

# Chapter 4

## Two case studies

The following two case studies illustrate how the FCM Programme can be adapted to different contexts:

- The Masikhule (Nomakhaya) Programme operates in deep rural villages near Mthatha, Eastern Cape Province.
- The Masibambane ISLP Family Outreach Worker Programmes operate in the dense urban settlements of Weltevreden Valley and Browns Farm in the Western Cape Province.

The lessons learned from these and other programme experiences are discussed further in Chapter 5.



## The Masikhule FCM Programme

The Masikhule case study illustrates how the FCM programme can develop into sustainable programmes that can be run independently of the local NGO and can be replicated at new sites.

- ELRU FCM Programme worked in partnership with the Masikhule Early Childhood Development Programme (MECD) based in Mthatha, Eastern Cape Province and established the Masikhule FCM Programme in Maqhinebeni Village in 2000.
- In 2003 the Masikhule FCM Programme (now NPO registered) established the Maqhinebeni-Cezu Nomakhaya Programme, which is now registered as an independent NPO and is reaching 29 villages.
- Masikhule is in 2007 negotiating entry at a new site in Nqanduli.

### Working in a deep rural area

For the Masikhule FCM Programme, the outreach is deep rural where resources are minimal and where local management structures do not necessarily understand the importance of the ECD focus given the range of needs in the area including clean water, electricity, crop failures, lack of subsistence activities and distances between villages.

The statistics indicate that the caregivers were mainly older women who are increasingly taking care of large numbers of children as a result of the HIV and AIDS impact in the area. Masikhule, a local NGO worked closely with ELRU over the first three years during which time ELRU took initial responsibility for training, support and monitoring functions of both the motivators and the facilitators. Motivator training was transferred to Masikhule during the second year and ELRU continued in a support role. The FCM programme was also guided by two external evaluations, one mid term and one toward the end of the initial three year period and the results were fed back into the planning process.

Masikhule was responsible for locating the programme at village level, training of the local management committee, training and support of the motivators from the second year onwards and ongoing training of both motivators and facilitators. The local structure presently consists of 20 motivators supported by 2 facilitators with ongoing training and support provided by the Masikhule FCM coordinator and FCM trainer. The focus age group is 0–3 years but older children are also included and particularly in areas where there are no preschool centres. The focus child can continue in the programme until school going age via the cluster workshops and playgroups but home visits are focused on the under 3 year olds. It is possible to visit a child over a three year period but that hardly occurs given changes in the child's life which includes being moved from one caregiver to another or moving with the parents who seek work in urban areas.



The Masikhule FCM programme at Maqhinebeni and surrounding villages received the support of the local consultative forum and was ably supported by the local chiefs and ward councillors (depending on the location of the village). Criteria were established for identifying vulnerable families and selecting the motivators following the modular training programme offered by ELRU on site.

Once the FCM programme was established the motivators were able to identify vulnerable children, to get the links going with the required government services and to establish a developmental programme with the primary caregivers. When the programme began in 2000 it was hard to get anyone to mention HIV and AIDS at all, but by 2006 very few people were untouched and the motivators and facilitators had received HIV/AIDS training.

The funding arrangements from the main donor gave a period of nearly six years of consistency to this programme during which time there were few changes. When the first tranche of government funding came in the programme was extended, but when it became clear that funding was not being consistently maintained, the programme reverted to its original size.

In the process, useful lessons were learned regarding scale and replication for application in the new site. The Maqhinebeni Nomakhaya programme has recently become a registered NPO and Masikhule is exiting from the site and negotiations are in progress to start-up at a new site at Nqanduli.

## Impact

Outreach: Number of children and families reached from 2000 to 2006

Year	No. of motivators	No. of children	FCM families
2000	40	716	400
2001	34	662	340
2002	34	550	340
2003	37	485	370
2004	34	454	340
2005	25	401	250
2006	23	375	230

Number of income generating projects = 14 cluster groups in 2005

Activity	No of members
1. Food garden (5 clusters)	34
2. Sewing and food garden (1)	06
3. Making stasoft (3 groups)	30
4. Poultry (chickens) (1)	08
5. Candle making and jam (1)	15
6. Beadwork (2)	20

Number of children enrolled at school

Year	No. of children sent back to school	No of FCM children joining Grade 1
2000	09	54
2001	53	65
2002	65	65
2003	82	31
2004	115	53
2005	121	26

### Summary of achievements in relation to impact and expected outcomes

- 42 jobs created
- Increased number of children registered at birth and receiving child support grants.
- Increased number of people gaining access to emergency food parcels at the clinic and links to agricultural workers around the food gardens.
- Developmental programme for children in the home setting in place.
- Income generating activities are making progress, sewing, food gardens, beadwork, chickens.
- Development of Community Forums in two villages to address issues of child abuse and neglect.
- Increased access to HIV and AIDS prevention and treatment programmes has been achieved.
- Negotiations in progress towards an agreement for entry at new site.
- Increase in number of children enrolled at primary school.



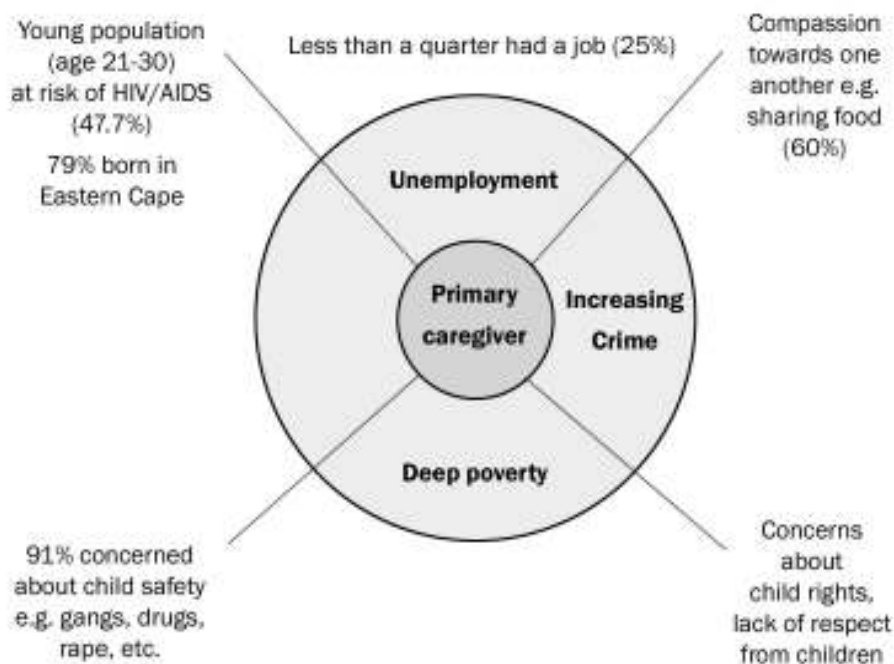
## Masibambane Family Outreach Programme



### Working in a densely populated urban setting

Masibambane ISLP ECD Programme is situated in a densely populated and politically volatile urban setting. The parents/caregivers in this project were mainly young and recent migrants from Eastern Cape Province living in low income and informal housing in peri-urban Cape Town. A high percentage of those interviewed had roots in the Eastern Cape Province, where they were born.

## Masimbambane Consortium survey



Source: Masimbambane Consortium survey for Weltevreden Valley, 2002

The Masimbambane ISLP<sup>1</sup> project was well resourced, with a bold vision in line with Western Cape policy objectives for ECD and it provides a useful example of how ECD centres can be used as resources or nodes of care and support drawing on the concept of an enrichment centre.

The centre managers took responsibility for training and support of the ten family outreach workers (five at each site) using the ELRU FCM 'key messages' which are contained in the Masithethe series and the ELRU parent leaflets. The FOW programme struggled however to gain sufficient prominence and the needs of the ECD centres tended to dominate despite plans for the two programmes to work in an integrated and well coordinated fashion. Some of the difficulty was due to the fact that everything was new: the buildings, the staff, the family outreach programme and the toy library. The monitoring and evaluation system for this programme was done very precisely and the progress and challenges were systematically recorded.

Owing to the large targets, outreach to families was reduced to four two-hour visits per quarter. What was interesting to note however, was that the Family Outreach Workers continued to support their families during the period when expected funds did not materialise. Because they were regarded as adding value, the cluster workshops continued and formed the basis of a voluntary support network. Recent information suggests that funding will be resumed and the opportunity arises therefore to both continue with the programme and to examine some of the key issues more fully.

1. ELRU was responsible for two of the six sites in this Integrated Service Land Project (ISLP) project of the Western Cape Department of Social Services and Poverty Alleviation (DSSPA).

## Programme objectives, interventions and outcomes

Objectives	Specific objectives	Intervention	Outcomes
1. To develop and implement an ECD family outreach programme in order to reach vulnerable children and families in the designated area. <sup>2</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Identify the needs.</li> <li>● Consult local steering committee to establish criteria for selection of families and the selection of people to attend training for family outreach workers (FOW's).</li> <li>● Families selected.</li> <li>● FOWs selected.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Baseline study.</li> <li>● Map of resources.</li> <li>● Child profile and other forms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provided useful information for programme development despite the delays in collection of data and analysis.</li> </ul>
2. To provide capacity building in a developmental programme for the running of high quality appropriate ECD for family outreach workers, parents).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Training for FOWs.</li> <li>● Information and support for parents.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Non formal training programme.</li> <li>● ELRU Masithethe handbooks &amp; parent leaflets.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Training of 10 FOWs.</li> <li>● Workshops for primary caregivers.</li> </ul>

### Outreach to families

Poor households with children ages from birth to 6 years were targeted and the Family and Community Motivator approach was used in both Weltevreden Valley and Brown's Farm.

Area	Target number of families	Families reached
Weltevreden Valley	600	550
Brown's Farm	600	468
Total	1200	1018

2. based upon the ELRU Family & Community Motivator Programme