

Appended material

i) The following published articles, enclosed with this report, have been peer-reviewed:

E. Francis, 'Learning from the local: rural livelihoods in Ditsobotla, North West Province, South Africa', *Journal of Contemporary African Studies* 17, 1 (1999), pp. 50-73.

C. Murray, 'Changing Livelihoods: The Free State, 1990s', *African Studies* 59, 1 (2000), pp. 115-142.

R. Slater, 'De-industrialisation, Multiple Livelihoods and Identity: Tracking Social Change in Qwaqwa, South Africa', *Journal of Contemporary African Studies* 19, 1 (2001), pp. 81-92.

Chapter Two of Elizabeth Francis' book *Making a Living* (also enclosed) is derived from fieldwork undertaken within the terms of reference of the project.

ii) A brief synopsis of the proposed book that will emerge from the project is as follows:

Colin Murray, Elizabeth Francis and Rachel Slater, *Poverty and Livelihoods in South Africa* (forthcoming)

This book is concerned with livelihoods and poverty in the former 'homelands', where most of the poorest people in South Africa live. Based on research in Qwaqwa, in Free State Province (by Slater and Murray) and Central District, North West Province (by Francis), the book investigates the strategies people living in the former homelands follow to make a living and the institutions shaping livelihoods. The research draws on life histories, innovative longitudinal research and research on local institutions. The book identifies major long-term changes in livelihoods, particularly due to growing insecurity. It also explains the reasons for differences between people's abilities to construct adequate livelihoods. People responded to *apartheid* policies of forced removals to the 'homelands' and the later downturn in the national economy by focussing on security maximisation and risk-spreading, commonly through constructing multiple livelihoods. Livelihood strategies have also been shaped by formal institutions (such as local government, land tenure rules and commodity markets) and informal institutions, particularly social networks. Most formal institutions at the local level increase the risks people face and foster inequalities in access to resources. These include regular incomes (wages, remittances or pension payments) and the state (trading licences and agricultural land). The authors conclude that support for livelihoods should focus on institutional reform for risk reduction and on fostering local opportunities for the construction of livelihoods.

iii) A summary report of the methodological detail of the research is as follows:

Francis carried out three months of fieldwork in the area of **Madibogo** in the Central District of North West Province, as described under 'Methods' in the main report. Her sample was constructed in order to capture differences in livelihoods, resource access and income levels. She used snowball sampling, in order to achieve our objective of understanding inter-household relations through looking at clusters of

associated individuals and households. Commercial farmers led her to people they had employed, members of other households introduced her to their kin and in-laws, to people they brewed beer with, people who herded their stock or helped them regularly, people who paid them to do domestic work, or to people who fostered their children. In following up relationships between individuals in different households, there was a tension between her wish to explore these further and her understanding of the importance of keeping the sample as widely-based as possible, in order to avoid potential biases. Her first-hand exploration of 'clusters' was therefore more limited in practice than we had envisaged. She compensated for this limitation by asking informants about dispersed household members, kin with whom there was a lot of contact, and other people with whom there were relationships which impinged on livelihoods. She used households as her initial unit of analysis. This was a rather crude approach, because of the complexities of movement in and out of households, but she found in each of the cases she studied a core adult or adults living in the household permanently or visiting regularly. Membership/residence of others fluctuated. This approach also allowed her to investigate relationships within households and between them.

Slater carried out one year of fieldwork in '**greater**' Qwaqwa between August 1998 and August 1999. She worked in ten research locations that were selected to represent different modes of livelihood, geographical locations, environmental conditions and settlement histories. In 'old' Qwaqwa, the locations included a section of the main town, Phuthaditjhaba, outlying villages (Makwane and Thibella) and a newly settled squatter camp known as Mandela Park. The sequence of investigations is briefly summarised here:

- 29 interviews were carried out with traditional leaders and local and provincial government officials. These allowed identification of key informants who offered insights into historical and contemporary livelihoods issues in Qwaqwa and who facilitated the research process.
- 125 semi-structured interviews were carried out with a minimum of ten households in each location, to provide baseline information about household size and composition, sources of household livelihoods and patterns of migration in the pursuit of livelihoods. No rigid sampling pattern was used, but as broad a range of people as possible was included.
- Ten 'clusters' of households were identified, defined by significant relationships between members of different households who collaborated in different ways in the generation of their respective household livelihoods, and the connections were followed up in detail.
- 40 individuals were selected from the clusters and life history interviews were carried out, which offered a retrospective view on trajectories of change and facilitated an understanding of how livelihoods had changed over time.

By placing these changes in the context of local and national transformations, it was possible to relate some of the household-level changes to socio-economic, political and institutional changes at regional, provincial and national levels.