

SECOND CARNEGIE INQUIRY INTO POVERTY  
AND DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Social welfare services in Lebowa  
and poverty related problems.

by

Moses Bopape

Carnegie Conference Paper No. 65

Cape Town

13 - 19 April 1984

## SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES IN LEBOWA : M BOPAPE

### A Introduction

In this chapter an analysis of social welfare services in Lebowa is presented. The purpose for this presentation is to identify areas for further improvement in respect of both policy and implementation strategies.

#### Problem Formulation

Lebowa being part of the Republic of South Africa has no welfare machinery of its own, its entire welfare delivery system is an extension of the South African Welfare system, in terms of structure and policy. For instance the following social security acts form the backbone of the social welfare services :

##### Social Security Acts

National Welfare Act. No 100 of 1978

Fund Raising Act. No 107 of 1978

Social and Associated Workers Act. No 110 of 1978

It must, however, be pointed out that there is often inconsistency in respect of interpretation of certain Acts.

### B. Methodology

In order to assemble data for this chapter, 8 visits of observations were undertaken to welfare institutions in Lebowa to interview the management, as well as to study the functions of each of them; interviewed head office officials pertaining the Lebowa Welfare Policy; interviewed officials of the Department of Cooperation and Development to ascertain the extent of coordination between Lebowa and the Department of Cooperation and Development in respect of Welfare matters, especially the role of the Liaison officer.

C. Social Profile (Townships and approximate population)

To enable the reader to comprehend the analysis of welfare services in Lebowa, in the following table we present districts, townships (villages) and estimate population.

Table I : Townships and estimated Population

<u>District</u>	<u>Townships</u>	<u>Population</u>
Thaba-Moopo	1. Mankweng Township	165,000
	2. Lebowa Kgomo	
Sekhukhune	Tubatse	250,000
Naphuno	Lenyenye	86,000
Bolobedu	Ga-Kgapane	98,600
Mokerong	Mahwelereng	
	Van der Merweskraal	232,086
Namakgale	Manakgale	36,000
Mapulaneng	Shatale	
	Leroro	131,000
Sekgosese	Senwamokgope	71,000
Nebo	Motetema	
	Hlogotlou	155,000
	Moganyaka	
Bochum	None	62,000
Seshego	Seshego township	184,420
<u>Total 15</u>		<u>1,471,106</u>

d. Social Welfare Policy

As pointed out in my introduction, Lebowa has no welfare policy of its own, its execution of welfare services are based on the central government's welfare policy. However, the white paper on Development as tabled by the Lebowa Chief Minister on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1978 give some clue to the aspiration of this government. The white paper on Health and Social Welfare Policy declares as follows :

## "5.6 HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY

5.6.1 The Lebowa Government accepts as principle the responsibility of contributing towards the health and social welfare of the population.

5.6.2 The Lebowa Government also accepts as principle that social services can only be provided as the fruit of economic development, and therefore government spending on social services cannot be allowed at the cost of investment for direct economic development.

5.6.3 The Lebowa Government determines the following principles to be applicable for the provision of social services :

5.6.3.1 The first priority of the Government must be for health services and the payment of government pensions as the second priority. (Nevertheless a just balance must be maintained between these priorities). The motivation for the proposed allocation is that the general health services has a direct bearing on economic development.

5.6.3.2 The first priority as far as health services are concerned, is for curative services, the second priority for preventive services and as the third priority the promotion of general health and welfare.

5.6.3.3 In order to make the health services available to as large a number of the population as possible, also in the outlying areas, health services must be decentralized through clinics and community health centres.

5.6.3.4 In order to alleviate the pressure on available

staff and finances, the community must also be involved in supporting roles in the provision of health services, as a community service without financial compensation from the government.

- 5.6.3.5 Accurate statistics must be kept to measure progress in the general health improvement of the population, to serve as basis for the planning and programming of future health services.
- 5.6.3.6 A strict means test must be applied in the allocation of Government old age and income supplementary pensions. The Lebowa Government also gives its full support to well planned private pension plans to aid workers to make their own provision for retirement, thereby lessening the burden of the Government to provide such pensions."

The white paper as presented above implies recognition of development as a cornerstone for social welfare services in Lebowa. In examining this standpoint, three broad implications about the relationship between the 'state' and its citizens social and personal needs emerge.

The first could be referred to as the net approach. This holds that individuals, families and communities ought to be the primary source of social care. State provision should be kept to the minimum; complementary to what informal networks or support systems in the community provide, lest it undermines both their capacity and their moral resolution to care for their own in line with the African cultural heritage.

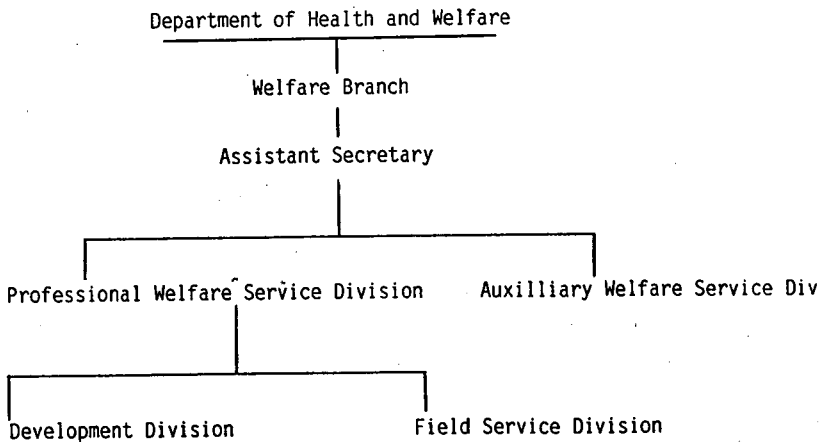
The second approach - "welfare state" assumes that the state has an obligation to provide comprehensive services to respond to the problems of poverty, old age and disability

whatever their cause. This is illustrated by the social security system albeit not catering for all the needy as the statistics reflect.

The third approach to social policy might be termed the community approach. This assumes that lay people have more potential, ability and commitment to care for each other than is assumed by the welfare state approach. This approach is demonstrated by the number of voluntary welfare agencies and community projects identified in this study.

#### E. Social Welfare Structure

#### Functional Organization and Structure (Van Rensburg Commission - 1975)



#### Purpose

1. To develop welfare services

#### Function

1. Evaluate quality of professional services

#### Purpose

1. To render welfare field services

#### Function

1. Render welfare services at local level (district)

- |                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>2. Collect information to determine tendencies in Welfare services</p> <p>3. Process information</p> <p>4. Undertake research</p> | <p>2. Give professional advice on : child welfare<br/>Family care<br/>Rehabilitation</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The above structure indicates that all aspects of welfare in Lebowa are catered for, although to date very limited social research has been undertaken on vital issues and problems.

#### F. Social Welfare Services

Social Welfare Services in Lebowa comprise of integrated approach in Social work practice. Approximately the methods are operationalized to the following extent, 50% casework, 30% group work and 20% community work. The type of casework problems handled are predominantly family related type of problems.<sup>1)</sup>

In the following table we present the picture of welfare agencies and the personnel.

Table 2 : Number of Welfare Agencies and Professional Personnel

<u>District</u>	<u>Number of Welfare Agencies</u>	<u>No of Social Workers</u>
Seshego	1	1
Mokerong	1	1
Nebo (Motelema)	1	1
Mapulaneng	1	1
Naphuni	1	1
Bolobedu	1	1

1) Bopape, M. Community Work Among the Northern Sotho : A study in Social Planning, Unpublished D Phil Thesis Unisa p.60.

Bockum	1	3
Thaba-Moopo	1	1
Manakareng	1	2
Namakgale	1	1
Sekhukhune	1	1
Sekgosese	1	1
Praktiser	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>19</b>

Two points must be noted here, firstly that the twelve (12) Welfare Agencies identified above are run by the Department of Health and Welfare, Lebowa Government Service, and secondly, although all the seventeen (17) social workers have satisfied all the university requirements to qualify, less than five percent (5%) have registered in terms of the Social and Associated Workers Act, No 110 of 1978. This is unlike the position of social workers who are employed by the Department of Cooperation and Development, as well as those employed by any registered Welfare organization in the White area. It would appear that Lebowa and other self-governing states do not make it obligatory for their social workers to register in terms of this Act, and this normally creates a lot of problems for both individual social workers, whenever they want to take up employment in a non-homeland agency, and the specific welfare agency to participate as a training partner for prospective social workers.

#### 1. Number of Community Centres and Community Projects

The scarcity of resources in the nature of community centres is alarming. The entire region of Lebowa has only one community hall, namely Seshego Community hall established in 1979. Other districts make use of church and school buildings for social activities, a practice which is undoubtedly inadequate and undesirable as those structures were not primarily planned for such activities.



Table 32. Community Projects

<u>District</u>	<u>Name of Project</u>
Thaba-Moopo	Lebowa Mental Health
Seshego	Seshego Welfare Organisation
Mankweng	Itshameleng
Praktiseer	Phuthana-Tlou
Mokerong	Bakenburg Community Project
Makweng	Molepo Block 14

From the above it is clear that the majority (9) of the districts have no projects. Most of these projects are situated by the people themselves, and in most cases assisted by social workers. The participation is about eight percent (8%). If one takes into account the standard of education attained by members of each district, which is about forty percent (40%) primary, four percent post primary and the rest illiterate, one would appreciate the rate of participation.

Table 43. Number of Welfare organizations

<u>Name</u>	<u>District</u>
Seshego Welfare Society	Seshego
Lebowa Mental Health Society	Thaba-Moopo
Namakgale Welfare Society	Namakgale
Lenyenye Welfare Society	Naphuno
Itshameleng Welfare Organization	Mankweng
Child Development Centre	Thaba-Moopo

Of the above welfare societies/organizations only Seshego Welfare Society is registered in terms of the Welfare Organization Act.

A study of activities of each of the above listed societies reflect a very low degree of support and participation by the people. For instance, in respect of two of the above listed welfare societies on several occasion students social workers from the University of the North were involved in an attempt to rescussitate them. However, it must be noted that nine (9) districts have no welfare societies.

Table 5

4. Number of Welfare Facilities (Creches/Institutions) and inmates

<u>District</u>	<u>Creches</u>	<u>Inmates</u>
Namakgale	1	64
Naphuno	1	98
Seshego	1	145
Mokerong	1	195
Lebowa-Kgomo	1	86
Bolobedu	1	8
Nebo (motetema9	1	25
Seshego (Township)	1	48
Seshego (Mashashane)	1	36
Nebo (Marishane)	1	45

Only two creches have been registered, and as such are entitled to a government subsidy, the rest are community sponsored. Again here we note the scarcity of creches.

Table 6

<u>District</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Inmates</u>
Nebo	Boputswa Home	Aged	130
Nebo	Matlala Home	chronic	79
Mokerong	Sekutapa Home	Aged	97

All the three institutions are adjacent to hospitals. Again we note the scarcity of such facilities which means that almost more than ninety percent (90%) of the aged are in the

care of their relatives. With the high rate of unemployment, and migrant labour practices, such old people are virtually looked after by children.

Table 7

5. Statistics of Pensioners Per District

<u>District</u>	<u>Old Age</u>	<u>Blind</u>	<u>Disability</u>	<u>Ex-Soldier</u>	<u>Leprosy</u>
Bochum	4, 139	289	390	5	5
Mapulaneng	6,494	73	624	15	8
Bolobedu	5,248	107	301	73	1
Nebo	9,439	260	504	21	5
Seshego	6,931	320	1006	29	1
Thaba-Moopo	6,989	319	721	16	0
Mokerong	8,698	543	720	25	5
Sekhukhune	7,449	291	579	3	2
Sekgosese	2,755	113	248	5	2
Naphumo	3,973	65	413	13	0
Praktiseer	5,017	104	355	10	1
Namakgale	634	0	36	8	0

The above figures are based on 1982 July records of the department of Health and Welfare, Lebowa Government Services. From the figures presented it is apparent that only fifteen percent (15%) of the aged in Lebowa get pension benefits. Due to the application of the means test and a limited funds allotted for this purpose many people are known to have been put on a waiting list for a period of up to five years.

Unfortunately, this screening of applicants have a damaging effect on the image and status of the social work profession, as the public views social workers as withholders of resources, than distributors.

Table 86. Pension rates

<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount per month</u>
Old Age Pension	R40,00
Blind	R40,00
Dissability	R40,00
Ex-Soldier	R40,00
Leprosy	R40,00

Viewed in relation to other race groups, whose administration of pensions does not fall under Lebowa, the rates are as follows:

White	R138,00
Coloured/ Indian	R 83,00

The <sup>ratio</sup> rates ~~is~~ in 100 : 58.2 : 58,2 : 33,6 representing White, Coloured, Indian and African respectively.

G. Training

All social workers employed by Lebowa have received their professional training in social work at recognized universities in the country or overseas. Their training conforms to the set standard as prescribed by the Council for Social and Associated Workers.

The Lebowa department of Health and Welfare cooperates with the University of the North for the placement of social work students. Under the present arrangement students undertake block and concurrent types of practical work. In addition to the above, students, under the guidance of both the

University lecturers and practising social workers assist many communities in starting community or grassroots projects.

It is hoped that this new approach will contribute to the ground programme of community development.

## H. Conclusion and Suggestions

### 1. What social workers need to do

In line with the White Paper on Development Policy, I wish to indicate explicitly how social workers can fit in within this plan.

My understanding of social problems and the findings of this study has led to the following suggestions : That social workers are needed to carry out two different but interlocking activities. The first is to plan, establish, maintain and evaluate the provision of social care. This can be referred to as the social care planning activity.

The second activity which social workers are needed to provide is that of face-to-face communication between clients (or client system) and social workers in which the latter are helping the former to cope, tolerate, or to change some aspect of themselves or of the world in which they are living.

The rationale for these two activities to be undertaken by the social worker lies in the history and tradition of the profession

### 2. Social Welfare Policy

As long as Lebowa has not yet opted for 'independence' it will still have to adhere completely to the South African Welfare policy even though it has a lot of disparities especially when it is applied within 'apartheid' ideology. Disparities

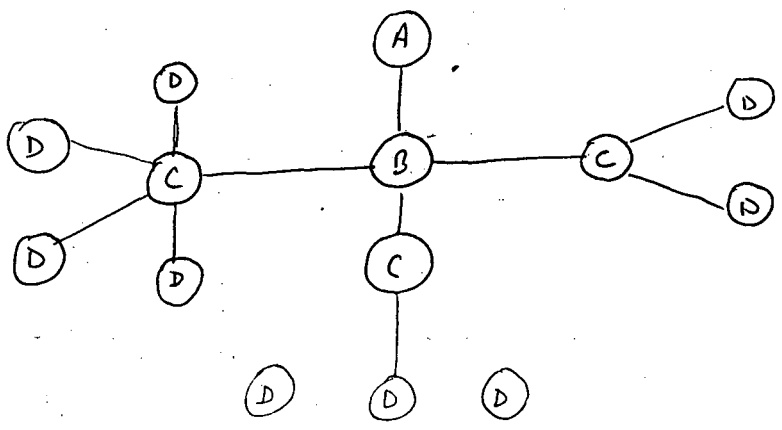
like unequal pension rates, separate welfare bodies, unequal subsidies etc.

Complete adherence to the South African Welfare policy will eliminate a number of problems that are facing Social workers in Lebowa today. Problems in respect of registration of social workers, registration of voluntary social organizations, training of social work students, and availability of welfare infrastructures.

3. Community involvement : Welfare model for communitywork

If the above is accepted, it can best be realized by community involvement in welfare policy and implementation. In order to strengthen the "community approach" (which is implied in the white paper) and as referred to above, power and decision making in social services ought to be devolved as far as possible to local communities. Skilled social work would continue to be necessary, but policy should aim first and foremost, to give informal local networks resources and support.

Chart I : Welfare Model for Community work



Community work as an activity dealing with problems of social change presupposes community participation. As could be seen on Chart 1, the organizational structure of an agency for community work is hierarchically represented by letters A B C and D. In respect of levels B, C and D, the personnel should be four professionals and three volunteers who by all means must be the people directly representing the local community. The ratio will be 4:3.

The organizational structure as it stands guarantees community participation. Such a structure will naturally promote interrelations between the authorities (welfare agency) and the communities they are serving.

Another objective of community work is to organise and mobilise the people to establish voluntary associations or self-help groups. The assumption regarding the formula of the suggested model is that, unless people are directly involved in the planning and control of a system (welfare system) the chances of the people to be positively influenced by such a system are minimal.

The suggested welfare structure attempts to close the gap between the welfare system and its clientele or client system, thereby enhancing the image of both the agency and the social work profession.

In this study three key bodies which need to cooperate to provide welfare in general and community work in particular *have been identified*. They are communities, the government and universities. Applied research is essential to innovate, the government must be sensitive and *receptive* to research findings, and of course, the community must never be taken for granted - community felt needs must receive priority in our search for answers, and as far as possible the community must be involved throughout the entire process of social research.

#### 4. Community Social Work

The social welfare policy and practice should be directed more to the support and strengthening of informal networks. This is what I mean by community social work. Research studies undertaken recently in Lebowa<sup>2)</sup> revealed the existence of informal networks of voluntary groups, especially among women, which could be assisted by the welfare system to go ahead with the many projects they have started. Unfortunately, as it was stated in this study, no arrangement (legal) is made by the department to assist and encourage self-help projects.

Social workers in developing partnership between informal ~~Careers~~ <sup>Careers</sup> ~~Groups~~ (including self-help groups) and voluntary or public welfare agencies would be realizing the goals of community social work or community work.

My main reason for believing that the above approach would work is that there has been a very general movement away from centralism and towards a belief in the capacity of ordinary people. This trend is seen already in such diverse areas as church activities (especially ~~mainline~~ denominations), school committees, town councils, tribal councils etc. People themselves are becoming more and more less willing to tolerate the taking of decisions by remote authority which does not take into account circumstances affecting their neighbourhoods or the interest of the community

- 2) Leseme, B M : The place of Social Work in Community Development with Special Reference to Women Participation in Lebowa Rural Areas.

Unpublished MA(SW) dissertation, Unin 1983



Ultimately, community social work makes social workers answerable in some degree to the community and its informal networks.

### Bibliography

- M. Bopape, 1975                      Community Work Among The North-Sotho  
- A study in Social Plainning. Unpub-  
lished D Phil THesis Unisa.
- Nzimande, S.V. 1977                      Community wOrk in the Valley Trust.  
Unpublished MA(SS) dissertation, Univer=  
sity of Zululand.
- Molefe, S.P. 1980                      Community Work in Urban Townships with  
Special Reference to Atteridgeville -  
Saulsville Black Township. Unpublished  
MA(SS) disseration, Unisa.
- Leseme B.M. 1983                      The Place of SOcial Work Community  
Development with Special Reference to  
Women Participation in Lebowa Rural  
Areas. Unpublished MA(SW) dissertation,  
Unin.
- Magashalala T.N.V. 1974                      The Micro and Macro Problem of Community  
Development in South Africa, Social Work/  
Maatskaplike Werk, Vol 10 No 4 October
- Letsoalo, E.M. 1982                      Survival Strategies in Rural Lebowa. A  
study in the Geography of Poverty.  
Unpublished MA dissertation, Wits Univer=  
sity.

## POVERTY RELATED PROBLEMS

### PART II

### M BOPAPE

#### A. INTRODUCTION

Part two of this study presents a picture of Socio-economic factors in Lebowa. The three areas selected for the study give a broad picture of the social structure in Lebowa in terms of rural and urban background. For instance, Lebowakgomo, with a population of about 74,000 is a new modern township, it is pretty and well planned when comparing with other townships in South Africa. Lebowakgomo is about 12 years old. Mahwelereng, with a population of 232,000 is an old residential area, which is made up municipality and a reserve. It has been existing for over a period of 60 years. Matlala, with a population of about 140,000 is an old tribal residential area, certainly over 100 years old. Maaake, with a population of 155,000 is a new tribal settlement, of about 21 years old.

The above three areas were selected to cover the following characteristics of Lebowa : township, tribal, proximity (In respect of major towns) and semi-urban cultures.

It is hoped that the findings of this survey will reflect a reliable picture of Lebowa in so far as Social services are concerned.

## B. METHODOLOGY

Three experienced senior social workers who are fully acquainted with the research areas conducted the survey (the questionnaire is available). Random sampling was used. In each area 60 heads of households were interviewed. In addition to the answers that were given by the interviewee, the observation method was used. For instance, each social worker (Field worker) was expected to rank social services in areas that were researched.

## C. AREAS COVERED

Table 1

Showing distance of each area in respect to the nearest town.

Lebowakgomo (Urban)	35 km from Pietersburg
Mahwelereng (Urban)	8 km from Potgietersrus
Matlala (Rural)	38 km from Pietersburg
Maake (Rural)	17 km from Tzaneen.

D. In this section we present tables 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 on information indicated.

Table 2

Marital status

Area	Married	Unmarried	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Other	Total
Lebowa=kgomo	41 (24 6%)	5 (3 02)	4 (2 4%)	8 (4 8%)	2 (1 2%)	-	60 (100%)
Mahwe=lereng	36 (21 6%)	11 (6 6%)	4 (2 4%)	1 (,6%)	4 (2 4%)	4 (2 4%)	60 (100%)
Matlala	51 (30 6%)	-	6 (3 6%)	3 (1 8%)	-	-	60 (100%)
Maake	19 (11 4%)	9 (11 4%)	4 (2 4%)	7 (4 2%)	11 (6 6%)	8 (4 8%)	60 (100%)

Table 3

## Nature of Marriage

Area	Civil/Christian	Customary	Other	N/A	Totals
Lebowakgomo	40 (24.6%)	15 (9.0%)	-	5 (3.0%)	60 (100%)
Mahwelereng	15 (9.0%)	44 (24.6%)	-	4 (2.4%)	60 (100%)
Matlala	11 (6.6%)	49 (29.4%)	-	-	60 (100%)
Maake	31 (18.6%)	2 (1.2%)	-	8 (4.8%)	60 (100%)

Table 4

## Age Distribution

Area	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 - 59	60 +	Totals
Lebowakgomo	-	-	4 (2.4%)	38 (22.0%)	18 (10.8%)	60 (100%)
Mahlwelereng	2 (1.2%)	6 (3.6%)	41 (24.6%)	3 (1.8%)	8 (4.8%)	60 (100%)
Matlala	-	14 (8.4%)	14 (8.4%)	30 (18.0%)	2 (1.2%)	60 (100%)
Maake	-	6 (3.6%)	36 (21.6%)	16 (9.6%)	2 (1.2%)	60 (100%)

Table 5

## Number of Children : Averages per family

Area	Average
Lebowakgomo	4
Mahwelereng	6
Matlala	6
Maake	5

Table 6

## Religious Affiliation

Area	English Ch.	Afrik. Ch	Catholic	Other	N/A	Totals
Lebowakgomo	11 (6 6%)	21 (12 6%)	18 (10 8%)	6 (3 6%)	4 (2 4%)	60 (100%)
Mahwelereng	22 (13 2%)	14 ( 8 4%)	16 ( 9 6%)	2 (1 2%)	6 (3 6%)	60 (100%)
Matlala	11 ( 6 6%)	8 ( 4 4%)	14 (8 4%)	2 (1 2%)	25 (150%)	60 (100%)
Maake	17 (10 2%)	6 ( 3 6%)	6 ( 3 6%)	-	31 (18 6%)	60 (100%)

Table 7

## Type of house

Area	Western	African	Mixture	Other	Totals
Lebowakgomo	60 (100%)	-	-	-	60 (100%)
Mahwelereng	60 (100%)	-	-	-	60 (100%)
Matlala	-	-	60 (100%)	-	60 (100%)
Maake	-	-	60 (100%)	-	60 (100%)

The data presented in tables 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 lead to the following inferences.

1. The people are not primitive, that is, they have been influenced by two main factors, namely, Christianity and education. This conclusion is further demonstrated by their housing set up.
2. The families, are by African standard fairly small. This may be ascribed to family planning projects as well as monogamous families.

E. ATTRIBUTES TO POVERTY

Tables 8, 9, 10 and 11 illustrated factors that are mainly responsible for poverty in the said areas:

Table 8

## Educational status

Area	None	Primary	Secondary	Vasity	Other	Totals
Lebowa=kgomo	3(1 8%)	7(4 2%)	48(28 8%)	2(1 2%)	-	60(100%)
Mahwe=lereng	12(7 2%)	26(15 6%)	22(13 2%)	-	-	60(100%)
Matlala	18(10 8%)	32(19 2%)	10( 6 0%)	-	-	60(100%)
Maake	2(1 2%)	41(24 6%)	16(9 6%)	1( 6%)	-	60(100%)

Table 9

## Monthly cash income in Rand

Area	N/A	51 - 100	101 - 150	151 - 200	201 - 250	251+	Totals
Lebowa=kgomo	3(1 8%)	15(9 2%)	18(10 8%)	19(11 4%)	4(2 4%)	1( 6%)	60(100%)
Mahwe=lereng	11(6 6%)	14(8 4%)	24(14 4%)	11(6 6%)	-	-	60(100%)
Matlala	40(24 0%)	6(3 6%)	3(1 8%)	1( ,6%)	-	-	60(100%)
Maake	18(10 8%)	24(14 4%)	16(9 6%)	2(1 2%)	-	-	60(100%)

Table 10

## Livestock

Area	Cattle	Horses	Goats	Sheep	Donkey	Pigs	Other
Lebowakgomo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mahwelereng	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Matlala	X	-	X	X	-	X	-
Maake	-	-	X	X	-	-	-

Table 11

## Agricultural Activities

Area	Yes	No
Lebowakgomo	-	60 (100%)
Mahwelereng	-	60 (100%)
Matlala	*60 (100%)	-
Maake	-	60 (100%)

The agricultural activities in respect of Matlala must be qualified. Each family is allotted ,2ha for ploughing. No irrigation is feasible, and people do not own land. With the severe draught that has hit the Northern Transvaal during the years 1982, 83, and 84, agricultural activities are at their lowest ebb.

In addition to data reflected in tables 8, 9, 10 and 11 regarding factors that largely can be held responsible for economic poverty in the areas under reason the following should also be taken into consideration:

1. Removals

Areas like Maake and many others have been affected by removals, some even four time per generation. Removals necessitate starting from scratch, people have to demolish and rebuild, in the process their livestock is either eliminated or reduced.

## 2. Unemployment

The rate of unemployment is very high (see table 9 - all the responses in the first column designated 'N/A' represent people who are not getting wages. All the four areas under study are situated far from industrial areas.

## 3. Underemployment

Particularly people in Maake location (only those who were lucky to get jobs) work on the neighbouring farms where the wages are below poverty datum line. And in addition to that the jobs are seasonal.

## 4. Draught

The severe draught experienced in recent years has aggravated the situation, as even the 'under-paying' jobs are hard to come by.

## 5. Illiteracy

Illiteracy is still a big problem (see table 8 for the situation in respect of the sample. It follows that where people are poorly educated, the chances of breaking the poverty vicious circle is slim. Uneducated people are the last to be considered for employment, and if employed, they are the poorly paid.

## 6. Migratory labour system

Migratory labour system is also implicated in the findings reflected in Table 9. Under column N/A, the responses include those where the head of the family household works away from



home and in such cases the monthly cash income is never known. The man/woman posts money at an uneven tempo, both in time and cash.

F. ASSESSMENT SCALE

In order to verify the responses from the sample, the field workers were obliged to complete an assessment scale in respect of major social services. This assessment was based on knowledge about the areas concerned. The findings thereof are present in Table 11 below.

Table 11

Assessment scale based on the interviewer's observation  
(key : A :good ; B : Average; C : Poor).

	Lebowakgomo			Mahwelereng			Matlala			Maake		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Transport		x			x				x			x
Recreational facilities			x			x			x			x
Shopping facilities			x			x			x			x
Work Opportunities			x			x			x			x
Economic facilities			x			x			x			x
Health			x			x			x			x
Safety			x			x			x			x
Political Freedom			x			x			x			x
Social Cohesion			x			x			x			x

## G. DISCUSSION

Two main interdependent factors emerge from this study, which have a bearing on economic poverty in the three areas under study, namely, the socio-economic data as presented in tables 8, 9, 10 and 11 convey a picture of unavoidable poverty, the second factor which contribute to economic poverty is the poor state of social service infrastructures. The three areas were assessed 'poor'.

While the people themselves may be held responsible for their economic welfare, from the findings of this study it is clear that Eight percent of factors that contribute to economic poverty are government planned, namely, removals, resettlements, migrant labour system etc. These are not new factors, they have been research on and on. The type of community development projects that are government initiated are more of 'political' experimentations than genuine community development projects. Instead of improving the standard of living they cause more poverty.

## H. RECOMMENDATIONS

May recommendations are given in part one of this study, they include the following:

1. Community development projects based on empirical research.
2. Abolition of certain primitive laws like job reservation, influx control, etc - in fact all discriminating laws.

3. Introduction of certain privileges to Blacks to make up for all the time when they were discriminated against, e.g. in health, social welfare, and housing matters, education, civil and administrative matters.

These papers constitute the preliminary findings of the Second Carnegie Inquiry into Poverty and Development in Southern Africa, and were prepared for presentation at a Conference at the University of Cape Town from 13-19 April, 1984.

The Second Carnegie Inquiry into Poverty and Development in Southern Africa was launched in April 1982, and is scheduled to run until June 1985.

Quoting (in context) from these preliminary papers with due acknowledgement is of course allowed, but for permission to reprint any material, or for further information about the Inquiry, please write to:

**SALDRU**  
School of Economics  
Robert Leslie Building  
University of Cape Town  
Rondebosch 7700