- The Socio-Economic Rights Monitoring Tool
- Decent Living Level Programme
- SADC BIG

Presentation delivered at Social Indices in the SADC Context, International Expert Workshop, Chaminuka Lodge, Lusaka, Zambia
SPII is a non-profit research and advocacy think-tank, established in 2006, which focuses on generating new information and analysis on the drivers and solutions to poverty and inequality in South Africa and the sub-region.

5 areas of work:

- Socio-Economic Rights Monitoring Tool
- Decent Living Level Programme
- Basic Needs Basket (Price Monitoring)
- Local Economic Development
- SADC BIG Campaign
The Socio-Economic Rights Monitoring Tool

“Developing effective and widely utilised tools to monitor and guide the implementation of socio-economic rights in South Africa.”
Socio-Economic Rights Monitoring Tool
“Developing effective and widely utilised tools to monitor and guide the implementation of socio-economic rights.”

• **1996**: the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa enters into force.

• Recognising the imperative of social and economic transformation, the new Constitution would provide a guiding framework to ‘heal the divisions of the past and establish a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights.’

• Central to this transformative promise was the inclusion of socio-economic rights alongside civil, political and cultural rights.
Socio-Economic Rights Monitoring Tool

Sections 26(1) and 27(1):
Everyone has the right to have access to:
- Adequate housing
- Health care services
- Sufficient food and
- Water
- Social security

Section 29 and 24:
Everyone has the right to:
- a basic education
- a healthy environment

Section 25(5) and (6):
Citizens have the right to gain access to:
- Land on an equitable basis
Section 28: Children

(1) Every child has the right:
(c) to **basic nutrition**, **shelter**, **basic health care** services and **social services**.
Section 26(2) and 27(2)

The state must take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realisation of each of these rights.
Socio-Economic Rights Monitoring Tool

Three core aims:

1) Clarify and unpack the content of the SERs and the obligations on the state to ensure the progressive realisation of these rights: what must be done and over what time span?

2) Develop an effective and widely utilised method for monitoring and evaluating socio-economic progress / transformation made to date and in the future.

3) To hold the state to account on the progress of transformation and provide evidence for advocacy initiatives and legal interventions to guide policies, budgeting and implementation towards speedier realisation of the social and economic justice envisaged in the Constitution.
SPII, in partnership with the South African Human Rights Commission, has developed a 3-step methodology based on a combination of policy and budget analysis and statistical indicators to monitor and evaluate the progressive realisation of SERs in South Africa.
SER Monitoring Tool: 3-step methodology

**Step 1: Policy Analysis**

- Assess the Policy Effort
  - Constitutional and international obligations: reasonableness test
  - Content of SER policies and legislation and policy-making processes
  - Implementation challenges & accountability mechanisms

**Step 2: Budget Analysis**

- Assess Resource Allocation and Expenditure
  - Generation and distribution of government resources
  - Allocation and expenditure of maximum available resources on SERs
  - Inclusivity of the budget cycle process

**Step 3: Indicators**

- Monitor and Evaluate Attainment of the Right
  - Access indicators (physical and economic)
  - Adequacy indicators
  - Quality indicators
The process of developing indicators

1. International and domestic literature and jurisprudential review to unpack the normative content of the right

2. Identify and assess existing reporting formats and indicators for the right

3. Develop conceptual (ideal) indicators for the right.

4. Host initial meeting with sectoral content experts, civil society and government partners

5. Identification of potential indicators

6. Verification of the existence of reliable data sets for each indicator
   - CRITERIA:
     - Is data available from a reliable source
     - Is data available annually (ideally)
     - Is data disaggregated geographically, by income group, gender, race and age – to highlight inequality of access to SERs
     - SMART Criteria – indicators must be Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-framed

7. Hosting of subsequent meeting with initial group of sectoral experts to present proposed indicators and incorporate feedback

8. Final set of indicators developed and populated with data
Project progress to date

• Framework for unpacking the obligations of ‘reasonable legislative and other measures’ ‘within available resources’ and ‘progressive realisation’ developed

• 3-step methodology adopted, launched and applied to the rights to health, social security, housing and food

• Partnership with SAHRC

• Relationships developed and buy-in received from a range of governmental and civil society actors
(1) Everyone has the right to have access to adequate housing.

(2) The state must take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realisation of this right.

(3) No one may be evicted from their home, or have their home demolished, without an order of court made after considering all the relevant circumstances. No legislation may permit arbitrary evictions.
### Indicators for the Right to Adequate Housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCESS INDICATORS (physical and economic)</th>
<th>ADEQUACY INDICATORS (to meet basic needs, norms and standards)</th>
<th>QUALITY INDICATORS (location and impact on quality of life)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing general overview</td>
<td>Tenure Status</td>
<td>Transport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Percentage of households living in different dwelling types</td>
<td>16. Percentage of households who own or rent the dwelling they live in for different dwelling types</td>
<td>23. Percentage of annual household consumption expenditure spent on transport for bottom three income deciles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government programmes and subsidies</td>
<td><strong>Adequacy of shelter</strong></td>
<td>Health outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Number of houses/units completed per year</td>
<td>17. Percentage of households who describe the condition of the walls of their dwelling as weak or very weak for different dwelling types</td>
<td>24. Average time it takes to get to nearest health facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Number of houses upgraded in well-located informal settlements with access to secure tenure and basic services</td>
<td>18. Percentage of households who describe the condition of the roof of their dwelling as weak or very weak for different dwelling types</td>
<td>Education outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Number of affordable social and rental accommodation units provided</td>
<td>19. Percentage of households whose main source of drinking water is from a piped tap, by province</td>
<td>25. Average time it takes child in household to get to school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Number of municipalities assessed for accreditation</td>
<td>20. Percentage of households who describe their main source of drinking water as not safe to drink, by province</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Number of accredited municipalities supported with implementation of post-accreditation process</td>
<td>21. Percentage of households whose main sanitation facility is a flush toilet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable housing market, 9 metros</td>
<td><strong>Adequacy of service availability</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Total residential property sales and registrations by affordability band</td>
<td>19. Percentage of households whose main source of drinking water is from a piped tap, by province</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Percent change in total residential property sales by affordability band</td>
<td>20. Percentage of households who describe their main source of drinking water as not safe to drink, by province</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Percent change in total number of residential properties by affordability band</td>
<td>21. Percentage of households whose main sanitation facility is a flush toilet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Percentage of properties valued less than R500,000</td>
<td>19. Percentage of households whose main source of drinking water is from a piped tap, by province</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. South Africa Housing Price Gap</td>
<td>20. Percentage of households who describe their main source of drinking water as not safe to drink, by province</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Total number and annual percentage change in the number of bonded transactions for the affordable market</td>
<td>21. Percentage of households whose main sanitation facility is a flush toilet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordableability, household costs</td>
<td><strong>Transport</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Rent/mortgage cost per month for different dwelling types</td>
<td>23. Percentage of annual household consumption expenditure spent on transport for bottom three income deciles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Percentage of household consumption expenditure spent on housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels for bottom three income deciles</td>
<td>24. Average time it takes to get to nearest health facility</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Percentage of household consumption expenditure spent on housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels, across income deciles, by province</td>
<td>25. Average time it takes child in household to get to school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.2. Why do communities embark on ‘service delivery’ protests? (in relation to housing)

4.5. How is government failing in its responsibilities towards communities?

4.8 How do you suggest that government addresses these challenges and other frustrations that communities have?
4.2. Why do communities embark on ‘service delivery’ protests?

Key trends:
Progressive policy shifts have suffered from poor planning, coordination, capacity and monitoring.

Planning:
Communities are not adequately consulted on developments which they are supposed to benefit from.

When combined with a scarcity of accurate information, particularly around informal settlement upgrading, communities can lose their sense of ownership and thus reject rather than ‘buy-in’ to local development projects.
4.5. How is national government failing in its responsibilities towards communities?

DHS Programme 3: Housing Planning and Delivery Support – real allocations, annual % change and under-expenditure, 2008/09 – 2012/13

Step 1: Policy Analysis
"The State must take reasonable legislative & other measures"

Step 2: Budget Analysis
"within available resources"

Step 3: Indicators
"to achieve the progressive realisation of this right"
4.2. Why do communities embark on ‘service delivery’ protests?

**INDICATOR 18:** Percentage of households who describe their main source of drinking water as not safe to drink, by province, 2005 – 2012.

4.5. How is government failing in its responsibilities towards communities?

INDICATOR 2: Number of houses/units completed per year, 2003–2012

- **Step 1: Policy Analysis**
  "The State must take reasonable legislative & other measures"

- **Step 2: Budget Analysis**
  "within available resources"

- **Step 3: Indicators**
  "to achieve the progressive realisation of this right"
Monitoring the right to health care in South Africa

An analysis of the policy gaps, resource allocation and health outcomes

September 2013

By Khetho Lomahoza

Monitoring the Progressive Realisation of Socio-Economic Rights Project

Project made possible with funding from the Ford Foundation

31 Quirn Street, Newtown
Johannesburg
South Africa
2000
Phone: +27 11 833 0161
Fax: +27 11 832 3085

Twitter: spii
Facebook: SPI
Email: advocacy@spii.org.za
www.spii.org.za
A Review of the Development of Social Security Policy in South Africa

July 2013
By Stephanie Bockenhoff

Monitoring the right to social security in South Africa
An analysis of the policy gaps, resource allocation and enjoyment of the right

September 2013
By Hannah Dawson

Monitoring the Progressive Realisation of Socio-Economic Rights Project
Project made possible with funding from the

31 Quan Street, Newtown
Johannesburg
South Africa
2000
Phone: +27 11 832 0161
Fax: +27 11 832 2989

Twitter: spi1
Facebook: SPII
Email: advocacy@spi.org.za
www.spi.org.za
Monitoring the right of access to adequate housing in South Africa

An analysis of the policy effort, resource allocation and expenditure and enjoyment of the right to housing

August 2014

By Hannah Dawson and Daniel McLaren

Monitoring and Evaluating Progressive Realisation of the Right to Sufficient Food and Basic Nutrition in South Africa

November 2014

By Daniel McLaren and Ilusiko Myoli

Monitoring the Progressive Realisation of Socio-Economic Rights Project

Indicators for the Right to Food
The Right to Basic Education
The rights to **water & sanitation, environment and land**
Networks and users of the Tool

• General public
• Policy makers and government departments
• ANC caucuses
• Parliament – PRU and Portfolio Committees
• National Planning Commission and the Department in the Presidency for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
• South African Human Rights Commission
• ICESCR reporting
• Civil Society: activists, researchers, community organisations, the media, academics
• Public interest litigators and the Constitutional Court
• Researchers and academics (economic and social policy)
NEXT STEPS:

Road-maps for the universal realisation of socio-economic rights
NEXT STEPS:

Citizen-Based Monitoring of Socio-Economic Rights
DECENT LIVING LEVEL PROGRAMME

• Building evidence and consensus on a Decent Living Level in South Africa

• NDP commitment to achieving a decent standard of living for all

• So, what do South African’s themselves consider to be the essential goods and services necessary for a decent life?
• What policies are required to deliver these goods and services on a more equal basis and … what would that cost?

• What policies are required to improve access to these goods and services and … what would that cost?

• If we can forge some agreement on these questions, policies which sustain unequal access to these resources become ever more untenable.
DECENT LIVING LEVEL PROGRAMME

HOW?

• Nationally and socially representative focus group research to determine ‘Socially Perceived Necessities’ (SPN)

• Initial 2006 study (Wright and Noble) found that people from very different backgrounds and socio-economic profiles had remarkable levels of agreement on a list of SPNs that would be adequate to live a decent life.
DECENT LIVING LEVEL PROGRAMME

HOW?

• Start with a long-list of items, define and work through them

• 36 items were decided as essential with between 50-92% levels of agreement
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>% of All saying essential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mains electricity in the house</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone to look after you if you are very ill</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A house that is strong enough to stand up to the weather e.g. rain, winds etc.</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing sufficient to keep you warm and dry</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A place of worship (church/mosque/synagogue) in the local area</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A fridge</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street lighting</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to pay or contribute to funerals/funeral insurance/burial society</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separate bedrooms for adults and children</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having an adult from the household at home at all times when children under ten from the household are at home</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having police on the streets in the local area</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarred roads close to the house</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid employment for people of working age</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For parents or other carers to be able to buy complete school uniform for children without hardship</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A flush toilet in the house</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People who are sick are able to afford all medicines prescribed by their doctor</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone to talk to if you are feeling upset or depressed</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DECENT LIVING LEVEL PROGRAMME

- Levels of agreement across social lines:
  - Women and men: 98%
  - Young and old: 97%
  - Rich and poor: 92%
  - Urban and rural: 90%
The study highlighted the inequality in current access to these resources, which was stark.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All</th>
<th>Black African</th>
<th>Coloured</th>
<th>Indian/Asian</th>
<th>White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average number of items defined as necessities (from list of 50 items)</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average number of socially perceived necessities possessed (from list of 36 items)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DECENT LIVING LEVEL PROGRAMME

• Big opportunity to use this research to empower government with a stronger mandate to tackle inequality

• Highlights the injustice of unequal access to necessities which everyone agrees are essential for a decent life
NEXT STEPS:

• **Big goal**: undertake *nationally representative* focus groups to determine SPNs for South Africa. At the same time, include a budget component which costs the SPNs. Use the results to transform advocacy and policy on inequality.

• **In the interim**: update analysis of 2006 SPN’s with 2014/15 survey data
A universal SADC-wide cash transfer in the form of a Basic Income Grant (BIG), by 2020, funded predominantly from the proceeds of the extractive industries.

Sign up as an organisation or individual at: www.spii.org.za/index.php/sadc-big-principles/
Socio-Economic Rights Monitoring Tool: daniel@spii.org.za

Decent Living Level: isobel@spii.org.za

SADC BIG: taku@spii.org.za