

# Hivos in South Africa 2011

A report on the activities of the Hivos South Africa office



**Hivos**  
people unlimited

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## Abbreviations and acronyms

<b>CBO</b>	Community-based organisation
<b>COSATU</b>	Congress of South African Trade Unions
<b>DDF</b>	Defence of Democracy Fund
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FEMAL</b>	Feminist Alternatives
<b>GBV</b>	Gender-based violence
<b>JGF</b>	Joint Gender Fund
<b>KZN</b>	KwaZulu Natal
<b>LGBTI</b>	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersexed
<b>MAGI</b>	Multi Agency Grant Initiative
<b>MAFLI</b>	MAC AIDS Fund leadership Initiative
<b>NAMKO</b>	Namakwaland Ontwikkeling Sentrum
<b>NGO</b>	Non-governmental organisation
<b>SCAT</b>	Social Change Assistance Trust

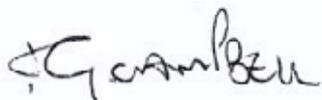
## Letter from Jon Campbell, South African Country Representative

I am pleased to provide a report on the activities of Hivos South Africa (Hivos SA) for 2011. We have seen a steady growth in our programmes and activities over the last year in the key areas of our work – building civil society at community level, promoting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersexed (LGBTI) emancipation in South Africa and the region, supporting the gender sector and addressing issues linked to migration.

Our work falls within the Rights and Citizenship Programme of Hivos internationally and we value this association and the contribution of both the regional and head office in our ongoing activities.

A skilled, motivated and diverse team in the Johannesburg office has helped shape the development of programmes in the key areas of intervention, while in Port Elizabeth, the Project for Conflict Resolution and Development houses the migration programme.

I hope the report will make interesting reading and invite comments and suggestions to enhance our work.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small mark at the beginning of the first letter.

Jon Campbell

Hivos Representative in South Africa



Soweto Pride

# 01

## HIVOS IN SOUTH AFRICA

In line with its mother body, Hivos International in the Netherlands, Hivos South Africa (Hivos SA) honours the core values of human dignity and self-determination, rejection of dogmatism and authoritarian rule, pluralism and democracy, mutual solidarity, responsible citizenship and respect for people's cultural and social identity. It falls directly under the Southern Africa regional office, which is located in Harare but is registered as a Section 21 (not for profit) company in South Africa and has its own programmes in line with the humanist values by which all of Hivos throughout the world functions. It falls to Hivos SA to live these values and to contribute to a free, fair and sustainable world, built on trust in the creativity and capacity of people.

Hivos SA does this in the context of a country which, although it boasts one of the finest democratic constitutions of the world, is still struggling to discover what this means in practice. Thus the year has been one which highlights the uncertainty of our law makers, the confusion of regulations, the challenges of HIV and AIDS, the difficulties of service delivery, the energy in civil society aroused by the Protection of State Information Bill, commonly known as the Secrecy Bill, and COP17, held in Durban in December, which attempted to engage the major powers urgently in climate change. The thin green line of the Constitutional Court has trembled on occasion, as with the appointment of a chief justice generally viewed as conservative, but has held firm in other areas and is likely, in 2012, to be challenged even more. In addition we have just been informed that a government appointed commission is to assess the overall findings of the Constitutional Court to see whether they are "in line with transformation". This raises worrying questions about the separation of the judiciary and the legislature and administration, a separation which acts as one of the important checks and

balances in our democratic system. 2011 has also been the year of the census which takes place every ten years. It will be some time, however, before the results are known.

The Secrecy Bill has been fought every step of the way by civil society which sees it as unconstitutional and steeped in absurdities. This perseverance of civil society has sent the legislation back for review and produced a better law, but one still lacking in what is called the public interest defence which would allow someone facing charges to argue that the public's interest in disclosure outweighs the state's interest in the matter being protected. The Bill is on the brink of becoming law but civil society is still fighting it and a number of strange bedfellows (civil society, the Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU], universities and political parties) are vowing to take it to the Constitutional Court.

Reports suggest that AIDS is the biggest killer in South Africa, causing 30% of deaths. Yet, in November, the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund) announced that it did not have funds for its next round of grants. This affects

*"If passed in its present form it would create a fearful and secretive society...Whistle-blowers would think twice before handing over documents for exposure or publication. The average citizen's access to information would shrink...In the end, the Bill would strangle democracy."*

Mail and Guardian, 2 December 2011

millions of people and dashes any hopes Hivos SA might have had of raising money from this source. According to Medicins sans Frontieres "We have the tools we need to reverse the HIV epidemic. All we need now are the funds to make this a tangible vision of an HIV-free generation a reality." Despite the gloom into which the Global Fund announcement has thrown AIDS activists, the hope that we do indeed have the tools to beat the epidemic is encouraging, but it comes at a time when donors are withdrawing support from the sector and the effects of the worldwide recession are being felt by South African organisations.

At the same time, The Atlantic Philanthropies, a close partner of Hivos SA, in line with its spend down philosophy, has come to the end of its funding of the LGBTI funding which has made a huge difference to the sector. For a while it will continue to fund the sector through the Multi Agency Grants Initiative (MAGI), which is a Hivos SA mechanism. The LGBTI sector has enjoyed

unprecedented constitutional gains under the new dispensation but this has not meant much to the gays and lesbians on the frontline in townships and rural areas who are subjected to discrimination of the worst kind, ending in so-called corrective rapes and murders. Although this forms a separate category of horrors, it is closely linked to the ongoing violence against women and children. These are both major areas of concern for Hivos SA. While much of the ministerial rhetoric supports this concern, the South African government's performance on the international stage, especially concerning LGBTI rights, is, at best, ambivalent.

Civil society has responded, with varying degrees of urgency, to the challenges it confronts. Perhaps, most importantly, it has recognised that it cannot afford to be complacent and will have to fight for our rights. That recognition is an inclusive one and takes notice not only of the socio-political struggle, but also of the socio-economic struggle.



Ikwezi Women's Support Centre



Leadership Development Training

## 02

# HIVOS SOUTH AFRICA

The key objective of Hivos SA is to contribute to meeting the broad civil society building goals of Hivos internationally. Hivos International and Hivos SA both have excellent names in the international funding world and are seen as having a major contribution to make in strengthening civil society. Key issues for Hivos SA are freedom of expression, rights and citizenship. In all the areas in which it works, gender is a major factor. This is recognition that many of the issues it takes up have their roots in patriarchy. Women are important recipients of a range of grants and gender is a factor in grant acceptance. In addition, Hivos SA has a staff that is committed to the gender aspects of its work. Another major factor is the defence of the constitution and, in particular, the Bill of Rights. Hivos believes that knowledge contributes to change and Hivos SA supported the publication of the African Centre for Migration and Society: "We have to go into the Bush" this year. The publication documents the conditions faced by cross-border migrants in Musina, Limpopo and the challenges of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and governments in addressing these. In engaging in projects such as these, Hivos SA also builds itself as a learning organisation and ensures that people in the North are informed about the South, which is also one of the purposes of this annual report. By highlighting some of our programmes and projects, we try to highlight the issues that are often marginalised by newspaper headlines.

The movement, noted in the last annual report, towards an emphasis on capacity building in all its programmes continued as Hivos SA attempted to define more clearly what it means by capacity building and how best to integrate it into its various programmes. At the core of capacity building is the attempt to

enable organisations to do that which they have been set up to do as effectively as possible. Given the variety of projects and programmes Hivos SA funds, this means that capacity building cannot be a "one size fits all" approach and Hivos SA is experimenting with a number of different ways of providing capacity building and balancing operational needs and capacity building needs.

The Hivos SA office manages a varied and demanding portfolio of programmes which is continually growing. Its reputation for fund management has spread so that it now manages funds for the Anglo American's Chairman's Fund and the First National Bank Fund (both of which fall under Tshikululu Social Investments which manages funds and trusts for large and medium-sized businesses. It promises its clients flexible, well-managed grant-making). The financial side of Hivos SA is managed by Financial Manager, Bridget Carson, under the guidance of the South African Country Representative, Jon Campbell.

*"Initiating capacity building (that) seems to have a direct connection to building substantive skills related to the work (outputs), increasing activity in communities that are a form of lobbying and advocacy for the LGBTI sector with some success (outcomes) and augmenting the voice of the sector in a fairly remote area of the country (impact)."*

2011 MAGI evaluation

# 03

## OUR CORE PROGRAMMES

The core programmes highlighted in this annual report are:

- HIV and AIDS;
- The Integrated Refugee Rights Programme;
- The Hivos SA LGBTI Rights Programme;
- The Multi Agency Grants Initiative (MAGI) including LGBTI rights, refugee rights, health (including sexual and reproductive) rights, HIV and AIDS and gender-based violence (GBV);
- The Joint Gender Fund (JGF);
- New Programmes: The Defence of Democracy Fund (DDF) and the Rural Mobilisation Fund which fall under MAGI but are special programmes.

### 3.1 HIV AND AIDS

Hivos regards AIDS as a matter of human rights and development. It supports organisations that champion the rights of people with HIV and AIDS and break taboos surrounding HIV and AIDS and sexuality. Over 40 million people around the world are infected with the HIV virus and 90% live in developing countries. The number of infected people in South Africa is larger than in any other country in the world. In the decade up to 2010, between 42% and 47% of all deaths in South African were HIV and AIDS-related. Despite the high prevalence, the disease still carries a heavy load of discrimination and stigma.

The Hivos SA HIV and AIDS programme, led by Lee Mondry, is aimed at providing innovative responses to HIV and AIDS leadership development, rights, and addressing issues confronted by key affected populations. It has had some communication with the Global Fund but this has been put into abeyance until the Fund is able to make grants again.

The Hivos SA HIV and AIDS Programme is currently focused on the Collaborative Fund for Leadership and HIV Prevention, which is aimed at both grant-making and capacity enhancement. It stems out of the MAC AIDS Fund Leadership Initiative (MAFLI). The intention is to build leadership in the field of HIV and AIDS and promote HIV prevention programmes in community-based

#### Some projects to date:

- Training in behaviour and attitudes for service workers at the University of the Free State where, for the first time, according to staff, service workers can now be seen accessing health services on campus
- School-based interventions focusing on gender
- Training of health workers in rural communities in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN)
- Decreasing the incidence of sexual coercion among teenagers in KZN
- Addressing the intersections between HIV and AIDS, homophobia and gender in schools and tertiary institutions in KZN
- Compilation and dissemination of a practitioner's guide on HIV and AIDS and the law in the Eastern Cape
- Using arts-based interventions to provide psychosocial support that strengthens the capacity of orphans and guardians to reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection in KZN

settings. Small grants are provided to community-based projects. This is a one-year programme designed to cultivate emerging leaders in South Africa who will make a major contribution to HIV and AIDS prevention advocacy at all levels. The focus of the programme is on reducing the spread of HIV and the impact of AIDS by seeding new and innovative HIV prevention programmes and promoting gender equality. Four cohorts have undergone training and implementation and a fifth cohort is currently busy with pilot projects. Further funding will be considered if the proposed project clearly builds upon the knowledge, skills and experience gained through participation in the Leadership Initiative. The project should build the capacity of community-based organisations (CBOs) working in the areas of HIV and AIDS prevention, specifically at leadership level. It should also strengthen links with civil society sectors in terms of responding to HIV and AIDS.

### 3.2 THE INTEGRATED REFUGEE RIGHTS PROGRAMME

Hivos SA manages this programme on behalf of Atlantic Philanthropies and under the guidance of Jon Campbell and Zaide Harneker. Last year, the programme began working in the Eastern

*"We were not consulted about the closure. And, since being informed in late October, we have made every effort to persuade Home Affairs to review their decision and meet their statutory obligations to the thousands of vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers waiting to have their applications processed or their permits issued or extended. We have been monitoring the situation very closely and unfortunately this week, they closed the access to the centre and appear to have suspended services."*

Linton Harmse, Director of the Refugee Rights Centre at the NMMU

*"It is a disgrace that these already traumatised people should be treated with such disregard. To close the office down so suddenly, and without proper notice or consultation, shows a complete lack of compassion and respect for the basic rights of our most vulnerable members of society."*

Dino Jilley, Somali Association of South Africa

Cape with potential substantive funding from the European Union (EU). Hivos SA worked with the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University Refugee Rights Centre, the Social Change Assistance Trust (SCAT) and the Black Sash on refugee rights in the Eastern Cape in the full recognition that the simmering xenophobia (or Afriphobia as it has been called) could boil over at any time. Then, abruptly and unexpectedly, the Ministry of Home Affairs took a decision to close the Port Elizabeth Centre for refugees by the end of November. The rights organisations have launched an urgent High Court bid to prevent the closure of the Port Elizabeth Refugee Reception Office.

Dino Jilley of the Somali Association of South Africa in the Eastern Cape says there are over 800 Somalians and Ethiopians who have been waiting for weeks and, in some cases, months, to have their applications registered. The EU Ambassador has visited the site and promised to take the matter up with President Jacob Zuma. So far the stakeholders have insisted, after a co-ordinated stakeholders meeting, on Home Affairs setting up another facility for renewing permits and have launched the application to get the office open again. The partnership is planning to bring in a strong gender component if it can get the operation going again. This is one of the battles that Hivos SA is involved in fighting in a forgotten area of South African life.

### 3.3 THE MULTI AGENCY GRANTS INITIATIVE INCLUDING LGBTI RIGHTS, REFUGEE RIGHTS, HEALTH (INCLUDING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE) RIGHTS, HIV AND AIDS AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

MAGI is a collaborative venture between Hivos SA, Atlantic Philanthropies, Ford Foundation, Tshikululu Social Investments and the Raith Foundation. It has been in operation since 2006 and has set somewhat of a benchmark in small grant-making, with other funders eager to use the MAGI expertise in this regard. Thus Tshikululu Social Investments has joined the MAGI consortium through social investments for the First National Bank Fund and the Anglo American Chairman's Fund. The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation is also about to join. Atlantic has made use of the fund to introduce some special areas which it wishes to fund, as outlined below.

The specific purpose of the fund is to provide a responsive mechanism for the provision of small grant funding to organisations at community level. The intention is to augment community level voices in matters that concern them. The Initiative makes it possible for donors who would not normally be able to give grants to CBOs because the size of the grant makes administration too costly to do so through the MAGI mechanism. The model on which MAGI is built provides a professional grant-making service at a cost reasonable to the size of the grant. It does this through innovative use of staff time and a computer database system which ensures credible accountability without an elaborate monitoring and evaluation system. An integral part of the work is capacity building, as well as a specific commitment to women.

*"The initiative ...clearly demonstrates the effectiveness of donor collaboration for more strategically targeted grant-making, and it does rationalise overheads in small grant funding which is notoriously heavy on overheads."*

External evaluation of MAGI 2011

*"(Our) life was rejuvenated in 2007 when MAGI decided to grant funding to promote the human rights culture and work of our community based advice centre. The grant has changed the lives of the poor people including the rural farmers, and/or farm dwellers, women and children and vulnerable workers who do not subscribe to trade unions. Our relationship with MAGI is not only based on funding, we also share ideas on good code of ethics or/and practice in the context of financial and case management...Today, our community organisation is recognised by the stakeholders including the Department of Justice/Department of Social Development, this is testimony to the good and healthy relationship that our organisation would like to keep between us and MAGI for now and future."*

Funda Development Centre report

The fund has the following focus areas:

- A general pool which supports initiatives in the areas of refugees and migrant rights, farmworker rights and the rural poor, LGBTI emancipation, arts and culture.
- The Limpopo Farmworker, Migrant and Rural Rights Programme which integrates grant-making and capacity building (and is a special project, still in the initiation phase, under consultant Dugan Fraser).
- The Community Development Programme in the field of vulnerable youth and children and to address issues of gender-based violence (GBV), funded by Tshikululu Social Investments.
- The Defence of Democracy Fund.
- The Rural Mobilisation Fund.

Zaide, Lee and Zak Mbele have done the main work on MAGI. Zak has also spearheaded the LGBTI work being done by MAGI and Hivos SA and has been responsible for the monitoring and evaluation of MAGI. He has just moved on, emphasising the contribution that Hivos SA is making by initiating and developing a new generation of grant conscious staff who understand the complexities of life in South Africa. MAGI and Hivos SA in general will need to make some careful staffing appointments and adjustments to ensure that the dual purposes of cost effectiveness and professional service are maintained. There are already many MAGI tools in the form of templates and formats for application and reporting that make this possible and they are constantly being redesigned to meet the needs of the grantees and MAGI.

MAGI has demonstrated that collaboration/consortium grant-making models can be effective and have appeal to a range of donors when underpinned by a common social change/social justice outlook and paradigm, in this instance that of rights-based,

grassroots civic action/mobilisation and overall citizen agency and empowerment. The MAGI model incorporated a number of features of good practice in small grant-making to community level/grassroots organisations, including responsiveness to applicants and grantees, a non-bureaucratic style and genuine partnership with grantees, swift appraisal and decision-making, active and responsive fieldwork, targeted capacity development, and targeted high leverage community level initiatives such as awareness campaigns, education workshops and local advocacy activities. In this way, MAGI helps to achieve key results with low levels of financial support.

*"It (Pride) was used as a platform to develop personal relations with the police and municipality and Tourist Board and "we were surprised at how welcoming and open people were."*

External evaluation of MAGI 2011



### 3.3.1 The Hivos-SA LGBTI programme

The LGBTI programme, while it originates from within MAGI, extends beyond this as a particular concern of Hivos-SA. Hivos International has had a commitment to drawing attention to the violation of the fundamental rights of gays and lesbians in developing countries for over 30 years. It is not surprising therefore, that the Hivos SA LGBTI programme continues to make strides and break new ground in pioneering initiatives that will contribute to LGBTI emancipation in South Africa, particularly at the grassroots level. The different elements of the programme consist of:

- CBO capacity building through the Mentoring Fund (supported by the Arcus Foundation) and the Leadership Development Programme in the Eastern Cape, funded from MAGI's capacity development budget;

- Youth Leadership development through supporting and participating in the annual Kaleidoscope Lekgotla;
- Grant-making through MAGI and the Mentorship Fund;
- Resource mobilisation;
- Network building;
- Media, knowledge production and publicity.

To date, the LGBTI programme has links to 12 CBO partners in seven provinces. This holds the potential to develop an integrated LGBTI CBO Network and support programme for their activities and development. A focus group of such organisations has been developed in the Eastern Cape where there are four emerging CBOs getting support from MAGI which together have hundreds of members. This led to the hosting of the first Nelson Mandela Bay Pride event which was a significant occasion in promoting LGBTI visibility, mainstreaming LGBTI issues and bringing them to the fore, as well as creating the platform for province-wide solidarity among LGBTI communities that was missing before.

The MAGI grants to community-based LGBTI groups have helped change the face of the LGBTI community across the country.

### 3.4 THE JOINT GENDER FUND

The JGF was the result of two years of discussions between donors, who identified the need to enhance the impact of funding in the field of GBV in South Africa whilst building greater strategic and operational cohesion between donors. The fund was unusual in that it brought together both foundations and bilateral donors and highlighted the different pressures to which they have to respond, depending on their constituencies. At the same time, pooling resources provides an opportunity for respective donors to increase their level of investment, with greater potential for improved impact. Currently, the fund comprises the following donors: Ford Foundation, Hivos SA, Irish Aid, the Canadian International Development Agency and the Swedish International Development Agency. The staff guiding the process are Puleng Mkhathshwa and consultant Tamara Braam.

#### Some grantees:

- Feminist Alternatives (FEMAL)
- Social Change Assistance Trust
- Women's Net
- Namakwaland Ontwikkeling Sentrum (NAMKO)
- AIDS Response Trust
- Ikhwezi Women's Support Centre
- One in Nine Campaign
- Greater Rape Intervention Project
- UMVOTI AIDS Centre
- Thusanang Advice and Development Centre
- Sinamandla
- Justice and Women
- POWA and Creative Media International – Crime: It's a way of Life

What makes this fund special is:

- It provides an opportunity for the harmonisation of financial and narrative reporting formats to be put into practice, as envisaged in the Paris Declaration, in the process of strengthening the important field of GBV. This is an ongoing process of communication and dialogue, particularly as the individuals involved may change from time to time.
- The JGF sets out deliberately to encourage programming that makes the strategic links between the high levels of HIV and AIDS in South Africa, the context of poverty, and the vulnerability of women which feeds GBV and vice versa.
- While the JGF supports initiatives that strengthen civil society's capacity to hold government accountable for implementation and service delivery, it also notes the importance of government and civil society collaboration in this field. Thus it has set out to support interventions that consciously build partnerships between the two.



Thusanang Advice Centre

- Overall, the JGF seeks to contribute towards strengthening the response to gender-based violence by the sector, through contributing towards bolstering the capacity for more integrated, comprehensive and transformative approaches to gender violence.
- For the grantees, it provides a further opportunity for capacity building and capacity building interventions have taken place to facilitate exchange of strategy and approaches between partners which have resulted in ongoing dialogue and closer co-operation.
- It provides a reflective space in which participating donors are able to reflect strategically on the direction the struggle against GBV should be taking and what this means for grant-making.

Research results show that economically dependent women and girls are more likely to be constrained into sexually risky

situations. The donors are well informed about the importance of the combination of HIV and GBV prevention and the way in which economic initiatives could produce important synergies that extend beyond the economic realm to empower women and provide more enduring protection from HIV risks than HIV prevention alone can do. As a result the JGF grant-making has focused on supporting different angles using different levers for GBV work, including partners that use socio-economic empowerment as the key lever, those that use HIV and AIDS and those that focus on GBV and integrate other components into their interventions. Lessons continue to emerge in relation to what comprehensive, integrated and transformative programming is in practice and the JGF is finding ways to measure this more effectively.



*"The external evaluation was very helpful in getting us to work more strategically."*

Personal conversation with one of the donors

### 3.5 NEW PROGRAMMES

Falling under MAGI, Hivos SA has recently (during 2011) instituted two new funds (in addition to the Farmworkers, Migrants and Rural Rights Programme). It is too soon to see how well they will work but they are exciting concepts and we are looking forward to evaluating results. They are:

- The Defence of Democracy Fund; and
- The Rural Mobilisation Fund.

#### 3.5.1 The Defence of Democracy Fund

MAGI's concern for rights-based development has been challenged in a context of increasing attacks on democracy, freedom of expression and human rights in South Africa. Thus it welcomed the proposal by Atlantic Philanthropies to set up a special fund under the umbrella of MAGI to defend democracy: the Defence of Democracy Fund (DDF). The fund has been operational since the beginning of 2011. Its continuation beyond December 2011 will depend on Hivos SA being able to attract further donors to support it. Its initial phase was managed by Zak Mbele. Now that he has left, Hivos SA will need to decide how it deals with the future of the Fund.

Against a backdrop of populist attacks on the rule of law, the judiciary, the media and the Constitution, fears about further erosion of democracy have been fuelled over many months

*"The struggle for democracy has begun all over again."*

Mazibuko Jara, civil society commentator  
Mail and Guardian (9/9/11)

*"We call on all farmers, workers and the landless and all social movements to join us in Durban and everywhere in the world on the 5th of December 2011 ... The crisis of the planet requires that we take direct action. During the agro-ecology and food sovereignty day we will have public protest marches to the conference of the polluters, actions against multinational corporations ... which will culminate in a massive Assembly of the Oppressed to discuss ways of ending this unjust system. This will be a day of continued actions where farmers and workers from the entire African continent with social movements from the whole world (place their issues on the agenda)."*

People's Dialogue 5/11/11

by government attacks on freedom of expression embodied in proposed pieces of legislation which would:

- Allow state officials to arbitrarily classify information relating to functions of government as secret. This has been widely interpreted as aimed at concealing corruption.
- Set up a government-appointed tribunal to regulate the media which would have the final say on what constitutes appropriate standards of journalism and determine sanctions against those deemed to have violated those standards.
- Severely curb the independence of the public broadcaster and make it highly vulnerable to the directives of the Minister of Communications.
- Narrow the social mandate of broadcasters and undermine their independence.

In addition, the recent announcement that the government is to set up a commission to assess the judgements of the Constitutional Court in terms of its role in furthering transformation has sent shivers up the spine of many who regarded the Constitutional Court as the final boundary in

ensuring that democracy was safe. This step took place after the DDF was set up and suggests that it was a timely intervention.

The DDF allows for:

- Initiatives and activities that strengthen civic action/activism;
- Strategic workshops, consultations, litigation (including legal defence of human rights activists), demonstrations and grassroots mobilisation that promote principles of democracy and human rights;
- Awareness-raising, education and advocacy activities, including but not limited to, production of publications and other media;
- Networking/network-building events and activities that aim to promote and support the amplified civic voice and joint civic action for democracy and human rights.

Atlantic contributed R2 million over 18 months and the Raith Foundation has come to the party, making an experimental contribution to the fund. It is hoped that the fund will become a permanent part of the MAGI stable. Proposals are coming in for the areas of constitutional literacy and human rights education; media freedom and diversity; labour rights; monitoring or promotion of civil participation in democratic institutions and processes; and human rights advocacy. Recent developments in the context of media freedom, the appointment of a conservative Chief Justice and the inconsistent position of the government on human rights internationally all suggest that this Fund is an important contribution to civil society at this time in our history.

### *3.5.2 The Rural Mobilisation Fund*

The Rural Mobilisation Fund was established to strengthen the organisational capacity of community-based and grassroots organisations to engage in struggles for social justice in rural areas of South Africa. Funding may be used for a wide variety of limited, largely one-off activities. One grant, for example, enables

representatives of small-scale fishing organisations from around Africa to participate in COP17 civil society actions.

Funding may be used for:

- Imbizos, lekgotlas and other forms of community consultation;
- Demonstrations, marches and protests;
- Hiring of venues;
- Transport and accommodation of delegates;
- Leaflets, flyers, posters and other campaign materials;
- Operational overheads associated with the above.

The Fund seeks to place resources in the hands of communities opposing:

- Evictions from farms;
- The Communal Land Rights Act and other legislation proposed in the former Bantustan areas;
- Unconstitutional aspects of communal law;
- Granting of concessions to private sector companies of mining rights and rights to exploit biodiversity;
- Pollution of water sources and air quality.

The Fund will also place resources in the hands of communities seeking:

- Access to health education and housing, in terms of Section 27 of the Constitution; and
- Fair tenure.

The opening date for submissions was July 2011 and applications will be accepted up until 30 November 2011. It is being implemented under the guidance of consultant Frank Meintjies. The establishment of these two new funds shows a strong commitment on the part of Hivos SA to the role of civil society in fighting for the constitutional democracy that cost so many lives and which was won and heralded as an extraordinary achievement. As always in Hivos SA, the part of women in projects is given particular consideration.

# 04

## Looking forward

Hivos SA is always looking forward to the next opportunity to add funds to its stable that will enable civil society to participate fully in the building of an inclusive constitutional democracy. For this to happen, all sectors of the community need to be involved and to have a voice. The focus of Hivos SA is the marginalised; those whose voices would not normally be heard. The funds it manages augment these voices and gives us all an opportunity to hear them loud and clear. Because of its flexible, non-bureaucratic structure, Hivos SA continues to attract funds that might not find

a home elsewhere and we look forward to pioneering more such funds in 2012. Hivos SA is also committed to breaking down the silos that separate those working for a particular aspect of social justice. We believe that this is beginning to happen within our own organisation and look forward to seeing the same inclusivity in the social justice community as a whole.

**December 2011**



AIDS&Me Training - Eastern Cape

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