

KINGDOM OF LESOTHO



ISTANBUL +5 REPORT

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REPORT FOR ISTANBUL + 5

For the Kingdom of Lesotho

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BACKGROUND

This paper reports on Lesotho's progress in implementing the Habitat Agenda. The report shall be reviewed at the Regional Meeting and at the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, Istanbul +5. While focusing on the 20 key commitments and strategies as called for in the Global reporting format, it also seeks to indicate a way forward in our country's effort to implement the Habitat Agenda. The report is structured in a manner such that an overview of the current status is provided, constraints are outlined, and policy initiatives and strategies are given.

As the Global Format provides for, this report describes Lesotho's performance on six themes; Shelter, Social Development and Eradication of Poverty, Environmental Management, Economic Development, Governance and International Cooperation. However, due to unavailability of data in some instances, there will be gaps in certain areas of this report. The report is accompanied by a spreadsheet (indicators database) with most of the statistics noted on country and not necessarily at city level. Furthermore, data is not given for the stated periods in the spreadsheet, instead 1986 and 1996 statistics have been adopted.

Since Lesotho's independence, in 1966, the country's Governance has been conducted through different Government Acts. However, government functions still remain highly centralised. The promulgation of the Local Government Act in 1997 was expected to promote decentralization and evolution of power to local communities. However, the Act has not been fully implemented and some traditional leaders view the proposed local authorities as one way of removing their powers. Lack of resources also present constraints in the establishment of urban based local authorities, which could eventually increase community participation in decision-making and policy-formulation, as well as implementation. The Government of Lesotho is developing structural reforms to remedy these obstacles.

Lesotho is currently under-going a period of economic recession, which has forced the majority of Basotho to resort to informal sector employment, high incidence of poverty, fast growing crime and moral decay, and an unevenly distributed national income. Policies have therefore, been put in place to create job opportunities and to enhance participation by all citizens in alleviating poverty.

Lesotho relies to a great extent on external support and assistance. She has continuously maintained bilateral and multilateral links with most international donors such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), United Nations (UN), and many other international organisations as well as individual governments.

The Government of Lesotho is currently in the process of approving a National Shelter Policy. The policy has been prepared in a participatory manner and seeks to achieve adequate and sustainable human settlements for all, and to create vibrant communities, a strong civil society, resulting in a high quality of life.

CHAPTER ONE: SHELTER

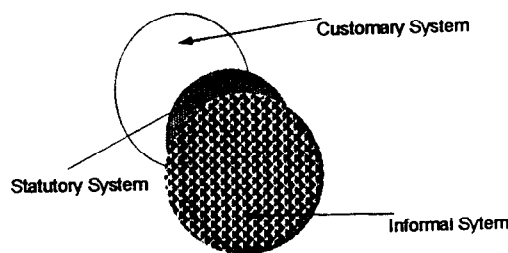
CURRENT STATUS

1. PROVIDE SECURITY OF TENURE

Indicator 1 (Tenure Types)

Security of tenure in Lesotho does not differ significantly from other developing countries, i.e. it can be explained in terms of formal ownership (leasehold), informal ownership and tenancy. Squatting and homelessness are not common and have always been recorded in negligible figures, primarily due to the strong family ties that the Basotho have exhibited over many decades. This cultural practice guarantees accessibility by all to some form of shelter even in circumstances where possession of legal title in respect of the premises cannot be proved, particularly in the rural setting where family linkage is stronger.

The land supply system in Lesotho has evolved through three main systems; the customary system under which land was allocated by the Chiefs; the statutory system which was designed to supplant the customary system, and an informal system which derives from the customary system but has evolved and adapted to evade the statutory system. The majority of urban land in Lesotho falls under this informal system. The chart below depicts the current land allocation system.



Majority of families have ownership over their houses. However, as stated, records are not available for 1993 hence this report will use 1986 and 1996 census figures. In 1986, 91.1% of the total households lived in owned houses while 5.3% were renting.

Comparative figures for 1996 indicate a drop to 84.3% of households living in owned houses, with increase in rented housing to 11.6%. On the other hand, Maseru district has more households renting than any other district; 24.6%, with 70.8% living in owned houses. This may imply that fewer people have access to land tenure, or that more people are now finding renting less costly than owning.

Indicator 2 (Evictions)

Eviction is not a common phenomenon in Lesotho, particularly in rural areas. Nonetheless, in the wake of rapid urbanization, rated at six percent [6%] overall per annum, the country is experiencing a rise in shelter-related activities such as private rental, and the concept of eviction has naturally, found its way into this sector. Unorganized settlements and unplanned areas present serious difficulty in collecting data in respect of evictions, a task made even more cumbersome by lack of coordination in the sector. It is envisaged that once adopted, the National Shelter Policy will facilitate regularization of all sectoral activities.

2. PROMOTE THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE HOUSING

Qualitative data 1: Housing Rights

The Constitution of Lesotho does not pronounce her citizens' right to housing, however it provides that all land in Lesotho is vested in the Basotho Nation. " Power to allocate land, to revoke, terminate or restrict any interest on right that has been granted is vested in the King in trust for the Basotho Nation". It is not possible to address housing issues without reference to accessibility of people to land. In 1979, parliament enacted the Land Act to secure the right of families to land and to encourage investment in land. *The legislative instrument only addresses the legal framework and not the distribution of powers and decision-making within a family. As a result, the head of a household, usually the man, assumes more power because he is considered the owner of the land according to tradition.*

In addition, the position of married Basotho women, still representing the majority of Lesotho's female adult population, is one of minors. Therefore, women have limited or no access to mortgage financing; indirect or no access to land; and no or limited right to immovable property in their own names.

Whereas citizens have right of use over land, the law prohibits foreigners from accessing such right. This includes corporate persons, who may only have right to land if more than 50 percent of the institution is owned by a Lesotho citizen, and the corporation is registered under the laws of Lesotho. This situation has been criticised for presenting a major disincentive to investment. Currently, government has set up a Land Policy Review Commission whose terms of reference are to review and revise the National Land Policy to address inter alia, the appropriateness of the land tenure system in relation to equitable access to productive resources. The Law Reform Commission is currently reviewing legislation on rights of women, and it is anticipated that its recommendations could bring significant shifts from the current land allocation system.

Indicator 3 (House price and rent-to-income ratios)

At city level, rental charges range from an average of M 30 to M 1750. ¹In general terms, a borrower's allowable capacity to access mortgage financing in Lesotho is modeled along international standards, i.e., the housing percentage permissible as a proportion of the borrower's income stands at twenty-five percent (25%) of his/her total household income. This figure applies across board for all income brackets and forms the basis for financial institutional lending.

It is not practical to make out any discernible rent-to-income ratio because determination of rental charges is left in the discretion of the private sector, whose profit-oriented approach defeats existence of any set ratios. From the public sector perspective, there is hardly any rental in Lesotho, save for provision of living quarters for certain public servants. The public servants housing stock is however limited, and occupation is not structured along commercial lines.

¹ Loti is equivalent to one South African Rand. ~ \$1 = R7.26; based on August 2000 exchange rates.

Policy initiatives to address this status quo include the on-going exercise to develop a National Shelter Policy, which also envisages strengthening government's capacity to monitor standards within the sector. The need for government to move away from providing public servants with below market rentals is also being addressed. Direct provision of houses by government has contributed to the poor functioning of the shelter sector. Government is currently focusing on introducing a mortgage scheme for civil servants, and revisiting its current housing stock with a view to either dispose of it or bring it up to market levels.

3. PROMOTE EQUAL ACCESS TO LAND

Indicator 4 (Land price-to-income ratio)

Lesotho Housing and Land Development Corporation is the only entity responsible for delivery of organised and serviced housing plots, and concentrates its activities in urban centres. For urban Maseru, in 1999, the price of land ranged from M 7.5 for raw land to M 50 for highly developed land per square metre. For all other urban centres, land is valued at M 10 per square metre across board. The increase in urban growth has contributed significantly to a rise in illegal settlements. Areas initially designated for development and the conversion of agricultural land for housing, has resulted not only in increased pressure on availability of land, but in devaluation of prime areas as well.

Estimates on Land Prices and Incomes for the Formal Shelter Deliver



Source: Calculation by CCI, based on information from LHLDC

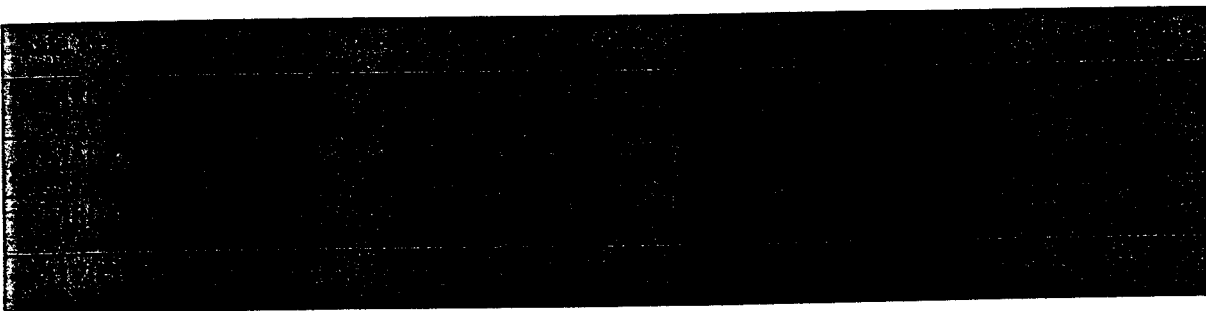
In 1993, households' average income was M 466.90 per month, and the figure increased to M 577.40 per household in 1995. The above table indicates that given the households average income, most people can not afford fully serviced plots at the stipulated minimum income noted in the table, nor could they afford the down payment.

4. PROMOTE EQUAL ACCESS TO CREDIT

Indicator 5 (Mortgage and non-mortgage)

It is important to note that in Lesotho, the majority of households acquire shelter through informal, self-help initiatives. Even for those houses delivered through formal institutions, the construction process is largely left to the discretion and responsibility of the owner. Put differently, Basotho have always built their houses. The following table gives an illustration of formal lending institutions, 1994.² It is evident from the table that a relatively small number of households can access mortgage loans within the set household income.

Illustrative Estimates for Four MD-Lesotho Bank Mortgage Loans for a Homebuyer



The financial sector in Lesotho has experienced considerable pressure in recent years, resulting in hesitancy on the part of banks to extend lending to most people. However, a relatively small percentage of households have accessed housing finance. It is not possible to provide exact figures in respect of mortgaged properties due to lack of recorded data. Parliament enacted a Financial Institutions Act in 1999 to improve performance of the financial sector. Government has also adopted a priority policy of privatisation of most public-owned institutions, through which one bank was liquidated and another was privatised.

² Poverty mapping report for Lesotho, 1994.

5. PROMOTE ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES

Indicator 6 (Access to water)

Since the early 1960s, the government of Lesotho has focused on improving public health, and emphasis has continuously been placed on good sanitation standards and clean water. In 1996 a significant number of households in rural Lesotho had access to piped water at least within 200 metres. Most of the water which was drawn from community outlets by households in Butha-Buthe, Qacha's Nek and Leribe were 51.9 percent, 48.8 percent and 46.9 percent respectively, draw water from such sources.

On average, few households in all the districts drew drinking water from catchment tanks, wells and rivers. For instance, the highest percentage of households which drew water from catchment tanks were from the lowland district of Mafeteng, and constituted only 3.0 percent of the total households in that district. Similarly, only 3.2 percent of the households in Maseru drew drinking water from private wells.

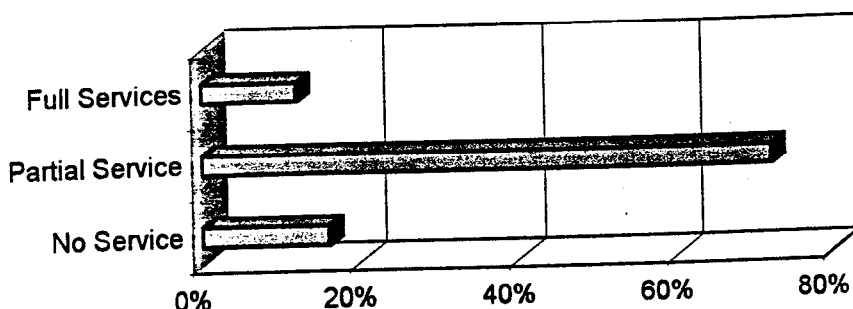
Indicator 7 (Household connections)

Household connectivity in terms of sewerage, electricity and telephones in Lesotho is not a common practice because the vast majority of households live far from the power grid and telecommunication network. In these areas, piped water is delivered by government through the department of Rural Water Supply (RWS). In urban areas, the Water and Sewerage Authority, (WASA), a parastatal, exercises responsibility over infrastructural development and support, as well as water and sewerage-related services. In 1998, WASA-connected households represented forty-three percent (43%) of Maseru urban population, 3.6 percent of which had access to WASA's sanitation facilities. Government is in the process of unbundling the utility and introducing private sector participation in the water sector.

There is one electricity authority in the country, Lesotho Electricity Corporation (LEC). In general, only 2.9% of the total households in the country are connected to the national grid. Thus paraffin, wood and gas remain the primary sources of energy in Lesotho.

The Lesotho Telecommunication Corporation (LTC), also a government parastatal, remains the only entity responsible for delivery of telecommunication infrastructure and related services.

Access to Water, Electricity and Sewerage in Maseru³



Generally, the telecommunication sector in the country is under considerable pressure, as demonstrated by a high number of unserviced areas and continued inefficiency for connected households. In 1993, only 4.4% of households in urban Maseru formed part of the LTC network, and in 1999, the figure had only risen to 4.8%. Both LTC and LEC constitute part of the privatisation process, and are presently being restructured.

The informal system of land allocation and urban growth rates have served to defeat public sector and parastatal efforts to provide an adequate supply of serviced plots for housing development. In Maseru for example, only 12% of households have access to electricity, piped water and water-borne sewerage, constituting a fully serviced plot. 16% have no access and 72% have partial services. This is depicted in the chart above.

³ Source: Lands Survey and Physical Planning, Maseru Development Plan. Working Paper No.10

CHAPTER 2: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ERADICATION OF POVERTY

CURRENT STATUS

6. Provide Equal Opportunities for a Safe and Healthy Life

Indicator 8 (under five mortality)

Lack of services and poor nutrition has resulted in high mortality rates. 36% of males and 30% of females under the age of five are reported as stunted due to lack of proper nutrition. Child mortality is estimated at 55 per 1,000 live births per year. It is 55.9 for males and 54.1 for females. In 1986 the figure stood at 60 per 1,000 live births and rose to 74 in 1996 and remained at the same level for 1998. The increase is due among other things to HIV/AIDS epidemic, with full-blown AIDS cases increasing from only one reported case in 1987 to 7 317 in 1998. A study among pregnant women, instituted in 1992, indicated that the proportion of HIV-infected pregnant women has risen from 3.9% to 26% in 1996, and 35% in 1999.

Indicator 9 (reported crime rates)

Juvenile delinquency and urban violence are on the increase. Most of Lesotho's population is made up of the youth under 21 years of age, most of who are not employed. This reason has been attributed to the increased level of crime in Lesotho. In 1993 there were 826 reported cases of rape, 665 of murder and 4397 of theft (especially housebreaking). In 1998 rape cases had risen to 1056, and 857 for murder cases. Housebreaking had gone down slightly to 4,256. This could be due in part to increasing police presence and arrest of perpetrators.⁴

Qualitative data 2: urban violence

There are no areas in the country, which are considered inaccessible or dangerous by the police. There is negligible violence in schools. There is a crime prevention policy as well as a weapon control policy.

⁴ Data on victims is not disaggregated on gender. What is available is the total number of cases reported for each crime category.

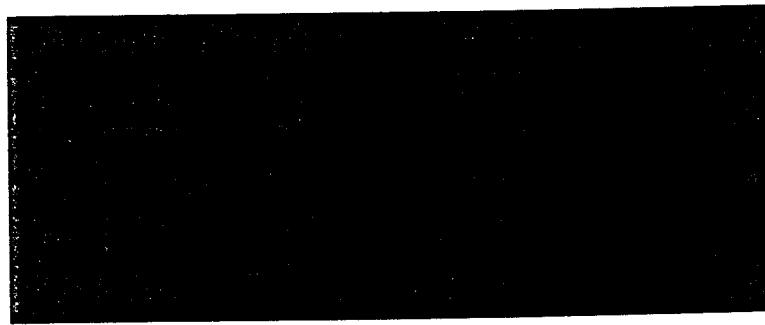
Although most of the places are accessible to the police and there are no known no-go areas, topography and unplanned settlements pose a real challenge for police to work effectively.

7. Promote Social Integration and Support Disadvantaged Groups

Indicator 10 (poor households)

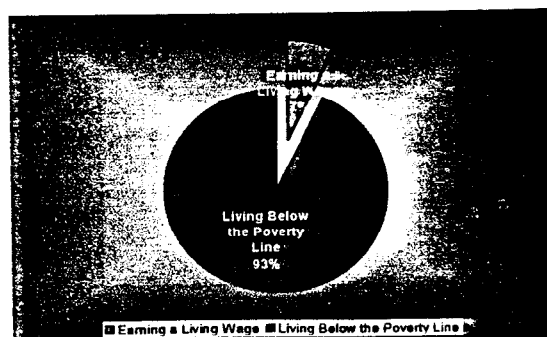
National income is unevenly distributed, with the rich, who constitute 10% of the population getting 45% of the total allocation, while the poor who make up 44% of total population get only 8% of the allocation. The table below provides classification on poverty and annual household income levels. A household of five members, being the average household size in Lesotho, would be destitute if its annual income is less than M2400 in 1999.

Annual Household Income and Poverty Classification⁵



54% of rural residents are poor and 90% of those living below the poverty line are in the rural areas. Rural poverty is more severe than urban poverty although there is a significant number of urban households who are classified as extremely poor (destitute), 28%.

Incomes in the Informal Sector



Source: Sechaba Consultants: Poverty Mapping in Lesotho 1994

⁵ Poverty in Lesotho, 1999, Sechaba Consultants.

8. Promote Gender Equality in Human Settlements Development

Indicator 11 (female-male gaps)

Among the poor, men account for 45% and women make up 55% of the total. Unemployment rose from 26.5% in 1985 among women to 48.6% in 1997 while the rate for men fell from 34.9% to 31.9% in the same period. The decline in the unemployment rate for men could be attributed to job losses in South African mines, and to the fact that most men have gone into employment that was traditionally the preserve of women.

About one-third of households are headed by women who face high unemployment rates implying that female-headed households are more vulnerable to poverty than male headed households. Nationally there are 70.6% male-headed and 29.4% female-headed households.

There is a tendency towards a higher proportion of girls in primary schools to that of boys. This is due to the fact that boys look after animals, i.e. herd-boys, and do other farm-related work throughout the school year causing absenteeism and dropout problems in primary schools. In secondary and high school, the trend is reversed, with 41% of boys and 59% girls dropping out. In 1992 the percentage difference for girls and boys between secondary to high school was 8%. It dropped to 3% in 1997 for boys, which means that there is an increase in the number of boys going from secondary to high school. Or that more girls fall pregnant and marry early, hence dropout of school. In general the dropout rate for 1998 was 26.1% in primary schools while 48.7% of school-age children do not attend school.

Women make up 50.7% of Lesotho's population yet form a minority in the decision-making processes. Women's participation in politics is comparatively low and they remain few in decision-making positions such as Parliament and the Senate. This is indicative of the need for government policy to be directed towards economically empowering women and enabling them to participate within all spheres of development; particularly those targeted at poverty alleviation.

CHAPTER 3: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

CURRENT STATUS

9. PROMOTE GEOGRAPHICALLY BALANCED SETTLEMENT STRUCTURES

Indicator 12 (Urban Population Growth)

Over the past three decades, Lesotho has been experiencing significant migration to urban areas, notably as a result of economic and social opportunities and the quest for access to basic infrastructure and services. Urban growth rate is approximately 6% overall and 7% for Maseru. Lesotho has one dominant urban area, the capital city Maseru, which is located in the lowlands on the western border with South Africa. 36% of urban population lives in Maseru. In addition to Maseru, eleven other towns have been gazetted as urban areas and some of these towns such as Mphahle's Hoek, Hlotse and Maputsoe have demonstrated significant urban growth in recent years.

It is important to note that urban migration and the natural growth of Maseru and other urban centres has culminated in numerous problems related to land use and shelter delivery. In particular, this migration has resulted in rapid conversion of agricultural land in the periphery of urban centres into unplanned human settlements and has put stress on provision of basic services.

In addition, certain areas designated for development of serviced housing plots have become subject to unlawful and uncontrolled urban sprawl. These factors pose challenges to urban planning, and increase pressure on social housing. They further place a need to develop policies and programmes directed at curbing environmental degradation.

The department of Urban Development Services (UDS) was established in 1989 and was given the task of addressing the inequalities between peri-urban and urban populations in terms of infrastructural services and to help manage the rapid growth of urban areas.

10. MANAGE SUPPLY AND DEMAND FOR WATER IN AN EFFECTIVE MANNER

Indicator 13 (Consumption of water)

Figures from Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) indicate that at city level, daily household consumption of water per person is 120 litres/day in all settlements and 30 litres/person/day in informal settlements for the year 1993. The figures rose to 150.00 litres/person/day and 80.00 litres/person/day in all settlements and in informal settlements respectively in 1998.

WASA supplies water only in urban areas. 43% of Maseru total population is served with piped water. The rest of the population draws water from other sources such as boreholes and springs. WASA is in the process of extending its water and sewerage treatment plants with the aim of increasing its coverage and responding to the escalating demand.

Indicator 14 (Median Price of Water)

The minimum and maximum price of water per cubic metre is M1.56 and M5.00 respectively. This indicates that water is relatively affordable in Lesotho although connection fees are exorbitantly high and maintenance is inadequate.

11. REDUCE URBAN POLLUTION

Indicator 15 (Air Pollution)

There is a very small industrial sector in Lesotho, thus, not much is being done with regard to air pollution, however, the coverage is on users such as dry cleaners whereby use of coal is discouraged and is substituted by diesel.

Indicator 16 (Wastewater treated)

Only 3.6% of the 43% of Maseru's total population being served by WASA is connected to the city sewer lines. A small number of the urban population still use septic tanks which are not well managed, as they overflow and pose a health hazard.

Sewage treatment works for the Maseru Urban Area are located at Ha Ratjomose and are the only treatment discharging efficiently into the Caledon River. According to Maseru Development Plan, the works were designed initially to handle an average of 5 million litres per day for a calculated population equivalent to 27,000. Provisions were made for future expansion to an ultimate capacity of 10 million litres per day whereby a calculated population equivalent of 54,000 would be served.

Maseru City Council is the only authority, which has the responsibility over waste management, among its functions. The rest of urban areas depend on limited services of offices of Town Clerks in the districts, under the Ministry of Local Government. Thus, Maseru City Council has a pollution control programme which addresses the problems related to poor solid waste management from all sources, e.g. residential, commercial, institutions and industrial areas. Liquid waste is the responsibility of WASA, the city's programme entails identification, monitoring, and legal measures against leaking or overflowing conservancy tasks.

Indicator 17 (Solid Waste Disposal)

Maseru City Council is in the process of establishing a new landfill for Maseru. The present waste disposal site in Maseru is located centrally in an area now surrounded by households. It was not intended to be a landfill but the Local Authority decided to utilise the pit created by road construction work in the area. This opportunistic type of approach means that the landfill site selection criteria, such as distance from the airport and residential area, topography and morphology, soils and geology, and water resources were not taken into consideration, and as a result, the site is a major environmental hazard.

The National Environmental Secretariat (NES) in the Ministry of Environment Gender and Youth Affairs, has the responsibility and mandate among others, of safeguarding that all developmental activities are sustainable and environmentally sound. Currently, there is no law that deals comprehensively with waste management in Lesotho. Part of the solution to waste management lies in developing a national strategy and policies as well as streamlining present legislation on waste management.

12. PREVENT DISASTERS AND REBUILD SETTLEMENTS

Qualitative Data 3: Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Instruments

Although Lesotho has not experienced any major natural or human made disasters, Disaster Management Authority (DMA) is currently identifying hazardous areas so that appropriate measures can be taken and incorporated into the existing building control regulations and planning standards.

In an effort to reduce exposure to most common disasters in Lesotho, one Bank has introduced "The Master's House-owners Comprehensive Policy" which covers among other things the; Subterranean Fire, Riot, Civil Commotion, Strikes, Labour Disturbances or Malicious Persons acting on behalf of or in connection with any Political Organisations.

13. PROMOTE EFFECTIVE ENVIRONMENTALY SOUND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Indicator 18: (Travel Time)

The rapid growth of Maseru's traffic during the last few years, as a result of increased car ownership and population growth, has put marked strain on the town's existing road network. Until recently, relatively insignificant improvements have been carried out. Data on traffic and transport for the Maseru Urban Area is, however, grossly inadequate and much of it relates largely to the Maseru Central Business District (CBD).

Major traffic flows in the Maseru Urban Area occur at the main circle connecting to the CBD, where the highest flows recorded along the Main North 1 in both directions is 8,962 vehicles per day between 6.00am and 6.00pm.

Traffic Peaks usually occur between 7.30am and 8.30am and between 4.30pm and 5.30pm as well as at lunchtime 1300hrs– 1400hrs, Monday to Friday. Kingsway and Moshoeshoe roads also carry high traffic flows. It is during these peak hours that the average travel time is long. In 1993 and 1998 the average travel time in minutes for one way trip from the surrounding areas, has dropped from 45 to 30 minutes respectively. This could suggest that the transport system is becoming efficient.

Indicator 19 (Transport Modes)

Typical travel modes within the Maseru Urban Area include public and private buses, mini-buses, private cars, taxis and to a limited extent cycling and horse riding. Due to the dearth of statistical data it has not been possible to determine the mode of transport most popularly used. However, the low level of car ownership indicates that travel by public / private buses / mini-buses / taxis and walking are probably the most frequent modes of transport. Pedestrian safety in Maseru is very unsatisfactory, despite the fact that walking is a common mode of travel.

14. SUPPORT MECHANISMS AND IMPLEMENT LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND LOCAL AGENDA 21 INITIATIVE

Qualitative data 4: Local Environmental Plans

Lesotho has produced its own National Plan for implementing Agenda 21. The plan represents a concerted effort to redress previous failures to integrate environment and development policies, and demonstrate a commitment to sustainable development. National Settlement Policy also advocates sustainable development at national level.

At the city level, various local plans have been developed. They all integrate environmental considerations into their development proposals. The following plans have been developed: -

- Maseru Structure Plan
- Maseru Central Business District Local Plan
- Maseru Central Business District East Local Plan

A broader initiative to develop local plans for all urban areas is still to be undertaken once Local Government structures are in place.

CHAPTER 4: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CURRENT STATUS

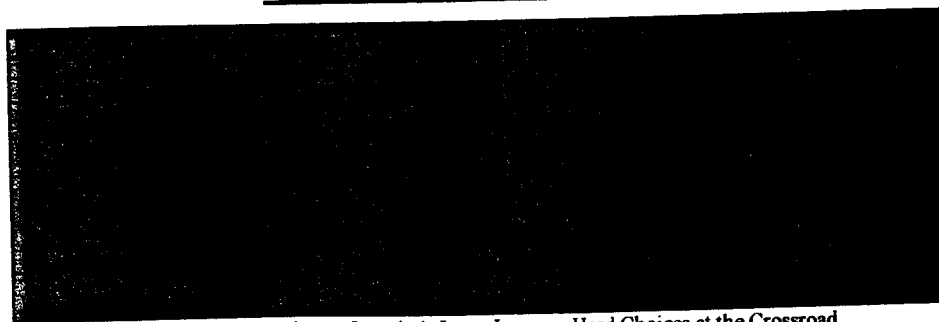
15. STRENGTHEN SMALL AND MICRO-ENTERPRISES

Indicator 20 (informal employment)

Lesotho, like many developing countries, has the informal sector as the main employer of the total labour force, but this sector has not always been given much attention hence data is not available. In 1998, 68% of the total labour force was employed in the informal sector, a figure that overlaps greatly with the low-income groups.

The data from the Labour Force Survey (1997) shows that the informal sector is very important in the creation of income earning activities, particularly in the private sector. It was indicated that a total of 294,062 persons or 95.8% of the total population employed in the private sector and subsistence farming was engaged in informal sector activities. Most of the population in the informal sector were subsistence farmers with 61.5% representation, while paid employees constituted 25.6%. The own account workers also represented 10.1% while unpaid family workers accounted for only 2.8%. The employment status within the informal sector differs substantially between the sexes; for example, the majority of males participated in subsistence farming, while females seem to be participating in paid employment. The majority of the informal sector employees are rural dwellers, constituting 83.5%. The table below provides a gender disaggregated labour force, from the table below, more men than women are counted in the labour force, and more women own informal sector businesses and are self employed than men at 72% and 81% respectively.

Gender and the Labour Force



Source: Sechaba Consultants, Lesotho's Long Journey: Hard Choices at the Crossroad

The Ministry of Trade and Industry established the Basotho Enterprises Development Cooperation in 1980 with a mandate to facilitate the establishment and development of Basotho-owned enterprises with particular emphasis on the promotion of indigenous entrepreneurial skills. The mission of the corporation was to contribute to the economic development of Lesotho by assisting the Basotho small and medium sized enterprises to develop business skills and management capabilities in an affordable and sustainable approach.

16. ENCOURAGE PUBLIC-PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS AND STIMULATE PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Qualitative data 5: Public-Private Partnerships

The first five years of the Lesotho Privatized and Private Sector Development Programme in partnership with the World Bank reached the completion of its first phase in June 2000. The role of Privatization in restructuring Lesotho's economy is in the main; to free the taxpayer of subsidies to non-performing state enterprises; to attract capitalisation and management expertise that will stimulate growth, efficiency and job creation; and to create a favorable climate for private sector development.

The initial portfolio of state enterprises earmarked for privatization consisted of a medley of enterprises, the majority of which had a glaring history of loss making while contributing little towards the growth of the country's economy. This state of affairs could not be allowed to continue in the face of increasing unemployment and poverty.

Although costly to the Government, which was compelled to clear the balances and compensate the employees of enterprises including the national banks. Privatization freed the Lesotho taxpayer of heavy subsidies that had, over the years, continued to benefit a privileged few while fuelling chronic poverty among the majority of the populace.

⁶ data was taken in 1997

Privatization has not been an easy process in the restructuring of national economies throughout the world. Lesotho could not be an exception, with its history of a handicapped private sector and the heavy involvement of Government in commercial activity. The past few years of the privatisation project have seen the formation of Basotho investor groups at home and beyond our borders. Their attempts to purchase blocks of shares previously held by the Government in state enterprises can only be viewed as acceptance of the irreversibility of the road the government has embarked upon, and the willingness of Basotho to make a contribution towards the growth of Lesotho's economy.

Public-private partnerships in Lesotho is not a new concept, even though there is potential towards more involvement of the private sector. In 1999, there was a conference on public/private partnership targeted at promoting greater participation by the private sector in decision-making process. A major impediment continues to be lack of investor capital, or avenues whereby the private sector, and Basotho generally, could access seed capital, thereby ensuring their full participation.

Indicator 21 (National Product) ⁷

From the early 1990's, Lesotho experienced an economic boom, with GNP growing at an average rate of 10%. The major contributing factors to this trend were:

- The investment and construction of Phase 1A of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project. This is a long-term project that culminated from a treaty signed between Lesotho and South Africa in 1986, whereby Lesotho shall sell water to South Africa, because of Lesotho's abundant water resources and in turn collects royalties. Essentially, this resulted in huge construction of collection Dams. In 1998, the project represented 13.6% of the value of GDP, and 35% of the construction and 27.8% of government revenue through royalties.
- The expansion of the manufacturing sector which accounted for 17.5% of GNP.

⁷ city level is not available

The agricultural sector is the main employer of the informal sector workforce in Lesotho; 61.6% of the informal sector population were reported as subsistence farmers in 1997. Moreover, this sector employs majority of the rural population who represent about 80% of the total population. The share of agriculture in the economy has been decreasing. In 1990 the agricultural sector recorded 23.8% of the Gross Domestic product, with crops contributing to 12.7%, livestock 10.1% and services 1.0%. Comparatively, in 1999 this sector represented 17.3% of GDP with crops representing 10.2%, livestock 6.1%, and services 1.0% respectively.

1998 saw a tremendous turn in economic performance due to political and civil unrest. The GDP contracted by 4%. Some of the contributing factors to lower levels of growth were:

- i) Erratic climatic conditions, especially rainfall, adversely affecting harvests and agricultural produce. Agricultural production in 1988 accounted for 25% of GDP.
- ii) Continued restructuring in South Africa leading to reduction in employment of Basotho migrant workers. In the last decade the number of Basotho migrant workers in South Africa has contracted by close to half. In 1993, 116, 129 people worked in the South African mines and this declined to 68, 827 in 1998.

Indicator 22 (unemployment)

Currently the rate of unemployment stands at around 48% in comparison with the 1993 statistics, which reported a rate of 45.7%. As mentioned earlier this is mainly as a result of South African mineworkers retrenchment and the 1998 political crisis;

The following table compares unemployment levels, for 1993 and 1999. There is a clear trend of under-employment and a general increase in the rate of unemployment.

Unemployment levels

Activity	
Unemployed	
Casual	
Men doing	
Women doing	
Total and	
Total unemployed	

CHAPTER 5 : GOVERNANCE

CURRENT STATUS

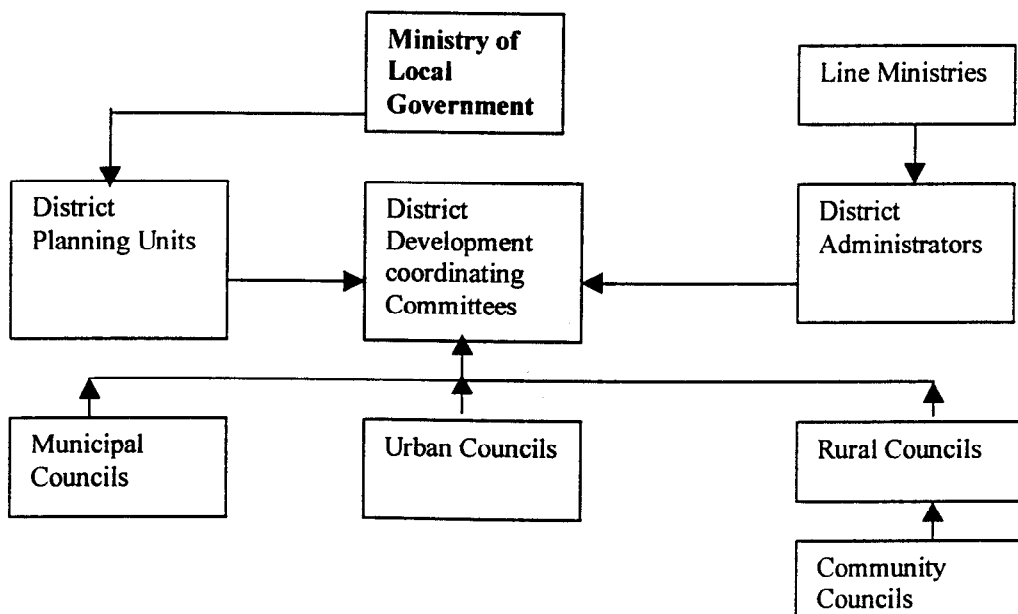
17. Promote Decentralisation and Strengthen Local Authorities

Qualitative data 6: Level of Decentralisation

After Lesotho became independent in 1966 the Local Government Repeal Act 1969 was passed. It did away with District Councils established in 1959. The Local Government Repeal Act was replaced by the Local Administration Act, which conferred decision-making powers into the Ministry of Interior, Chieftainship Affairs and Rural Development. This, in effect centralised the decision-making powers and remained so, until 1981 when the government passed the Development Councils Order providing for development committees at district, ward and village levels.

In 1983 the Urban Government Act was passed, Maseru City Council was established as the first local authority under the provisions of this Act. Recently, Semonkong has been declared an Urban Board Area. As a pilot phase in the introduction of Local Authorities, Maseru City Council's performance has been very weak. Some of the contributing factors being a weak capital and human resource base, culminating to poor administration.

Proposed Local Government Structure



In 1994 the Ministry of Local Government was established with the aim of overseeing the creation and administration of local authorities. Despite this, government functions still remain highly centralised, with a few government ministries decentralising their functions, the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Agriculture for instance have made strides in decentralizing their functions to other urban centres. In most cases, district offices function as extensions of the central government with little administrative and financial authority.

18. Encourage and Support Participation and Civic Engagement

Qualitative data 7: Citizen Involvement in Major Planning Decisions

Community participation is not well entrenched in the country. There are noted shifts however, as the government begins to recognise the role of the community in decision-making, policy-formulation and implementation. Mechanisms to promote and achieve public participation are being established. A need to target resources towards capacity building, accessible information and public awareness is vital in order to enable all actors to engage in development and good governance.

19. Ensure Transparent, Accountable and Efficient Governance of Towns, Cities and Urban Areas

Qualitative data 8: Transparency and Accountability

The constitution of Lesotho provides that every citizen shall enjoy the right to take part in public affairs, vote, or stand for elections and to be treated equally before the law. In December 1999 the government and the Interim Political Authority (IPA) signed an important agreement to pave the way for the holding of a fresh parliamentary election, after the political unrest of 1998. This agreement takes forward earlier binding agreements to prepare for the holding of early, credible, free and fair elections.

It is anticipated that the Southern African Development Committee (SADC) Extended troika, viz., Mozambique, Zimbabwe, South Africa and Botswana, and the Commonwealth will, in consultation with all the political parties appoint an expert group to review the state of the preparations for the forthcoming general elections.

A new Electoral Commission has been established in accordance with the constitutional provisions. There is also to be a Security Liaison Committee comprising representatives of political parties in the IPA, co-chairperson of the IPA (ex-officio), the Commander of Lesotho Defence Force, Commissioner of Police, the Director of Security Services, and one Principal Chief. SADC will appoint an official who will remain seized with issues pertaining to security matters.

CHAPTER 6: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

CURRENT STATUS

20. ENHANCE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND PARTNESHIPS

Quantitative data 9: engagement in international cooperation

As a developing country Lesotho relies to a great extent on international assistance. Since independence in 1966 the country has maintained bilateral and multilateral links with most international donors such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and many other international organisations as well as individual governments.

International co-operation has made substantial in-roads in Lesotho, particularly in the areas of capacity-building and technology transfer through SIDA, ODA, GTZ, DANCED, DBSA amongst others. UNCHS has also been involved in technical assistance on policy issues.

Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) has assisted at the Directorate of Lands Housing and Urban Development, with capacity-building, the output of which was National Settlement Policy, Maseru Structure Plan, Maputsoe Structure Plan and Maseru CBD West Local Plan and Planning Standards.

Overseas Development Agency (ODA) has contributed in capacity-building by assisting in both on the job training and formal training of the technical personnel of DLHUD, and is involved in capacity-building in other government ministries.

GTZ is also an example of an organisation that has assisted in technology transfer by introducing in Lesotho, Geographic Information Systems data capturing and surveying techniques. GTZ has also financed the Mafeteng District Development Plan, Mafeteng

Structure Plan and also Matelile Rural Development Project the output of which was poultry and dairy farming and other agriculture related activities.

There is also the Danish Cooperation for Environment and Development-DANCED, whose main objective in Lesotho is to come up with a comprehensive national solid waste management action plan. An important element upon which solid waste management systems for the Maseru City will be based with the possibility of replicating in other towns.

Maseru City Council is an affiliated member of the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA) whose responsibilities involve among other things the exchange of information and views through conferences, workshops, meetings and also publishing reports and newsletters on issues that affect local authorities with a view to improve their performance.

Co-operation exists also between Maseru City and Cardiff in WALES; the purpose of this is to transfer skills and exchange information through personnel attachments and placements. Other international organisations have a presence in Lesotho with a focus in education, health, disaster management, etc.

Despite the marked assistance Lesotho is receiving from international donors, there still exists a problem of absorptive capacity, whereby donated funds are not fully expended or are under utilized. This has translated to most projects lacking sustainability and being limited in meeting the needs of most people. There is also the problem of brain-drain to Republic of South Africa and other countries that is prevalent in Lesotho which reduces the impact of international assistance in capacity-building and technological transfer. In addition, lack of co-ordination and duplication of efforts requires some attention.

CONSTRAINTS:

- Misunderstanding between traditional institutions and proposed local authorities, whereby, to some traditional leaders, creation of local authority structures is viewed as an attempt to undermine the power and authority of traditional institutions. The degree to which traditional institutions are integrated into local democratic structures will have a great influence on the effectiveness of Local Authorities.
- Lack of political will.
- Ineffective statutory system, and overlaps between traditional and statutory provisions.
- Inadequate information to monitor and regulate land allocation system and shelter delivery.
- Inadequate involvement of relevant stakeholders and partners to effectively deal with socio-economic development.
- Some laws foster inequalities. Under the law women are considered minors for most of their lives. For instance, The Deeds Registry Act 1967 denies women married under community of property the right to register land titles in their own names without their husbands' consent.
- Unplanned urban settlements pose a threat to sound environmental management
- Rapid urbanisation discourages adequate and sustainable development.
- Inadequate resources, both human and financial, to implement already developed programmes and strategies.
- A small financial sector hence, lack of access to finance by the small and medium enterprises.
- The Lesotho Privatization and Private Sector Development Project has been a difficult undertaking to restructure the economy of Lesotho in the face of many limitations peculiar to Lesotho and the usual challenges facing privatization programmes in other parts of the world. Retrenchments and loss of income have accompanied this.
- High unemployment rates estimated at around 48%.

- A drop in investor confidence due to the political instability of 1998 which involved burning and looting of both public and private properties, putting further pressure on the limited foreign direct investment into Lesotho.

POLICY INITIATIVES AND STRATEGIES

The Local Government Act was passed in 1997. It makes provision for the establishment of urban, community, rural and municipal councils. It has not been fully implemented, but is one of the most important and comprehensive pieces of legislation on the issue of decentralisation of central government functions since independence.

Local Government Elections Act was passed in 1998 to prepare for the holding of general and the Local Government elections and facilitate the setting up of local authorities. The Ministry of Local Government was established in 1994 to oversee and support the creation and administration of local authorities.

A Land Policy Review Commission has been established, in December 1999 with a broad mandate to review and amend legislation dealing with land issues. Their terms of reference are:

- To review each type of land tenure system in Lesotho and in light of relevant regional and international experience, evaluate its appropriateness or otherwise in relation to equitable access to productive resources, security of tenure, improved land productivity and efficient administration;
- To determine the basic nature and cause of major land problems in Lesotho and suggest means of resolving them through appropriate changes in relevant policy, laws and dispute resolution mechanisms, or creation of both new judicial and administrative.
- To consider the present inheritance system and, in conformity with existing or proposed legislation, and on the basis of suggested land tenure arrangements, recommend more suitable and equitable procedures for inheritance of land;

- To assess the extent and severity of sub-division of parcels into fragmented and scattered plots in the various tenure systems, determine the impact this may have on the efficiency of agricultural production, and recommend appropriate solutions;
- To analyse the functions, powers, jurisdiction, organisational structure and operating procedures of institutions involved in land matters, the administration, management, allocation and development of land, and dispute resolution in so far as land is concerned, with a view to identifying gaps, overlapping powers, bottlenecks or weaknesses in their procedures, and in light of this analysis (and current or proposed restructuring of local government), recommend rationalization of the institutional framework and clarify jurisdiction boundaries of proposed new structures;
- To review the body of legislation governing access to land and land use rights in Lesotho (including mining, forestry, common pasturage, wildlife utilization and management of water catchments) and make proposal for its comprehensive revision in order to establish a clear, equitable and coherent legal regime ensuring judicious stewardship of the resources and their conservation for future generations; and to recommend a national land policy.

The National Shelter Policy has been developed and is awaiting Cabinet approval. Its vision is to achieve equality and social integration in human settlements development. The policy aims at facilitating full participation of all income groups in the provision and access to shelter, and to strengthen housing delivery mechanisms through the private sector, CBOs and NGOs and community participation. The objectives of the policy are;

- To empower the informal sector in shelter delivery
- To strengthen the institutional capacity of CBOs/NGOs
- To empower women in shelter delivery
- To mobilise untapped financial resources and strengthen the institutional capacity of the financial sector
- To make land markets transparent and efficient
- Increase the depth of the formal shelter delivery system

- To strengthen the capacity of government to monitor and preserve Urban environmental quality
- To provide support for marginalised groups to access adequate shelter.

The National Settlement Policy was formulated and adopted to promote balanced settlement development and to protect natural resources and the environment affected by unplanned settlement development. Thus;

- To promote development in under-developed areas especially rural areas where majority of the country's population resides, therefore creating better conditions for agricultural development.
- To protect and utilize resources. Degradation of Lesotho's national heritage and the country's mineral resources will be addressed. And to control growing and new settlements encroaching on good agricultural land through physical planning and development control.
- The policy encourages optimal utilization of the available means and resources, particularly town space that is often limited, and vacant areas, are usually scarce that free choice of location is not available to developers.

Chieftainship Act Review-August 2000 was intended to bring the traditional institutions in line with the proposed local Government structures. Some of the issues addressed include;

- Structure of Chieftainship
- Office of the chief, its functions and the power to regulate those functions.
- Succession to the office of chief
- Boundaries committee
- Disciplinary committee
- Regency in chieftainship
- Principal chiefs who are also chiefs and rule their local areas through appointees
- Boundaries of other Principal Chiefs that extend outside their districts of residence

The Law Reform Commission is presently reviewing, amongst other things, discriminatory laws so that equality of rights particularly between men and women is ensured as a fundamental principle in our country. To this end, a consultation paper has been developed, "Married Persons Equality Bill" whose objectives are to abolish all the laws and rules in marital power over the person and property of his wife. This will allow the wife to perform an act which was restricted by law due to marital power, a wife will be able to contract, litigate, register property in her name etc.

Since the beginning of the 1990's women and children's access to adequate health care have been deteriorating. It is in cognisance of this fact that the Ministry of Health has undertaken various strategies to improve health service delivery. Among these, few are worth mentioning:

- Lesotho Safe Motherhood initiative which aims at improving maternal and child health and reducing population growth rate.
- A National AIDS Strategic Plan, 2000-2003 has been developed as a multi-sectoral expanded response to the prevention of HIV/AIDS epidemic and care for the infected and affected people in Lesotho.
- Child Health Programme which focuses on increasing immunisation coverage, Controlling acute respiratory infections and other communicable childhood diseases.
- Introduction of a multi-sectoral approach to health services provision, which seeks to create cooperation with other service providers that impact on the delivery of health services.
- Introduction of health service areas - to encourage community participation in health services provision. These strategies use the Primary Health care and decentralised approach.

The Ministry of Education gazzetted the Education Act in 1996 and amended it in 1997. The Act aims at providing every child with opportunities and facilities to develop physically, mentally, spiritually and socially in a healthy, normal manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity. The strategies adopted by the sector include:

- Primary and Basic Education with a view to improve learning conditions improving teacher /pupil ratio, reduce repetition and dropout rates and to strengthen adult education in literacy, post-literacy skills and community organization.
- Education Sector Development Project introduced free education at primary level.
- Secondary Education - the aim is to increase control over schools; their growth, distribution, size, curriculum, staff and facilities.
- Higher and Tertiary Education - the goal is to strengthen technical and vocational training with focus on improving basic skills for survival.

The Government has also introduced targeted employment schemes. Since 1994, several employment schemes have been implemented to try and alleviate the problem of unemployment. Employment generated by these initiatives amounted to some 12,035 people with total cost to government amounting to M110.7 Million. These initiatives fall mainly under the;

- a. Lesotho Highlands Revenue Fund (Fato-Fato).
- b. Labour Construction Unit.
- c. Civil Works Section.
- d. Forestry Division.
- e. Soil and Water Conservation Division.

Although these schemes went some way in alleviating poverty and reducing unemployment, approximately 59% of the beneficiaries were male while 41% were women. In addition the schemes have limited impact in terms of coverage, duration and

sustainability. Jobs created covered only about 2.1% of the total labour force of 593,183. The employment opportunities were temporary, lasting not more than six months and it is unlikely that they will be sustained as government revenue has declined.

- National Environmental Secretariat has formulated an "Environmental Bill 2000" which seeks to promote healthy environmental management and develop public awareness on matters relating to the environment. This Bill is awaiting cabinet approval
- Upgrading of roads within the CBD in Maseru and construction of relief roads is underway. It is anticipated that this will improve the transportation system in terms of average travel time especially during peak hours. Construction of pedestrian bridges in traffic roads is also being undertaken.
- Development of Disaster prevention and mitigation instruments by DMA.
- Labour regulations to protect the rights of employees, and minimum wage structures have also been put in place.

The establishment of a Commercial Court is currently underway. One of its many functions will be to protect lenders.

- Development of a Small Micro and Medium Enterprises sector, with priority given towards the reconstruction of those which were affected during the 1998 political crisis where 3, 600 micro enterprises suffered serious losses. Development of a Small and Medium Enterprise Policy.
- Small Micro and Medium Enterprise (SMMEs) networking project which is meant to upgrade all the stakeholders including the Lesotho Manufacturers Association, Lesotho Women in Business, Lesotho Council of Non-Governmental Organisation as well as the Lesotho Chamber of Commerce.

- A number of policies and initiatives have been established to empower and strengthen the informal sector with specific focus on access to loan facilities, capacity building and skills training through Basotho Enterprise Development Co-orporation.

Furthermore, in response to the negative performance of the economy, the government has set a series of initiatives for renewed economic growth. The main focus of these policy initiatives include:

- Accelerating divestiture of state-owned enterprises.
- Improving domestic financial inter-mediation.
- Diversifying and increasing the government revenue base.
- Limiting government expenditures through public sector reforms.
- Poverty alleviation programs. An interim poverty reduction strategy will be implemented in the near future while efforts are presently being directed at consolidating a medium to long term poverty strategy.
- An enhanced marketing drive by the Ministry of Trade and Industry to market Lesotho as an investor destination has been embarked upon with continued ties in the SADC region.
- Restructuring and increased emphasis on tourism as one of the sectors that could help drive economic development in the country.

Indicators for Istanbul +5

Focal point identification

Type CITY and COUNTRY Information Here...

Country: **LESOTHO**

City: **MASERU**

UN Region: **AFRICA**

(Africa, Arab States, Asia Pacific, Highly Industrialised, Latin America & Caribbeans, Transitional)

What is the rank of the city in the country (in terms of population) ?

(example: rank for Nairobi is 1 in Kenya)

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How many cities are there in **LESOTHO**

What is the official definition of a city ?

An area with the highest economic activity and population concentration.
It should also have all infrastructural services and industrial activity.
And it is where central government is located.

What is the percentage of the total country population living in urban areas ?

What is the official definition of urban areas ?

These are settlements gazetted under the Land Act 1997 and are identified with rapid population and economic growth rates and should have all basic services.

Chapter 1: Shelter

1. Provide security of tenure

indicator 1 - tenure types

Type of tenure:

	1986	1996	1986
	% of all households	% of all households	% of women-headed households
1. Formal Ownership:			
Owned			
Purchasing (mortgage)			
sub-total		70.8%	
2. Tenancy:			
Private rental			
Social Housing			
Sub-tenant			
sub-total		24.6%	
3. Squatter:			
without rent			
with rent			
sub-total			
4. Other			
homeless			
other			
sub-total		4.6%	
TOTAL (should be equal to 100%)		100.0%	

please provide sub-totals if information is not available for the requested level of detail.

Among those tenure status, which ones are the most precarious ?

(Please Refer to attached report for this information)

What would be the estimated percentage of households with precarious tenure ?

indicator 2 - evictions

<u>number of evicted households:</u>	1993	1998	past five years 1993-1998
men-headed households	-	-	-
women-headed households	-	-	-
all households	-	-	-
% of evicted from squatter settlements	-	-	-

Explain the main reasons of the decrease or increase in the number of evictions:

there are few evicted households with inadequate reporting particularly within informal settlements

2. Promote the right to adequate housing

qualitative data 1: housing rights

1. Does the Constitution or national law

promote the full and progressive realisation of the right to adequate housing ?

include protections against eviction?

2. Are there particular impediments :

to owning land ?

some

to inheriting land and housing ?

some

to taking mortgages in their own names ?

considerable

to women owning land ?

considerable

to women inheriting land and housing ?

considerable

to women taking mortgages in their own names ?

considerable

to particular groups owning land ?

considerable

Foreigners and women married under community of property

to particular groups inheriting land and housing ?

considerable

foreigners and women married under community of property

to particular groups taking mortgages in their own names ?

considerable

Majority of middle and low-income groups

Please describe any changes in terms of housing rights since 1996:

(Please refer to the accompanying report for details)

Indicator 3: House price and rent-to-income ratios

	1993	1998	
Median house price			A
Median rent	M1, 800	M1, 800	B
Median annual household income			C
Median household income of renters	M4, 000	M6, 000	D
House price / household income			A/C
House rent / household income	0.45	0.30	B/D

What changes do these results suggest in terms of housing affordability ?

Majority of houses in Lesotho are owner financed and constructed hence it is very difficult to measure the above requested prices. The statistics used relate only to the formal shelter delivery system, which represents a relatively small percentage of all households.
(Refer also to the attached report for more information)

3. Promote equal access to land

Indicator 4: Land price-to-income ratio

1993

	Land price			Income
	Minimum price of 1 m2	Maximum price of 1 m2	Median price of 1m2	Median Household income per month (US \$ 1993)
Highly developed land	\$3	\$6	\$5	\$103
Developed land	\$2	\$3	\$4	
Raw land	\$1	\$2	\$2	

1998

	Land price			Income
	Minimum price of 1 m2	Maximum price of 1 m2	Median price of 1m2	Median Household income per month (US \$ 1998)
Highly developed land	\$3	\$6	\$5	\$179
Developed land	\$2	\$3	\$4	
Raw land	\$1	\$2	\$2	

What changes do these results suggest in terms of land affordability ?

The information given above is for the formal shelter delivery system only
therefore it is not reflective of majority of households who acquire their
housing informally.

(For more information refer to the attached report).

4. Promote equal access to credit

Indicator 5: Mortgage and non-mortgage

% of dwellings purchased:

	1993	1998
that are covered by mortgages:	-	-
that are covered by non-mortgages:	-	-

Total number of loans attributed:

mortgage loans:	-	-
non-mortgage loans:	-	-

What changes do these results suggest in terms of access to mortgage and non-mortgage loans ?

(Refer to the attached report for more information.)

5. Promote access to basic services

Indicator 6: access to water

% of households with access to water :

	1993	1998	
all settlements	80.0%	47.2%	within 200 m from the house
informal settlements	-	-	within 200 m from the house

What changes do these results suggest in terms of access to water ?

The decrease in piped water accessibility could be due to difficulties in
connecting to houses because of unplanned settlements. Increased
demand for water that is not accompanied by increases in supply.

Indicator 7: household connections

% households connected to :		1993	1998	Only households directly connected within their house
in all settlements:				
water		80.0%	47.2%	
sewerage		2.6%	2.4%	
electricity		2.2%	1.5%	
telephone		4.4%	4.8%	
in informal settlements:				
water		-	-	
sewerage		-	-	
electricity		-	-	
telephone		-	-	

What changes do these results suggest in terms of access to services ?

The results could be an indication of the overall decline in economic activity, particularly loss of employment which has in turn resulted in income losses and redirection of income to other basic needs such as health, education, etc.
(Please refer to the attached report for more information.)

Chapter 2: Social development and eradication of poverty

6. Provide equal opportunities for a safe and healthy life

Indicator 8: under-five mortality

	1986	1998	
female	-	54.10%	number of death for children below 5 years old during the year/ average number of live birth during the last 5 years
male	-	55.90%	
TOTAL female and male	60.00%	55.00%	

What are the reasons of the increase or decrease of child mortality ?

(Please refer to the attached report for this information)

Indicator 9: Reported crime rates

	annual number of victims		
	male	female	all
1993			
Homicides	-	-	1
Rapes	-	-	1
Thefts	-	-	18
1998			
Homicides	-	-	1
Rapes	-	-	1
Thefts	-	-	5

What are the reasons of the increase or decrease of crimes ?

Do these results reflect the safety conditions for the population ?

Lack of employment

Political instability

Qualitative data 2: urban violence

In the city or the country, are there:

- areas considered as dangerous or inaccessible to the police
- violence at school
- an official policy against domestic violence
- a crime prevention policy
- a weapon control policy
- victim of violence assistance programme(s)

1993

yes
no
no
yes
yes
no

7. Promote social integration and support disadvantaged groups

Indicator 10: Poor households

	1993		1998	
	Total number ('000)	% of households	Total number ('000)	
Households	312,655		370,972	
Women-headed households	81,326		72,598	
Poor households	-	53.1%	-	
Poor Women-headed households	-	45.0%	-	

	1993	1998
	US\$ / month	US\$ / month
Poverty line in US\$ / month:		
one person	\$8.2	\$13.1
two persons	\$0.0	\$0.0
average household	M290	M344

Definition of poverty-line 1998: These figures were used together with costs on the most basic needs; food, clothing and health. The same procedure was used for the 1998 poverty line only that the figures were inflated

What are the factors of the increase or decrease of poverty ?

What measures have been undertaken to alleviate poverty ?

(Please refer to accompanying report for details)

8. Promote gender equality in human settlements development

indicator 11: female-male gaps

1993 data	female	male	1993 female-male gap
Primary school enrolment ratio	114.0%	97.7%	-17.7%
Secondary school enrolment ratio	31.9%	21.8%	-9.1%
Tertiary school enrolment ratio	1.0%	0.8%	-0.2%
Adult literacy rate	-	-	-
Life expectancy at birth	56.9	55.0	-
Under-five mortality	-	-	-
Unemployment	-	-	-
number of elected or nominated councillor at the local level per 10,000	-	-	-

1998 data	female	male	1998 female- male gap
Primary school enrolment ratio	52.0%	48.0%	-4.0%
Secondary school enrolment ratio	59.0%	41.0%	-18.0%
Tertiary school enrolment ratio	-	-	-
Adult literacy rate	55.0%	38.0%	17.0%
Life expectancy at birth	61.60	51.70	9.90
Under-five mortality	-	-	-
Unemployment	46.00%	24.00%	-22.00%
number of elected or nominated councillor at the local level per 10,000	-	-	-

What measures have been undertaken to reduce the female-male gaps ?

(Please refer to accompanying report for details)

Chapter 3: Environmental management

9. Promote geographically-balanced settlement structures

indicator 12 - urban population growth

The annual growth rate should be taken for the last five years (1993-1998).

If another reference period was taken for the calculation, please indicate:

starting year: ending year: for the period

	Male population	Female population	Total population	
1986				
Metropolitan area*	-	-	-	in thousand population
Urban Agglomeration*	-	-	-	in thousand population
National Urban	0.106	0.120	0.225	in millions
National	0.779	0.817	1.596	in millions

1996				
Metropolitan area*	-	-	-	in thousand population
Urban Agglomeration*	-	-	-	in thousand population
National Urban	-	-	0.312	in millions
National	0.964	0.996	1.960	in millions

Growth rate:				
Metropolitan area*	-	-	-	in percentage
Urban Agglomeration*	-	-	-	
National Urban	-	-	6.80%	
National	-	-	2.00%	

* see definitions in the companion guide

10. Manage supply and demand for water in an effective manner

Indicator 13: Consumption of water

daily household
consumption / person:

	1993	1998	
in all settlements	120.00	150.00	liters/pers./day
in informal settlements	30.00	80.00	liters/pers./day

What measures have been taken for reducing water consumption or increasing the water supply ?

Is the demand-supply for water managed in an effective manner ?

From earlier indicators on provision and access to water, a decline was noted.
However, there is an indication of an increase in consumption. It would thus
imply water wastage due to leakages, and eventually ineffective management
of demand and supply for water.
(Please refer to the attached report for more information)

Indicator 14: Median price of water

	1993	1998	
highest price	\$0.80	\$0.80	US\$/m3 (1000 liters)
lowest price	\$0.25	\$0.25	US\$/m3 (1000 liters)
median price in all settlements	\$1.63	\$0.30	US\$/m3 (1000 liters)
optional:			
median price in informal settlements	\$0.25	\$0.25	US\$/m3 (1000 liters)

What do these results suggest in terms of water affordability for the population ?

Have any new water pricing policy been undertaken in the last 5 years ?

(Please refer to the attached report for details)

11. Reduce urban pollution

Indicator 15: Air pollution

	1993	1998
	number of days exceeding WHO standards during the year	number of days exceeding WHO standards during the year
Sulfur dioxide (SO ₂)	-	-
Nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂)	-	-
Ozone (O ₃)	-	-
Carbon monoxide (CO)	-	-
Lead (Pb)	-	-

WHO standards:

	Averaging time	WHO Guidelines value
Sulfur dioxide (SO ₂)	24 hours	125 micro g / m ³
Nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂)	1 year	40 micro g / m ³
	1 hour	200 micro g / m ³
Ozone (O ₃)	8 hours	120 micro g / m ³
Carbon monoxide (CO)	8 hours	10,000 micro g / m ³
Lead (Pb)	1 year	0.5 micro g / m ³

What do these results suggest in terms of air pollution for the population ? **N/A**

1. If data is not available, are there signs of increased air pollution ?
2. What measures have been or should be undertaken to correct the trend ?

- 1 There are signs of increase in air pollution.
- 2 The Ministry of Environment through the National Environment Secretariat is charged with developing national air pollution control policies and programmes.
(Please refer to the attached report for more information)

Indicator 16: Wastewater treated

1993

1998

-

-

% of wastewater

results should include primary, secondary and tertiary treatments

What do these results suggest in terms of quality of life for the population ?

What measures have been undertaken to correct the trend ?

Industrial waste in Lesotho is not treated. 7.5% of the population in Maseru district have a sewerage system, with about 65% of the city population without the system.
(Please refer also to the attached report for more details)

Indicator 17: solid waste disposal

	1993 % of solid wastes	1998 % of solid wastes
Sanitary landfill	0.0%	0.0%
Incinerated (in incineration plants)	0.0%	0.0%
Open dump	-	-
Recycled	-	15.0%
Burned (openly)	-	-
other	-	-
TOTAL	0.0%	15.0%

What measures have been undertaken to reduce the impact of solid wastes on the environment ?

Please note that the figures given above are only estimates

(Also refer to the attached report for more information)

12. Prevent disasters and rebuild settlements

Qualitative data 3: disaster prevention and mitigation instruments

In the city or the country, are there:

- a) building codes based on hazard and vulnerability assessment ?
- b) hazard mapping ?
- c) disaster insurances for public and private buildings ?

1993

yes

yes

yes

Are disaster insurances compulsory for public buildings ?

yes

What measures and actions have been undertaken in terms of disaster prevention and mitigation ?

Is the capacity for post-disaster response effective at the city level ? What are the mechanisms in place ?

(For this information refer to the attached report)

13. Promote effective and environmentally sound transportation system

Indicator 18: travel time

	1993	1998	
average travel time	30	20	in min. for a one-way trip
What do these changes suggest in terms of quality of life for the population ?			
What policies have been undertaken in order to make the transportation system more effective?			
Please note that the above figures are only estimates as data was not available			
The high annual population increase in the city (7%) together with the increase in car ownership has put a lot of pressure on existing roads.			
government of Lesotho is engaging in road upgrading as well as new construction within the city and its out-skirts. There is an increase in public transportation.			

indicator 19: transport modes

% of work trips undertaken by:		1993	1998	If details are not available, please provide the sub-total for each main category.
<u>1. Private motorised:</u>	Private cars	-	-	% of all work trips
	Motorcycle	-	-	% of all work trips
	sub-total	-	-	% of all work trips
<u>2. Train and tram:</u>	Train	-	-	% of all work trips
	Tram	-	-	% of all work trips
	sub-total	-	-	% of all work trips
<u>3. Bus and minibus:</u>	Bus	-	-	% of all work trips
	Minibus	-	-	% of all work trips
	sub-total	-	-	% of all work trips
<u>4. Non-motorised:</u>	bicycle	-	-	% of all work trips
	walking	-	-	% of all work trips
	others	-	-	% of all work trips
	sub-total	-	-	% of all work trips
TOTAL		-	-	should be equal to 100%

What do these changes suggest in terms of quality of life for the population ?

What policies have been undertaken in order to improve the transportation system ?

There is no data capture for transportation but the Ministry of Transport is developing a database. The Transport Department intends to computerise their activities such as vehicle registration, drivers' licences, vehicle insurance, fitness and licencing. They are also initiating installation of vehicle testing equipment in all towns; establishing a fully fledged Road Safety Unit and a Road Traffic Information System.

(Also refer to the attached report for more information)

14. Support mechanisms to prepare and implement local environmental plans and local Agenda 21 initiatives

qualitative data 4: local environmental plans

1. How many cities have established long-term strategic planning initiatives for sustainable development, involving key partners?

2. Is this process institutionalized at the national level and/or has there been any legislative change to support cities to engage in sustainable development planning processes?

3. Has the city established a long-term strategic planning initiative for sustainable development, involving key partners?

4. Is the city implementing local environmental action plans involving key partners?

Please describe the major initiatives :

Development of a National Environmental policy and bill and

Establishment of Urban based Local Authorities as Autonomous bodies to govern urban centres

A national policy on Solid Waste Management

Please refer to the attached report

Chapter 4: Economic development

15. Strengthen small and micro-enterprises

indicator 20: informal employment

As part of the total workforce:

1993

1998

% employed men

51.2%

51.2%

in the informal sector

% employed women

77.7%

72.6%

in the informal sector

% employed men and women

64.9%

62.3%

in the informal sector

What does this trend suggest? What institutional changes have been undertaken to cope with the needs of the informal sector (fiscal policies, credit to small and micro-enterprises, legislations to protect the rights of employees, etc.)?

(Please refer to accompanying report for details.)

16. Encourage public-private sector partnership and stimulate productive employment opportunities

qualitative data 5: public-private partnerships

1. Have some major public enterprises involving the delivery of services in cities established partnerships with private firms during the last five years at the city level?

How many ?

2. Have some major public enterprises involving the delivery of services in cities established partnerships with private firms during the last five years at the country level?

How many ?

- 1 Have public-private partnership become a more common practice in the last five years ?
- 2 Have they been effective ? Have they offered a greater flexibility in the management and higher degree of transparency, efficiency and accountability in their operation ?
- 3 Is the cost-recovery of services higher ?

1) Yes

2 and 3 (Please refer to the attached report for detailed information)

indicator 21: city product

	1993	1998	
City product	-	-	per person
Gross National Product	\$353	\$512	per person

Which method was used for the calculation of the city product (see definitions) ?

method A

N/A

method B

N/A

What do this trend suggest in terms of urban economic development ?

Are cities economies growing more that national economies ? (compare trends of city product with trends in gross national product).

(Refer to the attached report for information)

indicator 22: unemployment

	1993	1998	
% of total unemployed that are men	-	22.5%	in the total workforce
% of total unemployed that are women	-	26.5%	in the total workforce
% unemployed men and women	35.0%	49.0%	in the total workforce

What do this trend suggest in terms of employment opportunities for men and women ?

What are the impacts of unemployment on the urban economy and social development ?

What measures have been undertaken to curb negative trends ?

(Please refer to the attached report for this information)

Chapter 5: Governance

17. Promote decentralisation and strengthen local authorities

Qualitative data 6: level of decentralization

1. Can higher levels of government (national, state/provincial):

a. Close the local government ?

yes

erase inappropriate

b. Remove councillors from office?

no

erase inappropriate

2. Can the local government, without permission from higher governments:

a. Set local tax levels ?

Yes

b. Set user charges for services ?

Yes

c. Borrow funds ?

Yes

d. Choose contractors for projects ?

Yes

3. Is the amount of fund transfers from higher governments known in advance of the local budget setting process ?

yes

erase inappropriate

If yes, give a percentage:

Have major responsibilities, policy management, decision-making authorities and resources been decentralised at the local level ? If not, is there a process of decentralisation in place ?

Do you consider that decentralisation has improved the level of governance ?

Since the Local Government Act was promulgated in 1997, its implementation has not fully taken off.

Local authorities are to be established and will be autonomous bodies.

The decentralisation and public sector reform program

(Please refer to the attached report for details)

18. Encourage and support participation and civic engagement

Qualitative data 7: citizen involvement in major planning decisions

Are cities involving the civil society in a formal participatory process prior to:

- a) new major roads and highway proposals ?
- b) alteration in zoning ?
- c) major public projects ?

1996

no
no
yes

Has there been any progress in the area of local participation ?

Do you consider that participatory processes in place are adequate ? Are institutional and legal frameworks sufficient to ensure the right level of participation and civic engagement ?

There is no sufficient level of participation.

There is a move towards fuller participation. The processes are not necessarily adequate but provide a basis for improvement. Moreover, institutional/administrative and legal framework are not sufficient.

19. Ensure transparent, accountable and efficient governance of towns, cities and metropolitan areas

Qualitative data 8: transparency and accountability

At the local government level, are there:

- a) regular independent auditing of municipal accounts ?
- b) published contracts and tenders for municipal services ?
- c) sanctions against faults of civil servants ?
- d) laws on disclosure of potential conflicts of interest ?

1996

yes
yes
no
yes

Has there been any progress in improving governance ?

What measures have been undertaken in this area ?

(Please refer to the attached report for details)

indicator 23: local government revenue and expenditures

	1993	1998	
local government revenue			in \$ US (3 years average)
local government expenditures			in \$ US (3 years average)
revenue less expenditures			in \$ US (3 years average)

What do these figures suggest ?

What are the impacts of these trends in terms of delivery of services at the local level ?

(Refer to the attached report)

Chapter 6: International cooperation

20. Enhance international cooperation and partnerships

Qualitative data 9: engagement in international cooperation

1. Is the country involved in international cooperation ?

1996

as receiver ?

yes

as donor ?

no

2. For donor countries:

what is the total amount provided to urban areas ?

-

In how many countries?

-

3. For recipient countries and cities:

what is the total amount received by the country?

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what is the total amount received by the city?

3. For cities:

Is the city affiliated to one or more association of local authorities?

yes

Is the city involved in direct city to city cooperation?

yes

What do these figures suggest ?

In which particular areas has international cooperation made progress (capacity-building, technology transfers, etc.) ?

There is a decline in donor funding partly as a result of political instability.

International cooperation assist in both capacity building and technology transfer.

(Please refer to the attached report for details)

TOPOGRAPHICAL REGIONS IN LESOTHO

