# SECTOR REPORTS ON NSPR PROGRAMMES

Currently, the Multi-Sectoral Committee on Poverty Reduction (MSCPR) monitors programmes in five categories: (1) livelihood creation/generation, (2) nutrition and health, (3) income transfer, (4) institutions for the poor, and (5) periodic poverty assessment.

Progress on these programmes is reported quarterly. Section 3.1 is a summary of implementation progress in 2006/07 as reported by sectors. Each programme specific report highlights its objectives, the means through which the objectives are achieved, the indicators monitored, and progress in performance as measured by the indicators.

A review of selected programmes was conducted in mid-2006 to principally assess how much information is captured to track operational performance and progress towards poverty reduction. Section 3.2 presents the main conclusions. Section 3.3 highlights the recommended three-step procedure to achieve these objectives and the progress towards enhancing outcome monitoring.

#### 3.1 SECTOR REPORTS FOR 2006/07

#### 3.1.1 Child Nutrition Surveillance

**Objective:** To monitor the nutritional status of children under five years old attending child welfare clinics.

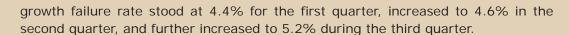
**Indicators:** Total malnutrition rate, growth failure rate, attendance rate and food ration coverage.

**Total malnutrition:** Total malnutrition is the sum of both moderate and severe malnutrition. The nutritional status for under-fives improved during the first quarter of 2006/07 from 5.6% in the previous quarter to 4.7%. Prior to this the nutritional status deteriorated, possibly due to diarrhea outbreaks. During the second quarter, total malnutrition stood at 4.2% and increased slightly to 4.6% (4.7% in October, 4.5% in November and 4.6% in December 2006) in the third quarter. One possible reported cause for this increase was due in part to the shortage of supplementary foods at the health facilities.

By the fourth quarter of 2006/07, total malnutrition was 5.0% (5.2% in January, 4.8% in February and 5.1% in March 2007). These figures were evidently higher than the previous quarter, probably due in part to the same shortages of supplementary food and the fact that it was the ploughing season and childcare practices were competing with farm activities.

There were also inter-district variations, with some districts such as Mabutsane, Kgalagadi North and South and Kweneng West consistently performing poorly. Eleven districts reported total malnutrition prevalence above the national average, with the highest prevalence reported in Mabutsane (13.2%), Kgalagadi North (10.2%), Ghanzi (9.3%), Kweneng West (7.7%), and Bobirwa (6.9%). Districts reporting the lowest prevalence were Ngamiland (1.1%), Gaborone (1.8%) and Lobatse (2.0%).

**Growth failure:** Growth failure is defined as a child's inability to gain weight for three consecutive months and is a sign of increased risk of malnutrition. The national



A shortage of food rations could possibly have been one of the reasons for the growth failure. As observed in the fourth quarter of 2006/07, an increase in ration coverage from 47.7% to 59.2% resulted in a decrease in growth failure from 5.2% to 4.7%. Districts that reported a high growth failure were Kgalagadi North (13.2%), Bobirwa (9%), North East (7.6%) and Kgalagadi South (6.5%).

Clinic attendance: The national average clinic attendance rate was 91.3% during the first quarter of 2006/07 and dropped to 83.8% during the second quarter. The third quarter maintained a similar pattern and remained at 83.1%. By the fourth quarter, the rate remained at 83.1% to 90.6%.

The highest attendance rate was reported at Mabutsane (168.4%), Kweneng West (118.4%), North East (107.9%), Mahalapye (106.5%), Kgalagadi North (104.2%), Boteti (103.1%) and Kgalagadi South (100.3%). Francistown stood at 68.7%. Gaborone reported the lowest attendance rate at 50%.

**Ration coverage:** The Vulnerable Group Feeding Programme was reportedly plagued with shortages of some food commodities, such as vegetable oil, maize meal and Tsabana during the first and second quarter of 2006/07.

In the first quarter, ration coverage dropped to 71.6% from 74.2% in the previous quarter and maintained a declining pattern up to the third quarter of that year (second quarter stood at 57.5% and third quarter stood at 47.7%). A slight recovery was observed in the fourth quarter which stood at 59.2%. These shortages were possibly major factors that contributed to the increase in total malnutrition during

the third quarter.

| Quarter | %<br>Attendance | %<br>Moderate | %<br>Severe | %<br>Total | % Growth<br>Failure | % Ration<br>Received |
|---------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Q 1     | 91.3            | 3.8           | 0.9         | 4.7        | 4.4                 | 71.6                 |
| Q2      | 83.8            | 3.5           | 0.7         | 4.2        | 4.6                 | 57.5                 |
| Q3      | 83.1            | 3.8           | 0.8         | 4.6        | 5.2                 | 47.7                 |
| Q4      | 90.6            | 4.2           | 0.8         | 5.0        | 4.7                 | 59.2                 |

Training: Having identified districts that continue to report high malnutrition prevalence, the Food and Nutrition Unit (FNU) continues to

train health workers in the said districts to identify and address malnutrition in children.

A Growth Monitoring and Nutrition Surveillance workshop was conducted for 35 health workers in Ghanzi (for Ghanzi, Kgalagadi North, Kgalagadi South, Mabutsane and Good Hope) in November 2006. In addition to nutrition surveillance, the workshop also aimed to impart skills on analysing and identifying the causes of malnutrition in their areas. Another training workshop was conducted for other districts that had a high rate of malnutrition (Serowe/Palapye, Mahalapye, Kweneng East, Kweneng West and Kanye Moshupa) in February and March 2007 in Palapye.

Interventions at the district level are reportedly limited by a lack of manpower, as there are no nutritionists to address malnutrition issues within the concerned districts.

Table 3.1 Summary Table for Child Nutrition Monitoring Indicators, 2006/07

| District<br>Council | Beneficiaries<br>Identified | Beneficiaries<br>Trained | In<br>Training |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Ghanzi              | 344                         | 133                      | 15             |
| Francistown         | 112                         | 78                       | 44             |
| Mahalapye           | 101                         | 90                       | 35             |
| Kgalagadi           | 45                          | 19                       | 0              |
| North West          | 54                          | 30                       | 0              |
| Southern            | 51                          | 15                       | 9              |
| North East          | 0                           | 0                        | 0              |
| Selebi Phikwe       | 16                          | 0                        | 0              |
| Kgatleng            | 40                          | 0                        | 0              |
| TOTALS              | 763                         | 365                      | 103            |

**Table 3.2:** Housing for the Poor Project Beneficiary Population<sup>7</sup> by End of 2006/07

# 3.1.2 Housing for the Poor

This is a programme that focuses on creating employment opportunities and empowering the poor through home ownership. In this specific case, the Government is providing capital to set up projects to produce building materials. Once the poor households can run the business ventures themselves and generate income, they can then be in a position to build houses for themselves.

**Objective:** To improve accessibility to good quality basic shelter through income generation schemes.

**Targets for 2006/07:** Facilitate training of 50 beneficiaries in brick/block production, construction of five houses and 175,000 bricks moulded in Kanye by March 2007. Establish two poverty alleviation and housing projects in Maun and Tsabong by March 2007.

**Indicators:** Number of production sites developed, number of beneficiaries recruited, number of newly trained labourers, number of houses constructed, and government expenditure.

**Numbers of beneficiaries recruited and newly trained:** Table 3.2 shows the number of beneficiaries recruited/identified since the inception of the Housing for the Poor project, including projects that are newly established. The update does not reflect the number of people recruited and trained for the different quarters.

**Number of production sites developed:** There are three newly established Housing for the Poor projects in Tsabong, Maun and Kanye. In Tsabong, construction of a government office block and production platform was completed in January 2007 and handed over to the district council. The contract for the purchase of machinery was signed at the close of the 2007 financial year; delivery awaited installation of external electrical reticulation.

The construction of an office block and production platforms in Maun was also completed in January 2007 and handed over to the district council. At the close of the 2007 financial year, the delivery of machinery awaited power connection. Power reticulation is expected to be connected in the new financial year 2007/08.

The Kanye project faced some logistical problems, such as the suitability of the newly installed electricity phase, and the brick moulding machinery which was found to have some defects. This hindered brick moulding as well as house construction. The matter was followed up and the building materials were sent for testing during the last quarter of the year; it is anticipated that commercial production will commence in the first quarter of 2007/08.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The beneficiary population is calculated from the inception of the project to the end of 2006/07.

The next projects to be established will be in Selibe-Phikwe, Masunga and Mochudi. However, the beneficiaries have only been identified for Mochudi and Selibe-Phikwe.

**Number of houses constructed:** It is worth noting that house construction in previously established projects (Francistown, Ghanzi and Mahalapye) progressed well since the inception of the Housing for the Poor project to the end of 2006/07. Cumulative figures show that a total of 84 houses have been constructed (Francistown 23, Mahalapye 19, and Ghanzi 42) and 17 are still under construction (Francistown 10, Ghanzi 5, and Mahalapye 2). A total of 94 beneficiaries are currently actively involved in the three projects. House construction at Kanye is anticipated to commence by the end of 2007/08.

#### 3.1.3 Destitute Programme

**Objective:** To provide the minimum social assistance and protection to the very poor (destitutes) for sustenance of adequate nutrition and health.

**Indicators:** Prevalence of destitute persons and government expenditure.

In 2006/07, the destitute programme covered 33,261 adults permanently inscribed, 2,834 adults temporarily inscribed, 23,336 needy students, and 583 children in need of care.

Table 3.3 shows the geographical distribution of the beneficiaries, with the largest concentration in three districts: Serowe/Palapye, Southern and Molepolole. Over the same fiscal year, the Department of Social Services spent P94.5 million in direct assistance to the destitute beneficiaries (excluding cash transfer). The same three districts rank at the highest level of expenditure. The amount spent for Molepolole was considerably higher than the planned budget (nearly double).

#### 3.1.4 Remote Area Development Programme (RADP)

**Objective:** To improve the socio-economic status of the Remote Area Dwellers.

Indicators: Number of people allocated with livestock and government expenditure.

Overall, 195 beneficiaries were expected to be allocated livestock; and about 736 cattle and 623 goats (male and female) were expected to be distributed during the year 2006/07.

At the end of the year (fourth quarter), 178 (91%) of the targeted beneficiaries had got their packages. Some districts failed to allocate the packages, due to higher livestock purchasing prices against the initial budgeted amount. There were also tendering delays, due to livestock movement restrictions, because of a foot and mouth disease outbreak.

The beneficiaries who did not receive livestock will be considered during the 2007/8 financial year.

#### 3.1.5 Field Crop Production Improvement for Communal Farmers

**Objective:** To provide extension support to increase communal farmers' cereal yields (Target: from 200kg/ha to 500kg/ha by March 2007).

| District       | Permanent<br>Destitute<br>Persons | Temporary<br>Destitute<br>Persons | Needy<br>Students | Needy<br>Children | Planned/Ap-<br>proved (in '000<br>Pula) | Actual Expendi-<br>ture (in '000<br>Pula) |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| Southern       | 5,348                             | 739                               | 3,569             | 115               | 15,862                                  | 16,408                                    |
| Kgalagadi      | 1,379                             | 46                                | 787               | 11                | 7,613                                   | 4,367                                     |
| Ghanzi         | 1,690                             | 772                               | 745               | 25                | 7,292                                   | 5,753                                     |
| Maun           | 2,953                             | 53                                | 1,781             | 22                | 8,430                                   | 3,125                                     |
| Chobe          | 251                               | 6                                 | 218               | 5                 | 1,245                                   | 926                                       |
| Molepolole     | 4,863                             | 154                               | 3,338             | 24                | 6,912                                   | 11,782 *                                  |
| Letlhakeng     | 2,446                             | 7                                 | 1,388             | 6                 | 5,995                                   | 5,457                                     |
| Kgatleng       | 679                               | 283                               | 843               | 50                | 4,091                                   | 3,555                                     |
| North East     | 572                               | 136                               | 688               | 16                | 3,245                                   | 2,987                                     |
| Serowe/Palapye | 5,531                             | 69                                | 3,583             | 71                | 15,283                                  | 15,727                                    |
| Tutume         | 2,039                             | 245                               | 1,580             | 75                | 7,074                                   | 5,632                                     |
| Bobirwa        | 956                               | 92                                | 1,019             | 45                | 3,290                                   | 2,698                                     |
| Boteti         | 1638                              | 165                               | 1,325             | 7                 | 7,971                                   | 6,545                                     |
| Mahalapye      | 2,100                             | 67                                | 1,926             | 111               | 7,921                                   | 6,784                                     |
| South East     | 816                               | 0                                 | 546               | 0                 | 3,051                                   | 2,765                                     |
| TOTAL          | 33,261                            | 2,834                             | 23,336            | 583               | 105,275                                 | 94,511                                    |

Source: Department of Social Services, Ministry of Local Government.

**Indicators:** Crop production assessment for 2006/07, number of communal farmers assisted, and provision of extension services.

**Crop assessment report for 2006/07:** At the end of the second quarter, most of the farmers had completed harvesting and threshing their produce from the 2005/06 agricultural season. Total production was 26,007.6 tonnes for the communal subsector and 20,017.98 tonnes for the commercial sub-sector by the end of October 2006.

Ploughing and planting mainly commenced during the end of December 2006 for the 2006/07 crop year, due to the late onset of good rains. By the end of the fourth quarter (January to March 2007), ploughing and planting had stopped for the communal sub-sector, but was still ongoing in the commercial sub-sector.

The estimated total area ploughed/planted for both the communal and commercial sectors was 71,006.91 hectares (22% of the 325,000 hectares of cultivable land countrywide).

The objective to increase cereal crop yields from 200kg/ha to 500kg/ha by March 2007 was not realised, due to the heat stress that prevailed, leading to a general poor crop stand.

**Extension Services:** In an effort to facilitate an increase in cereal productivity, the government arable sub-sector provides extension services to communal farmers. These services include developing demonstration farms in different districts countrywide.

By the third quarter, 37 demonstration plots had been planted, mainly in the Central and Francistown regions. But, due to serious soil moisture limitations, all 37 demonstration plots had wilted by the fourth quarter of 2006/07.

By the end of the fourth quarter, a total of 24 Agricultural Demonstration Farmers (ADFs) had been trained in improved production technologies and 64 ADFs were allocated some of the necessary equipment. Cumulatively, 1122 out of the 1200 targeted farmers had adopted and were using the new technologies.



Table 3.3: Number of Destitutes and Budgetary Allocations



| Programme<br>Type                               | Stated<br>Objective  | Indicator Reported   | Comment   |
|---|--|--|---|
| Child Nutrition<br>Surveillance                 | Monitor state of child nutrition   | Underweight children (%)<br>Growth failure (%)<br>Attendance rate (%)<br>Ration coverage (%)<br>Training of health workers   | The indicators are reported regularly on quarterly basis Completeness of the indicators (under discussion)  |
| Housing for the<br>Poor                         | Creating employ-<br>ment and empow-<br>ering the poor<br>through home<br>ownership | Number of beneficiaries<br>enrolled<br>Number of beneficiaries<br>trained<br>Number of production sites<br>Number of houses con-<br>structed                                 | No quarterly report for 2006/07<br>Cumulative figures make it difficult to<br>track performance against set targets<br>Completeness of the indicators (under<br>discussion)<br>No beneficiary-level tracking (proposed<br>template) |
| Destitute<br>Programme                          | Provision of social<br>assistance to the<br>very poor                              | Number of beneficiaries by<br>category<br>Planned budget and actual<br>expenditure   | Not consistent in reporting quarterly The expenditures are too aggregated to track benefit level by type of benefit and beneficiary category No reporting on persons graduated No beneficiary-level tracking (proposed template)    |
| Remote Area Development Programme (RADP)        | Improve the<br>socio-economic<br>status of Remote<br>Area Dwellers                 | Number of people allocated<br>with livestock<br>Actual public expenditure  | Only reported for 4th quarter<br>Completeness of the indicators (to be<br>discussed)<br>No beneficiary-level tracking   |
| Extension<br>Services to<br>Communal<br>Farmers | Improve crop<br>yields on com-<br>munal farms                                      | Crop assessment report<br>Number of communal farm-<br>ers trained on production<br>technologies<br>Number of demonstration<br>farms developed (i.e. exten-<br>sion outreach) | The crop assessment report is adequately reported, but the progress on number of trained farmers and demonstration farms could be reported quarterly  No beneficiary-level tracking   |
| Backyard<br>Gardening                           | Assist horticul-<br>ture farmers to<br>increase yields                             | Number of backyard gar-<br>dens established<br>Yield increase  | Not consistent in reporting quarterly<br>No reporting on improvement in yields  |
| Small Stock<br>Programme                        | Reduce mortality rate  | Number of farmers trained<br>Rate of small stock<br>mortality  | Not consistent in reporting quarterly<br>Completeness of the indicators (under<br>discussion)<br>No detailed data on farmers trained and<br>progress on reduction of mortality<br>No beneficiary-level tracking                     |
| Poultry<br>Programme                            | Increase poultry<br>meat production  | Meat production in tonnes and farmers trained  | Not consistent in reporting quarterly   |

The Agricultural Research sector continues to promote the adoption of more efficient technologies (Larsvyt 46-85 and weed management) and the development of effective pest management techniques. The sector anticipates an acceleration in cereal productivity, due to the introduction of fertilisers through the Arable Land Development Programme (ALDEP) Phase 3 packages.

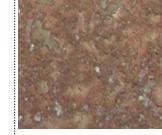
# 3.1.6 Backyard Gardening

**Objective:** To assist horticultural farmers to increase productivity (from 20 tonnes per hectare to 40 tonnes per hectare) in different regions of the country by March 2007.

Indicators: Number of backyard gardens established and improvements in yield.

**Number of backyard gardens established:** A total of 136 backyard gardens had been established countrywide during the first quarter of 2006/07. By the end of the third quarter, 140 backyard plots had been established, mostly in the Central district (78) followed by North West district (27); the Western region had the lowest number (3). By the fourth quarter, only 105 plots were operating, as some of the gardeners had abandoned the programme.

Improvement in yields: No report.



# 3.1.7 Small Stock Programme

**Objective:** To reduce small stock mortality; the target is to train 600 farmers in small stock management and to reduce the mortality rate by 3% by March 2007.

Indicators: Number of farmers trained and a reduction in small stock mortality rate.

**Number of farmers trained:** By the third quarter of 2006/07, 338 small stock producers had been trained in stock management. A cumulative number of 779 farmers were trained in de-worming and dipping small stock.

There is no report to indicate if mortality has been reduced and at what rate.

# 3.1.8 Poultry Programme

**Objective:** To increase poultry meat production; the target is to go from 60,000 to 65,000 tonnes by March 2007.

**Indicators:** Level of poultry meat production and number of farmers trained.

**Level of poultry meat production:** By the fourth quarter of 2006/07, a total of 55,938 tonnes of poultry meat had been produced, representing 86% of the projected annual target of 65,000 tonnes. The sub-sector was reported to have created employment for 6000 people by the end of 2006/07.

**Number of farmers trained:** About 338 poultry farmers (cumulatively) had been trained by the third quarter of the 2006/07 fiscal year.

# 3.2 PROGRAMME REVIEW: MAIN CONCLUSIONS

In mid-2006, the Poverty Unit of the RDCD reviewed selected programmes representing the different strategic pathways for reducing poverty, as stated in the NSPR. These were: the Destitute Programme (direct income transfer), the Labour-intensive Relief Public Works (mainly income transfer), Housing for the Poor (skill acquisition and asset building for sustainable livelihood), and the Integrated Food, Nutrition and Health Programme through the Child Welfare Clinics (access to efficient social services).

One of the objectives of the review was to examine the existing programme level output and outcome indicators to understand what information is tracked and captured, in order to assess the operational performance and welfare outcomes of the programmes (tracking beneficiary size, programme output, benefit level and effect on well being, and programme costs). Such an understanding enables us to assess if more and relevant information should and/or can be captured.

The draft report was submitted to members of the MSCPR in October 2006. The report was organised by programme type. For each chapter (or programme type), a uniform set of topics was covered: (1) background/origin; (2) reason for inclusion in the NSPR; (3) programme size (programme coverage in terms of size of beneficiaries, geographical spread and programme costs); (4) programme components and institutional arrangements; (5) programme beneficiary and targeting; (6) benefit level and distribution; (7) programme costs and components; and (8) poverty M&E, including planned impact evaluation.

The following conclusions were drawn about the state of programme level outcome monitoring in selected programmes.

**Destitute Programme:** This programme is pro-poor by design. Consistent with the objectives of the NSPR, it aims at improving the living conditions of the very poor. The beneficiaries are identified and selected using elaborate administrative means testing involving the evaluation of household socio-economic and health conditions.

The participants in the programme access various types of assistance: free food rations, cash, and various subsidies (such as education, health, transportation and housing). The programme administrators regularly track and report change in the number of beneficiaries, the level of assistance, and the number of graduating beneficiaries.

However, there are issues with the completeness, aggregation and regularity of the reporting. For example, as reporting is currently carried out, it is difficult to track for each beneficiary category (i.e. permanent and temporary destitutes) the level of food transfer per beneficiary, the level of cash transfer per beneficiary, the level of transfer of other benefits per beneficiary, and the total assistance per beneficiary.

The cash component is omitted in the DSS report to MSCPR. No operating costs are reported, and hence it is difficult to establish how much it costs the government to transfer the programme's multiple benefits to the destitutes.

It is important that future reporting includes complete and consistent information on the rate of participation, the level of benefit and distribution, the rate of graduation, and programme costs. It is recommended that DSS strengthens its current database, develops beneficiary-specific data records built on unique beneficiary identification, and plans for impact evaluation.

Housing for the Poor: The integrated poverty alleviation and housing scheme is also pro-poor by design. Consistent with the objectives of poverty reduction, the scheme aims at enhancing marketable skills, creating stable employment, and enabling ownership of housing. It targets people without shelter and those who are unemployed but are willing to work at project wages. However, the procedure for targeting is less elaborate and transparent, as compared to the Destitute Programme.

The programme reports on beneficiary size, members trained in new skills and ownership of housing, but often gives cumulative figures that make it difficult to track performance on yearly or quarterly bases.

The current monitoring system does not track performance at the beneficiary level (e.g. wage allowance, wage employment, home ownership). The success of the programme depends on the profitability and sustainability of group-based businesses, but not much information exists on its financial sustainability.

Integrated Food, Nutrition and Health Intervention: The programme on integrated food security, nutrition and health intervention through the Child Welfare Clinics enhances the utilisation of health services through the provision of a conditional food transfer using the existing health infrastructure. The integrated services aim

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at improving the direct and synergy effects of dietary intake, heath services and utilisation, and childcare for better "child and maternal nutrition and health."

Unlike the Destitute and Housing for the Poor programmes, the coverage in the Child Welfare Clinics is nearly universal. The benefit types that accrue to the under-five children include dietary supplements, the prevention and management of integrated childhood diseases, the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS, and parental nutrition and health education. The tracking of health attendance coverage, health service utilisation and child nutrition status indicates significant improvement over time. (Figure 2.4).

However, there are still important information gaps that are not reported to the MSCPR: the rate of health service utilisation by various socio-economic groups, the level and distribution of food and health benefits, and the cost-effectiveness of service delivery in Child Welfare Clinics.

#### 3.3 ENHANCING OUTCOME MONITORING

There are common characteristics in all the reviewed programmes. The programmes' origins and rationales are established, but their link to the NSPR is not clearly specified. The indicators monitored are not complete; the emphasis is on closely tracking the input and output dimensions, but less on tracking progress towards attaining intended intermediate and final outcomes.

All the programmes are not tracking beneficiary-level data, and hence there is little knowledge on the characteristics of their beneficiaries and the benefit levels accruing to them.

No impact evaluation planning exists; this should ideally be done in the design stage of any intervention. Government expenditure figures are commonly reported, but often are either incomplete or inconsistent. As noted in Table 3.4, the sectors report selective activities and output indicators, but not with consistency in aggregation and frequency of reporting.

The MSCPR considered the main findings of the programme evaluation report in its November 2006 meeting. The committee noted that the type of information that flows on a quarterly basis to the MSCPR is not complete, nor is it consistent with the call for instituting poverty M&E systems at programme level.

The tasks ahead are to consolidate the existing databases and move towards comprehensive reporting systems.

A comprehensive outcome monitoring system at programme level is necessary where: objectives are unambiguously stated, the range of indicators that capture causal-effect chains (input, output, outcome and impact) are specified, time-bound targets are set for the indicators using benchmark data, and progress towards attaining the set targets is periodically tracked.

Reporting to the MSCPR should focus on outcome indicators (short as well as medium term) that predict the likely welfare impact, which is often realised over a long period of time.

The MSCPR recommended to institute a three-step approach to enhance outcome monitoring at programme level: (1) develop a template for monitoring performance at project level that allows flexibility, consistency and completeness in data capturing (Template A); (2) enhance existing beneficiary-level records by introducing unique IDs; and (3) move towards survey-based programme evaluation to periodically track the impact of the programmes on the well being of the poor.

When these monitoring systems are fully implemented, it is expected that the sectors would provide information to track output, assess effectiveness, and identify intermediate outcome indicators that would point towards progress in poverty reduction in different dimensions.

Consultative meetings have been held at various levels since November 2006 to: (1) highlight the key findings and recommendations of the programme review; (2) review the indicators to be monitored at the project and beneficiary levels; (3) develop a baseline questionnaire for newly formed projects; (4) discuss planning on impact evaluation; and (5) identify programmes that are consistent with the mandate of the NSPR (e.g. ALDEP III).

The progress thus far made is summarised in Table 3.5.

The Department of Housing is at an advanced stage of implementing both the project and beneficiary level templates. The final version of the templates has been sent to all the project sites. Reporting using the new templates was expected to start as of July 2007.

The templates for the two agricultural projects (ALDEP III as well as the small stock and poultry programme under LIMID) were discussed with the respective departments and the M&E Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture. It was agreed that the MOA M&E Unit will take the overall responsibility for finalising and implementing the templates.

Following consultations with the Poverty Strategy Unit of the Secretariat of the MSCPR, and internal consultations, the Department of Social Services has adopted the templates designed specifically for the Destitute Programme.

There are important initiatives at the Food Nutrition Unit (FNU) in the Ministry of Health that are consistent with the conclusions and recommendations of the Secretariat's assessment of integrated food, nutrition and health interventions in mid-2006.

The FNU has merged the previous two nutritional surveillance log forms into one and recently pre-tested the new consolidated form. The new log form retains the indicators that are currently reported (i.e. underweight children, clinic attendance, food rations), but also includes short-term nutritional indicators (weight for height) and the immediate causes of child malnutrition (disease episode).

If the new log form is adopted for every child uniquely identified, the nutritional surveillance data would provide additional information to establish some basic relationships, to track the number of households attending health clinics and to estimate the number of visits per year. The unique IDs will also make it possible to connect the data in the new log form to future multi-topic household surveys.

| Intervention<br>Type   | Main Objec-   | Means to Achieve<br>Objective  | Project-Level Monitoring<br>(Template A)   | Beneficiary-Level Moni-<br>toring (Template B1)  | Comment on Progress  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Housing for the<br>Poor  | Reduce<br>unemployment<br>and income<br>poverty   | Provision of wage<br>employment (immediate<br>impact)<br>Training in specialised skills<br>Increased home ownership<br>Strengthening cooperative<br>business   | Number of beneficiaries enrolled Employment generated by skill category Number of beneficiaries acquiring specialised skills Home ownership by source of financing Group-based business operation and net operating income (sustainability)  | Employment per beneficiary Wage allowance less deduction per beneficiary Skill acquired (days trained by type) Home ownership (rental equivalent) Graduation from the programme                                    | The draft templates were presented in a workshop held for the District Technical Officers The Department of Housing has adopted both templates It will soon implement at all the project sites   |
| ALDEP III combined with Food Security and Horticulture for Small Farmers                 | Improve<br>productivity,<br>farm income and<br>food security of<br>resource-poor<br>small farmers   | Enhancing on-farm investment (provision of farm assets mainly through grants) Transfer of technology (through extension outreach, demonstration and training in farm skills) Improve utilisation of farm inputs and implements Strengthen input distribution and marketing systems                           | Number of beneficiaries (identified by eligibility criteria) ALDEP package supplied Farmers trained by skill type and duration Extension outreach (beneficiaries covered, extension days) Operating costs (accounting activities and costs)  | Utilisation of ALDEP inputs and implements (input utilisation) Cropping pattern and input use (by crop type) Crop output and productivity Crop marketing and income  | The draft templates were presented and discussed. It was agreed that the M&E Unit of MOA will take the overall responsibility for finalising and implementing the templates  |
| Small Stock and<br>Poultry under<br>LIMID  | Improve livestock<br>ownership, animal<br>nutrition, health<br>and productivity;<br>farm income and<br>food security of<br>resource-poor<br>small farmers | Enhanced transfer of assets (provision of Tswana chicken and small stock mainly through grants) Transfer of technology (through extension outreach and training in farm skills) Animal health intervention (reduced mortality rate) Strengthening marketing systems (contributes to increased off-take rate) | Number of beneficiaries by category Animals transferred (Tswana chicken and small stock) Animals vaccinated (small stock) Farmers trained by skill type and duration Extension outreach Operating costs  | Animals owned (through LIMID programme) Animals vaccinated Training in specialised skills Animals marketed by type Animal productivity Mortality rate  | The draft templates have been presented and discussed It was agreed that the M&E Unit of MOA will take the overall responsibility for finalising and implementing the templates  |
| Destitute<br>Programme   | Provide social assistance and protection to destitute households to attain basic needs necessary for sustenance of adequate nutrition and health          | Free food basket Cash transfer Free or subsidised basic social services (transport, education, health and burial services)   | Number of beneficiaries Number of food assistance recipients by beneficiary category and level of assistance Number of cash transfer recipients by beneficiary category and level of assistance Number of recipients of other benefits by beneficiary category and level of assistance Total assistance transferred by beneficiary category Home ownership Number of beneficiaries trained and graduated Operating costs | Member ID and basic profile (location, age, sex, health status) Benefit level by type (food, cash and others) Duration in the programme New skills acquired through training Withdrawal by reason                  | The draft templates have been prepared and submitted to DSS  |
| Integrated Food,<br>Nutrition and<br>Health Delivery<br>through Child<br>Welfare Clinics | Monitoring child nutrition and physical growth for early intervention   | Managing child diseases<br>(including HIV)<br>Improved feeding practices<br>(child care)<br>Provision of food rations  | Child nutritional status (including short-term status) Food ration coverage Attendance rate Episodes of illness HIV child infection rate   | Unique ID (linked to mother or guardian ID) Month and year (track frequency of utilisation) Age, sex Weight and height Illness episode Child HIV status Feeding method Ration last month Vitamin A supplementation | The new log form has been recently pre-tested Provides detailed information on child nutrition status (ZWA, ZWH, ZHA) Enables the user to relate child nutritional status to immediate causes of child malnutrition (illness, food intake) Promises to be linked to national nutritional survey (if unique ID is introduced) |
| Periodic poverty<br>assessment<br>in different<br>dimensions                             | Track change in poverty situation; enhance structural and policy poverty analysis   | Comprehensive multi-topic<br>household survey (less<br>frequently)<br>Mini multi-topic survey<br>(more frequently)   | Monitor core welfare indicators at house consumption, food security, nutrition, h  | In response to MSCPR recommendation, CSO is currently considering undertaking multi-topic household survey   |  |

### 3.4 CHAPTER SUMMARY

The various sector reports are only partially effective in monitoring progress towards poverty reduction. A systematic implementation plan is underway to institute a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system that tracks input-activity-output-outcome-impact chains.

New templates have been developed for monitoring outcome performance at programme/project and beneficiary levels for selected sectors. There is progress in the adoption and implementation of these templates at different levels. The MSCPR, through its Secretariat office, continues to provide technical support to ensure that the templates become functional as monitoring tools.