other role players to ensure its strategic objectives are implemented.

The department also undertakes participatory research to provide evidence for developing relevant and appropriate programmes and strategies for sustainable livelihoods and community development. This includes creating a conducive environment for facilitating community development practice and overseeing the National Development Agency (NDA).

Legislation

Social Assistance Amendment Act, 2008 (Act 6 of 2008)

The amendment of the Social Assistance Act, 2004 (Act 13 of 2004), saw men aged 63 to 64 for the first time qualifying and receiving social-assistance grants. The full implementation of the Act will ensure that by 2010 men too will receive social-assistance grants when they turn 60 years of age.

Older Persons Act, 2006 (Act 13 of 2006)

The Older Persons Act, 2006 provides for the protection and welfare of certain aged and debilitated persons, for the care of their interests, for the establishment and registration of certain institutions, and for the accommodation and care of older persons in such institutions

The main objectives of the Act are to:
• maintain and promote the status, well-being, safety and security of older persons
• recognise the skills and wisdom of older persons
• encourage older persons' participation in community activities to promote them as people.

Childcare legislation

The Children's Act, 2005 (Act 38 of 2005), sets out principles relating to the care and protection of children, defines parental responsibilities and rights and provides for matters such as children's courts, adoption, child abduction and surrogate motherhood.

The Act also:
• gives effect to certain rights of children as contained in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996
• sets out principles relating to the care and protection of children
• defines parental responsibilities and rights
• makes further provision regarding children's courts
• provides for the issuing of contribution orders
• makes new provision for the adoption of children
• provides for intercountry adoption
• gives effect to the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption

- prohibits child abduction and trafficking, and gives effect to the Hague Convention on International Child Abduction
- provides for surrogate motherhood
- creates certain new offences relating to children
- provides for matters relating to the trafficking of children and the implementation of the relevant protocol.

The Children's Amendment Act, 2007 (Act 41 of 2007), provides for:
- the partial care of children
- early childhood development (ECD)
- further protection of children
- prevention and early-intervention services
- children in alternative care
- foster care
- child- and youthcare centres, shelters and drop-in centres
- certain new offences relating to children
- the plight of child-headed households
- respect for parental rights by providing that no person may take or send a South African child out of the country without consent of parents or guardians
- the discipline of children.

The Children's Act, 2005 provides for the establishment of the *National Child Protection Register* that records all persons found unsuitable to work with children.

It also lists all persons found by the Children's Court and criminal courts to be unsuitable to work with children.

In terms of this law, childcare facilities, including welfare organisations offering foster care and adoption, are able to check prospective employees, foster parents and adoptive parents against the register.

The register, however, is not open to the public, and all requests for information must be directed to the Department of Social Development.

Sustainable livelihoods

The persistence of poverty calls for the development of innovative and sustainable community-development and poverty-eradication policies, strategies and programmes that will not only create opportunities for sustainable jobs and income generation, but that will also harness and strengthen resources within households and civil society to achieve sustainable livelihoods.

Eradicating poverty is the highest priority in government's efforts to build a better life for all. In this regard, the Department of Social Development manages the Sustainable Livelihoods Programme, which aims to assist communities in a range of developmental projects and to develop best practices that link social grants to the livelihood strategies of direct and indirect beneficiaries and income-generating vehicles, such as cooperatives.

In the department's quest to strengthen communities' sustainable livelihoods, the department participated in two initiatives of the Community Works Programme, which is part of Phase Two of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP).

The programme was piloted in Munsieville, Mogale City, Bokfontein near Brits, Sekhukhuneland and 10 villages in the Alfred Nzo Municipality to supplement other livelihood strategies by providing regular and predictable work opportunities for all South Africans. In addition to this, the department also formed a partnership with Soul City to spearhead the implementation of the Kwanda Programme, which is a social-mobilisation, multimedia development-communication platform showcasing integrated government programmes. Government has introduced various measures to enhance households and community food production, primarily for consumption and to generate income from the sale of surplus food. The households are provided with agricultural starter packs such as implements, vegetable seedlings and fertilisers. By November 2009, the programme had been rolled out to 8 234 households countrywide.

Based on a food-security model promoted by the Global FoodBanking Network, FoodBank SA will act as the national governing body for a network of community-based foodbanks, the first of which was established in March 2009 in Cape Town.

The community foodbanks as well as the national body actively procure food on behalf of agencies (social-services organisations and NGOs) operating in the area of food security. Food is mainly acquired through donations from major retailers and manufacturers as well as government agencies, private organisations and individuals. The food is then stored safely and sorted into nutritional packages before being made available or delivered to relevant agencies.

Over the next three years, FoodBank SA plans to open 20 foodbanks around the country and increase its food supply by five-fold. In addressing their own mandate to eradicate hunger, the South African Government signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with FoodBank SA, showing their support for the programme. By November 2009, four foodbanks had been established in four

provinces, namely Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, the Western Cape and Eastern Cape. Together, these foodbanks distributed between 400 and 600 tons of food via 900 agencies to more than 100 000 people who are in need of emergency food relief. The national target of establishing two foodbanks by March 2010 was achieved earlier.

In addition to providing social assistance, the Department of Social Development is implementing poverty-relief initiatives.

War on poverty

In August 2008, government launched the national War on Poverty Campaign to reduce poverty among the country's poorest citizens. The most deprived households identified in the poorest wards will be visited periodically by a team of professionals and community workers to identify their specific needs and accelerate access to government services and provide safety nets.

The Department of Social Development facilitated the establishment of 20 vegi-tunnels in Limpopo (Ga-Kgatla) in support of the War on Poverty Campaign. This project was implemented in partnership with the Department of Agriculture.

Comprehensive anti-poverty interventions

Poverty remains one of the key challenges facing South Africa. Government, therefore, has in place a number of interventions geared at minimising its impact on the people. By the end of 2008, government had formulated a draft anti-poverty strategy and a national plan to implement this strategy as part of fast-tracking its efforts to lift more people out of poverty.

A draft poverty matrix has been compiled through the identification of key projects in the social and economic clusters. This matrix will be completed once the development of the national database of households living in poverty has been completed.

The Anti-Poverty Strategy is premised on an approach that integrates social security, investment in people through education and skills development and a set of economic and industrial policies. Central to this strategy is the determination to root out intergenerational poverty.

The attainment of this goal will require the department to integrate its intersectoral interventions with measurable targets, social indicators and time frames.

The Social Protection and Community Development Cluster leads the Anti-Poverty Strategy and facilitates synergies between government and other sections of society.

Only when the poor have decent employment or are gainfully self-employed, will the demand for social grants reduce. Investment in human and physical assets will need to be complemented by an economy that absorbs people and lays the basis for decent jobs.

The Department of Social Development has some very specific contributions to make. In the first instance, investment in the development of children is one of the primary means to improve society's human capital and over time contribute to a reduction in intergenerational poverty.

The ECD Programme lies at the heart of the department's goal. The Department of Social Development intends to accelerate the registration of ECD sites from 13 734 to 14 401 and increase the number of children in registered ECD centres to 758 000.

Other interventions envisaged by the Anti-Poverty Strategy are to focus on service delivery at household level with the aim of linking individuals and families with key government services. The department has been tasked with assessing and collecting information on the needs of households and communities in 150 wards. This was done in partnership with the provincial departments of social development, relevant NGOs and the Independent Development Trust.

Another contribution is in respect of the EPWP. The Department of Social Development coordinates the social sector's efforts to create

To mark the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, the Minister of Social Development, Ms Edna Molewa, launched the Hemp Project on 17 October 2009. This is a partnership between government, the private sector and female cooperatives, which is aimed at uplifting emerging black female farmers in the Eastern Cape.

The Department of Social Development has entered into a cooperation agreement with the Hemp Industrial Park to set up a hemp cottage industry in partnership with Silindithemba Cooperative and Indalo (a black-owned farming enterprise).

The project targets mainly rural women, most of whom are caregivers of the beneficiaries of social grants. The intention is to link social-grant beneficiaries to sustainable livelihoods and cooperatives, which will in the long term graduate them out of poverty.

At the launch, the cooperatives of this R20-million venture showcased a variety of hemp products, including clothes, food supplements and health products.

and sustain jobs. The department aims to provide training to an additional 1 500 community caregivers and over 2 500 ECD practitioners.

Comprehensive social security

Government has committed itself to specific goals concerning a comprehensive social-security system. The Cabinet-approved framework of the new system seeks to ensure access to social security, including appropriate social assistance as provided for in Section 27 of the Constitution.

Government has embarked on a process of social security and retirement reform. By November 2009, the Interdepartmental Technical Task Team on Comprehensive Social Security had completed a consolidated document, with several proposals and policy options. The document will be released as a basis for public consultation once it has been approved by Cabinet.

The department is determined to create a comprehensive and inclusive retirement system to ensure that the majority of South Africa's poor, marginalised and vulnerable benefit from the new retirement provisions. Through these reforms, the department intends to lay a foundation for a retirement system that will resonate with the needs of the majority of South Africans as well as with international trends.

The ultimate goal of social development is to engender self-reliance and social cohesion. While appropriate social-security provisioning plays a critical role in addressing the basic needs of the poorest of the poor, it is only meant to be a temporary measure.

The Government recognises that empowering people, particularly women, to strengthen their own capacities is a main objective of development and its principal resource. With this goal in mind, the department has begun piloting various initiatives, which will enable poor communities to become architects of their own development.

Social assistance

In the context of South Africa's main challenges of high levels of poverty and inequality, the Department of Social Development continues to expand the social safety net. The Social Assistance Act, 2004 (Act 13 of 2004), creates uniform norms and standards that apply countrywide. It provides for the publication of regulations on performance management and on adherence to the Batho Pele ("People First") principles of customer service.

The Act provides for the rendering of social assistance to persons, mechanisms for the rendering of such assistance, the establishment of an inspectorate for social assistance and related matters.

Social-assistance transfers are funded from general revenue and are appropriated on the Budget Vote of the Department of Social Development. Social-assistance cash grants provide targeted income support to those whose livelihoods are most at risk. The available grants are the old-age; disability; child-support; foster-care; care-dependency and war-veterans' grants; and temporary grant-in-aid relief.

The country's social-grants programme is one of the most comprehensive and sophisticated in the developing world.

Government has progressively expanded social grants to vulnerable groups since the dawn of South Africa's democracy, and more than a quarter of the population is receiving income transfers.

By August 2009, more than 13 million citizens were receiving social-assistance benefits. Of these beneficiaries, over nine million were children.

In October 2009, Cabinet announced the approval of the extension of the Child-Support Grant (CSG) to eligible children between the ages of 15 and 17 years. This decision only applies to children from poor households. Caregivers of the beneficiaries have the responsibility to ensure that the beneficiaries remain in school.

The CSG for 15-year-olds will start on 1 January 2010, 16-year-olds on 1 January 2011 and 17-year-olds on 1 January 2012. These grants will benefit about two million children from poor households. The total cost will be R1,3 billion, R2,6 billion and R3,5 billion, respectively over the three-year period.

The department is making progress with phasing-in the equalisation of eligibility for the Old-Age Grant. By the end of September 2009, there were

Amounts of grants per month, 2009	
Grant type	**Amount**
Old-Age Grant	R1 010
Disability Grant	R960
War-Veterans' Grant	R960
Foster-Care Grant	R680
Care-Dependency Grant	R1 010
Child-Support Grant	R240
Grant-in-Aid	R210
Source: Department of Social Development	

17 800 men aged 61 to 64 years of age receiving old-age pension. The Social Assistance Act, 2004 provides for men of 60 years of age to qualify from April 2010 and National Treasury has made the necessary budget allocation for this final phase.

The growing number of child-support beneficiaries has been the main source of increased expenditure over recent years, with the increase in disability grants taking up a rising share of the total.

Government allocated R500 million towards the Social Relief of Distress (SRD) Grant in November 2008. The money allocated to the SRD increased from R13,6 million in November 2008 to R57,2 million in January 2009.

SRD is a temporary provision of assistance intended for persons who are unable to meet their families' most basic needs. The SRD may be in the form of a food parcel or a voucher to buy food. Some provinces give this assistance in the form of cash. SRD is given for a short time only, usually for up to three months, and sometimes for six months.

Sassa is responsible for SRD for categories relevant to social grants, and provides it in cases where the person:
• is awaiting permanent aid in the form of a social grant
• is found to be medically unfit for a period of less than six months
• has appealed the suspension of a grant
• needs help while waiting for the children's grants to be processed by government
• has experienced a crisis or disaster, for example, the house has burnt down
• is unable to get maintenance from the other parent of the child or children, or the breadwinner has died, or has been sent to prison for a short time (less than six months)
• has been affected by a disaster in the area that has not been declared a disaster area.

Implementing social-assistance programmes

Before 2006, the nine provincial departments each had its own administration for social assistance. This situation posed significant challenges for government concerning lack of norms and standards of social-assistance service delivery. The Sassa Act, 2004 (Act 9 of 2004), was introduced to create a single entity for the delivery of social grants.

The agency's delivery model aims to ensure that the administration and payment of social grants become more customer-focused, while ensuring regular reviews of beneficiaries' eligibility. Regular reviews and a comprehensive fraud strategy should reduce levels of fraud, leakage and corruption in the social-grants system.

Sassa has 40 mobile units that take services to remote and rural communities. The trucks are one-stop shops where beneficiaries can apply for identity documents and grants.

To ensure that Sassa operates optimally, the Department of Social Development initiated a business re-engineering process. Among other things, this will improve the turnaround time for processing grant applications. The department is working on measures to reduce the cost of grant payments through migrating people towards electronic payments instead of cash. Reducing cash payments should also improve safety and accessibility.

The Integrated Community Registration Outreach Programme, aimed at promoting accessibility to grants by eligible beneficiaries in remote areas, is on course. By September 2009, about 112 000 beneficiaries, mainly from rural communities, were able to access services through its mobile units. The department aims to get to the stage where all applications are processed and approved in one day by all Sassa offices.

Government remains vigilant to root out corruption and fraud within the social security system. For this reason, the Department of Social Development continues to work with the Special Investigation Unit to ensure that culprits are brought to book.

Dealing with corruption

The department's national facilities to combat

Social-assistance grant recipients		
Grant type	**1998/99**	**2008/09**
Old-Age Grant	1 812 695	2 390 543
War-Veterans' Grant	9 197	1 500
Disability Grant	633 778	1 286 883
Foster Care Grant	46 696	474 759
Child-Dependency Grant	16 835	107 065
Child-Support Grant	21 997	8 765 354
Total	**2 540 998**	**13 026 104**
Growth rate	5%	5,2%
Grant-in-Aid	8 496	46 069

Source: *Development Indicators, 2009*

fraud and corruption in the social-security system consist of:
- a toll-free national security fraud hotline (0800 60 10 11) that operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week
- an e-mail address (fraud@socdev.gov.za) and a free-call fax-service number (0800 61 10 11).

As part of the Anti-Corruption and Fraud Prevention Strategy, internal control systems have been improved, and forensic and investigating teams deployed in all provinces.

By the end of 2009, the department had brought 2 000 civil servants to book who were found to have defrauded the grant system. Sassa has turned its attention to people in the private sector who are defrauding the social grants system.

Improving community development and service delivery

During the 2008/09 financial year, the Department of Social Development reached a number of milestones with respect to the development of a community development policy framework.

A major outcome of this process was the establishment of a reference group and interdepartmental task team to drive and provide advice on community development policy issues. To inform the policy-development process, an audit report on policies and legislation, which impact directly and indirectly on community development, was printed and disseminated to stakeholders. Information gathered through the national and provincial consultation workshops was consolidated into a draft policy framework.

Uniform and improved community development practice

The department has partnered with the South African Qualifications Authority for the generation and registration of unit standards and qualifications for community development.

The development of core unit standards of the Community Development Further Education and Training College Certificate at National Qualifications Framework (NQF) Level Four has been developed. By August 2009, eight new unit standards at NQF Level Three had been developed and two generic unit standards at NQF Level Four had been taken for consultation with stakeholders.

Another notable achievement was a skills audit of 927 community-development practitioners (CDPs), which was carried out in 2008/09. The skills audit provides information on the geographical spread and skills requirements for CDPs.

Professionalising community development

During 2008/09, the department established a database of CDPs. The National Community-Development Professionalisation Task Team to drive the professionalisation process that will eventually lead to the registration of practitioners with the South African Council for Social Service Professions (SACSSP) has been established. The professionalisation process is not limited to the Department of Social Development's CDPs but embraces all other practitioners in different departments. The SACSSP plays a crucial advisory role in this process.

Meaningful participation in community development

The department conducted a study to assess challenges and support required by community-based organisations (CBOs) in relation to the coordination and integration of services at a local point.

A major outcome of the study was the development of a draft tool for the support of CBOs. Consultations on the draft tool were expected to be carried out during the 2009/10 financial year.

A notable result of a seminar on integrated service delivery in community development was the training of 86 CDPs in the integrated development training processes.

About 90% of trained CDPs underwent competency assessments for certification by an accredited service-provider. The department also successfully coordinated and compiled two integrated sustainable rural development/urban renewal programme reports.

Responding to the impact of HIV and AIDS

The National Strategic Plan (NSP) for HIV and AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) 2007 – 2011 serves as South Africa's primary HIV and AIDS policy document. Recognising the growing need to combat the further spread of the pandemic, the plan hinges on four key priorities, namely:
- prevention
- treatment, care and support
- monitoring, research and surveillance
- human rights and access to justice.

The sustained national response is beginning to pay some dividends as data indicates that the infection rate among women younger than 20 had decreased significantly while the average national HIV prevalence among young pregnant

women had shown signs of stabilisation in the three years to 2006.

The Department of Social Development has also developed a framework for an integrated and coordinated response to HIV and AIDS.

The framework includes sourcing reliable research and information; providing social protection to those infected and affected, especially children; protecting children's rights; providing services; special programmes such as the HCBC Programme; empowering women; and capacitating officials to deal with HIV and AIDS.

Partnerships with other government departments, NGOs, CBOs, FBOs, the business sector, volunteers and international agencies underpin the department's response to HIV and AIDS.

The main objectives of the Gender, HIV and AIDS Programme are to:
- facilitate the mainstreaming of HIV and AIDS into policies, and of gender into HIV- and AIDS-prevention programmes
- monitor the development and implementation of policies and programmes.

HIV and AIDS Youth Programme
The expansion of the loveLife Groundbreaker Partnership Programme aims to strengthen the loveLife Mphintshi Initiative by linking it to the EPWP and the prevention programme in relation to HCBC and support.

The HIV and AIDS Youth Programme's services now reach marginalised and vulnerable youth in rural areas. It focuses on preventing the spread of HIV and AIDS among young people. Behaviour-changing programmes have been implemented to help reduce vulnerability.

HIV and AIDS Workplace Policy and Strategy
The Department of Social Development's HIV and AIDS Workplace Policy and Strategy is managed according to strategic focus areas.

In addition, a set of indicators has been developed to monitor the implementation of the workplace strategy.

Research has been undertaken to monitor the HIV and AIDS Workplace Policy and Strategy, and assess related capacity-building and training needs. The impact of the department's HIV and AIDS workplace initiatives will also be assessed. The aim is to develop a comprehensive programme that addresses, among other things, sexual behaviour and creates awareness about accurate and scientific facts on HIV and AIDS.

The National Action Committee for Children Made Vulnerable by HIV and AIDS (NACCA) established reference teams to accelerate the implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) for Children Made Vulnerable by HIV and AIDS, 2006 – 2008 and to ensure that critical focal areas towards the implementation of the NAP received urgent priority. A review of the NAP 2006 – 2008 was completed and the draft report circulated for input. A draft NAP 2009 – 2011 has been developed and circulated for final input.

A situational analysis of child-headed households in South Africa was conducted and the subsequent report disseminated to organisations and participants during feedback workshops conducted in all the provinces.

HIV and AIDS advocacy, awareness and outreach
Achieving a meaningful and clear understanding of the scientific facts about HIV and AIDS will lead to individual self-management regarding the risk of HIV infection. The awareness programme has the following main pillars:
- disclosure
- communication
- rights
- facilitation.

The programme also deals with the physical and emotional consequences of HIV and AIDS. It addresses the following challenges:
- the lack of accurate and current information on HIV and AIDS
- the lack of access to care, support, treatment and new healthcare developments
- discrimination against the infected and affected.

The programme aims to involve people living with HIV and AIDS in initiatives that directly help affected and infected people to alleviate stigmatisation.

The prevention of STIs and HIV was a priority during 2008/09, and the department contributed to the country's STI and HIV NSP's objective of reducing new HIV infections by 50% by 2011. To realise this goal, the department signed an MoU with loveLife and the Planned Parenthood Association of South Africa and piloted its monitoring and evaluation tool for prevention in five provinces. The department also carried out an assessment of available information, education and communication material on loveLife sites. A situational analysis was undertaken in all provinces to assess the alignment of prevention work

to the NSP and capacity of NGOs to carry out behaviour-change programmes.

Furthermore, the department developed awareness and promotional material, some of which was distributed at events such as the STI Week, Candlelight Memorial, World AIDS Day, the South African World AIDS Conference and Human Rights Day. Prevention programmes for out-of-school youth have been developed through loveLife, while gender mainstreaming and capacity-building for partners awaits the finalisation of the situational analysis report. Programme outlines for youth- and gender-behaviour change have been developed.

Care and support

HCBC is the provision of comprehensive services, including health and social services, by formal and informal caregivers in HCBC and support programmes.

The HCBC Programme has been prioritised as a cost-effective response substituting for a significant proportion of AIDS-related hospital care. The EPWP is a critical component of the effort to deliver holistic HIV and AIDS and tuberculosis-related services. It represents a strategic opportunity to address key pressure points in current interventions.

The departments of social development and of health have taken joint responsibility for implementing the HCBC Programme nationally. HCBC organisations use the community-driven model in providing care and support to people affected and infected by HIV and AIDS, orphans and vulnerable children and child-headed households, including people suffering from other medical conditions. Government is the main source of funding for HCBC organisations. By September 2009, a total of 42 827 community caregivers received stipends. Of this number, 30 932 received a stipend of R1 000 while 11 895 received a lower stipend.

The 2008/09 financial year saw the development of a policy framework for HCBC. The policy sets parameters of practice for the establishment and implementation of a comprehensive and integrated support programme within HCBC in South Africa. The goals of the policy were refined to include monitoring and evaluation of HCBC.

Similarly, a module for monitoring and evaluating HCBC was developed and the data-collection tools for the module implemented by 28 HCBC organisations in KwaZulu-Natal and North-West.

The department continued to prioritise training for caregivers. As a result of this, 41 908 community caregivers received accredited training in terms of NQF levels one to four through NGOs.

Draft modules on psychosocial care and support were also developed as part of the implementation of the NAP on psychosocial support for children and adults living with HIV and affected by AIDS.

Services to orphans made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS

A policy framework for orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS was developed, which reflects the collective commitment of government, FBOs, CBOs, civil society and the business sector, and serves as a guiding tool to all people involved in HIV and AIDS and in the children's sector. It seeks to reinforce existing commitments and efforts to create a supportive and enabling environment for children.

An NAP was then developed to clearly define the value-adding role of various stakeholders in addressing the social impact of HIV and AIDS.

The Department of Social Development is developing a national database of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC), which will include child-headed households. The programmes that are in place to assist OVC include access to treatment, food, skills training and psychosocial support.

Each community should have a childcare forum that works with social workers, welfare organisations and other community structures to ensure that identified OVC receive appropriate services.

The department has established a number of community-based drop-in centres where children are given meals and a packed lunch before they go to school. Caregivers at drop-in centres also assist children from child-headed households with homework and involve them in life-skills programmes.

Partnerships

The department continues to strengthen its partnerships with national and international organisations involved in the fight against HIV and AIDS.

The department chairs the NACCA, which is a multisectoral team consisting of government, FBOs, CBOs, civil society, the business sector, the United Nations (UN) Children's Fund and Save the Children, focusing on the care and support of OVC.

Faith-based organisations and the business sector

The department has strengthened its partner-

ship with churches and other FBOs, the business sector, volunteer organisations and individuals, to assist with poverty-relief, HIV and AIDS, and social-grant registration programmes.

Promoting and protecting the rights of vulnerable groups
Children and youth

South Africa has acceded to and signed the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and other related conventions and protocols. The aim is to provide care and protection to all children, including OVC, guided by the international and national legal framework.

The national guiding tools to protect and care for children include the Constitution, the Child Care Act, 1983 (Act 74 of 1983), as amended, the *White Paper for Social Welfare (1997)* and the Children's Act, 2005 as amended. Section 137 of the Children's Act, 2005 proposes new child-protection measures for child-headed households. This section defines those children who can be regarded as child-headed households, makes provision for appointing an adult for supervising a child-headed household and allows children in child-headed households to access social grants and other material assistance.

Statutory services and community-based care services are rendered to enable orphans to continue living with their siblings in their parental homes.

Statutory services rendered to these households include:
- Therapeutic counselling: The aim of therapeutic counselling is to help family members deal with personal problems, difficulties and traumas.
- Adult supervision: In relation to adult supervision, an adult in the nearby surrounding is identified to provide the child-headed household with regular parental care and guidance. The adult supervisor stays at her or his respective home, but keeps constant supervision over the family. This is an out-of-court arrangement, but the social worker is expected to provide overall supervision.
- Poor relief and other material assistance: Food parcels and other forms of assistance are provided to child-headed households as a temporary intervention while the social worker is planning for a permanent intervention.

Children are assisted to apply for social grants they are entitled to, for example the CSG and Foster-Care Grant.

Community-based care services are rendered at drop-in centres or HCBC centres. The services are as follows:
- provision of cooked meals and food parcels
- assistance with homework for children who are attending school
- recreation
- capacity-building on parenting and life skills
- psychosocial care and support
- income-generating programmes
- provision of ECD services.

There are certain programmes such as the Isibindi Model that is used by the National Association of Child and Youthcare Workers and the Iso Labantwana and Eye on the Child as applied by Child Welfare, which have special protective measures for vulnerable children at family and community level. The provincial departments of social development support and fund these projects.

The increasing numbers of OVC in the country remain an area of major concern. Since the onset of the global financial downturn, many organisations, particularly those working with children, have reported a dramatic increase in cases of child abandonment as many families are battling to cope.

It is well recognised that the majority of children are rendered vulnerable by poverty and all its associated challenges such as HIV and AIDS. The combined effects of these factors present the greatest threat to the Government's ability to achieve its objectives and commitments towards the realisation of children's rights as enshrined in the Constitution.

In November 2009, the Department of Social Development and the German Development Bank signed a R76-million deal to improve the living conditions of child- and youth-headed households in South Africa.

The department will equip the children with life skills and ensure access to improved services offered by refurbished and adequately equipped community care centres.

The programme will be implemented over a period of three years in the Limpopo and KwaZulu-Natal provinces.

The agreement follows a relationship between the two parties that began in 2007 with the commissioning of a study on child-headed households in South Africa.

The purpose of the study was to assess the needs of child-headed households and to identify services and additional resources that might be used to support them.

In 2008/09, the number of children who had become orphaned and vulnerable was estimated at 1,5 million, with the largest number in KwaZulu-Natal, the Eastern Cape and Gauteng, respectively. This number is expected to reach two million in 2010.

Together with the UN Children's Fund, the Department of Social Development launched a surveillance system for maternal orphans. Through this system, the department is able to identify, monitor and locate orphaned children in South Africa. Most importantly, this system will enable the department to effectively collaborate with other government departments and NGOs to provide services in the identified areas.

One of the department's key interventions in the care and protection of children is alternative care, which is legislated in terms of the Children's Act, 2005. Alternative care refers to the care of children outside their parental homes. With the exception of adoption, foster care and child and youthcare centres are temporary forms of alternative care.

Adoption is the traditional method of care in the field of child welfare and has for many years been regarded as the most effective means of providing a permanent and stable family life for children in distress. The Government prefers adoption as it provides stability, long-term family relationships and gives a child a sense of belonging.

The annual statistics show that adoption cases remained static over the last five years in comparison to foster care, which has seen an exponential increase. By July 2009, a total of 511 479 children were in foster care while 80 000 were in adoption. The low take-up rates in adoption can be attributed to lengthy court procedures and the general lack of information on this matter. To address this, the department has developed an adoption strategy which seeks to:
• increase the number of local adoptions
• increase the number of prospective adoptive parents locally and reduce placement of children through intercountry adoption
• make communities aware of adoption services
• contribute towards reducing the number of children placed in foster, child and youthcare centres.

In addition, the Department of Social Development appointed the Human Sciences Research Council to conduct a study into the understanding, perceptions and beliefs of adoption. The study will be conducted in four provinces. The findings of the study will assist the department to identify barriers that prevent people from adopting children as well as introduce appropriate programmes and services to promote adoption.

The department aims to put into practice the *Register on Adoptable Children and Prospective Adoptive Parents*, as legislated in terms of Section 232 of the Children's Act, 2005 in 2010. The department and adoption service-providers will then be able to ensure the placement of children within the country. The department aims to adhere to the subsidiary principle of the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoptions, which states that all local placements in the child's country of origin need to be explored before intercountry adoption can be considered.

By late 2009, the Department of Social Development had 238 registered children's homes and 48 places of safety throughout the country. In terms of the Children's Act, 2005, all these facilities should be transformed into child and youthcare centres so that they can provide appropriate services to children.

In September 2009, the department conducted a national audit of registered and unregistered child and youthcare centres. The findings of the study will assist to determine the nature of services provided in these facilities as well compile a database of all child and youthcare centres.

The department's ability to respond effectively to the growing number and needs of OVC is continually hampered by the critical lack of social-service professionals. As a result, social work has been declared a scare skill profession. To address this, the department launched a recruitment and retention strategy for social workers in 2009. The strategy aims to entice prospective students and revive interest in the social-work profession.

The Department of Social Development has committed itself, as per the Integrated Plan on ECD, to increase the number of ECD sites from where practitioners are selected for training.

The ECD sites will also be provided with subsidies for children from poor households.

The Social Protection and Community Development Cluster had registered 688 ECD sites by the end of September 2009 and 8 014 new children were subsidised, bringing the total number of children receiving subsidies to 419 217. This number is expected to increase as new facilities are registered.

International social services (ISS)

ISS are rendered to clients in need of intercountry social services to and from South Africa, focusing on unaccompanied minors.

The South African ISS Unit works with other ISS offices worldwide. There is a good network of ISS branches, affiliated bureaus and correspondents.

There is also close collaboration and overlap on enquiries with regard to adoptions.

The ISS Unit has initiated training at provincial level to streamline referral processes in the sector across partner departments and NGOs.

Childline South Africa

Childline offers a toll-free crisis line (0800 55 555) to children and families across South Africa on a 24-hour basis. The line provides immediate assistance to children and families in crisis who need counselling and information.

Childline is a non-profit organisation (NPO) that works collectively to protect children from all forms of violence and create a culture of children's rights in South Africa.

Programmes delivered through the provincial offices include:
- crisis line
- child rights, prevention and education
- training of volunteers
- training of other professionals who work with child protection and children
- therapy for abused and traumatised children and their families
- court preparation of child witnesses
- networking and coordination
- advocacy.

Programmes delivered through the national office are:
- training and education
- analysis of law and policy
- lobbying and advocacy
- networking and coordination.

Social-crime prevention
Probation services

The Department of Social Development is implementing the Probation Services Act, 1991 (Act 116 of 1991), as amended, and at national and provincial levels provides early intervention services and prevention programmes to offenders and victims of crime.

The National and Provincial Probation Service Coordinators' Forum meets on a regular basis to deal with service-delivery issues pertaining to children awaiting trial, especially their removal from correctional facilities.

Provinces have increased the number of diversion programmes to ensure that children are diverted from the criminal justice system. One such centre is the Mangaung One-Stop Youth Justice Centre in the Motheo District in the Free State.

Home-based supervision is proving to be a successful programme for any high-risk child or child in conflict with the law. It is a cost-effective manner of bringing about behavioural changes within these children. The parents have to be co-responsible in dealing with their children to achieve the desired changes. Different programmes can be used during home-based supervision. The assistant probation officer is responsible for supervision but the probation officer remains the case manager. Regular consultations should take place between the probation officer and assistant probation officer to achieve the best results.

Overcrowding in prisons remains a concern. The national office and provinces have developed an action plan to ensure that children do not await trial in prisons.

The focus of the action plan is to provide secure-care facilities.

The 2008/09 financial year witnessed the finalisation of the reception, assessment and referral (RAR) guidelines; home-based supervision guidelines; and a national resource directory of services within the probation practice. It is envisaged that the guidelines will guide all assistant probation officers rendering home-based supervision services. RAR guidelines will also guide probation officers in running and managing assessments within the RAR centres.

During 2008/09, the department conducted a pilot programme in six correctional facilities for children awaiting trial. These services were provided by Khulisa after negotiations with the Department of Correctional Services. By the end of March 2009, a total of 1 406 children had participated in the Mirror Project in all six correctional facilities.

Together with the SACSSP, the department embarked on an initiative that saw the reorientation and training of 308 assistant probation officers. The intention of the initiative was to register the officers with the Council for Social-Service Professions as social auxiliary workers focusing on probation services.

The development of the Social Crime Prevention Strategy and the blueprint for minimum norms and standards for secure care centres were set in motion during 2008/09.

Victim-Empowerment Programme (VEP)

The VEP aims to lessen the long-term impact of crime by proactively tending to the needs of all

victims of crime and violence, with a special focus on women and children.

It also ensures that the implementation of such programmes and policies is monitored and evaluated.

The year 2009 marked the 11th anniversary of the VEP. Through the VEP, the Department of Social Development has scored several achievements. These include the establishment of 89 shelters to cater for abused women in the country. In 2001, there were only 39 shelters, which were mostly operated by civil-society organisations.

To provide better services to victims of domestic violence, the department reviewed the policy framework and strategy for shelters for victims of domestic violence in South Africa.

The policy framework will provide guidance to service-providers helping abused women in shelters and ensure that their services are aligned to the Victim's Charter. The *Resource Directory for VEP Services* has been reviewed and finalised and the audit of services completed in March 2009.

The department developed the Strategy on the Engagement of Men and Boys in the Prevention of Gender-Based Violence. It is an initiative to encourage the involvement and participation of men and boys in gender equality with special focus on the prevention of gender-based violence. The strategy was piloted for six months in North West as a trial run before the roll-out to other provinces.

The department, in consultation with provinces, also developed guidelines for victims of rape, domestic violence, violent crimes and human trafficking in 2008. The National Policy Guidelines for Victim Empowerment were approved by the justice, crime-prevention and security and social clusters. These policy guidelines will provide strategic direction to the sector and ensure availability of resources to implement programmes to support and protect victims of crime and violence.

The department developed an integrated VEP Strategy 2008 – 2010 with the National VEP Management Forum, which will guide the implementation of the policy guidelines by various departments and the various forums within the sector.

In celebrating the 10th anniversary of the VEP, the department, together with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), held the National VEP Conference in KwaZulu-Natal in August 2008 to commemorate the achievements of the VEP and plan for the next 10 years

In celebrating the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children, the department, led by the former Deputy Minister of Provincial and Local Government, played a critical role in all national functions.

The department also hosted a national event in November 2008 in partnership with the North West and UNODC to commemorate 16 Days of No Violence against Women and Children and to launch a one-stop centre for victims of abuse in Vryburg.

National Directory on Services for Victims of Violence and Crime

The *National Directory on Services for Victims of Violence and Crime*, which was launched during the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children Campaign in December 2004, is updated annually in collaboration with the provincial VEP managers or coordinators and their provincial counterparts.

In July 2009, the Minister of Social Development, Ms Edna Molewa, launched the National Policy Guidelines and the *Directory on Services for Victims of Violence and Crime*.

Care and support to families

The department developed and finalised a strategy for services to families of victims to promote coordinated and integrated services to them.

The department provided training on family-preservation services to capacitate social-service professionals to deliver services on all levels. The training programme was conducted in three provinces, and 40 service-providers were trained in each province.

The *Training Manual on Services to Families in Crises* has been approved.

In addition, the Framework of Positive Values and Guidelines for Implementation were approved during 2008/09. The Social Development Strategy for Services to Women has been redrafted and was expected to be finalised in the 2009/10 financial year.

Qualitative research on indigenous knowledge systems and practices that characterise functionality and dysfunctionality of South African families was conducted in provinces. A resource directory for services and programmes for families was developed and will be used to draft a migration plan where there are gaps in terms of services.

During 2008/09, the department, together with provinces and other stakeholders, celebrated the national and international days for families. The International Day for Families (IDF) was celebrated in partnership with the Mayor of eThekwini on 15 May 2008 and an organisation on positive values was launched.

The theme for the IDF was *Fathers and Families: Responsibilities and Challenges*. The National Day for Women was celebrated in August 2008, under the theme *Financing Gender Equality: Women in Leadership Fighting Poverty*.

Prevention and treatment of substance and drug abuse

At the release of the *UN 2009 World Drug Report* in July 2009, the Central Drugs Authority (CDA) announced that drug consumption in South Africa was twice the world norm and that the use of cocaine and dagga had increased by 20% in two years.

In 2006, 2,52 million people were using dagga. This increased to 3,2 million in 2008. According to the *UN 2009 World Drug Report*, the use of cocaine increased from 0,24 million in 2006 to 0,29 million in 2008. However, the use of heroin decreased by 20% during the same time period.

The number of South Africans in treatment for cocaine addiction increased from 1,5% in 1996 to 17,5% in 2008.

The report stated that 15% of South Africa's population had a drug problem.

A negative effect of globalisation is that South Africa has become situated at the centre of the world drug trade, being a conduit for the transfer of drugs to other destinations.

Dagga and alcohol are still the most abused substances. An estimated 2,2 million people use dagga or cannabis, followed by cocaine, heroin, speed, LSD, hashish, ecstasy, tik and others.

The social cost of illicit drug use has not been officially calculated, but up to 12 million family members of drug users face emotional and financial strain. In addition, drug usage has a negative effect on transport safety. A third of heavy-duty long-distance drivers admit to using drugs to relax and stay awake. The main drugs used in this instance are alcohol and dagga.

A conservative estimate of the economic costs to South Africa of alcohol abuse, based on research studies conducted in other countries, is between R8,7 billion and R17,4 billion a year. The social costs are also enormous. About 11 million family members have to endure the turmoil of living with problem or risky drinkers. Risky drinking affects 17,5 million South Africans. Harmful drinking is defined as people drinking first thing in the morning, drinking to the point of intoxication and taking alcohol between mealtimes.

The Ke Moja Campaign, launched in the Western Cape, is a prevention programme that targets the youth. "Ke Moja" means "no thanks", and the project aims to inform and educate the public about the dangers of drugs, as well as to mobilise them, particularly children and the youth, to say no to substance abuse.

Children and adolescents make up over half of South Africa's population. According to the South African Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use, an increasing number of young patients is being admitted to rehabilitation centres.

The Ke Moja Campaign communicates to the youth in their own language the negative effects of drugs. In 2008/09, it reached over 20 million children.

The Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse Bill was passed by Parliament in November 2008. It aims to combat substance abuse through:
- prevention
- early intervention
- treatment
- reintegration programmes.

The Youth Best-Practice Treatment Model was developed, and training provided countrywide to facilitate the roll-out of the model. It proposes essential elements to be considered when offering treatment to youths in residential facilities.

Successful combating of the drug problem requires the application of three elements in an integrated and balanced manner. These are:
- supply reduction through law enforcement
- demand reduction through, among other things, prevention strategies
- harm reduction through treatment and social support.

During 2008/09 the department started with the implementation of minimum norms and standards for inpatient treatment centres in nine treatment centres located in Mpumalanga, North West, KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape.

The Mini Drug Master Plan was approved and distributed for implementation. Capacity-building on the implementation of the National Drug Master Plan was held in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape. Two hundred service-providers were trained in Limpopo and Gauteng.

People with disabilities

In 2009, following the appointment of the new

Youth Development Month is held every June. Activities include Youth Day on 16 June, the National Entrepreneur Exhibition and National Volunteer Week.

administration, the Ministry of Women, Children and People with Disabilities was created. There are about four million people with disabilities in South Africa, with the majority being women.

The implementation of a common tool to assess disabilities has been put on hold pending the amendment of the Social Assistance Act, 2004 in the 2009 Parliamentary cycle. In the meantime though, the Department of Social Development has appointed a 40-member panel of tribunals to deal with appeals submitted for all grants.

In 2008/09, the department finalised the Implementation Strategy for the Policy on Disability.

The *White Paper on an Integrated National Disability Strategy (1997)* provides a policy framework for implementation across the whole of society and through all spheres of government. The National Skills Development Strategy calls for 4% of all people who obtain training to be people with disabilities.

The Department of Social Development supports the following national councils:
• National Council for Persons with Physical Disabilities
• Deaf Federation of South Africa
• Epilepsy South Africa

The National Youth-Development Agency (NYDA) aims to create and promote coordination in youth-development matters. The NYDA resulted from the merger of the National Youth Commission and Umsobomvu Youth Fund.

The NYDA was formally launched on 16 June 2009, as pronounced by President Jacob Zuma in his 2009 State of the Nation Address. The launch formed part of the National Youth Month events championed by The Presidency.

As the primary custodians of youth development in the country, the NYDA's mandate is to:
• advance youth development through guidance and support to initiatives across sectors of society and spheres of government
• embark on initiatives that seek to advance the economic development of young people
• develop and coordinate the implementation of the Integrated Youth Development Plan and Strategy for the country.

The functions of the NYDA include the following:
• National Youth Service and social cohesion
• economic participation
• policy, research and development
• governance, training and development
• youth advisory and information services
• National Youth Fund.

• South African Federation for Mental Health
• Cancer Association of South Africa.

Youth development

Youths form a significant percentage of the South African population. According to the results of *Census 2001*, 18,1 million people are youth between the ages of 14 to 35 years. This equates to 40,5% of the total population. Youths are thus a powerful resource for development and are critical actors in the realisation of the millennium development goals (MDGs).

Youth-work professionalisation

In March 2009, the department hosted the National Youth Policy Consultative Conference. The *Research Report on the State of Youth Work in South Africa* was launched and finalised. The process of professionalisation is continuing and the declarations of the conference clearly give direction to the process of professionalising youth work.

Regulating youth volunteerism

The 2008/09 financial year saw the hosting of four roundtables under the themes:
• *Youth Volunteers for Development*
• *Creating an Enabling Environment for Youth Volunteerism in the Private Sector*
• *Creating an Enabling Environment for Youth Volunteerism in the Public Sector*
• *Strengthening Youth Volunteerism in Civil Society.*

A draft framework on youth volunteerism has been consolidated and still requires further consultation.

Policy on youth

The goal of the National Youth Policy is to produce empowered young people who are able to realise their full potential and understand their roles and responsibilities in making meaningful contributions to the development of a non-racial and prosperous South Africa. The cultivation of the youth sector must be an integral part of economic development. Sustained growth needs to be achieved through community and youth empowerment, creating an enabling environment that allows all sectors of society access to nationwide prosperity.

Improved services for youth

The Department of Social Development developed and distributed the Youth Service Programme Toolkit to all provinces. To improve service for

youth development, the department facilitated the establishment of youth directorates in five provinces.

United Nations Population Fund (UNPFA) Third Country Support Programme for South Africa

The UNPFA and other UN partners have introduced a third cycle of assistance to South Africa in the form of the Third Country Support Programme, contextualised within the UN Development Assistance Framework.

The overall goal is to improve the quality of life by contributing to reversing the spread of HIV, reducing gender inequities in the AIDS pandemic, enhancing the centrality of population issues in development policies and programmes, and strengthening the integration of population factors in the national development agenda.

These areas reflect national priorities, articulated in government's Vision 2014. They are contextualised within the MDGs and the government-prepared country analysis, which was adopted as the basis for development cooperation with all partners. Implementation of the projects will involve and benefit all nine provinces.

The duration of the Third Country Programme from 2007 to 2010, and a total of $13 million has been pledged by the UNFPA to support the implementation of identified projects.

Welfare services
Remuneration of social workers

The process of regrading social workers was completed and implemented at national and provincial levels. Social workers on salary levels seven to 12 were regraded. The Minister of Finance allocated funds for revised salary packages to be implemented. The implementation will be evaluated to reduce disparities and ensure uniformity.

Recruitment and Retention Strategy for Social Workers

The broader Recruitment and Retention Strategy for Social Workers addresses the needs of social workers in the public and private sectors. It includes the following key components:
- increasing human resources by recruiting and retaining social workers
- promoting the education, training and development of social workers

- improving the quality of social-work services
- strengthening governance structures within the social-service professions
- promoting occupational safety standards within the workplace
- improving service conditions for social workers
- marketing and promoting social-work services and programmes.

The implementation of the strategy remains vital to the realisation of the goals of the Department of Social Development. To this end, the department was negotiating the Occupation Specific Dispensation for various categories of social workers in the Public Service. This will create better remuneration packages.

Capacity-Building Programme for Social-Service Professionals

In the 2009/10 financial year, the department allocated R210 million to the bursary scheme. There were 3 529 students on the departmental scholarship programme.

Repositioning the developmental social welfare sector

The Integrated Service-Delivery Model for Developmental Social Services aims to implement comprehensive, efficient and quality service delivery that contributes to a self-reliant society.

The model acknowledges the interdependent relationship between the department's main programmes, namely Social Security, Social Welfare and Community Development.

It determines the nature, scope, extent and level of work that constitutes service delivery by developmental social services. It also provides a basis for determining appropriate norms and standards for service delivery, which will, in turn, provide a basis for funding and greater efficiency in service delivery.

Funding of non-governmental organisations

The services rendered by NGOs as partners of the department in service delivery continue to receive support. The department continues to award funds to service-providers at national and provincial level, with 18 national bodies benefitting.

Statutory bodies
National Development Agency

The NDA is a statutory body established in terms

of the NDA Act, 1998 (Act 108 of 1998), to contribute towards the eradication of poverty and eliminate its causes.

This is achieved through the NDA's primary mandate of giving grants to civil-society organisations that implement development projects of poor communities and strengthening the institutional capacity of other civil-society organisations that provide services to poor communities.

The NDA's secondary mandate is to:
• promote consultation, dialogue and sharing of development experience between civil-society organisations and relevant organs of state
• debate development policy
• undertake research and publication aimed at providing the basis for development policy.

The NDA is a critical engine that ensures growth and skills development in the South African economy and plays an important role in the Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative for South Africa.

Relief boards

The Fund-Raising Act, 1978 (Act 107 of 1978), provides for relief boards to offer social relief to people in distress as a result of disasters or their displacement from another country.

Non-profit organisations

Civil society in South Africa is characterised by a variety of organisations of different sizes and shapes across the political, economic and social spectrum of society.

These range from FBOs and CBOs, charities (welfare) and traditional organisations such as social and sports clubs, to a host of other development and social forms of organisations working tirelessly on weaving and maintaining the social fabric of society.

South Africa, like any democratic society, has an enabling legal environment for civil society that supports and encourages the formation of organisations.

The NPO Act, 1997 (Act 71 of 1997), is perceived to be the entry point in the regulatory framework for organisations to derive benefits. It provides a registration facility for all public NPOs that are not organs of the State.

The Directorate: NPOs was established in terms of this Act to increase public access to information on registered organisations. The legal mandate requires that the directorate registers organisations within two months of receipt of a complete application, and provides support for organisations to register and meet reporting requirements.

The registration and reporting of organisations have increased substantially since the inception of the Act in 1998.

In its quest to provide support to civil society and empower communities, the department heightened the registration and maintenance of NPOs. During 2008/09, 14 207 applications were received and processed, and 6 819 of these met the requirements and were registered within two months. This increased the number of registered NPOs to 56 237, representing an increase of over 12% from the 2007/08 financial year.

As more NPOs comply with the requirements of the law, the department's efforts to create a robust and accountable civil society will gain still further force.

Suggested reading
Amoateng, AY and Heaton, TB (eds). 2007. *Families and Households in Post-Apartheid South Africa.* Cape Town: Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) Press.

Bloom, J. 2009. *Rising Tide: How Freedom of Responsibility Uplifts Everyone.* South Africa: SA Institute of Race Relations.

Dawes, A, *et al* (eds). 2007. *Monitoring Child Well-Being: A South African Rights-Based Approach.* Cape Town: HSRC Press.

Earle, N. 2008. *Social Work in Social Change: The Profession and Education of Social Workers in South Africa.* Cape Town: HSRC Press.

Erasmus, J and Breier, M (eds). 2009. *Skills Shortages in South Africa: Case Studies of Key Professions.* Cape Town: HSRC Press.

Kraak, A (ed). 2009. *Sectors & Skills: The Need for Policy Alignment.* Cape Town: HSRC Press.

Kraak, A and Press, K (eds). *Human Resources Development Review 2008: Education, Employment and Skills in South Africa.* Cape Town: HSRC Press.

Lefko-Everett, K. 2007. *Voices from the Margins: Migrant Women's Experiences in Southern Africa.* Cape Town: Institute for Democracy in Africa (Idasa).

MacDonald, M. 2008. *Why Race Matters in South Africa.* Scottsville: University of KwaZulu-Natal Press.

Mazonde, IN and Thomas, P (eds). *Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Intellectual Property in the Twenty-First Century: Perspectives from Southern Africa.* Dakar: Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa.

Mojapelo, JS. 2009. *The Corner People of Lady Selborne.* Pretoria: University of South Africa (Unisa) Press.

Morgan, R (ed comp). 2008. *Deaf Me Normal: Deaf South Africans Tell Their Life Stories.* Pretoria: Unisa Press.

Reddy, V, Sandfort, T and Rispel, L (eds). 2009. *From Social Silence to Social Science: Same-Sex Sexuality, HIV & AIDS and Gender in South Africa: Conference Proceedings.* Cape Town: HSRC Press.

Robbins, S and Robbins, S. 2007. *Slavery Unmasked: Arousing the Conscience of Churches and Civil Society.* Johannesburg: Capsal.

Roberts, B. 2007. *Migration Audit of Poverty Reduction Strategies in South Africa.* Cape Town: Idasa.

Steyn, M and Van Zyl, M (eds). 2009. *The Prize and the Price: Shaping Sexualities in South Africa.* Cape Town: HSRC Press.

Terry, G. 2007. *Women's Rights.* Johannesburg: Jacana.

Trotter, H. 2008. *Sugar Girls & Seamen: A Journey into the World of Dockside Prostitution in South Africa.* Auckland Park: Jacana.

Van Dijk, D. 2008. *Beyond Their Age: Coping of Children and Young People in Child-Headed Households in South Africa.* Leiden: African Studies Centre.