

5.2 INTEGRATED POVERTY REDUCTION, GENDER EQUITY AND LED PROGRAMME

5.2.1 Results of the Socio-Economic Analysis

The social analysis [Section 2.] indicates that there are huge socio-economic disparities in Lesedi, which will need to be addressed. Three broad socio-economic groupings were identified as follows:

- **White population Group**

Higher than average income, skills and educational levels and mobility. Good basic health, low unemployment.

- **Previously Disadvantaged Urban Dwellers**

Lower than average income, skills and educational levels and mobility. High unemployment.

- **Previously Disadvantaged Rural Dwellers**

Very low income, skills and educational levels and mobility. High unemployment, low wages and poor basic health.

The economic analysis indicates a depressed local economy, relying heavily on the agricultural, manufacturing and government sector. A limited opportunity for growth in the formal economic sector is foreseen.

5.2.2 Summarized Poverty Alleviation, Gender Equity and LED Guidelines

Local poverty alleviation and gender equity guidelines formulated includes the following:

- Providing access to basic services.
- Creating opportunities for productive activity.
- Establishment and maintenance of a social security system.
- Empowerment of the poor.
- Addressing gender inequalities and catering for the diverse needs of women.

The local LED guidelines stipulate that a LED strategy must comply with the following minimum requirements:

- Reduce poverty levels.
- Lead to creation of new jobs.
- Reduction of unemployment rates.
- Establish new business [formal and informal].
- Broaden the tax base of the Local Authority.
- Support for SMME's.
- Attract tourist/visitors to the area.
- Attract increased Government funding/investment.
- Increase general buying power.
- Growth Infrastructural investment by Local Authority.
- Continued diversification of economy.
- Skills training facilities.

5.2.3 Summary of Poverty, Gender-RELATED AND LED activities which will form part of the projects

The high level of poverty and unemployment in Lesedi has been identified as one of the priority issues in the municipality, and a strategy/programme pertaining to this issue has been formulated

Projects that are specifically geared to poverty alleviation include the following:

- General Marketing Program.
- Job Creation Centre Heidelberg x 23.
- Provision of Infrastructure for informal traders
- Identify and implement agricultural L.E.D. projects

In addition to the above, the following measures are in place:

- Employment of local communities on all capital projects such as infrastructure, housing provision, etc.
- An operative indigent policy.
- Various welfare programmes such as feeding schemes, etc.