

# **SALGA –EU DIALOGUE**

**Theme: “Inclusive Participation on Local Economic Development involving Women, Persons with Disabilities and Youth”**

**Mainstreaming Gender, Youth and Persons with Disabilities**

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# Presentation outline

1. Facts about Women, Youth, Persons with Disabilities in the SA Economy
2. About Mainstreaming...
3. Challenges faced by SMEs in Agribusiness
4. Practical experience/case studies
5. Available opportunities
6. Key Lessons for inclusive participation
7. Recommendations for policy/programme developers/implementers
8. Thank you

# As a matter of fact.....

- The SA public sector spends +R800 billion a year on procurement of goods and services
- Public procurement constitute up to 20% of GDP in developing countries but globally, only 1% of US\$11 trillion procurement spent goes to WOB's (Hetland,2012)
- Disability is more prevalent among females compared to males (8,3% and 6,5% respectively) ( Stats SA- 2014)
- SA has 3rd highest unemployment rate for 15-24 year old(youth) and +50% of youth in SA is unemployed- WEF 2014
- SA has 16% declined in entrepreneurship skills amongst 18-34-WEF 2014
- Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities suffer the same social realities: stigma, discrimination, stereotypes barrier to full and equal participation and benefit from economy
- Structural or systemic inequalities – in other words, unequal structures, hierarchies and power relationships that underlie our society and economy and that prejudice impact more on persons with disabilities
- All or some of us are either directly or indirectly impacted or may/will become disabled to one degree or another during the course of our lives.

# About Mainstreaming...

- A strategy for making the concerns and experiences of the targeted groups an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres
- It includes regular assessing and reviewing the impact of legislation, policies, programmes, budgets, projects, activities on women, youth and people with disabilities and reporting accordingly.
- Must be accompanied by supporting programmes and resources ( HR and Finances)

# Practical experience/case studies

**The National Sanitary Dignity Programme-** *“preservation and maintenance of the self-esteem of an indigent girl or woman during menstruation”*

- During the 2011 State of the Nation Address, the President committed to policy development in aid of women’s health, particularly to provide sanitary products to indigent women.
- DOW established a National Task Team on Sanitary Dignity which consisted of representatives from national government departments to support the process of the policy development.
- The Department of Women (DOW) initiated a process to develop a Policy Framework on Sanitary Dignity whose aim is mainly to promote sanitary dignity and to provide norms and standards in the provision of sanitary products and to ensure that indigent persons have reasonable and easy access to free basic sanitary products with a view to protect, restore and maintain their dignity. The Policy Framework was adopted by Parliament in 2012

# Practical experience/case studies

- The lack of access to such products may lead to absenteeism from schools and the workplace, affect their health and well-being. Their rights to participate in daily activities education, economic activities, sport, cultural events may be compromised.
- This may also negatively affect the person's self-esteem and confidence.

# Role of DSBD in the Sanitary programme

- To participate at the National Task Team (NTT) on Sanitary Dignity
- Contribute in the development of the Policy Framework on Sanitary Dignity
- To encourage and support entrepreneurship and enterprises in the roll-out of the Policy Framework
- Identify the market and procurement opportunities in the Sanitary Dignity value chains
- To provide financial and non-financial to enable SMMEs and Cooperatives and informal businesses (especially those owned by women, youth, persons with disabilities ) to participate and benefit from the opportunities in the Sanitary Dignity value chain
- To provide entrepreneurial support to the Sanitary Dignity implementation entities in the provinces

# Role of Government in Sanitary Dignity

- DOW must establish a Sanitary Dignity Oversight Committee (SDOC) consisting of senior officials from selected national departments and entities to allocate resources for financial and non-financial support in line with mandates
- National/Provincial department responsible for the implementation of this Policy Framework or any part thereof must continuously monitor such implementation and submit reports in this regard and make recommendations to the relevant Minister



# Sanitary Dignity Value Chains and procurement/market opportunities

- ***Sanitary dignity education and awareness campaigns-*** (on menstruation, health and hygiene, sanitary dignity, use of sanitary products)- for *beneficiaries*, educators, men and boys, community leaders and civil society to demystify existing myths and unsubstantiated taboos.
- ***Manufacturing and/or procurement-*** in line with the procurement regulations and SABS standards
- ***Packaging-*** as determined by the relevant authorities
- ***Distribution-*** reliable and safe transport system to various points i.e.
- ***Storage-*** according to minimum requirements e.g. safe, dry, room temperature and lockable place
- ***Sanitary waste disposal-*** in line with the applicable municipality Waste Management regulations and plan.

# **Procurement and manufacturing of sanitary towels**

In line with the Policy Framework, the *procurement* must be:

- In line with the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2006 and the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2017 (Procurement Regulations)
- The sanitary products must be locally produced and sourced-preference be given to local businesses owned by targeted groups especially women
- Products must comply with the SABS approved standards i.e. absorption; comfort; durability; resistance material, ISO 9001 and / or ISO 14001, have clear Batch / Lot Numbers, Date of Production and Expiry Date.
- Be subject to regulation 8 of the Procurement Regulations i.e. local production and content, designation of a product, include a specific condition of the tender etc.

*manufacturing* must:

- be by South African owned companies/enterprises
- Compliant with SANS 1043 and ISO 9001

# Progress to-date

- Medium Term budget in October 2018, the Minister of Finance announced that Sanitary towels(pads) will be zero rated for Value Added Tax (VAT) purposes.
- February 2019 Budget Speech, Minister Mboweni announced an allocation of R157 million for the 2019/20 FY for the procurement and distribution of sanitary pads to girls from low income households (in quintiles 1-3 schools)- to be administered by provinces.
- March 2019, the Minister of DoW launched the Sanitary Dignity Programme in Mpumalanga, Eastern Cape and Kwa-Zulu Natal provinces.
- April 2019, DOW led an interaction with Provincial SCMs and CFOs to ensure procurement is compliant with Policy Framework and broader procurement legislation
- From May 2019 DSBD lead provincial workshops for SMMEs and Cooperatives to provide relevant information on tender compliance issues to ensure that procurement requirements are not barriers to access economic empowerment opportunities.
- June 2019- various provinces issued tenders for sanitary towels procurement

# Key Lessons for inclusive participation

- The initiative is targeting mainly women owned SMEs- youth, persons with disabilities by default
- Inadequate disaggregated data for all targeted groups
- Invitation of workshop participants is not targeting all targeted groups
- Interventions for Persons with Disabilities mainly social and employment
- Limited understanding of procurement requirements
- Women entrepreneurship is mainly at informal level
- Participants regard this initiative as a once-off tender and not broad entrepreneurship
- Inadequate involvement of municipalities and related entities i.e. SALGA
- No linkage between entrepreneurship and LED

# Other available opportunities

1. Public Procurement Policy Framework -The SA public sector spends +R800 billion a year on procurement of goods and services-
2. Capitalise on 30% procurement for SMMEs, Cooperatives etc
3. DSBD Incubation Programme

# Recommendations

- Disaggregate data according to Women, Youth and persons with disabilities
- Implementation of the Gender Responsive Planning, Budgeting, monitoring and reporting
- Compulsory resources for Women, Youth and persons with disabilities: budget, HR and skills at all spheres and entities
- Mainstreaming accompanied with programmes ( financial and non-financial)
- DWYPD to strengthen monitoring of empowerment of targeted groups and reporting to parliament.
- Encourage and empower Primary and Secondary Cooperatives/Associations for women, youth and persons with disabilities

# Recommendations

- Establish and strengthen partnerships ( PPP)
- Strengthen engagement and joint planning with other stakeholders ( traditional councils, civil society, DOD etc)
- Strengthen/empower and locate LED within broader economic planning, growth for sustainability of the towns
- Capitalise on other government priority initiatives i.e. Operation Phakisa- waste and chemical, Blue/Ocean Economy, Agri/Agro processing etc
- SEZ and dis-used/under- utilised industrial parks
- District Based model
- Capitalising on existing instruments BBEEE Codes and Scorecards (ESD, Socio-economic development).
- Invest in skills and technology for digitalisation, innovation etc

# Other recommendations

1. Register on the Central Supplier Database (CSD)  
<https://secure.csd.gov.za> (red tape reduction and admin nightmare, compliance requirement easy to meet, affordability etc)
2. Visit NT E-tender
3. Keep track of departmental budget speeches to identify opportunities
4. Visit the dti website for international trade mission opportunities



THANK

YOU...