An overview of South Africa’s progress in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): The Governance and Administration Cluster Perspective

Presentation to Parliament
06 September 2011
Introduction

- The Millennium Development Goals come from the UN Millennium Declaration signed by 189 countries, including 147 Heads of State and Government, in September 2000, and from further agreement by member states at the 2005 World Summit.

- A total of eight (8) MDGs were identified and served as an expression of a minimum commitment to the global development agenda.

- They set minimum standards that must be met by nations of the world towards meeting the developmental needs of their people.
Introduction

The eight MDGs are:

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Achieve universal primary education</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Promote gender equality and empower women</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Reduce child mortality</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Improve maternal health</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Ensure environmental sustainability</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Develop a Global Partnership for Development</td>
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THE 8 MDG TARGETS  (Source: UN MDGs online)

Target 1.A: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day
Target 1.B: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people
Target 1.C: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

Target 2.A: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling

Target 3.A: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

Target 4.A: Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate

Target 5.A: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio; Target 5.B: Achieve universal access to reproductive health

Target 6.A: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS; Target 6.B: Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it; Target 6.C: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

Target 7.A: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources; Target 7.B: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss; Target 7.C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation; Target 7.D: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers

Target 8.A: Develop a sound and credible financial system; Target 8.B: Address the special needs of the least developed countries; Target 8.C: Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and small island developing States; Target 8.D: Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries; Target 8.E: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries; Target B.F: In cooperation with the private sector, make available benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications.
South Africa on MDGs

- The story of South Africa performance on the implementations of the MDGs can be explained in eight points namely:
  - Compliance with International Instruments
  - Constitutional Imperatives (Values)
  - A story of Policy and Legislation
  - On Course
  - Work in progress
  - Room for Improvement
  - Challenges
  - Priorities

Towards Vision 2030: NB: Eliminating Poverty and Reducing Inequality
  - Diagnostic Analysis
  - Poor Educational Outcomes
  - High Disease Burden
  - Divided Communities
  - Public Service Performance
  - Spatial pattern marginalise the poor
  - Too few South Africans are employed
  - Corruption
  - Resource Intensive economy
  - Crumbling Infrastructure
It is pleasing to note that RSA has the monitoring and reporting mechanisms in place, and that oversight is also being strengthened through the work we are discussing today:

- Legislative Oversight
- Executive Oversight
- Public Oversight

RSA 3\textsuperscript{rd} Report (2010) shows that the foundation of the country’s Constitutional trajectory and development mandate explicitly take the MDGs into account, and therefore the country is well positioned to respond much more decisively to the MDG agenda.

The Government has integrated the MDGs into its Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) 2009-2014, translating the five priorities of the ruling party into Ten Strategic Priorities for Government

MTSF guides planning and resource allocation across all spheres of government.
South Africa on MDGs

The MTSF identifies the following five development objectives:

- Halving poverty and unemployment by 2014
- Ensuring a more equitable distribution of the benefits of economic growth and reducing inequality
- Improving the nation’s health profile and skills base and ensuring universal access to basic services
- Building a nation that is free of all forms of racism, sexism, tribalism and xenophobia
- Improving the safety of citizens by reducing incidents of crime and corruption
Linked to the five over-arching objectives, the MTSF has outlined ten priority areas that are intended to give effect to these strategic objectives. These are:

- **Strategic Priority 1**: Speeding up growth and transforming the economy to create decent work and sustainable livelihoods.
- **Strategic Priority 2**: Massive programme to build economic and social infrastructure
- **Strategic Priority 3**: Comprehensive rural development strategy linked to land and agrarian reform and food security.
- **Strategic Priority 4**: Strengthen the skills and human resource base.
- **Strategic Priority 5**: Improve the health profile of all South Africans.
- **Strategic Priority 6**: Intensify the fight against crime and corruption.
- **Strategic Priority 7**: Build cohesive, caring and sustainable communities.
- **Strategic Priority 8**: Pursuing African advancement and enhanced international co-operation.
- **Strategic Priority 9**: Sustainable Resource Management and use.
- **Strategic Priority 10**: Building a developmental state including improvement of public services and strengthening democratic institutions.
These Priorities have now been translated into Twelve Outcomes:

1. Improved quality of basic education
2. A long and healthy life for all South Africans
3. All people in South Africa are and feel safe
4. Decent employment through inclusive economic growth
5. A skilled and capable workforce to support an inclusive growth path
6. An efficient, competitive and responsive economic infrastructure network
7. Vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities with food security for all
8. Sustainable human settlements and improved quality of household life
9. A responsive, accountable, effective and efficient local government system
10. Environmental assets and natural resources that are well protected and continually enhanced
11. Create a better South Africa and contribute to a better and safer Africa and world
12. An efficient, effective and development-oriented public service and an empowered, fair and inclusive citizenry
Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

Cross-Cutting Programmes

FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

- The fight against corruption is aimed at stopping the plundering of state resources and directing these to fighting poverty and hunger.
- The Special Anti-Corruption Unit was launched on 25 November 2010 to investigate corruption and conduct disciplinary processes in the public service. Local government established the Anti-corruption Inspectorate Unit for municipalities.
- A Multi-Agency Working Group was also established to investigate corruption in procurement.
- The Anti-corruption Task Team was established to coordinate the work of law enforcement agencies and watchdog bodies.
- An Inter-Ministerial Committee was established to coordinate anti-corruption efforts, promote policy coherence and align programmes.
- An IFMS system is being developed which will include information on corruption and help better manage financial disclosures for instance.
- Government and business signed an agreement in March 2009 to implement anti-corruption programmes.
RESULTS-BASED MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- The MDGs reflect a new emphasis on results/outcomes. They highlight poverty reduction as the overarching mission of development;

- In response to this, the Cluster is currently institutionalizing Monitoring and Evaluation across government. This is aligned to the current paradigm shift of Government towards results/outcomes-based management, which helps policy makers track progress and demonstrate the outcomes and impacts of a given policy, program, or project.

- Projects undertaken to date include the development of Performance/Management Assessment Tools; Data Quality Assessments through Forums; Development of User Satisfaction Surveys Methodology and Tools; PERSAL Clean-Up Project; Capacity Development on M&E; and development of frameworks and policies for M&E.

- The establishment of the Department of Performance Monitoring and Evaluation is a major contribution in enhancing the capacity of the state to monitor service delivery.
When the South African Government took over Public Service Administration in 1994, it inherited a fragmented administration that was divided along racial and gender lines which was not representative of the South African demography.

The White Paper on the Transformation of the Public Service, 1995 laid the basis for the transformation of the public service and in particular empowerment programmes.

The White Paper on Affirmative Action which was adopted in 1998 provided the framework within which government laws, policies and programmes were to redress past imbalances and to ameliorate the conditions of individuals and groups who have been disadvantaged on the grounds of race, gender or disability.

Furthermore, the Employment Equity Act, 55 of 1998 and the Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act, 4 of 2000 were promulgated; both giving effect to the value of equality which lies at the heart of the Constitution in Section 9 of the Bill of Rights.

To actualise this equality within the workplace, a particular emphasis is focused on women and people with disabilities as targeted groups.

In the public service we have ensured that policies, strategies and programmes are free from explicit gender discrimination and that they promote gender equality and mainstreaming.
In the public service, our primary concern has been on overseeing the implementation of the following two indicators:

- Performance in relation to meeting the gender quota of 50% representation at SMS level, which was moved from the earlier quota of 30%

- Corrective interventions targeted at supporting women such as policies, strategies and programmes including capacity development programmes

The establishment of the Ministry for Women, Children and Persons with Disability in 2009 was a major contribution to the mainstreaming of gender equality and women empowerment in the public service
POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES DEVELOPED ON GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT INCLUDE:

- Gender Equality Strategic Framework for the Public Service;

- The Employment Equity Guide for the Public Service;

- Job Access Strategy for the Recruitment, Employment and Retention of Persons with Disabilities in the Public Service;

- The Public Service Youth Development Guidelines are being developed;

- Adoption of the Head of Departments’ 8 Principle Action Plan for Promoting Women’s Empowerment and Gender Equality at the public service workplace.
POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES DEVELOPED ON GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

- Public Service Women Management Week project started; has been running for 4 years
- Public Service Women Managers’ Forum launched
- PALAMA has trained more than 2000 officials in Gender Mainstreaming;
- Held in 2008 and 2009 Public Service Gender Indaba;
- GEMS adopted a Gender biased risk management strategy;
## Representation of women at SMS Levels: 30 June 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provinces and National Departments</th>
<th>Total No of SMS</th>
<th>Female June 2011</th>
<th>Male June 2011</th>
<th>Total No of SMS</th>
<th>Female March 2011</th>
<th>Male March 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Cape</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>34.2</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>65.7</td>
<td>586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free State</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>69.6</td>
<td>302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>421</td>
<td>61.3</td>
<td>709</td>
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<tr>
<td>KwaZulu-Natal</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>36.7</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>62.5</td>
<td>512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limpopo</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>65.4</td>
<td>491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mpumalanga</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>36.8</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>62.5</td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>38.3</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>62.2</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. Cape</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>33.4</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>68.8</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Cape</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>32.9</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>67.6</td>
<td>333</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nat. Depts</td>
<td>4692</td>
<td>1795</td>
<td>38.2</td>
<td>2897</td>
<td>62.8</td>
<td>4628</td>
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<tr>
<td>National B I</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>8440</td>
<td>3160</td>
<td>37.4</td>
<td>5280</td>
<td>63.6</td>
<td>8380</td>
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Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women: Achievements

- Significant progress has been made on equal opportunities for women and men on issues such as access to employment. We are making provision through policies, programmes and strategies to redress existing imbalances between men and women;
- Cabinet adopted the 30% target of women in SMS position, which was achieved by 31st March 2005, and this was later revised to 50% to be met by March 2010. This target has not been met.
- Sexual harassment in the workplace is being dealt with decisively and strategies have been put in place to protect all women from physical and psychological abuse and manipulation in the workplace;
- Reports on the implementation of the Head of Departments’ 8 Principle Action Plan for Promoting Women’s Empowerment and Gender Equality at the public service workplace have been developed in the past three years to track performance of departments.
- It is in the public service that women have been recognised and policies on paid maternity and family responsibility leave have been implemented and fully operationalized;
- We have prioritised national and international commemoration days and have used these days as a way of taking stock with the broader gender community. (8th March, International Women’s Day, 21st March – Human Rights Day, 9th August – National Women Day whereby the month of August is declared as a dedicated women’s month; 25th Nov-10 Dec marks the campaign of 16 days of Activism on No Violence against Women).
The G&A Cluster participates in the following global partnerships and forums:

- India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) Trilateral Consultative Forum;
- Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions Organization for Economic Co-operation Development (OECD);
- United Nations (UN) Convention Against Corruption
- Involvement in African Union (AU) APRM processes
Develop a Global Partnership for Development

Global Partnerships

The Objectives of Continental and International Partnerships include:

- Sharing and exchanging best practices on the implementation of the MDGs
- Creating synergies on the implementation of MDGs between government, Civil Society and the Private Sector
- Engaging the international community and mobilizing resources to support the implementation of the MDGs
- Creating a reference group for peer review and learning in the implementation of the MDGs
THANK YOU